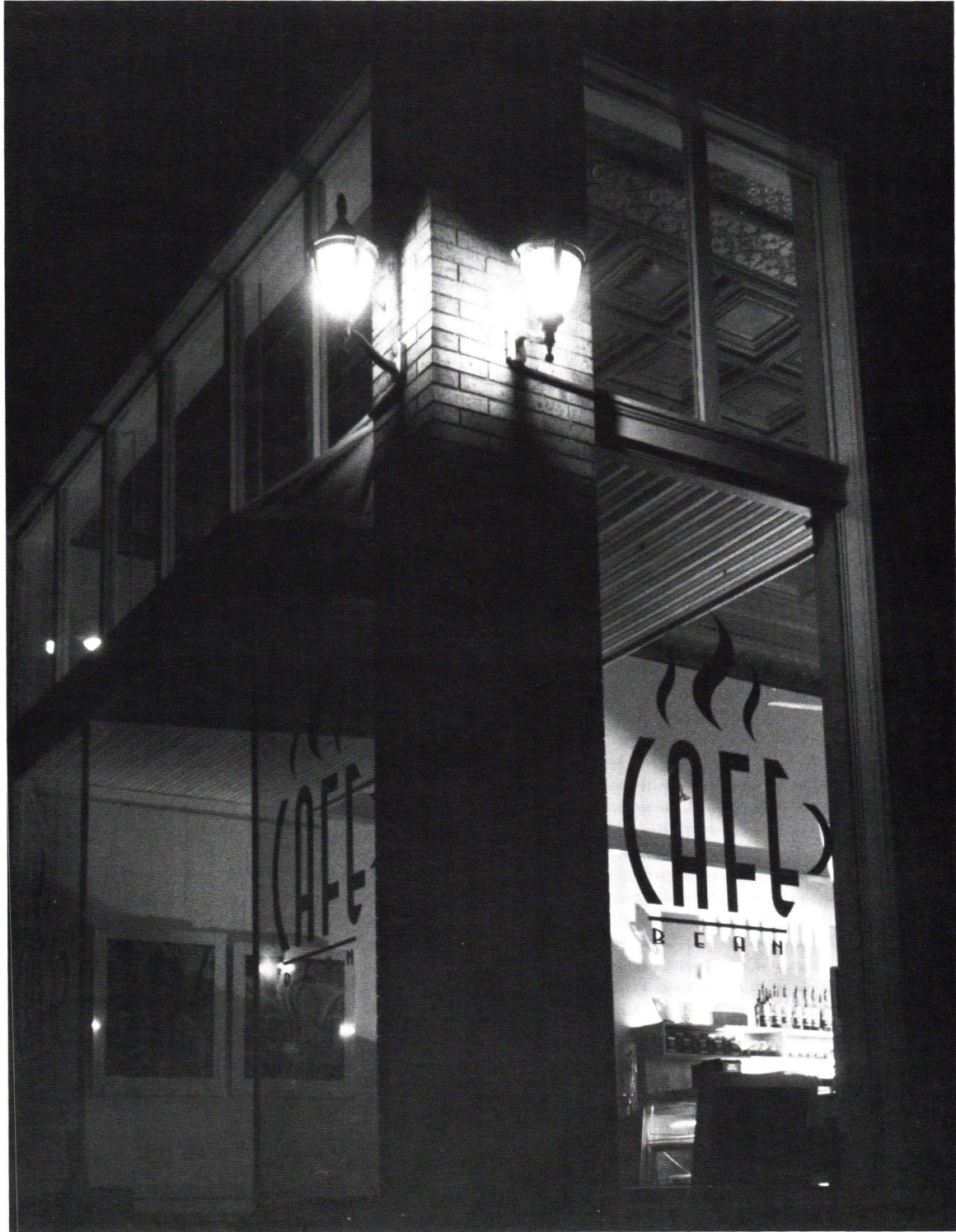
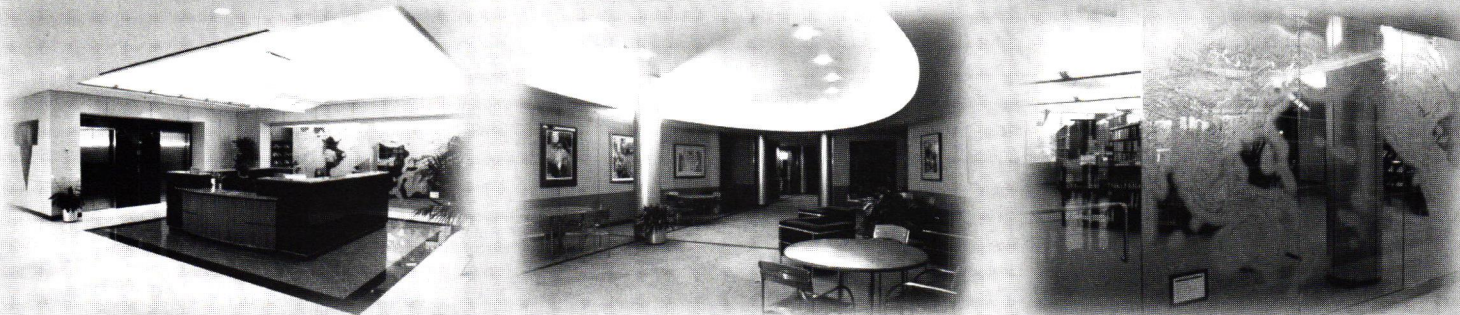


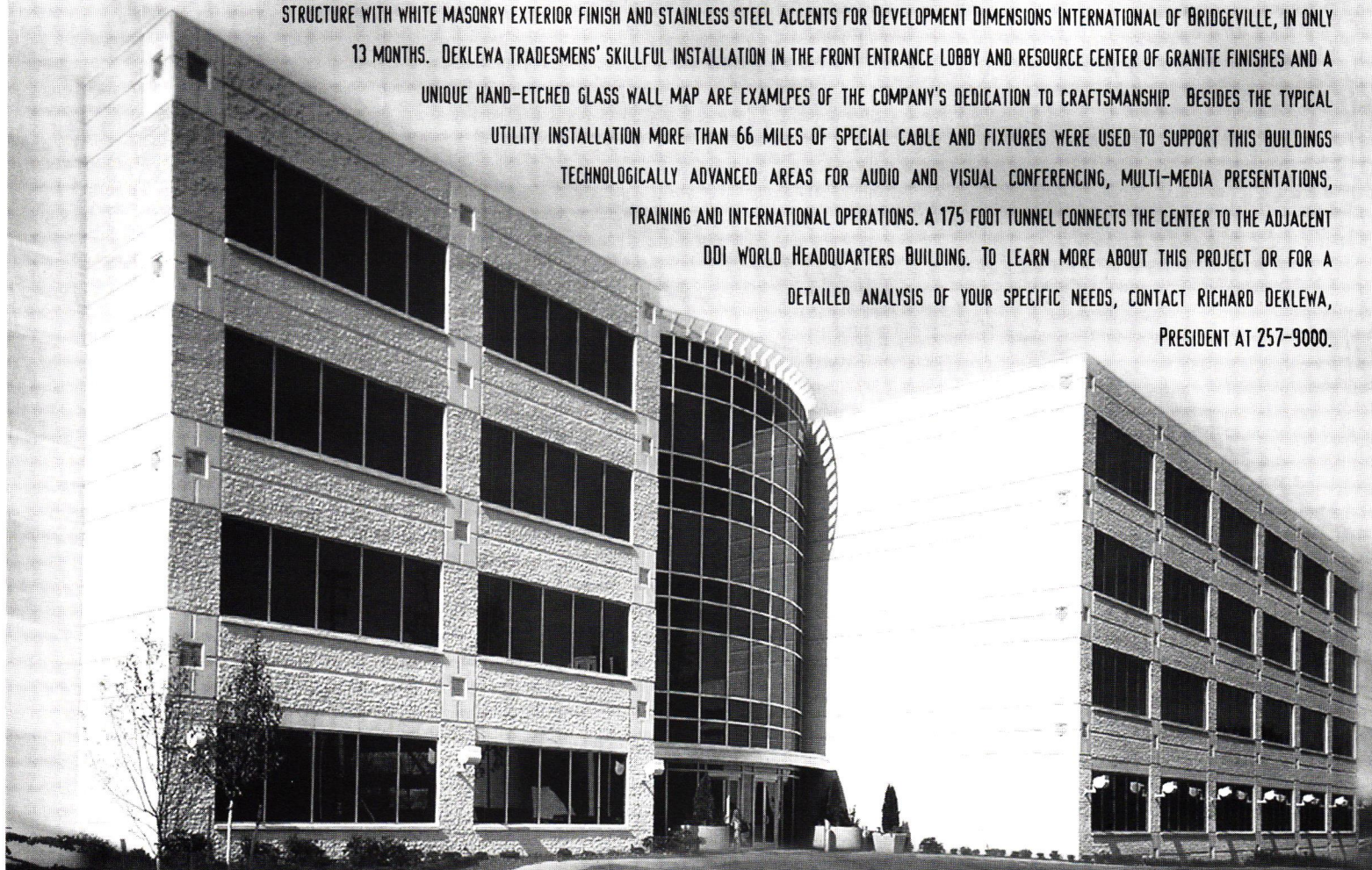
C O L U M N S





DEKLEWA DEVELOPS A NEW DIMENSION

THE RECENT COMPLETION BY JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC. OF THE NEW CENTER FOR ADVANCED LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT TECHNOLOGY SIGNALS ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE CONSTRUCTION FIRM'S LONG HISTORY OF PROJECTS FOR HIGH PROFILE CLIENTS. DEKLEWA CONTRACTORS ERECTED THIS "STATE OF THE ART" FOUR STORY STEEL FRAME STRUCTURE WITH WHITE MASONRY EXTERIOR FINISH AND STAINLESS STEEL ACCENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT DIMENSIONS INTERNATIONAL OF BRIDGEVILLE, IN ONLY 13 MONTHS. DEKLEWA TRADESMEN'S SKILLFUL INSTALLATION IN THE FRONT ENTRANCE LOBBY AND RESOURCE CENTER OF GRANITE FINISHES AND A UNIQUE HAND-ETCHED GLASS WALL MAP ARE EXAMPLES OF THE COMPANY'S DEDICATION TO CRAFTSMANSHIP. BESIDES THE TYPICAL UTILITY INSTALLATION MORE THAN 66 MILES OF SPECIAL CABLE AND FIXTURES WERE USED TO SUPPORT THIS BUILDING'S TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED AREAS FOR AUDIO AND VISUAL CONFERENCING, MULTI-MEDIA PRESENTATIONS, TRAINING AND INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS. A 175 FOOT TUNNEL CONNECTS THE CENTER TO THE ADJACENT DDI WORLD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS PROJECT OR FOR A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS, CONTACT RICHARD DEKLEWA, PRESIDENT AT 257-9000.



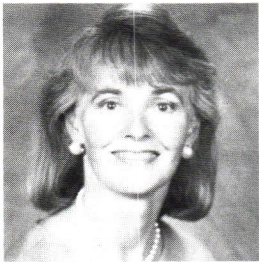
Project Architect: Johnson/Schmidt & Associates

JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC.

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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

It Takes A Village by Cheryl R. Towers



“A whopping 61% of respondents made the decision to become architects before attending college.”

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On the cover: Café Bean, renovation design by Peter Margittai.

A group of friends join my husband and I

for a week of windsurfing every spring and Thanksgiving on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, and this year was no exception. The group has evolved considerably since we started these hejiras fifteen years ago. At that time, there were seven guys and I. Trust me, it was ugly. When the wind didn't blow, it was like a house full of pouting eight year olds. As time went by, there were personnel shifts in the group. Some of the guys went on to other things; the remaining troops acquired girlfriends who soon turned into wives, dear friends and fellow windsurfers. The pouting mitigated as it occurred to everyone that this was a pretty nice place to be, and a terrific collection of people to be there with, wind or no.

The acid test in evolution occurred a bit over four years ago when one of the couples announced that they were “with child”. We were all anxious - we had all become like family to each other and these trips were the semi-annual high point of our year. Eight adults in a house at the beach for a week was suddenly going to become a very different experience. Laing arrived right on schedule and soon became the hit of the party. The group expanded to include a doting grandmother and assortment of aunts who came along to babysit. We would sail our heads off during the day, eat our usual evening feast, and collapse into chairs to wait for a respectable hour to arrive so we could go to sleep, exhausted. Instead of re-hashing events of the day, though, we found ourselves with a baby in the middle of the floor entertaining us. And within two years, brother Hunter arrived to continue this new tradition.

This spring, Dad and Laing came alone for the first part of the week while Mom dealt with a crisis at work. Grandma and the aunts weren't available. There was no discussion — of course we would take turns and fill in, and have fun doing it. When Mom arrived, she and I wound up discussing how important it is for kids to have adult “friends” outside of the family who take an interest in them and nourish them. The adults are as nourished as the children - we're reminded of the vulnerability that a child has making his or her way in the world, and the sheer joy of play for

the sake of play. Both of us had had similar influences when we were young, and remember them fondly.

Young architects need similar nourishment from established professionals. A newly minted graduate's steps can be shaky in the early years of practice, and guidance is essential. While the boss provides much of that, it's also very important to have someone outside of the workplace who can offer perspective and serve as a sounding board. Watching a young professional grow is somewhat akin to watching a child take their first steps - it's rewarding to be there and to know that you have had a hand in shaping the future. The future, after all, is what this is about. Without a fresh crop of talented, new, young professionals year in and year out, the profession as a whole will lose its energy and wilt.

Thanks to input from both interns and young architects along with old architectural hands, we examine the role of mentor in this issue. In addition, we bring you the results of a survey that was sent out to interns and young architects and that demonstrates some of their concerns. While we were not able to publish all of their comments, the complete survey results were shared with AIA Pennsylvania and is available for review by the Board and staff.

One number from the survey jumped out to be shared: a whopping 61% of respondents made the decision to become architects before attending college. This underscores the need to familiarize young people with the profession as a career option and to re-examine educational opportunities for younger people to insure that the field is attracting the most talented individuals. 26% made the decision while still in high school, 16% in junior high, and 19% in grade school.

And on a final note, remember that May is Historic Preservation Month. The highlight for Pittsburgh will be the National Main Street Conference May 17 - 20 to be held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center and the meeting of the National Trust for Historic Preservation trustees who will also be visiting the city that same week.