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Real Lessons, Indeed

When I finished reading “Real Money, Real Lessons” (Summer 2011 *Colby*) by Laura [Meader], I was overcome with pride that I am a Colby alumna. This class is a shining example of why a liberal arts education is both necessary and immensely beneficial, both to students and to the larger community.

I want to express sincere gratitude to Professor Thomas Morrione for organizing and acquiring funding for this class, and I want to congratulate the students in the class for their hard work, dedication and involvement. I don’t think it’s an over-exaggeration to say that the lessons they learned in this class will be with them for the rest of their lives. I am so thankful that I spent my college years at a school that fosters this type of passionate engagement in its students.

Andrea Palmer ’05
Austin, Tex.

Time Deconstructed

Wow! First the Jan Plan and now déjà vu pagination. For readers like myself who have difficulty remembering what they’ve just read, the organization of the summer 2011 issue of *Colby* breaks new ground. I especially like the shuffled class notes, which illustrate what I’ve always believed: that age doesn’t matter and chronology is really just a convention. Or, as T.S. Eliot put it, “Time past

and time future/ What might have been and what has been/ Point to one end, which is always present.” Keep up the good work.

Nicolas Ruf ’64
Rockland, Maine

Editor’s note: A printer’s error resulted in mispagination of a small number of copies of the summer 2011 issue. Colby regrets the error and appreciates having it brought to our attention.

The Presence of Annie Proulx ’57

I read with pleasure Willard Wyman ’56’s review of Annie Proulx’s latest book, *Bird Cloud* (Spring 2011 *Colby*). I was reminded, also with pleasure, of Annie’s participation in the Class of ’57. She brought her distinctive liveliness to our class and, complete with jeans, brocade vest, violin, and taut intellect, was a presence to be remembered.

Candace Orcutt ’57
Teaneck, N.J.

A Green Congrats

Congratulations to Colby College for being the 13th greenest college in the USA. I was impressed that my alma mater is so high on the Sierra Club’s list this year. Keep up the good work!

Ann Renner Stillwater ’81
Harrisburg, Pa.

Comments from Colby’s Facebook post on the death of Professor of English R. Mark Benbow ...

The Inspiring—and Sometimes Terrifying—Professor Benbow

Dr. Benbow was my first prof in the English Dept., and the most challenging professor of my Colby career—brilliant, inspirational, terrifying in the depth of his knowledge (I think he knew all the lines of the major plays), and unrelenting in his demands. I clearly remember his imposing voice, his unfiltered cigarettes, his furrowed brow, the styrofoam cup of coffee from the Spa, his cluttered office upstairs in the library, and the first “C” of my life in an English class. What an honor it was to study with a world renowned Shakespeare scholar at a place like Colby. I feel his guidance and inspiration every day in my own classroom. Rest in peace, Dr. Benbow. Thank you. Say hello to Charlie Bassett for me.

Emily Sprague ’79
Watertown, N.Y.

“Admiral” Benbow ... what can I say. I took his “Shakespeare” lecture and survived ... then had the courage to take a senior seminar on Hamlet with him. Twelve of us started ... five finished. TOUGHEST ACADEMIC CHALLENGE I EVER TOOK ON. R.I.P. sir, you were one of the best.

Gary Fitts ’73
Port Charlotte, Fla.

RIP Mr. Benbow. One of the most remarkable profs that I survived at Colby. Still intimidating even in death, but great minds never die.

Janice Bispham ’76
Palm Bay, Fla.

He was remarkable ... in a serio-frightening way. I regard my B- in Shakespeare as my best grade at Colby. Great man, great teacher.
David Rea ’71
Northfield, N.H.

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