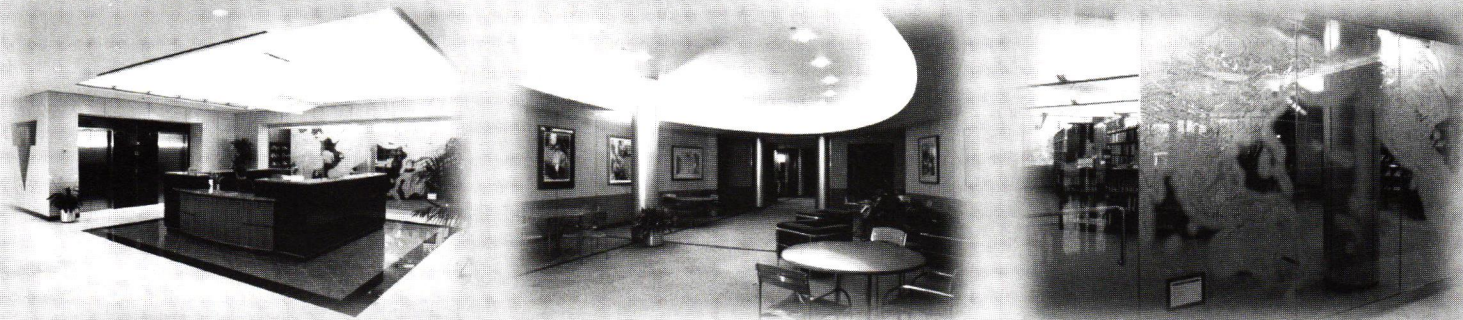


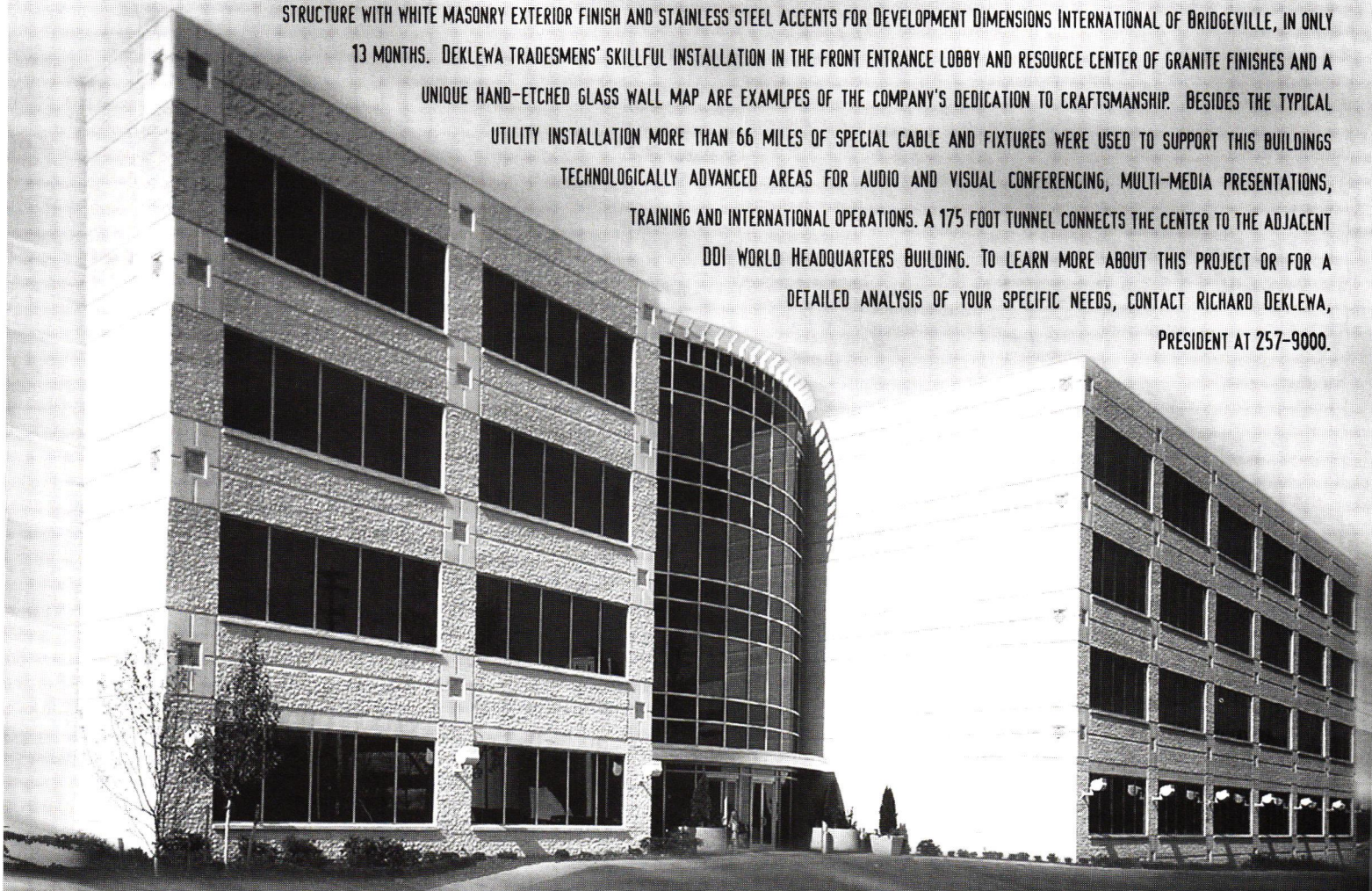
C O L U M N S





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 DOI 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

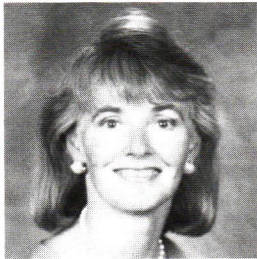
JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC.

1273 Washington Pike • P.O. Box 158 • Bridgeville, PA 15017 • (412) 257-9000

GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

Here on the Homefront

by Cheryl R. Towers



"If it's not important to us, why should anybody else think it's important?"

These are the days when I know

I live a life of absolute luxury, whatever minor complaints I may have. The biggest luxury is security. I've got food and blankets, comfortable shelter. No one is dropping bombs in my neighborhood or forcing my family and me from our house at gun point as in Kosovo or Rwanda. My government isn't keeping me from a dying husband's bedside, as did Aung San Suu Kyi's in Myanmar.

The fallout is the difficulty in writing about the things that are important to us at home in light of the intense misfortune others are experiencing abroad, especially when that misfortune is at the hands of our fellow man rather than an accident of location that puts us in the path of a natural disaster. How lucky we are to have free and fair elections in which to participate, and how sad that so few of us choose to do so. How fortunate that we have schools to argue about, when so many do not, or are denied access, as are the women and girls of Afghanistan. We can worry about things like intellectual property, because no one is trying to deprive of us real property in the name of religion or ethnic cleansing. And we can debate urban sprawl and enjoy the fruits of historic preservation because there is something left to preserve.

Maybe this qualifies me as a card carrying gloom and doom sister. I'd rather think, though, that it signifies an appreciation for the ordinary. After all, it's what I appreciate most about this issue of *Columns* — its very ordinariness. Here's what we do, here's what's going on; this is past, present and future. No need to worry that we might not be here next month, because barring Armageddon, we will

be. The ordinary is what fills our lives in ways that are meaningful, and when the ordinary becomes the stuff of nightmares, we are shocked, nonplused, displaced, maimed, maybe even dead. As long as we have the kind of ordinary days that you and I experience, we are none of those things, and that is the source of our joy and our strength.

So what does all of this have to do with architecture? Just that it takes an ordinary life to produce and use the architectural product, no matter how extraordinary the architect or the structure may be. Great architecture isn't designed or built when the bombs are dropping and the people are starving. Abraham Maslow, the humanist psychologist, thought in terms of a needs hierarchy motivating our behavior. At the lowest level, the drive is to obtain food, sex, shelter, safety. At the top, we are motivated by a need for self-actualization and the fulfillment of our human potential. While we are busy being grateful for a booming economy, let us also be grateful for our very ordinary, stable, wonderful lives that allow us to function at the top of that hierarchy.

IN THIS ISSUE

<i>Schools for the New Millenium</i>	6
Third in a series of articles looking at school design in Pennsylvania .	
<i>Meet the Candidates for Allegheny County Executive</i>	10
<i>Architectural Intellectual Property</i>	14
Who owns your design?	
From the Top	4
News	5
Breaking Ground	19
Calendar	21
Dossier	23

On The Cover: Bedford, PA Elementary School, Hayes Large Architects.

Corrections

Clarence Stein and Henry Wright were incorrectly listed in the March issue as the designers of Chatham Village. Designers were Ingham and Boyd, predecessor firm to IKM Inc.; Stein and Wright were planners who worked with Ingham and Boyd.

Perkins Eastman Architects PC were listed incorrectly in the April issue as the design firm for the First Lutheran Church steeple. William E. Brocius, AIA designed the steeple independently as a member of the congregation.

Power Contracting Co. was the contractor for the South Hills Jewish Community Center located in Scott Township and designed by Rothschild Architects.