In the winter of 2003, Case Western Reserve University undertook a major step in improving the way students live and learn by initiating work on the North Residential Village, a new dormitory/athletic complex situated on the former Spartan football field between East 115th and 118th streets, and north of Euclid Ave. to Wade Park Ave.

Independence Excavating was contracted to perform all site work and demolition, the removal and backfilling of the former residences to specific depths that once occupied the site, topsoil removal, basement excavation and backfilling for seven new dormitories and 1,200 car parking garage, footer excavation and backfill, as well as installation of site storm, sanitary, and water/fireline utilities. A major portion of the earthwork and utilities were completed by the end of 2004. To cope with one of the heaviest snowfalls in Cleveland’s history, Independence provided snow removal operations to help keep the site up and running all winter long. In the spring of this year we returned to the site and completed utility line installation to buildings and interior fine grading. We were also awarded a site concrete package this summer to install flatwork, site walls and benches.
Vic DiGeronimo Sr.

For this issue’s message, I am using a story borrowed from an article I read a while back. I think it is still very meaningful and appropriate.

**IT’S A GREAT DAY FOR SHOVELING**

Recently, I was on a waste water treatment project and while walking the job site and came upon an excavated pit in which two laborers were backfilling around some footings. The existing plant was emitting its usual putrid odor; the early morning sun had soaked the red clay and the mid-August sun was creating a steamy hot-house effect. The highly plastic clay was adhering to the “Idiot sticks” and the foreman just walked by bellowing in a manner to show his authority by demeaning those beneath him. As his bellow became an echo on the distant hill, I asked the laborers how it was going.

One young lady clad in men’s clothing, sweat streaming down clay covered cheeks, looked up and said, “It’s a great day for shoveling!” And back down went the head, the shovel swinging rhythmically in the hands of a young lady in a man’s world who taught me a wonderful lesson in how to live.

“It's a great day for shoveling!” If each of us looked at each task in the same light, what a change in our personal lives. If, instead of drowning in the sweat and misery of the ardor we can find in any task, we would be buoyed by the importance and meaning of even the most uncomfortable or menial job, how much more fulfilling life would be to all of us.

It’s a great day for estimating...or welding...or project managing...or paying bills! It is, you know. It’s a great day for facing problems head-on and having the good feeling at night that you at least had the guts to deal with a challenge (and the odds are, by this attitude, you will solve it). It’s a great day, you know, for looking at a bleak economy and figuring out how to market effectively and profitably in tough times, instead of hand wringing and reacting negatively to the inevitability of economic cycles. It’s a great day for finding out why that last cost report shows an overrun in labor instead of simply getting angry at the superintendent. It’s a great day for personally accepting responsibility instead of blaming others.

Yes, Jamie Regan, you are a lady in men’s clothing. You have been in this world half as long as my daughter and twice as long as my grandson. But you taught this old salt the key to success. You taught me that... “It's a great day for shoveling!”

Arrivederci!!

Independence has secured the contract for the centralized de-icing project at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. Scope of work includes 30 acres of concrete paving, five large underground pre-cast concrete structures, sub-grade stabilization, and placement of an impermeable clay liner.

Clark Construction awarded Independence the second phase of work at the West Virginia National Air Guard facility. Scope of work includes a 70-acre site with 475,000 cubic yards of rock excavation including drilling and blasting, 600,000 cubic yards of excavation/embankment, 67,000 cubic yards of excavation of the hangar and foundation, 10,000 linear feet of water line, 3,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer, 10,000 linear feet of electric duct bank, 5,000 linear feet of storm sewer, installation of cement-treated base, as well as aggregate base for paving.
Independence Excavating commenced work this past June on the former SK/Brush Wellman property in Bedford. We were awarded a contract by Hull and Associates to perform site demolition, underground utility removal, soil remediation activities, grading and utility/roadway improvements. Unique to this site development is the management of impacted materials identified by Hull to exceed direct contact and indoor air limits for commercial use. Coordination is critical among Independence, Hull, the geo-technical engineer, and owner as to when, how, and where these materials are placed.

In addition to the handling of impacted materials, we are also responsible for the removal and crushing of 14,000 cubic yards of foundation slabs, footers, and walls on the site, on-site cutting and filling of 80,000 cubic yards of fill and topsoil, a new 28 foot deep lift station and building, and complete storm, sanitary, as well as waterline improvements for a 5,800 sqy concrete paved road into the 50-acre property.

Independence Excavating is pleased to be working with Hemisphere Development, Darrell A. Young Enterprises, Hull and Associates, and our subcontractors Vermillion Tree, Ballast Fence, C.A. Agresta, Infinity Construction, Gorman LaVelle, and Inland Electric.

A 12-acre parcel is already complete for the future home of Taylor Chair in Bedford, and the balance of the site is scheduled for completion later this year.

CWRU...continued from front page.

We worked closely with construction manager Whiting-Turner to complete critical milestones and turnover dates to keep this project on-schedule for the August 2005 opening.

Independence Excavating Inc. is pleased to have worked with Whiting-Turner and our sub-trades to help deliver a first-class facility for Case Western Reserve University students and faculty.
It is with great pride that we recognize the crew at the Charter Steel project for completing 14,000 man hours of work without an injury. Independence Excavating has always maintained the highest level of safety on its projects and the Charter Steel project is a true testament to the professionalism and dedication of our ownership and employees. This project in particular has extremely tight working conditions and limited access for equipment and materials. Along with our concrete and excavation crews, the site incorporated trades from the ironworkers, pipe fitters, electricians and other contractors all competing for the same work space. Weather conditions also contributed to the challenges of a safe work site with many days exceeding 100 degree heat indexes. To date the Charter Steel crews have poured more than 7,000 cubic yards of concrete, installed 27,000 lineal feet of utilities and completed 25,000 cubic yards of difficult foundation removal and 20,000 cubic yards of building/foundation excavation. Once again congratulations to the Charter Steel project crew for this impressive accomplishment.
On Sunday, August 21st, the DiGeronimo Companies held their company picnic at Wiegand’s Lake Park. With just under 400 employees and their family members in attendance, the games and attractions coupled with a beautiful day made for a most enjoyable event.
New Projects

**CHIA - Centralized De-icing Facility**
Location: Cleveland Hopkins Airport  
Owner: City of Cleveland  
Start date: September, 2005  
Completion date: September, 2006  
Scope of work: 30 acres of concrete pavement, five large underground pre-cast concrete structures, sub-grade stabilization, and placement of an impermeable clay liner.

**Lancaster Drive Culvert**
Location: Brooklyn Heights, Ohio  
Owner: Village of Brooklyn Hts.  
Start date: August, 2005  
Completion date: May, 2006  
Scope of work: Emergency removal of existing culvert and replacement with a pre-cast concrete beam bridge.

**Passavant Retirement Community**
Location: Zelienople, Pennsylvania  
Owner: Passavant Retirement Community  
Start date: August, 2005  
Completion date: November, 2005  
Scope of work: Earthwork and utilities for a retirement center.

**Reliant Tank Demolition**
Location: Avon Lake, Ohio  
Owner: Reliant Energy  
Start date: August, 2005  
Completion date: August, 2005  
Scope of work: Demolition and removal of a two-million gallon diesel fuel tank.

**Steealyrd Commons**
Location: Cleveland, Ohio  
Owner: First Interstate  
Start date: September, 2005  
Completion date: October, 2006  
Scope of work: Installation of new utilities for a new shopping plaza, including over 50,000 feet of electric, sanitary, storm, and water line. Installation of detention basins, a pump station and rehab of old sewers. Site grading and paving will also be performed.

**Taylor Chair**
Location: Bedford, Ohio  
Owner: Taylor Chair  
General Contractor: Geis Construction  
Start date: August, 2005  
Completion date: October, 2005  
Scope of work: Cut and fill of 4,000 cubic yards as well as site grading and installation of sanitary, storm, and water lines and asphalt paving.

**Trinity Freight Car Complex Demolition**
Location: Butler, Pennsylvania  
Owner: Community Development Corporation of Butler  
Start date: August, 2005  
Completion date: October, 2005  
Scope of work: Removal of a 550,000 square-foot building to concrete slab. This will generate 4,000 ton of scrap metal which will be shipped to a recycling center.

Current Crushing Projects

- **ALLIED CORP. / SHELLY CO.**  
  Cleveland, Ohio  
  50,000 tons of asphalt crushing into 1/2” minus RAP material

- **DIGERONIMO AGGREGATES, LLC**  
  Independence, Ohio  
  300,000 tons of 2” minus shale crushing

- **FORT MYERS FACILITY**  
  Ft. Myers, Florida  
  50,000 tons of 2” minus base material

- **INDEPENDENCE FACILITY**  
  Independence, Ohio  
  100,000 tons of ODOT #304 base material

- **JACKSONVILLE FACILITY**  
  Jacksonville, Florida  
  250,000 tons of 2” minus base material

- **LAKELAND FACILITY**  
  Lakeland, Florida  
  50,000 tons of 2” minus base material

- **OLEAN CORP.**  
  Wooster, Ohio  
  300,000 tons of sand and gravel crushed into ODOT #304 base material

- **ORLANDO FACILITY**  
  Orlando, Florida  
  200,000 tons of stone and base material

- **PUNTA GORDA FACILITY**  
  Punta Gorda, Florida  
  20,000 tons of 2” minus base material

- **STEIN/I.S.G. SLAG CRUSHING**  
  Cleveland, Ohio  
  600,000 tons of slag crushed into #57, #8 and #10 stone

- **TAMPA FACILITY**  
  Tampa, Florida  
  25,000 tons of 2” minus base material

- **VALLEY VIEW FACILITY**  
  Valley View, Ohio  
  150,000 tons of #1’s and #2’s and #304 base material

- **WESTGATE MALL DEMO**  
  Rocky River, Ohio  
  20,000 tons of #304 base material

- **WEST VIRGINIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD**  
  Martinsburg, West Virginia  
  90,000 tons of limestone crushed into base material

- **CENTRAL DE-ICING FACILITY**  
  Cleveland, Ohio  
  56,000 tons of concrete crushed into P-306
Completed Project

Wadsworth Crossings

Larry Hrovat, Project Manager

In February of 2005, Forest City Commercial Construction Company awarded Independence Excavating the contract to perform the site preparation and utilities for the Wadsworth Crossings project. Wadsworth Crossings is an 80-acre retail development located at the southwest corner of Interstate I-76 and SR 261 in Wadsworth, Ohio. The primary tenants for this project will be Kohl’s Department Store, Target, and Lowe’s Home Improvement. From the start, it was expected that this fast-track project would be fraught with challenges to achieve the critical opening dates for the retailers. By the numbers, Independence moved over one-half million cubic yards of earth and installed 60,000 linear feet of utilities, or about 11 miles, in six months. In addition to the aggressive schedule mandated by the original contract documents, the Independence team was challenged by significant scope additions that would, under normal circumstances, be projects unto themselves.

In order to facilitate public access to the large retail development without hindering traffic patterns, it was necessary to improve SR 261 with wider lanes, utilities, and signalization. Independence performed the bulk of the road widening, grading and utilities in only three weeks. Secondly, 5,000 linear feet of 15 inch sanitary sewer at depths to 26 feet were added, including 2,500 linear feet through a residential neighborhood. Independence was also enlisted by Forest City to be the general contractor for the construction of a sanitary pump station, a critical element to the function of the development. The station includes extensive mechanical and electrical systems as well as a complete masonry building to accommodate all the controls for the facility. The Kohl’s Store will open in October of 2005, with the Target and Lowe’s slated to open in the spring of 2006. There will also be many tenants coming on board as the development nears completion. We are currently 90 percent complete with our work.

We are grateful for the opportunity to work once again with our clients at Forest City Commercial Construction. The key team members at Forest City include Dennis Breiding, Sr. Project Manager; Joginder Singh, Executive Vice President of Commercial Construction, and Lynn Truskie, Development Manager.

The DiGeronimo Companies Team Up at Westgate Mall

Donald DiGeronimo, Project Manager

On August 1, 2005, the 50-year-old shopping complex gave way to the Independence demolition crews. Once a drive-in movie theatre that was converted to a strip mall, and later into an enclosed shopping mall. The Richard E. Jacobs Group decided it was time for a complete overhaul. This is not a typical mall demolition job, however. The interior structure must remain intact until after the holiday season for the remaining tenants to keep their shops open, while we remove buildings that are attached to the main structure. In order for this to happen, Precision Environmental must first perform asbestos abatement, and build a temporary wall where Dillard’s used to be in order to keep the outdoor elements from the shoppers. To date, Independence Excavating has demolished all three Dillard’s stores on the mall premises. At the same time, Independence Recycling will be on-site crushing more than 43,000 tons of concrete that will be used in the future phasing of this project. After the holiday season is over, we will return and proceed with tearing down the interior structure. Once demolition is complete, The Jacobs Group will begin plans to build a new outdoor shopping facility. This is definitely a job where we had an opportunity to showcase the diversity of our companies. Our work is scheduled to be completed by May 2006 when sitework for the new facility will have already begun.
Independence Recycling crushes all slag produced at I.S.G. in Cleveland, Ohio

Eric Dombrowski, Operations Manager

In July 2005, Independence Recycling began processing blast furnace slag from ISG steelworks with a new plant located at the International Bulk Storage yard along the Cuyahoga River (Dock #2). The diversification of the DiGeronimo Companies including Independence Recycling, Independence Excavating, Independence Concrete, Precision ProCut, Independence Communications, Indy Equipment (Fabricating Division), and Indy Equipment (Rental Division) teamed up with Schneider Brothers, The Stein Companies, ISG, IBSG, Lane Manufacturing, ALL Erection & Crane Rental, Kolar Cement, and EME Electrical to complete the project.

The project began in 2003 when Independence Recycling acquired a contract to process the slag for The Stein Companies, which services local steel mills. A portable jaw crusher, cone crusher, and roll crusher were quickly set up as a temporary facility until a new processing facility could be constructed. As Indy Equipment Fabricating Division was designing a new plant, Independence Recycling was able to reacquire the slag processing plant that Indy Equipment had originally built. Suddenly the task at hand changed from the development of new facility to the reconfiguration of existing equipment. This required the fabrication of several new conveyors and the modification of the main feed hopper in order to fit the footprint at Dock #2.

Once a plan was in place it was the combined strength of the DiGeronimo Companies that completed this project. Independence Recycling and Independence Excavating began the site preparation, with Independence pouring concrete footers, piers, and pads. Independence Recycling, Independence Excavating, and Indy Equipment followed with the trucking and erection of equipment, and Schneider Brothers from Syracuse, New York were brought in to meet the demanding erection schedule. Behind the scenes, Indy Equipment Fabricating Division was finishing the design changes and fabricating the new conveyors, and Indy Equipment was busy supplying support equipment to the field crews. The next challenge was to install a ten-foot diameter curved surge tunnel, 230 feet long. Independence Excavating made short work of the excavation.

The electrical installation was simultaneously being coordinated between Independence Recycling and EME Electrical. Independence Communications stepped in to supply radios for the testing and debugging phase. During this phase Precision ProCut core drilled holes for anchoring the jaw and cone crushers, as well as installation of the grounding rods.
'05 ANNIVERSARIES

OCTOBER
5 JOHN & MARGARET MULOIN
7 STEVEN & CATHERINE GOSSELIN
8 THOMAS & GINA BYRNE
10 WAYNE & AMY MELLINGER
10 SCOTT & ELLIE SHERMAN
14 JOSEPH & CHRISTINE TRETINIK
15 STEVEN & CAROL SLANSKY
25 JOHN & RENEE FILLA
25 MALLORY & ELIZABETH JACKSON
27 DONALD & BEVERLY BARROWS
29 MICHAEL & RENEE ZAZ
30 KEVIN & SHEILA CONRAD
30 TIMOTHY & KAREN ZIMMERMAN

NOVEMBER
1 ANDREW & BETH FETZER
4 DANIEL & LINDA PAVELECKY
5 JOHNNIE & KATHLEEN SARANEY
6 TED & TERRI HOWARD
6 TIMOTHY & DAWN BOONE
7 ROMANINO & ANNE MARIE DIVINCENZO
7 VINCE & DONNA LASALVIA
9 TONY & DEANE PAOLUCCI
11 JEFF & TRACI WISNEWSKI
12- SCOTT & VICKI PADGETT
14 KEVIN CONRAD
14 GREG DIGERONIMO
14 JEROME WARD
14 TOM STEBLINSKI
15 CRAIG WEBB
17 AUDREY DVORAK
17 KEVIN DIGERONIMO
19 WILLIAM & DEE ANNE BEHRENS
21 FRANCIS & CHRISTINE
25 RICHARD & PAULA DIGERONIMO
25 DARLENE ORLANDO
26 MICHAEL & THERESE CAMPOLIETI

DECEMBER
1 MICHAEL & DARLENE ORLANDO
2 RUSSELL BROGAN
3 MICHAEL RIZZO
3 DENNIS SWANSON
6 WILLIAM MCCOY, JR
7 DONALD KING
12 FRANKLIN SMITH
13 DONALD JOHNSTON
13 RANDY SIPP
15 ROBERT POKorny
16 MATTHEW FUENTES
16 STEVE HALL
17 THOMAS JANOSIK
17 JOSEPH TRETINIK
18 ERIC SEARS
19 DONALD LAPLACA
19 KAREN SALMEN
20 GEORGE MINICH
20 CHRISSEY MOONEY
21 KEVIN SCOTT
24 RICK DIGERONIMO
28 PHILIP LEKsan
28 JOHN CARROLL
29 JERRY ROSEN
29 MARK LAUBSCHER
30 RUTH ANN COTTLE

'05 BIRTHDAYS

OCTOBER
2 DALE LANG
2 CHARLES HALL
4 DICK MILLER
9 RANDY SCHNEITER
9 STEVE WILK
13 NICK DIGERONIMO
14 KEVIN CONRAD
14 GREG DIGERONIMO
14 JOSEPH TRETINIK
17 AUDREY DVORAK
17 KEVIN DIGERONIMO
19 WILLIAM & DEE ANNE BEHRENS
21 FRANCIS & CHRISTINE
30 DOMINIC RODRIGUEZ
30 JACK HELBIG, JR.
31 ANTHONY GERMANO
31 TODD HOOVER

NOVEMBER
3 CHARLES BAILEY
4 SCOTT COULTER
5 JUSTIN FOX
5 TRACIE MACIAK
7 NICK DIGERONIMO
7 MICHAEI CAMPOLIETI
12 FRANKLIN SMITH
13 DONALD JOHNSTON
13 RANDY SIPP
15 ROBERT POKorny
16 MATTHEW FUENTES
16 STEVE HALL
17 THOMAS JANOSIK
17 JOSEPH TRETINIK
18 ERIC SEARS
19 DONALD LAPLACA
19 KAREN SALMEN
20 GEORGE MINICH
20 CHRISSEY MOONEY
21 KEVIN SCOTT
24 RICK DIGERONIMO
28 PHILIP LEKsan
28 JOHN CARROLL
29 JERRY ROSEN
29 MARK LAUBSCHER
30 RUTH ANN COTTLE

DECEMBER
1 BLAISE HORGAS
2 LAWRENCE ABNEY
3 CHRISTOPHER HORNER
4 JOHN HARPER
6 CARLINNE BUCHOLTZ
7 MIKE ORLANDO
8 ED LYNCH, JR.
10 TIMOTHY BOONE
11 JOHN PERCUN
13 VINCE ZEIGLER
14 "RAGS" STALLARD
14 BILL BEHRENS
14 ED BUTLER
17 TONY PAOLUCCI
18 ADAM ROBERTSON
20 RICHARD DEAN
22 GEORGE BIHUN
23 JAMES KRAMER
24 MAURICE WILSON
25 JEFFREY BREWSTER
25 JOSHDUPH BROWN
26 RYAN VANCURE

JANUARY
1 GREGORY & SUSAN FOTH
19 MARTIN & TONI ROBINSON
22 WILLIAM & VALERIE SHONDELMEYER
24 DAVID & MARY BRONZA
29 DON & STEPHANIE MAHNKE