Candidates’ Support

Erin Vogel Knows Her Orangutans  •  The Diplomat and Hugo Chávez

Noah Charney and the Art of Theft  •  A New Orientation

Economics as a Reality Show
What is the Colby Fund

In the past you may have made contributions to the Alumni Fund, the Annual Fund, reunion giving, or an anniversary program. Now the Colby Fund includes all of these. Your gifts will be used in the same manner and will credit your class or reunion effort in the same way—only the name has changed.

By making an annual gift to the Colby Fund, you are investing in the future success of all Colby students by enhancing their educational experience and ensuring a continued tradition of academic excellence.

Be a part of the tradition. More than 10,000 alumni and nearly 1,500 parents made a gift to Colby last year.
FEATURES
10/The Art of Theft
When it comes to art theft, Noah Charney ’02 is an expert. Charney’s study of this nefarious niche of the art world has made him a household word in museum and gallery security circles, and a new novel and television programs in the works have propelled the art-history major’s career.

14/Tracking the Forest People
Erin Vogel ’95 studies orangutans up close in the rainforest of Borneo. An anthropologist at UC Santa Cruz, Vogel wants to know what these orangutans eat and why, in hopes that the knowledge will help protect this dwindling species.

20/The Diplomat
Newly appointed Ambassador Patrick Duddy ’72, a career diplomat, looks for common ground with Venezuela’s outspoken president, Hugo Chávez.

24/Making of a President
Candidates lean on Colbians in bids for the White House; alumni who are staffers and aides ride the roller coaster of a presidential campaign.

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Talk of the Town
Podcast explores town-gown relations.

Speakers Bureau
Listen to Colby visiting speakers: former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, foreign correspondent John Burns, counter-terrorism expert Richard Clarke.
**His Spirit Never Faltered**

Everyone who has had the pleasure of living and learning on Mayflower Hill knows Colby fosters a close-knit community, with a common bond that lives on long after Colbians leave the Hill. However, it’s only natural for people to migrate towards those with whom they feel most comfortable and stay within those groups. Robert Silberman ’03 spent his four years on the Hill affably transcending these groups. Everyone knew Bobby and Bobby knew everyone. He was, in this sense, the quintessential Colby student.

Once in a while, a unique individual comes along and graces us with their presence. Bobby was one of those people. Our friendships with him were forged over the long Colby winters that breed both wisdom and their fair share of mischief.

Bobby was born and raised in Stamford, Conn., by his wonderful parents, Mary C. and Alan Silberman, and was a brother to his two lovely sisters, Lauren and Alison. He attended The Kent School and graduated from Stamford High School. Following in the footsteps of his father, Alan Silberman ’50, and his sister Alison Silberman ’00, Bobby attended Colby. He majored in economics and played lacrosse. He was also an avid snowboarder, played intramural hockey for the Colby Boozehounds, and broomball for the Funky Chills.

The lasting impression that Bobby left on the Hill exists in all of the lives that he touched at Colby. Bobby was full of positive energy and threw himself completely into everything he took interest in, which could not help but rub off on those around him.

A couple of years after college, when most of us were looking ahead to life’s possibilities, Bobby was diagnosed with Ewing’s sarcoma, a rare form of cancer. What seemed to many an insurmountable battle, Bobby treated as a hurdle, no different than his friends’ struggles with life and love. While none of us had, nor could even imagine, a struggle as fierce as Bobby’s, he silently reminded us that life is about struggles and, more importantly, how you confront them. He used to say, “All I want to do is live, so I will.” As his body began to fail him, his spirit never faltered.

Through a remarkable display of sheer will and positive attitude, Bobby showed us how to live life to the fullest despite any adversity. He showed us how friendship can be a source of will power and strength. Bobby’s strength was so overwhelming that friends who visited him while he was sick often had the feeling that he was supporting them through a difficult time. Such was the strength of his selfless devotion to friendship.

Bobby passed away at home on September 26, 2007, after a courageous 18-month battle with cancer. Although he is gone, Bobby will remain with us in spirit and we will carry on the lessons that he taught us for the rest of our lives. We hope that through his memory we will be able to live a little more like Bobby, extending warmth to all those we encounter and maintaining a positive outlook regardless of the challenges we face. Bobby will be forever missed by his loving family and friends. We know he is watching over all of us with a big smile.

*George Carvill*
Milford, N.H.

**The Flip Side of Visa Limits**

I truly hope that Ms. Ana Prokic (“Visa Squeeze,” fall 2007 *Colby*) is able to work out a good life plan. If she is as bright and resourceful as she sounds in the article, she will.

But I take issue with the contention that the current cap on H1B visas is a “problem.” I would be happy to see the limit lowered much further. Over the last decade American IT industries have whined that they need more H1B visas because they can’t find “qualified” workers in this country. With rare exceptions, this is either a problem of their own making or a complete fabrication.

The dirty secret of high tech H1B visas is that American companies use the program to legally import younger, lower-paid workers from other countries while laying off older, better-paid U.S. citizens. I know; I have seen it firsthand.

The claim is that the U.S. workers are not conversant with the latest technology. If there is any truth to that, the major reason is that most American companies won’t retrain existing workers. And why should they when they can get cheaper workers who have been trained at government expense elsewhere? These are workers who generally have no family to support, no college loans to pay off, and can’t negotiate for higher pay for fear of losing their visas.

Instead of “throwing away” older American citizens, companies should invest in maintaining employees’ skills just as they maintain their plants and equipment. Educational institutions like Colby could be playing a major role in the retooling.

No, the real “squeeze” in the H1B visa program is the way it is squeezing older American workers out of their jobs.

*George Carvill*
Milford, N.H.

**Music Dept. Has Other Players**

The Music Department very much appreciates the publicity generated by the article “The Soprano” by Julia Hanauer-Milne (fall 2007 *Colby*). Dori Smith ’08 is indeed a very gifted student and one of our most outstanding music majors, and she deserves public recognition.

Members of the music faculty were, however, surprised that the article seems to rely predominantly on quotes from Professor [Paul] Machlin. It makes no reference to other music faculty who have been more directly responsible for shaping Dori’s career at Colby. Besides singing for four years in the Chorale under Paul Machlin’s direction, she has also sung for four years in the Collegium, directed by Eva Linfield.
Most noticeable and unfortunate, however, is the complete lack of any mention of Elizabeth Patches, Dori’s voice teacher at Colby, who has been nurturing her and directly shaping her voice for the past four years. Under Elizabeth’s masterful guidance and with the generous assistance of Annabeth French, the indispensable accompanist for the voice studio, Dori has developed her extraordinary gifts in remarkable ways and has been able to put together a fine recording for her Fulbright application. The lack of any mention of these individuals feels especially odd given that Dori has told me that she made special mention of them in her interview.

While the Music Department is grateful for any effort to raise the profile of its many gifted students, the article leaves my colleagues (and probably your readers) with the mistaken and dispiriting impression that the Music Department is a one-person show.

Eva Linfield
Associate Professor of Music
Chair of the Music Department

Spreading the Hume Center Word

Thanks for the insightful article, “All Fired Up,” (spring 2007 Colby) which has helped me understand a little more of the Hume Center commitments and what is going on there. My daughter Kathleen ’10 and I took a ride out to the Hume Center Jan Plan experience in the shop. Many thanks!

Mark Kramer P’10
Norwell, Mass.

First Dijon Semester a Great Start

I was very excited to read “Passport to Colby” (fall 2007 Colby). I was one of the 20 or so freshmen who embarked on the first Colby in Dijon Program in 1985. It is great to see that, 22 years later, the program is still going.

The article really brought back many great memories of our four months there. I still to this day tell folks that I started my college career living in France, going to a French university with students from all over the world, traveling all over Europe on free weekends, and even playing on the local French hockey team. Not the usual fall semester for an incoming freshman.

I think the students in the current article were a lot like our group: we all became very close, very fast. I know we all secretly wondered how we would blend in with the rest of the class when we returned in January. Housing was very tight for Jan Plan and I will never forget that month that went on out there except for crew headquarters. We were so intrigued by the grounds, buildings, and obvious commitment to development of crafts/skills that we vowed to check it out online—and voilà.

I now will encourage my daughter to spread the word and consider a Hume Center Jan Plan experience in the shop. Many thanks!

Rob Erdmann ’89
Boston, Mass.

Burns was the Right Choice

Kudos to the trustees for selecting John F. Burns as this year’s Lovejoy Award recipient.

Graham Barkham ’62
Larchmont, N.Y.

Editor’s Note: The Lovejoy Award Selection Committee—five editors from important American newspapers, the president of the College, and the director of the Goldfarb Center—meet annually to select the Lovejoy recipient. The trustees approve the awarding of an honorary doctor of laws degree, which accompanies the Lovejoy Award.

CONTRIBUTORS

ALLEN LESSELS P’08 (“The Making of a President,” P. 24) is a New Hampshire-based journalist. He covers University of New Hampshire athletics for the New Hampshire Union Leader and writes for various other publications, including People, Places & Plants, a gardening magazine published in Maine.

ADRIANA NORDIN MANAN ’07 (“Tracking the Forest People,” P. 14) spent last summer as a researcher for Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, the John D. McArthur Professor of Sociology, before returning home to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She is looking for a job combining critical analysis, writing, and interaction with people across various levels of society.

DAVID MCKAY WILSON ’76 (“The Diplomat,” P. 20) is a New York-based journalist who writes regularly for college magazines including those at Dartmouth, Penn, Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, University of Chicago, Duke, and Colby. He writes for The New York Times and is at work on a television project.
This story really began a year ago when Qiam Amiry ’09, a student from Kabul, was lying on his bed in Coburn Hall. “I was thinking of how things are going in Afghanistan. I was thinking, ‘What are you doing? You got this scholarship. You’re the privileged one. What is your contribution?’”

Amiry came to Colby from the Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong through a Davis United World College scholarship. A former translator for British special forces and child carpet weaver, he is a member of the Hazara ethnic group, the least privileged in Afghanistan.

Amiry beat the odds. And he decided to help someone else do the same.

His single-minded and, at times, daring effort created opportunities for two high school students from Kabul, Sikander Ahmadi and Meetra Sroush, to receive full two-year scholarships to attend Gould Academy, a private college-preparatory school in Bethel, Maine, beginning in fall of 2008.

Amiry doesn’t know the students, or as he calls them, “our scholars.” He does know that they are among the thousands of Afghans “who do not have the voice and do not have the power to get it.”

But Amiry showed them that power isn’t always measured in the strength of political connections. It can come from steadfastly standing by your principles.

That’s what Amiry ultimately did, wending his way along the tortuous path that began in his dorm room. His first stop was at the office of Steve Thomas, Colby’s director of admissions. Amiry sketched out his idea and Thomas said, sure, it could be done. Next stop was Joe Feeley, Colby’s staff architect and Amiry’s international-student host dad. Feeley’s son went to Gould. Feeley is a friend of Dan Kunkle, Gould’s head of school. “It was a hopeful shot in the dark,” Feeley said.

A phone call and a car ride later, Amiry was sitting with Leslie Nesbitt, Gould’s associate admissions director. He pitched his plan and then they just talked. For hours. “It was like this was a long-lost friend,” Nesbitt said.

Gould was in. Not only that, Nesbitt connected with an official in the Embassy of Afghanistan in Washington. Per that official’s instructions, she gave Amiry an official letter naming him Gould Academy’s admissions representative for Afghanistan. With this credential, and his own not-inconsiderable negotiating skills, Amiry went home to Kabul for the summer.

“I now had two scholarships in my hand,” he said. “How do I do it?”

Amiry did it by bicycling around Kabul visiting government offices. He hit it off with the Columbia-educated deputy minister of education, who assured him that nepotism and corruption no longer ruled Afghanistan. But then Amiry hit a wall of bureaucratic resistance and manipulation.

The officials tried to wrest the selection process from him. They appointed one of their own to score exams. One demanded that a politically connected student make the first cut. A woman called and asked that her daughter be considered, saying, “If it’s about money …”

Amiry hung up. He warned the officials that Gould could withdraw its offer. “They were all the time trying to undermine my authority,” he said. And when the girl didn’t make the cut?

 “[The official] said, ‘You can’t do that.’ I said, ‘Yes, I can.’” Amiry took out his cell phone. He said, “The deputy minister told me the time of nepotism is gone. … Either he lied or there is something wrong in this room.”

Amiry didn’t have the deputy’s minister’s number, but he started to punch keys. The official backed down. Amiry won. Or, should I say, fairness and justice won. The scholarships were awarded on merit. Later, Amiry called the recipients, to give them the good news.

The shocked silence on the other end of the phone spoke volumes.

For more on Qiam Amiry’s project, go to www.colby.edu/mag

Standing, Qiam Amiry ’09, with Gould Academy scholarship recipients Meetra Sroush, left, and Sikander Ahmadi, right, and members of their families in Kabul, Afghanistan.
Philanthropist Harold Alfond Dies at 93

Harold Alfond, founder of the Dexter Shoe Co. and a generous supporter of Colby for more than a half century, died November 16, at 93, as this issue of Colby was going to press. Alfond’s name adorns many facilities at Colby—including the athletic center and a residence complex—and across the state. A life overseer at Colby, Alfond received an honorary doctorate in 1980. His late wife, Dorothy “Bibby” Alfond, was a member of the Class of 1938, and their son William ’72 is now a trustee. Their nephew Peter Lunder ’56 and granddaughter Jennifer Alfond Seeman ’92 both serve Colby as overseers. Expect complete coverage in the next issue.

Goldfarb Lectures Bring Global Perspectives

Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, New York Times Chief Foreign Correspondent John Burns, and former counter-terrorism advisor Richard Clarke have more in common than that they spoke at Colby this fall.

The speakers discussed a range of topics, from Clarke’s assessment of misconceptions about the war in Iraq to Burns’s from-the-ground account of life in Baghdad to Albright’s vision for diplomacy and human rights for all.

From their various vantages, each expressed concern about the perception of the United States internationally and looked forward to a time when the U.S. holds the respect of the international community. To hear the speeches in their entirety, visit www.colby.edu/goldfarb.

—Ruth Jacobs

AMERICA IN THE WORLD

RICHARD CLARKE, September 23, Government Department Goldfarb Lecture

“Remember right after 9/11, when two days later there was a spontaneous demonstration, 100,000 people with candles in the streets of—Tehran. People throughout the Islamic world thought Al Qaeda had gone too far, was killing innocent people, killing Muslims among them. We had an opportunity then to unite the world against this ideology. And we blew it.”

JOHN F. BURNS, September 30, 55th Lovejoy Convocation

“I take encouragement that America will once again emerge from this time of adversity and continue in the future, perhaps under a different president, perhaps after it has extricated itself from Iraq, to be what my father told me as a NATO general himself in the 1950s. ... He said, ‘[Americans] are the people that keep the peace in the world in our time, and don’t forget it.’ It was true then, it is true now, and may God grant that this nation finds its way through its present adversity and is once again in the minds and hearts of the people of the world what it has been, especially throughout most of my lifetime—admired, regarded, loved.”

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT, October 25, Sen. George J. Mitchell Distinguished International Lecture

“In some parts of the world young people are being brought up to believe that the United States is the enemy of their religion and that we are using our power to hold them back and keep them down. ... We must fight back by doing a better job of explaining not only what America is against but also what it is for. ... The world should know that the best America respects the rule of law, opposes torture, believes in due process, and thinks that everyone—including private security contractors in Iraq—should be held accountable for their actions. And that’s why we need leaders in the future who will restore America’s reputation.”
InsideColby Adds Video

Thanks in part to the popularity of online services like YouTube and iTunes, video is now a regular part of the Internet. This fall, insideColby added a student-produced vodcast (read: video podcast) aimed at capitalizing on that popularity.

Martin “Moxie” Connelly ’08 and Ned Warner ’09 create the three- to five-minute videos exploring some aspect of the Colby experience—both on campus and off. The duo has covered students’ impressions of the new Pulver Pavilion, recent alums’ return for Family Homecoming Weekend, the Waterville farmers’ market, and student activism, from politics to human rights. “Every two weeks, we try to make the magic happen,” said Connelly.

InsideColby, which consists entirely of student-generated content, also includes a magazine, blogs, photos, an audio podcast, and more. To watch—or subscribe to—the vodcast, go to www.insidecolby.com/video. —Rob Clockedile

Pavilion Complete, Bookstore Coming

A spirited crowd of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and trustees gathered in Pulver Pavilion in Cotter Union on Friday evening, October 26, to officially dedicate the new addition, which opened at the start of the academic year. The naming gift was given by Trustee David Pulver ’63, his wife, Carol, and their daughter, Stephanie ’93.

“Peter Bohlin nailed it,” said Joseph Boulos ’68, chair of Colby’s Board of Trustees, referring to principal architect Peter Bohlin, of Bohlin Cywinski Jackson architects. “This is fabulous. Colby cannot thank the Pulvers enough for all they’ve done for the College, but tonight I think we’re going to try.”

“Carol and I are even more thrilled today than we were the day Peter Bohlin came on board—because it works,” said Pulver as he addressed the crowd at the dedication. “It’s a truly centralized place for people to gather.”

The opening of Pulver Pavilion signals the near-completion of a comprehensive student center for Colby. Those attending the dedication ceremony could not help noticing the grid of I-beams already in place just outside Page Commons. Next fall, the 9,000-square-foot, $4.25-million bookstore addition will open, making Cotter a true hub for student activity on campus. The main entrance for the bookstore will be off Page Commons lobby. The move of the bookstore from the Roberts Building will help allow for the ultimate transformation of that building into a residence hall. —Steve Heacock

Boating Accident Claims Life of Administrator

Long-time employee Thomas Kopp, senior associate dean of admissions, died November 10 in a boating accident on Great Pond in Rome, Maine. Kopp worked at Colby for almost 30 years, beginning in athletics and, since 1983, in admissions. “Many students now enrolled at Colby, as well as many alumni, will remember Tom fondly as the person whose warm smile and enthusiasm introduced them to the College,” wrote President William D. Adams in an e-mail to the community.

An architect’s rendering shows the bookstore addition on the far right of Cotter Union.
If a top-notch student from Maine doesn’t apply to—or doesn’t attend—Colby because of anxiety about student loan debt, then Colby and the student both miss an opportunity. That’s the premise behind a new initiative that will convert student loans to grants in financial aid packages for Maine students, part of a larger goal of increasing access to the College.

Parents in the low- to middle-income range in Maine might discourage their children from taking out $5,000 a year—$20,000 over four years—to attend Colby, said Chair of the Board of Trustees Joseph Boulos ’68, who, with his wife, Sheri, is supporting the initiative with the lead gift. “They automatically assume that they could never pay that back.”

Now they won’t have to.

As Colby assesses each accepted student’s financial need, it calculates a financial aid package to meet that need. These packages may include grants, outside scholarships, work-study, and student loans. Beginning next fall, the student-loan portion for current and incom- ing Maine students will be turned into grants.

So why the focus on Maine? There are a few reasons, says Boulos, a Maine native. Students from Maine excel at Colby. “I’ve always believed that the greatest attribute of most Mainers is that they know how to work, and I think it has proven out over the years.” Also, over the years Colby has seen the percentage of Maine students drop below the target 10 to 12 percent, and this policy is aimed at keeping that from becoming a trend.

But that’s not all.

Maine students are an important part of the culture at the College, said Boulos. Historically Colby has always had a commitment to the people of this state, and this needs to continue. “I think we owe it to the state of Maine, as a college that was founded almost 200 years ago, to give these kids an opportunity.” —R.J.

Out of Adversity

They were child soldiers, abducted by rebel forces in northern Uganda’s lengthy civil war and forced to participate in and witness unthinkable violence. But in this climate of fear and squa- lor, the children of the Patongo refugee camp mounted a bid to compete in the National Music Competition in far-off Kampala. Award-winning documentary filmmakers Sean Fine and Andrea Nix Fine ’91 have chronicled this story in War/Dance, which is acclaimed on the festival circuit and now in release—with profits to go to children in Uganda. More at www.wardance.org and www.wardancethemovie.com.
Native Partners

A collaboration among four Native American tribes and Colby, Bates and Bowdoin colleges was launched this fall to enhance the college students’ knowledge about the Wabanaki peoples and to increase college aspirations among native youth in the Wabanaki Confederacy, which includes Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Maliseet, and Micmac communities.

The project, Working to Build Bridges to Communities, uses the acronym WBBC, which also represents initials of the four partners. The initial component, Early College Awareness, is planned for February and March, with teams of four to six students from each college visiting the native communities in northern and eastern Maine. The college students will be guests of the Wabanakis, learning about native culture and working with fourth through eighth graders.

The three colleges recruited students in November to participate in a training session December 1 and another workshop in February. The Colby team is scheduled to visit five sites March 23-28, during Spring Break.

Additional initiatives under consideration include a summer program for native students to visit the college campuses and efforts to ensure that campus climates are welcoming to native youth. —Stephen Collins ’74

Gossip Girls Get Scripted

Cecily von Ziegesar’s tales of the precocious and footloose students at a tony New York City private school captured the interest not only of teen readers but of television executives.

The best-selling Gossip Girl books created by von Ziegesar ’92 became the Gossip Girl TV series—produced by the same people who created the California melodrama The O.C.

Von Ziegesar is no longer doing Gossip Girl books, nor was she involved in the adaptation of her books to TV. She has traded fictional teenagers for real-life motherhood and other projects.

“I thought it was going to be the sort of Disney version of the books, really toned down and corny,” she told The New York Times. “A while back, there was a script circulating, and the boys were playing polo in Central Park. And I was horrified, because that doesn’t happen. It was such a stereotype.” —Gerry Boyle ’78

New Director of Alumni and Donor Relations Named

Following a national search for a new director of alumni and donor relations, Colby found the best candidate right on Mayflower Hill. Meg Bernier ’81, who worked previously as associate director and, most recently, as acting director, was named director in November. Bernier has worked at Colby since 1997 and is credited with developing and managing many programs, including Alumni College and, more recently, the Colby Alumni Network.

Wit & Wisdom

“The people at Southern Connecticut State University have cast the entire novel. They know exactly who each character is and have got it figured out. […] Southern Illinois is convinced they are the ones and strangely enough, Colby College, where I went to after I left Southern Illinois, they’re convinced that it’s their English department too that’s portrayed in the novel.”

Richard Russo, former English professor, when asked about his book Straight Man being based on Southern Illinois University.

“Slightly Stoopid gives a mostly lame performance.”

Headline on an Echo review. Slightly Stoopid (a band) played in Pulver Pavilion.

“Doggie was a walking, talking, bewhiskered MRI in the days before the MRI was even invented.”

College Historian Earl Smith, on the diagnostic gifts of Clarence “Doggie” Dore ’39, M.D., in a eulogy in Lorimer Chapel Nov. 17. Dr. Dore, the College physician from 1949 to 1981, died Nov. 6.

“He made me want to become a good man.”

Eric Weeks ’80, on Tom Kopp, who served as his football coach in 1979 and died in a boating accident in November. (See obituary, p. 71.)

“Is Colby College the Dolphins after Shula or the Cowboys after Landry?”

Headline on the Environmental Economics Web site’s notice regarding the search for Mitchell Family Professor of Economics Tom Tietenberg’s replacement, since he’s retiring in 2008. “Almost everyone who teaches environmental economics begins with Tietenberg’s book. If you are bold enough to attempt to replace a legend, the ad is below.”

“I never thought I’d have a 71-year-old son.”

Mother of Bob Saltz ’58, after he told her on her recent birthday that he never thought he’d have a 100-year-old mother.
A Peace of the Prize

Al Gore got more than 50 percent of the attention when he won half of the Nobel Peace Prize in October. After all, the winner of the other half, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), doesn’t have a movie and never ran for President. But its work to understand and combat climate change, according to the Nobel Committee, is equally worthy of recognition. And at least two contributors to that work spend their days in front of classes on Mayflower Hill.

Professor of Science, Technology, and Society James R. Fleming is a leading expert on the history of climate and, as such, was asked to contribute to chapter one of the IPCC’s 2007 assessment reports, about the history and science of climate change.

Mitchell Family Professor of Economics Tom Tietenberg, whose work was cited in a 2001 report, also can claim a piece of the prize for his role in the IPCC’s work over the last two decades. Tietenberg is a national expert on emissions trading.

Colby’s faculty members were among thousands—most from large research universities, according to Fleming—who get some credit for the IPCC’s work. And, although neither professor is lobbying for a portion of the $1-million prize money, Fleming says, jokingly, that he hopes to get a color photocopy of the medal to hang on his office wall. —R.J.

Proposed Development Piques Interest

A real estate investment trust has submitted plans for development that could transform the North Maine Woods, and Colbians are among many Mainers paying close attention.

Plum Creek, which owns almost a million acres in Maine, submitted plans for housing subdivisions, two recreational resorts, and rezoning of more than 400,000 acres in the Moosehead Lake region.

As the controversial proposal trudged toward hearings before Maine’s Land Use Regulation Commission this fall, Colby students took interest. Emmie Theberge ’08, a government and environmental studies major, organized a panel discussion at Colby in October to hear about the proposal from Plum Creek officials and concerns raised by environmental groups.

Theberge, who grew up on Orr’s Island, Maine, and spent time fishing in the North Woods, said trends in the timber industry, shifts in land ownership over the last 30 years, and the role of REITs and TIMOs (Timber Investment Management Organizations) have the potential to transform the landscape and traditional uses of Maine’s northern forests.

But, she said, “Instead of getting caught up in just the environmental side of the argument, I wanted a hearing that would fully represent both sides.”

Meanwhile, Andrew Smith, a first-year student from Hershey, Penn., didn’t take long to get settled at Colby before starting a group to resist this development. Colby Students for the Protection of Moosehead has begun meeting and organizing events. He speaks about his goals in a recent insideColby podcast, online at www.insidecolby.com/video. —S.B.C.
It was the very same side door where, in the dead of night on March 18, 1990, thieves posing as Boston police talked their way into the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, bound the museum’s security guards, and stole 13 works of art valued at $300 million. I got in by saying I had an interview with Noah Charney ’02.

Actually, that’s an oversimplification. The locked door is the staff entrance. But the museum’s security director, Anthony Amore, did know of Charney, an art-theft expert. In fact, Amore had been trying to get in touch with Charney, who is based in Europe.

“He e-mailed me a few days ago and asked if I could call him, because he wanted to ask me some questions and he was interested in my work,” Charney said, strolling through the Gardner galleries later that afternoon. “I’m going to be in touch with him as soon as this [book] tour is over.”

And if that seems a bit casual, forgive Charney. He’s been busy.

There’s his debut suspense novel, The Art Thief, and the 10-city author tour that brought him to Boston in October. Another novel in progress, this one set in Slovenia and having to do with an art theft that took place during World War II. A television drama in development by DreamWorks that Charney describes as “sort of an art-theft CSI.” An art-crime TV documentary that he hopes to co-write and host. And a book of contributed essays about art theft, which he is compiling and editing. And an art-theft think tank he founded that has gathered experts from around the world.

And so on. None of which will come as a big surprise to anyone who knew Charney at Colby, where he played squash, audited extra courses
every semester, wrote and produced plays, was lead singer in a rock band, founded a film society, and had a breakfast named after him at Bonnie's Diner—all in four years.

“[He] was really hyperactive there,” Charney recalled, chatting in the Gardner museum cafe.

The more things change …

The son of a Yale psychiatrist and a Yale French professor, Charney arrived at Colby from Choate. Tall and lanky, he did the things listed above—and he took art history. Lots of it, from first semester on.

“I spent a lot of time with my art-history professors who I loved. I just can’t say enough good things about them. They’re really superstars, but they became friends and I keep in touch with them more than I do any students.”

He’s referring to Associate Professor Veronique Plesch, James Gillespie Professor of Art Michael Marlais, and David Simon, the Ellerton and Edith Jetté Professor of Art Michael Marlais, and David Simon, the Ellerton and Edith Jetté Professor of Art Michael Marlais, and David Simon, the Ellerton and Edith Jetté Professor of Art.

And I keep in touch with them more than I do any students.”

He’s referring to Associate Professor Veronique Plesch, James Gillespie Professor of Art Michael Marlais, and David Simon, the Ellerton and Edith Jetté Professor of Art, who recalls Charney as a terrific student, “passionate about lots of different things.” But in addition to his academic freneticism, Charney also showed “a sense of elegance,” Simon said. Learning that Simon had a house in northern Spain, Charney, who had spent time in Europe growing up, had some advice. “Noah gave me a list of restaurants to go to,” Simon said, smiling at the thought. “That was Noah.”

Charney went on to earn a master’s degree in art history at The Courtauld Institute in London, focusing on 17th-century Roman art. Then he earned a second master’s at Cambridge University, this time in 16th-century Florentine painting. His Ph.D. studies are on the history of art theft. (He’s now on leave from the program while he pursues other projects.)

While at Courtauld, Charney decided it would be fun to write a novel about art theft, and he set to researching the subject.

He soon found there was little in print other than newspaper articles. “It seems like just a vast oversight that it hasn’t been looked at before,” Charney said. “I’m basically it now. And I’m trying to get as many people as possible interested, because the more the better, especially people from different fields.”

With characteristic aplomb, at 27 Charney founded a nonprofit, the Association for Research into Crimes against Art (ARCA). He organized a conference and convinced the heaviest hitters in the world of art theft to show up in Cambridge for the meetings. The FBI and Scotland Yard were represented, along with museums like the Tate Modern.

His effort got him profiled in the The New York Times Magazine in 2006: “Though Charney’s work has thus far been largely theoretical, he has plans to put it to active use. ‘I’ve been a student all my life, but I don’t want these things to remain locked away in the ivory tower,’” the story said.

Fat chance.

In addition to his media projects, two ARCA conferences are planned for London and Ljubljana, Slovenia. Beginning next year, Charney plans to run the nonprofit from Rome. Last fall he spoke at the European Criminology Society meeting in Bologna, and he has been invited to present at the American version next year.

“I think the best thing I could do now is be sort of a figurehead for the field,” Charney said. “I honestly think … I’m not good with details related to academia. I tend to get too excited about big ideas.”

Where to begin?

Charney wants to educate the public about art crime, but first he has to educate the public about art. “Most people will think at first that it’s the collectibles of the wealthy who can afford to lose them anyway. And it’s objects going missing that they have no relationship with. And they have the idea that it is for an elitist institution that is other, that criminals are kind of sticking it to the man. It’s almost cool.”

How to bring the public closer to art?

Each spring Charney teaches in Florence with a program for students from Miami-Dade University. Each summer he teaches in a program in Cambridge, England. “I see how approaching it with the correct turns of phrase can really illuminate these students. They fall in love with it. I think it’s the most fascinating thing to study, because you study everything through the lens of this one work of art. It’s history, it’s literature, it’s biography, geometry, chemistry. It’s all mixed up in there.”

Couple teaching with crime novels, TV shows, even a movie (though presumably not in the vein of The Thomas Crown Affair) and maybe you can reach some people.

“If I can make a few people come to a museum, and not just come because it’s on their tourist itinerary and they want to check it off, but come and actually look at the art, interact with it, choose a favorite postcard and love the experience, then that would give me tremendous satisfaction,” Charney said.

And a novel about art theft? No better way to bring art and art history to the masses, he says.

“I’m not interested in publishing a peer-reviewed article that is going to be read by five people, not including my mother,” Charney said. “But if I can write a book that is going to be read by a few hundred-thousand people, it’s the best chance to reach a large audience.”

It could be that The Art Thief will have that reach. The first printing for the U.S. hardcover was 75,000, according to Charney’s publicist at Atria Books, an imprint of Random House. A Spanish version, El ladrón de arte, is out and selling like hotcakes (Charney finished the U.S. book tour and flew to Madrid to do publicity there), with editions in several other languages coming next year.

So what will the novel teach readers about art theft?

Charney invites readers into the world of art, thievery, and forgery in London, Paris, and Rome. An art detective and an art

"It's really more akin to kidnapping, because of the emotional connection between the owner and the object and the fact that you cannot simply buy another one. A monetary equivalent is insufficient."

--Noah Charney '02, art-theft expert
historian track the art and the thieves into a world of intrigue that Charney himself has studied, and he’s eager to share his knowledge—both in fiction and in person.

At the Gardner he mounted the stone steps to the second-floor Dutch Room, where empty frames mark what were the locations of works by Vermeer and Rembrandt, among 13 works stolen 17 years ago.

Was this the work of some diabolical collector? Most likely. But, Charney said, “That’s incredibly, dramatically the exception.”

In Boston, the fact that other, far more valuable works were left behind points to a collector who sent thieves with a shopping list. But, Charney said, contrary to popular fiction, most art crimes are commissioned by an administrator who is usually a branch member of an organized crime syndicate. “They choose what to steal and they have a sense of what they want to do afterwards,” he said. “They might want to sell it to someone, but most of the time it gets traded on a closed black market for an equal value of other illicit goods like drugs or arms. The reason we know that tends to be haphazard. It tends to be accidental police raids of storehouses. They find drugs and arms and art.”

Some thieves steal art to trade for guns or drugs. Others hope to sell the art but soon find that unloading a stolen Vermeer is easy only in the movies (which the thieves have seen). “Unfortunately, taking the object isn’t all that hard,” Charney said.

In fact, most valuable art is shockingly vulnerable to theft, Charney says, with only large metropolitan museums likely to take steps to protect works of art. “For instance, in all of Poland, which has wonderful art, there is only one painting that has its own security, and that same painting is the only one in the entire country that’s insured,” he said. “There are ninety-five thousand churches in Italy. Every single one has at least one important work of art.”

How to protect them from thieves? In museums, separate the most valuable objects and station a security guard next to them—not at the threshold of the gallery. Rearrange art works periodically, making it harder to plan a theft.

Of course, thefts do occur—six to 10 billion dollars worth a year, according to Charney. “Interpol just released stats on highest growing criminal industries,” he said. “Number one is drugs. Number two is money laundering. Number three is arms. Number four is art crime. It slipped down. It used to be number three.”

Most stolen art is looted antiquities from archaeological sites, but with art values skyrocketing, museums and churches are regular targets. Most thieves soon learn that stealing a painting is easy. “Then they have the object and they realize that there isn’t anyone to sell it to,” Charney said.

An art thief’s Plan B? Ransom the work back to the institution from which it was stolen. If that falls through, Charney says, most art is abandoned or cached. “Police don’t take seriously threats to destroy art. It’s in no one’s interest. It’s like setting fire to a briefcase of hundred-dollar bills,” he said. “So then they just wait. They might have to wait a couple of generations, even if the object is literally just sitting in a storeroom somewhere.”

And the paintings stolen from the Gardner? “I would say they are buried somewhere in Ireland and will be stumbled upon at some point, but only by accident,” he said.

Why Ireland? Charney hesitated, then confided that some Boston criminal elements were connected to the Irish Republican Army, and the IRA was known to steal art to use to barter the staples of its other illicit activities, like guns and drugs. “I also have information that I can’t talk about, so apologies about that,” Charney said.

It was all very mysterious. In fact, Charney himself—tall, suave, recently engaged to a woman from Slovenia, peppering the conversation with Italian phrases—could have stepped out of a suspense novel. Especially his own.

Shown here are three of the 13 works of art stolen from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston in 1990, the largest unsolved art theft in American history. A $5-million reward has been offered for the return of the artwork, which art-theft expert Noah Charney ’02 believes was ordered by an unscrupulous collector—an exception to the rule in such cases. The stolen paintings include, from top, Rembrandt’s A Lady and Gentleman in Black, 1633; Vermeer’s The Concert; and, also by Rembrandt, The Storm on the Sea of Galilee, 1633.
At dawn in the rainforest of the Indonesian island of Borneo, an orangutan named Niko begins his day. Niko rustles about in his nest of leaves, then sets out through the trees in search of breakfast. Niko doesn’t know it, but far below, from the forest floor, someone is watching.

Erin Vogel ’95 slipped through the forest while it still was shrouded in darkness. With mosquitoes swarming around her and ambient sounds of the jungle as a soundtrack, Vogel has been waiting patiently for Niko to wake up. Her mission: to follow Niko and carefully document what he eats and how he spends his day. An anthropologist, Vogel studies the impact of social learning on diet selection of orangutans—how and what the great apes decide to eat.

Niko is not impressed.

“He’s the most dominant male in the forest, and he shows it,” Vogel said later. “Once, I had to lie on the forest floor on my stomach, covering my head for two hours while he stood six feet above me, shaking branches and making vocalizations.”

An associate researcher in the department of anthropology at University of California-Santa Cruz, Vogel spends half the year at the million-acre Mawas Reserve in central Kalimantan with its resident population of orangutans (“people of the forest” in Malay). When in the field, she pays close attention to the diet choices that orangutans make and how these compare to the diet of populations in other sites.

Information gleaned by this research could be crucial as logging and development shrink the orangutans’ habitat and as scientists—including Kalimantan researchers taught by Vogel—work to better understand the apes and their needs. An estimated 50,000 Bornean orangutans remain, as the species continues to decline.

But Vogel’s work could also shed light on human evolution. “Erin’s work, that looks at these broad, big-picture

In the rainforests of Borneo, Erin Vogel ’95 studies a group of orangutans in hopes of protecting this dwindling species.
questions across massive geographic scale, is a major contribution to animal behavior and primatology," said Nathaniel Dominy, Vogel's colleague at UCSC and principal investigator at the university's Dominy Lab for Sensory and Foraging Ecology. “Since she is in the anthropology department, it is important to relate these data to questions of human evolution, and in this regard orangutans are really interesting, as they have teeth most similar to humans among all living primates today. There must have been strong parallels between what was eaten by earlier humans and orangutans in the present, and from Erin's work we find what the exact mechanical characteristics of those kinds of food are."

Since young orangutans live with their mothers for an average of eight years, the socialization process and its role in determining dietary choices is part of Vogel's research into geographic variations in orangutan diet selection.

"Even when the same types of food are available in various sites, each population’s diet is different, and we want to find out the reasons why," she said. "We're working to identify the importance of social learning in diet selection, whether they select resources based on nutritional quality or what their parents have taught them."

To do that, Vogel trails Niko through the rainforest—on a path that really began on Mayflower Hill.

ogel’s life as a scientist began when she was a Colby first-year and decided to try a class in ornithology taught by Herb Wilson, the Leslie Brainerd Arey Professor of Biosciences. “Even in a two-hundred-student class in intro biology, it was clear she was exceptional," Wilson said.

That introduction began a research collaboration that lasted throughout her remaining years on Mayflower Hill. As Wilson's research assistant, Vogel banded chickadees in Perkins Arboretum, and collaborated with Wilson on a study of sandpiper feeding habits, a project that culminated with an article they co-authored. “Working with Herb definitely turned me on to fieldwork and biology. Although I had always known that I would be a biology major, this solidified the fact that I wasn't going to be a premed major as my parents had wanted," Vogel said, laughing.

Vogel's research with Wilson on the feeding ecology of birds piqued her interest in the impact a species' food sources have on its behavior. Abroad junior year in Costa Rica, she studied primates. After Colby, she worked at a Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship Program (MAPS) site in the Big Sur region of California for a few months, until a job opportunity came up in Costa Rica to study birds. It was in Costa Rica that Vogel was introduced to primates, and by the time she was applying to graduate school she knew that she wanted to study birds or monkeys.

Ever the protégé, she consulted Wilson about her decision to discontinue her study of birds, slightly apprehensive that he might be disappointed. He laughed when reminded of the conversation, in which he told his former assistant he was thoroughly pleased that she was continuing her work as a field biologist. With that encouragement, Vogel enrolled in a master’s program at SUNY Stony Brook in 1997, switching to a Ph.D. program a year later. The subject: the ecological basis of aggression in white-faced capuchin monkeys in Costa Rica.

Capuchin monkeys led to orangutans. Orangutans led to Kalimantan. The science path is direct. The route to the rainforest is long and arduous. As Wilson puts it, "It takes a special person to work in..."
Vogel flies to Jakarta, then to Palangkaraya, and is driven five hours (mostly off road) to the Kapuas River. A five-hour river trip ends in the small town of Pasir Putih, next to Tuanan, where the base camp is located.

Built on stilts, the base camp can house 25 people, though the norm is to have around 15 from Europe, the United States, and Indonesia.

The Tuanan research station is located within the Mawas Reserve, a territory managed by the government of Indonesia and the nonprofit Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (BOS). Vogel was invited to work at Tuanan through her colleague Carel van Schaik of the University of Zurich. Van Schaik is a leading authority on orangutan behavior and conservation, especially in the Indonesian regions of Kalimantan and Sumatra. While van Schaik and his colleagues take charge of the research that goes on in the site, BOS protects it from illegal loggers and carries out reforestation efforts around Tuanan. Vogel herself has instructed a dozen students from Indonesia, the United States, and Switzerland on data collection methods.

Vogel and her colleagues make it a point to involve the tropics.”

We observed Jip's birth on Feb 14, 2006. This was the first birth observed at the Tuanan field site since we began there in 2003. Jip will remain with his mother, Juni, until he is approximately 7-9 years old. Juni is a master at finding termites in dead trees and pushing the trees over to get them out.

Niko is approximately 20 years old and is the dominant male in our forest. He spends most of his time giving long calls and patrolling the forest, and the females. He has been the dominant male since we started working in Tuanan. He weighs about 350 pounds. Niko, at times, has been known to chase after researchers. We try to keep our distance.

Jerry is approximately 4 years old. He was a newborn infant when we started our research at Tuanan. His mother is Sinak, and if we are correct, his sister is Juni and that makes him Jip’s uncle. Jerry is our most curious orangutan and often tries to get too close to us, so we have to be very careful and back up when he gets too close.
“Each time [loggers] bring us the babies we tell them that we cannot pay them and that they could go to jail. We give them gas money and offer them food, because that’s common courtesy.”

- Erin Vogel ’95, associate researcher in the department of anthropology at UC Santa Cruz.

Indonesian students in their projects. “For each international student that comes here, we pay for an Indonesian counterpart,” she said. “Otherwise, they would not be able to afford this kind of research.”

Thanks to a National Science Foundation grant awarded in 2007, Vogel will soon be able to bring in at least five students from Indonesia and the United States to work with her in Tuanan and other sites on the neighboring island of Sumatra.

Collaboration with the host society extends to work with Indonesian academics, primarily from the national capital, Jakarta. Vogel collaborates and co-publishes with two experts on primates from the National University (Universitas Nasional), and whenever she is in the country she gives talks. Familiar with the pressing circumstances the great apes are in, she is hopeful her research will contribute to the ongoing effort to save the orangutans.

“If the rate of deforestation continues or even decreases slightly,” Vogel said, “orangutans will be extinct in fifty to a hundred years. We don’t have a lot of time left, and I’m hoping that our research will allow us to understand the most important factors of diet selection and what plant species we need to focus on when carrying out reforestation work.”

At her base camp, Vogel is frequently reminded that the illegal destruction of habitat continues. Loggers occasionally come to the researchers with baby orangutans. The mothers have been killed. The loggers are looking to trade the baby apes for money.

“Each time they bring us the babies we tell them that we cannot pay them and that they could go to jail,” Vogel said. “We give them gas money and offer them food, because that’s common courtesy. Plus, you’re never rude in Indonesian culture and must always keep your cool and talk to people with respect even if you don’t actually respect them.”

She is conversant in Indonesian and well aware of the choices the locals have to make in order to make a living. All the local assistants at the station are former loggers.

“If they weren’t working with us they’d be logging, because that’s their only means, and I understand that. They need to survive, so we’re trying to provide them with other opportunities. Between our project and Mawas, we have about twenty to thirty locals working for us,” Vogel said.
Despite the dire predictions, working with orangutans is not a grim business. “There is Jerry, a four-year-old who is very playful and interested in us,” Vogel said. “He is definitely the funniest orangutan we have. He still lives with his mother, Jinak, and plays with his sister, Juni, who has her own baby, Jip. Jerry is really interested in and tries to touch us and the cameras. The rule is to stay away from them, to avoid changing their behavior, and to just be able to observe them.”

Vogel’s days with “the people of the forest” begin at 3:30 a.m. After walking to the orangutans’ nests from the base camp, Vogel waits for about half an hour until the orangutan to be followed that particular day rises and begins searching for food. She follows one individual throughout the day, as orangutans are solitary animals, a practical choice since most trees would not be able to provide enough food for larger groups. There are exceptions to this however, when orangutans get together in the trees and have what Vogel calls “parties.”

“Sometimes, in the big feeding trees, networks of females come together,” she said. “You can sometimes have two females with their infants, and when the infants get together they’re very happy. You can just tell that they’re going ‘woohoo!’—ruffling trees and playing for hours while their mums sit and eat.”

For orangutans, parties are an important form of socialization, Vogel said.

“Unlike other primates, female orangutans don’t groom. They tolerate one another and sometimes rest and stay close together, but they don’t groom. You sometimes find females and male parties, or even with two females and a male, but rarely one where males come together.”

The reason for this is the sexual competition among males, especially between the dominant flanged (“moon-cheeked”) orangutans, with prominent cheek pads like Niko’s, and smaller unflanged ones. In parties where unflanged males are in the company of females, the sight of a flanged male will send the unflanged males running, Vogel said.

Orangutans’ daytime naps, complete with quickly fashioned mini-nests, leave Vogel no other choice but to take a short siesta herself. Unrolling her hammock, she ties herself a resting spot that keeps her dry, away from the swampy waters below.

“Sometimes I bring a book or just sleep myself,” Vogel said. “You need to be able to sit down when you’re out for twelve to fourteen hours a day. The mosquitoes are horrible, and DEET is the only thing that works. There have been cases of malaria among the researchers before, but you get used to the mosquitoes—eventually.”

A study of food would not be complete without taste testing, and study of orangutan diets is no exception. Vogel does not hesitate to eat what the orangutans do (though she draws the line at meat and insects), figuring that what is safe for an orangutan will be safe for people as well. “Humans are so similar to them, and they’re much bigger than we are. If they can tolerate the food, then we should be able to.”

When the orangutans are not in the trees, assistants—one on the ground and one in the trees—collect food samples. Orangutans also are sloppy eaters—and Vogel tastes things that fall to the ground (mostly fruit and plant shoots).

“Sometimes [the food] tastes really horrible and leaves a bad taste in your mouth, but I’ll just try it anyway,” she said. “I won’t eat a lot of it though, unless it tastes good and I’m hungry.”

An eating orangutan above can be trouble for anyone standing below. Food that is spit out by orangutans tends to be high in tannins and alkaloids, leaving a very bitter taste. Some of plants are related to poison ivy and poison oak and can burn one’s skin and even dye it black. People have allergic reactions to some of the fruit, Vogel notes, and form blisters that can fester in tropical weather.

In other words, Vogel’s job is no stroll through the rainforest. “Sometimes when I’m waist deep in swamp water and I’m sweating and covered with mosquitoes and my fingernails are full of dirt and I’m tired and miserable, I think to myself, ‘Why do I do this?’” she said. “Then I realize that this is what I love, and when I am in the forest I am most at peace and content.”

“People don’t go into academia for the money, and I think of this as a really wonderful way to give back to society. I really like mentoring students, and if I can turn someone on to science and to primates and orangutans then I’m doing my job. If I can make a difference as far as saving some of these highly endangered species, then I am doing something right. So, really, I’m out there to make a difference, and that’s what I want to do.”
Career diplomat Patrick Duddy ’72 is decidedly diplomatic when talking about the hot seat he occupies in the U.S. Embassy in Venezuela. The recently confirmed U.S. ambassador arrived in Caracas in late August, charged with finding common ground with a nation headed by President Hugo Chávez, the United States’ most vocal critic in Latin America.

Duddy is well aware of the personal clashes between Chávez and President George W. Bush over American policy in the Southern Hemisphere and over Chávez’s campaign for 21st-century socialism in his oil-rich nation. Duddy also understands the robust economic relationship between the two countries, fueled, so to speak, by Venezuela’s petroleum and natural gas reserves.

“The current administration in Venezuela has argued for a different vision for the hemisphere and has frequently positioned its vision as an alternative to ours,” said Duddy, in a telephone interview from Caracas. “That’s explicit. So in this context, and acknowledging the tensions and the connections, we are looking for ways that our interests manifestly overlap. I want to find ways to cooperate in the interest of both nations.”

For Duddy, a Bangor, Maine, native, the ambassadorship caps a diplomatic career in Latin America and in Washington that he began more than 25 years ago as a Foreign Service officer in the United States Information Agency, a then-independent entity that supported U.S. State Department cultural exchange and information programs. The agency was abolished in 1999, when its information and exchange functions were folded into the State Department.

Duddy came of age in the late 1960s, and he was among those who viewed public service as both an attractive career and a calling that was “inherently important for us to do.” As he was contemplating how he would serve, it’s unlikely he would have dreamed of the scene on the evening of October 29, when he was in Caracas with his wife, Mary, to officially present his diplomatic credentials to President Chávez. First Duddy attended a ceremony at the presidential palace with ambassadors from Italy, Chile, and Vietnam, who also made their official presentations. Duddy had a 40-minute private conversation with Chávez, which press reports noted was the first between the Venezuelan president and a U.S. ambassador since 2002. The meeting five years ago came shortly before a short-lived coup d’état temporarily removed Chávez from power.

The pair discussed narcotics trafficking as well as baseball, one of Chávez’s passions. Duddy, who called for improved ties between “our sister nations,” pledged cooperation with Venezuela to combat drug trafficking.

Then they traveled to the National Pantheon to lay a wreath at the tomb of Venezuelan national hero Simón Bolívar. There, the honor guard played the national anthems of both countries in a solemn ceremony.

This was a new beginning for the United States and Venezuela. Chávez, who has become the developing world’s sharpest critic of U.S. imperialism, has made a name for himself bashing Bush—and sharing his nation’s oil wealth with the poor. The U.S.-Venezuela relationship bottomed out in September 2006, when Chávez likened President Bush to “the devil” in a speech at the United Nations in which he railed against U.S. imperialism.

Thirteen months later, the October ceremony was an auspicious start to Duddy’s term as ambassador, which typically runs for three years. If that is the case, Duddy’s term would extend 20 months into the administration of President Bush’s successor. Patrice Franko, Colby’s Grossman Professor of Economics and an affiliate of the international and Latin American studies programs, said Duddy’s diplomacy during Bush’s final year in office will set the stage for changes when a new U.S. leader takes office in 2009. “It will be interesting to see what kind of groundwork he can lay for the next administration,” Franko said. “The tensions today are clearly personal between Chávez and Bush. I think Patrick is well cut out for the job. He’s the consummate career diplomat.”
Duddy, an English major, discovered a hankering for foreign affairs at Colby. And after obtaining a master’s degree in English at Northeastern, he taught in Germany at the European division of the University of Maryland and at the American College of Switzerland.

His first foreign service posting came in 1983 in the U.S. Embassy in Santiago, Chile, during the rule of President Augusto Pinochet. Duddy spent time in both political and public diplomacy sections, laying the groundwork for the career to come.

Over the next two decades, his assignments took him to U.S. embassies in the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Panama, and Bolivia. From 2002 to 2005 he was counsel general at the U.S. consulate in São Paulo, Brazil, a diplomatic mission larger than many U.S. embassies.

Then he was called back to Foggy Bottom in Washington to serve as deputy assistant secretary in the State Department’s Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs until his appointment by President Bush and confirmation in August by the U.S. Senate.

“That’s the brass ring,” said Andy Koss ’73, counselor for public affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, who knew Duddy at Colby as a wire-rim glasses-wearing serious student of literature and poetry. “He has risen to the top in a very competitive culture. It shows the level of trust the administration has in Patrick, to be entrusted with heading up such a difficult and challenging embassy.”

Duddy replaced William Brownfield, whose three-year term was marked by Chávez’s threats to expel him over charges he was meddling in Venezuelan affairs after he expressed concern over the government’s plans to nationalize certain private companies.

The stakes are high. The United States is Venezuela’s leading trade partner, with the Latin American nation exporting $36 billion in goods to its northern neighbor in 2006, according to a U.S. State Department report. The United States, meanwhile, sells $9 billion worth of goods to Venezuela, making it the 22nd-largest market for U.S. products. Among the U.S. firms with facilities in Venezuela: Ford, Chrysler, General Motors, and Archer Daniels Midland.

Chávez, whose campaign to improve health and education for the poor has boosted his popularity in Venezuela, has championed economic policies that he maintains will empower the South American economies, including the Caracas-based Bank of the South, a regional lending institution with $7 billion in capital that was to open in December. It will be a financing option for South American nations that in the past have relied on the World Bank, which is perceived to be controlled by the United States. Chávez’s close ties to leaders in Iran and Syria also have rankled U.S. leaders.

Robert Gelbard ’64, the former U.S. ambassador to Bolivia and Indonesia, worked with Duddy in the late 1980s and early 1990s when they were both serving in Latin America. Gelbard says Duddy is the right man for the high-profile job—a highly respected diplomat known for his deep knowledge of the region and his calm approach to charged situations.

“Patrick has gravitas,” said Gelbard, chairman of Washington Global Partners, an international consulting firm, and a member of Colby’s Board of Trustees. “He’s taken very seriously by the Venezuelan press, and, given the positions he has had in Washington and Latin America, he is clearly seen as a senior representative of the American government. His arrival has been welcomed.”

Gelbard has firsthand knowledge of Duddy’s ability to resolve international disputes. In 2006 one of Gelbard’s corporate clients faced the arbitrary imposition of substantial taxes on its product by a country in Central America. Gelbard went to Duddy, who mobilized his staff and requested that U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice speak to that country’s president.

“I went to Patrick, and he and his staff were tremendously helpful in developing the circumstances where my client could negotiate an equitable solution to the problem,” Gelbard said.

“He has risen to the top in a very competitive culture. It shows the level of trust the administration has in Patrick, to be entrusted with heading up such a difficult and challenging embassy.”

Andy Koss ’73, counselor for public affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, commenting on Duddy’s appointment as ambassador to Venezuela
Duddy says his interest in foreign affairs began around the dinner table in Bangor in the 1960s, when his family would discuss international issues. At Colby Duddy gobbled up courses in government and international relations, including several with Professor of Government Guenter Weissberg. While a freshman, Duddy took a Jan Plan set up by Weissberg at the United Nations, where Duddy interviewed Belgian diplomats involved in writing the U.N. Law of the Sea Treaty.

(The treaty was adopted by the United Nations in 1982 but has yet to be ratified by the U.S. Senate. In late October, as Duddy was presenting his credentials to Venezuelan President Chávez, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee was debating whether to vote on the treaty the ambassador studied almost four decades earlier.)

“We were freshmen, so going to New York was a bit daunting,” recalled Swift Tarbell ’72, who was on the U.N. trip and later, in the 1980s, worked in the Reagan administration on international trade. “The Belgian diplomat working on the issue gave us tomes of material. It was a great introduction to foreign affairs that I’ve never forgotten.”

Over his quarter century in the Foreign Service, Duddy has learned the art of diplomacy on the job. He was public affairs officer in Panama City beginning in 1997, serving as the spokesperson for the U.S. embassy, which comprised 20 different government agencies. He was the international media’s main source of information on the hand-over of the Panama Canal to Panama. In São Paolo, Brazil (the largest city in South America and home to the largest U.S. consulate in the Western Hemisphere), as consul general from 2002 to 2005, Duddy worked with thousands of U.S. corporations active in Brazil, either looking to invest in Brazil’s booming industrial region or trading with the country. While serving as deputy assistant secretary at the State Department in Washington from 2005 to 2007, he worked with the U.N. peacekeeping force in Haiti, which was helping to restore democracy to one of the region’s poorest nations.

“The peacekeeping mission had soldiers from two or three dozen countries, so it’s a fascinating process how you all work together,” Duddy said. “The work was such a challenge because you have so many different ways of doing things. Then there were language issues, with a Brazilian commander overseeing troops from Argentina and Jordan.”

Serving as ambassador taps Duddy’s skills as an administrator, negotiator, and conversationalist. On a typical day in mid-October, Duddy met with his senior staff to discuss the projects they were involved in. He met with the leader of a major Jewish organization, had a staffer contact the Venezuelan government to check on the protocol for the presentation of his credentials, and worked with his public affairs staff to plan a few media events. He then had informal meetings with Venezuelans outside the office to learn their views and provide his perspective on U.S. policies.

Evening receptions or luncheons are forums at which Duddy, who is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, can engage in such candid conversations.

“If the U.S. ambassador goes to the office of a minister, that’s a formal exchange, and I’m presumed to be going on behalf of my government, so notes will be taken and memos written,” Duddy said. “Being at a reception permits a different conversation. It’s like background in anticipating an inter-

“He’s taken very seriously by the Venezuelan press, and, given the positions he has had in Washington and Latin America, he is clearly seen as a senior representative of the American government. His arrival has been welcomed.”

Robert Gelbard ’64, a former U.S. ambassador to Bolivia and Indonesia
THE MAKING OF A PRESIDENT

Candidates lean on Colbians in bids for the White House

BY ALLEN LESSELS

Senator Barack Obama, his ice cream-scooping duties complete, chats up the last of hundreds of supporters and tire-kickers who have come to see and hear him late on a Labor Day afternoon on a sunlit elementary school baseball field in Hudson, New Hampshire.

Mike Cuzzi ’98, leaning against a chain-link fence, tracks the candidate’s every move. And fields this question: Doesn’t it seem Colby has an unusually large number of alums working behind the scenes in presidential campaigns, particularly in the 2008 campaign?

“It seems inordinate at times,” said Cuzzi, the Obama campaign’s No. 2 operative in the first primary state. “I’ll tell you, when we were up here with Senator Kerry—Oh, I’ve got to go.”

Obama had taken another step or two toward a gate in the fence, and soon he and Cuzzi, Secret Service agents, writer Joe Klein of Time magazine, and a few others were gone, moving quietly off through the woods, much the same way they had arrived a little more than an hour before.

Yes, Colby is overrepresented in the ranks of presidential campaigns. And, like all political campaign staffers, these Colbians are always on the move.
It was a week later that Cuzzi found a few minutes to continue the conversation. He was in his office in Obama’s Manchester headquarters, a sprawling space in a renovated two-story brick building that houses Queen City Dental out front. He said the most recent Obama visit to New Hampshire had been a success.

On Labor Day, after an appearance at an AFL-CIO breakfast, the senator had rolled out a new stump speech in a morning rally in Manchester. He paraded in a Labor Day gala in Milford. “It’s something fun and different, and it’s one of those things,” Cuzzi said. “You can’t be in New Hampshire on Labor Day and not be in the Milford parade. Every candidate who was in the state was there, and those that weren’t still had a presence.”

The ice-cream social in Hudson. A private dinner for raffle-winning donors, a roundtable discussion on government reform the next morning, followed by a house party.

“The traditional New Hampshire house party,” Cuzzi said. “Retail politics at its best. ... People want to be able to look the candidates in the eyes and they want to ask them the tough questions and get a sense of who they are and what they believe.”

Part of Cuzzi’s role (he doubles as Obama’s New Hampshire political director and deputy state director) is to get Obama in front of the people.

His job, in part, is to balance the house parties with the larger ice-cream socials and the even bigger events, like a rally at Dartmouth in late May that drew an overflow crowd at the college’s Nelson A. Rockefeller Center courtyard. The campaign estimated that throng to be about 6,000 strong, and it makes a compelling photo on Cuzzi’s ever-present BlackBerry.

A longtime admirer of Obama, Cuzzi left Tom Allen’s U.S. Senate campaign in Maine and signed on early for this presidential run. He came down from Portland in February 2007, and the state’s campaign began out of his small apartment in Manchester.

“No signs on the walls, no desks, just four folding chairs,” Cuzzi said with a laugh. “Mostly it was getting here and initially trying to get on the ground and build all of our political relationships. My role is just to make sure that the campaign is as engaged as possible with all the different groups and elected officials and party officials. And making sure that I’m constantly aware of any political news or situation or anything we need to be responsive to here.”

And at times to keep Barack Obama on task.

That’s why, while Obama finished up a pre-scooping speech on the ball field, Cuzzi gripped a set of supporter cards in his hand and made sure the candidate got sight of them. As he closed, Obama, on cue, urged all those in the crowd to sign up to help out.

Cuzzi chuckled about the reminder.

“It was just to prompt him,” he said. “It makes a big difference. He moves the ball down the field and signs people up.”

That’s the goal, of course.

Moving people to action. Getting them to sign up. Getting them to come into the office at night and make phone calls and mail postcards and cover the walls with posters and sayings and photos—all done to move even more people.

Moving them to donate cash and more time. Organizing them to knock on doors. Later, to make more urgent phone calls as election day approaches. Finally, to get out the people and move them to vote.

Specifically, to vote for Barack Obama, hope Cuzzi and fellow Obama staffers Emmett Beliveau ’99 and Jean-Michel Picher ’96.

To vote for Republican Congressman Ron Paul, hopes Patrick Semmens ’05.

To vote for Senator John McCain, hopes Steve Bogden ’05.

To vote for Senator John Edwards, hopes Katie Harris ’02.

To vote for Senator Joe Biden, hopes Mark Paustenbach ’01.

To vote for Senator Sam Brownback, hoped an alum who was in that campaign while it lasted.
“You kind of get the itch. It sticks with you, and people keep coming back. A campaign is very addictive. ... I think I probably knew last summer [in 2006] that as 2008 was cropping up I probably had one more cycle in me. But do I think I'll still be doing it in four years? I'd probably say no. But one never knows.”

Katie Harris ’02

Not all these campaigners were able to talk to Colby about their experiences, but several did. And from both sides of the aisle they credited mentors at Colby.

Yes, getting back to that question at the Labor Day rally, it does seem that Colby—thanks to its Government Department and the likes of professors Anthony Corrado, Sandy Maisel, and Cal Mackenzie—does have more than its share of folks who cycle back into the passionate, adrenaline-fueled, and harried lifestyle of presidential campaigns, shaping and pushing the candidacies of those who would be the next President of the United States.

“I have always believed that the best way to learn about politics is by actually doing it,” said Corrado, the Charles A. Dana Professor of Government, a widely respected expert on campaign finance and a veteran of four presidential campaigns (prior to his academic career) himself.

Maisel, Mackenzie, and Corrado are among the faculty who teach government courses that draw from real-life political experience—and ignite an interest in national politics, alumni say. Inspiration in the classroom is augmented by connections in the world of politics that lead to internships, Jan Plans, and in many cases jobs on campaigns.

And Colby alumni who work in national politics frequently turn to their former professors for students who are capable, enthusiastic, and interested in learning politics in the trenches.

“We just started building a network,” Corrado said. That network has resulted in “a strong tradition” of Colbians working to elect presidents and other national politicians.

Sandy Maisel, the William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Government and director of the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement, said that, unlike some colleges, Colby encourages students to join political campaigns. Not only does political work fulfill the mission of public service that the Goldfarb Center supports, it also offers students and young alumni experience that is hard to match in other work environments.

“It is very difficult to find a job where one year out of college or two years out of college, you’re given a huge amount of responsibility,” Maisel said.

When campaigners retire from what is acknowledged to be a young person’s game, they have a plethora of transferable skills.

Five years ago, Katie Harris figured she’d someday take her degree in government to Washington. First she taught for a year in Colorado and Switzerland, then she started to network, chatting up Colby alums, friends, and others. “What kept coming back to me was, ‘If I was a young person right now and Democrat-leaning, I’d get myself to New Hampshire or Iowa and get on a campaign,’” Harris said.

That was in late 2003, and soon, after checking in with Cuzzi, she was working in a Kerry field office in Nashua, N.H. When the senator won the nomination, Harris began doing advance work around the country, mostly with Teresa Heinz Kerry and Elizabeth Edwards.

“I can’t even tell you the emotional roller-coaster ride it was,” Harris said. “I’m such an advocate of getting on one of these. If you’re willing to put up with these hours, it’s totally consuming. And by the same token, if you’re willing to get paid the token amounts you get paid—we’re clearly not in it for the money—it’s such an incredible experience. But in the election we were going a hundred miles an hour. And you hit a wall at a hundred and it’s over.”

After Kerry lost the election, Harris took a good job with a communications firm in the Washington area and wasn’t sure she wanted to get back on the ride.

“But you kind of get the itch,” she said. “It sticks with you, and people keep coming back. A campaign is very addictive. ... I think I probably knew last summer [in 2006] that as 2008 was cropping up I probably had one more cycle in me. But do I think I’ll still be doing it in four years? I’d probably say no. But one never knows.”

These days, she works out of the Edwards headquarters in Chapel Hill, N.C., as the scheduler for Elizabeth Edwards.

Her charge: “Keep the trains running.”

She’s always trying to think 10 steps ahead and to consider the worst-case scenarios, which is difficult, she said, because
she’s an optimist by nature. “There’s a lot of give and take,” Harris said. “Everyone wants a piece of her time. We get pressure both internally and externally.”

The press wants 20 minutes. The political team wants 20 minutes. Everyone wants 20 minutes. “And there are only twenty minutes so many times a day,” Harris said. “Someone needs to say, ‘We can’t give you the full twenty minutes, but you’ll get part of it. Yes, what you need is important, but this is also important.’”

As is typical in a campaign, Harris is basically on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week. “You have to be good at setting boundaries, taking an hour for yoga or whatever,” she said. “But believe me, I’ve been known to be on the treadmill with my BlackBerry in hand, which is so lame. So it goes.”

Katie Varney, ’07, thought about it. But she couldn’t get herself to jump into the presidential campaign this cycle. She didn’t look forward to the crazy hours. Didn’t look for sleeping. “A campaign completely consumes you. It’s everything you do, everything you think about. ... I’d be working at seven in the morning to two in the morning, doing anything I possibly could. That’s just the way it was. It was the way everyone was.”

Varney worked on the George Bush campaign in 2004 as a college coordinator for the Republican National Committee. She took the fall semester off and received academic credit for traveling the state, starting and organizing Republican chapters of students on various college campuses. Later, she was promoted to field coordinator of Waldo County and organized its get-out-the vote effort. And don’t get the wrong idea. She doesn’t regret the experience.

“Absolutely not,” Varney said. “I just don’t think I’m up for it. I think I’ll always look back at that period as the time I lived off Mobil Speedpass.”

There were positives. She didn’t get sent off election night to help oversee a recount somewhere.

“We were at an election party at a hotel in Bangor and we sat there and desperately tried to keep our eyes open,” she said. “Everybody had their suitcase and was ready to be shipped off to whatever state had a recount. It was a huge relief. We didn’t need to go anywhere and could go to bed.”

Most importantly, her guy won. “We absolutely had to,” Varney said. “There was no other option. That was another reason I was a little hesitant this time. I only have experience...”

For congressional candidates Adam Cote ’95 in Maine and Andrew Rice ’96 in Oklahoma, the run-up to the 2008 primaries has focused on hot-button issues of climate change, the oil economy, and the war in Iraq.

Deciding to run for Congress wasn’t easy for Cote. As a U.S. Army reservist fresh from a tour of duty in Iraq (he was a platoon leader with Maine’s 133rd Engineer Battalion from March 2004 to March 2005), Cote returned to Maine and was met with lots of encouragement to enter the political arena.

“I did not reach this decision casually,” he said, “It’s a big step for me, getting out there in front of the public, but I was getting a sense that we need more people with real-world experience running for office.”

Real-world experience is something Cote has. A native of Maine, he grew up in a working-class family and learned about “working hard and paying bills.” He served in Bosnia in 1997 and 1998, returning stateside to attend law school at the University of Maine. He graduated cum laude and was hired by Pierce Atwood in Portland, where he has focused on real-estate law and renewable energy policies both here and abroad. He and his wife, Paulina, have three daughters under three years of age.

It won’t be an easy road for Cote, a candidate in the Democratic primary in Maine’s First Congressional District.

“You look at this race and it’s a Who’s Who of Maine politics,” he said. “Maine is like a small town and I’m coming into the race as an outsider candidate, a first-time Maine politician. The questions are, ‘Can he raise the money and get his message out there?’ I can’t just turn to a group of people and say, ‘Let’s do what we did last time.’”

Cote has built a smart and effective campaign team led by Emily Boyle ’06, and his messages seem to have some traction in an atmosphere of discontent stemming from the long, costly war effort in Iraq. Global climate change and
winning. I don’t know what it’s like to lose. I don’t think that would be a lot of fun. I can’t imagine putting in all the effort we did and having an election day be that awful.”

So she’ll sit this one out and doesn’t know if she’ll ever get as involved again.

If she had gotten into this race, it likely would have been with McCain. Instead, she’ll continue working as a research and program associate involved in immigration, campaign finance, and election reform.

“I think my Dad would like to see me on some Republican campaign,” Varney said. “But he’s just as happy I’m working at a Republican think tank.”

When Colby (winter 2001) did a story on The Colby Reader, a quarterly that Mark Paustenbach co-founded to cover politics along with social, cultural, social, and economic issues, he admitted to being a political junkie who read the New York Times online at 12:15 a.m. to stay ahead of the day’s news.

Paustenbach is still a political junkie, but now he’s the national press secretary for presidential candidate Senator Joe Biden, too, and it’s no longer enough to stay up late and read the Times to keep current.

“The news cycle now is incredibly fast-paced,” said Paustenbach from Biden headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware, where he was outside tossing a Wiffle Ball in the air. It was the only exercise he would manage to get that day, he said.

It wasn’t long ago that a campaign press secretary would be concerned mostly with a story or two on the TV news in the evening and in papers the next morning.

Blogs and the Internet have changed all that.

“And it’s not just that people have blogs,” Paustenbach said. “Every reporter from a major paper has a blog they have to post to in addition to filing a story for the next day’s paper. Basically, they have to empty their notebooks for the blog. The speed that information travels is instantaneous now.”

Paustenbach is up at 6 or 6:30 every morning, reading papers and monitoring news and information as news outlets put out political tip sheets and their reports.

“At the end of the day, there are two, three, four stories that are going to dominate the news that day,” he said. “You want to get a handle on that in the morning and where things are going so you can be both responding and anticipating.”

Paustenbach and others noted how campaign work is great for developing multitasking, writing, and interpersonal skills, time management and attention to detail, negotiating and the like.

They also all have memorable scenes—campaign snapshots, most committed only to memory.

Moments like Cuzzi’s BlackBerry photo of Obama in H-
“I remember one time Cuzzi and I ran the numbers. ... We tried to figure out how many Yalies and people from Harvard there were, and we realized we were probably the most-represented school in the whole campaign. ...

We had all these employees from a tiny, little school. I don’t remember the Bowdoin kids, the Middlebury kids. They weren’t there.”

JEAN-MICHELE PICHER ’96

 proverb. Another of Cuzzi and the candidate in a hotel room.

For Paustenbach it was a frenetic post-debate scene in a hotel room, cheek by jowl with media and campaign operatives. Or flying in a small plane with Biden. “In some respects, that was an ‘Almost Famous’ moment. You’re with the senator and five aides and a reporter and you’re in a small prop plane flying over a cornfield in Iowa. It’s one of those moments you wish you could snap a picture without snapping a picture. One of those things you remember for a long time.”

In late November Patrick Semmens was about to take leave from his job at a Washington, D.C., legal defense foundation to join the communications arm of the presidential campaign of Republican candidate Rep. Ron Paul of Texas.

A surge in online donations had given the Paul campaign new grassroots-fueled momentum, and Semmens, a long-time Paul admirer, decided to jump on. Semmens, who had been considering volunteering at the Paul headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, said the office was bustling with new staffers and excitement was building. The New Hampshire primary was just six weeks away, and Semmens was eager to pitch in.

How long would he be away from his foundation job? “Hopefully, a long time,” Semmens said.

Emmett Beliveau broke away from the political campaign life long enough to get a law degree. And Jean-Michel Picher is closing in on becoming a lawyer as well.

Neither could stay away from Obama’s campaign, though. Politics is in Beliveau’s blood. His father, Severin, served in the Maine House and Senate and ran for governor. Emmett was a New England organizer for Democrats of America, a wing of the Democratic National Committee, while at Colby.

He worked on the Al Gore campaign in 2000 and was part of the DNC recount staff in Florida. That provided encouragement to get a law degree, Beliveau said.

He joined Kerry’s 2004 campaign full time after graduating from Georgetown Law and then practiced law in D.C. But Beliveau had spent a day with Obama and was impressed.

When the Obama camp called to ask if Beliveau would put together an event announcing his candidacy in Springfield, Ill., in early February 2007, he said it would be tough to leave his job for just a few weeks—but he would come on full time. He was hired.

As the campaign’s director of advance, Beliveau travels a week or two each month and, from Obama’s Chicago headquarters, coordinates advance teams around the country.

He selects and visits sites, meets with Secret Service and supporters and city officials, and lines up lights and sound and everything else needed to turn a ball field or a courtyard into a rock concert.

Each day from 3 to 7 p.m. is the time for “trip calls.” “It’s the Chicago team checking with the New Hampshire team, the Maine team, the South Carolina team, the Florida team—wherever he’s going to be in the future,” Beliveau said. “It’s their chance to report how the day went and what challenges they’re facing, and a chance for headquarters to download information.”

Events range widely in scope.

Beliveau was especially happy with one that came together quickly in Concord, N.H., to announce that Obama was receiving an endorsement from New Hampshire Congressman Paul Hodes.

The advance staff found a site, got the sound, and helped build a crowd through phone-banking, leafleting, and signs. The success of the event reflected the capabilities of a well-oiled machine—a professional campaign team that can pull off a big event in a little time.
Picher, also in advance, said they’re still talking in Madison, Wisconsin, about an event the Kerry team put together a week before the 2004 election. Bruce Springsteen was a featured guest and the lawns of the state capitol were the site. Problem was, only about 20,000 people would be able to see Kerry and Springsteen, and the team Picher was on expected many more than that to come out.

So they negotiated with the mayor and city councilors and others and were allowed to move the stage and event six blocks, opening sight lines for the anticipated turnout. Picher said 100,000 people showed up.

“It was on the cover of most newspapers in America,” he said. “It was everywhere. ... A week prior to the election, if you sent eighty-thousand people home without being able to see the guy, maybe you’re not doing the campaign the greatest service.”

Kerry won in Wisconsin.

From there Picher went to Boston to set up the victory event stage for what he and Cuzzi—also doing Kerry advance—and Beliveau and the rest of the Kerry campaign believed would be a victory gala. “My job was to map out where they were going to stand in celebration, waving, all that stuff,” Picher said.

He and Cuzzi met outside the Union Oyster House at Faneuil Hall, a traditional stop for Kerry on election day, and soon the candidate’s motorcade rolled up.

“It looked like we were well on our way to winning,” Picher said. “You do your best to keep it in check, but when the folks who know, the ones who have the internals, start saying that and are confident, you let yourself start feeling pretty good.”

They were feeling rotten later that night.

“Eventually, you pick up and move on,” Picher said. “And you either go at it again or not.”

Picher moved on to finish his law degree and M.B.A. He’s now working at a Toronto law firm and will take the bar exam soon. He does plan to take a six-week leave to work for Obama—rejoining Beliveau and Cuzzi on the campaign trail. He knew he’d be back.

Picher, who can’t seem to stay away from campaigns, was on his way to being an English major at Colby. Then Professor Corrado provided a pivotal moment in Picher’s career. It was 1995 and the professor had heard from Abigail Knapp ’93, who was seeking interns for Kerry’s senate race against former Massachusetts Governor Bill Weld.

Picher had planned to spend Jan Plan in 1996 working on Bill Clinton’s campaign in New Hampshire.

“Corrado said ‘every kid in America wants to be an intern with Bill Clinton,’ and that I should work for John Kerry,” Picher said. “If he hadn’t walked up to me that day in Miller Library, my whole life might have taken a different track.”

He’s not alone. “I marvel at that,” he said. “I remember one time Cuzzi and I ran the numbers. There was Katie Harris and Spencer Hutchins [‘03] and Emily Boyle [‘03] and Emmett Beliveau and Cuzzi and myself and two or three other people on the Kerry campaign. We tried to figure out how many Yalies and people from Harvard there were, and we realized we were probably the most-represented school in the whole campaign. It was informal, but that’s the way it seemed. We had all these employees from a tiny, little school. I don’t remember the Bowdoin kids, the Middlebury kids. They weren’t there.”

The switch into government paid off. “We had a talented group of professors at Colby,” Picher said. “I credit Corrado for motivating me to do more and to figure it out more and get involved. And there’s something about the fact there are Colby kids all over the 2008 campaign.”

The Colby connections and extraordinary civic engagement opportunities that they lead to do not seem to be slowing. Two current students are on leaves of absence from Colby to sample the heady world of national presidential campaigns. Mark Jablonowski ’10 of Anchorage, Alaska, and Matt Warshaw ’08 of Wellesley, Massachusetts, worked for Obama as interns this summer. Both were hired on as staff.

Welcome aboard. The Colby campaign train rolls on.
A New Beginning
Orientation moves in academic direction

STEPHEN COLLINS '74 STORY ROBERT P. HERNANDEZ PHOTO

What is Colby? What distinguishes the Colby experience? Why are we here?
Tough questions with no simple answers. And never more germane than during orientation for new students.

When 468 members of the Class of 2011 arrived on campus August 28, the Office of the Dean of Students, faculty and student volunteers, and a handful of young alumni were ready with a whole new approach.

This year, rather than shipping students out on COOT trips first thing, a full day of discussions and activities set the table. “At the core of it,” said Vice President for Student Affairs Jim Terhune, whose team overhauled the orientation program, “the primary purpose of orientation is to acclimate a new class into an academic environment.”

Terhune’s emphasis on “academic” reflected the deeply felt mood of the faculty and administration. As they grappled with how best to launch a new class into the Colby experience, officials were aware that the direction of that first push would help determine the path of the College community as well.

For more than 30 years COOT trips—four-day outdoor excursions with upper-class leaders and eight to 10 fellow freshmen—have been the central component of orientation. As the COOT program developed, though, faculty and staff participation diminished and COOT trips evolved into a largely student-determined exchange of information.

College brochures suggested that the trips provided new students an opportunity to “get their bearings,” to bond with an initial group of friends, and to get candid answers from upper-class trip leaders to all kinds of questions.

“COOT became more of a social activity than one able to reflect the intellectual component of the College,” said Professor of Economics Michael Donihue ’79, who over the past year chaired a subcommittee studying the transition from high school to Colby as part of the College’s reaccreditation self-study.

Terhune and his staff worked with Donihue’s committee and with Professor Sandy Maisel, director of the Goldfarb Center, on a day-long program that came before the trips and that engaged COOT leaders. They recruited the authoritative voices of young alumni and Colby professors for two panel discussions that addressed common apprehensions of new students. Those discussions were moderated by Peter Hart ’64, a leading political pollster and an animated emcee.

Professors Phil Brown (economics), Andrea Tilden (biology), and Cedric Bryant (English) talked briefly about how they got to Colby, what they expect from students, and Colby “myths.”

“It’s the myth,” Bryant said, “that there’s an absolute correlation between your high school academic success and your academic success here at Colby. A very quick example. ... Students get their first essay back and it has a grade on it that is totally alien to you. ... The response in one way or another (and I think every professor here has experienced it) is something on the order of, ‘I never got a grade like this in high school.’ And my rather cryptic response is usually, ‘That was then and this is now.’ The point is ... we are all, as professors, invested in the same thing, and that’s getting our students to the next level of intellectual and academic excellence.”

If it’s not going to be easy, what to do? Tilden said it’s a myth that, “If you’re struggling and need help, it’s a sign of weakness.” Seek help from professors, she said. Join study groups. “There are so many resources here. We really want you to succeed.”

Brown questioned the notion that there is one “Colby Experience.” He said, “I think the biggest myth is what you read in The Princeton Review about Colby.” It may give one person’s anecdotal experience, but everyone will have a unique experience at Colby. He urged students not to put too much stock in their peers’ reviews of individual professors either. Sometimes it’s worth taking a risk, he said,
because, “Your experience may vary.”

Earlier the panel of five accomplished young alumni also stressed the importance of faculty mentors. “Find a professor. Latch onto them like a leech, until they take a restraining order,” said Oliver Sabot ’02, director of malaria programs for The Clinton Foundation.

Gillian Morejon Gutierrez ’00, daughter of a lobsterman and a nurse, recalled being so nervous on her first day of college that, “I was probably in the bathroom,” rather than paying attention during orientation. “I didn’t believe I belonged here. Patrice [Franko, (economics and international studies)] made me believe I was worth it.” Gutierrez proved Franko right. She won a prestigious Watson Fellowship and is now a high-ranking emergency manager for the U.S. Department of Labor in New York.

So, how did the new orientation work out? Students and professors gave it high marks. And on at least one COOT, there was anecdotal evidence that it may have elevated expectations for academics and intellectual discourse.

In an Old Town canoe in the middle of Wyanman Lake, two first-years paddling between islands were overheard having an intense discussion about which one was better. Not which Simpsons episode; not Sam Adams or Coors Light (conversations actually overheard in years past). These two argued Hamlet vs. Twelfth Night. “The soliloquy in Twelfth Night is so amazing,” one said.

Coincidence? Time will tell.
From top left: students arrive at the Hill ‘n the ‘Ville festival; a youngster in his wind-up at the dunk tank; Stephanie Calkins and her daughter Molly compete in the sack race; the Colby Volunteer Center sets up shop.
On a gray Saturday afternoon in September, Colby students boarded yellow school buses and headed downtown to Waterville for a day of music, fun—and relationship building.

Kicking off the academic year, the inaugural Hill ’n the ’Ville festival was designed to improve the student-town relationship as well as to help Colby students make a good first impression with area residents.

Town-gown relations have been strained at times in recent years (see “Good Neighbors?” spring 2007 Colby), largely over alcohol-related incidents. Efforts to bridge the divide are ongoing, with both Colby and Waterville seeing success through community service projects last year.

The newest Colby-Waterville event was the brainchild of Ryan Collins ’08 and Adam Geringer-Dunn ’08, who first conceived of the downtown festival when they were sophomores.

“There are lots of good people up here who do a lot of good things that people don’t know about,” Collins said. “We want to put names and faces together and both sides [will benefit].”

He and Geringer-Dunn pitched the idea to Nick Cade ’08, a friend who became president of the Student Government Association this year. Cade threw himself into the project, opting to stay at Colby over the summer, partly to help bring Hill ’n the ’Ville together. He coordinated with local businesses and worked with Erik Thomas, Main Street gallery owner and a member of Waterville Main Street, a downtown civic group, for the day-long festival at Head of Falls, between Front Street and the Kennebec River.

The result: Waterville families, couples, and Colby students visited food vendors, danced, and chatted in front of a stage on which different groups played music all day. Children watched the dunk tank as Cade and Jeffrey Coombs, assistant director of Colby security, obligingly got soaked.

Rain initially limited the size of the audience, but, as evening approached, clouds parted and the event ended under a beautiful sunset.

Shannon Haines, executive director of Waterville Main Street, said the festival was “a good test” for similar events that aim to bring the students and the community together. “In many ways Waterville doesn’t seem like a college town because there are not many students [downtown],” she said. “But the turnout at Hill ’n the ’Ville was half students, half community. That was good.”

Thinking ahead to future Hill ’n the ’Ville festivals, Cade said the long-term goal is to make the event better and with more revenue so that it can become a self-sustaining activity, enduring long after current organizers have graduated.

The goal of Hill ’n the ’Ville is to have a family-friendly event that shows students are interested in and care for the Waterville community, Cade said. He pointed out that the event involved more than the SGA; it happened thanks to the collaboration of many different groups, organizers said. Colby athletic teams set up and ran games for young children, for example, and residents of Colby’s first Dialogue House, the Green House (with a focus on environmental issues), helped pick up litter at Head of Falls, the open area alongside the Kennebec River where many events are held.

“I don’t just come here to clean up garbage, though,” said Tara Brian ’10, a Green House resident who helped out. “It’s also fun to be in Waterville and see the different things that are going on here.” Brian said she liked Hill ’n the ’Ville because “It’s good that it is something that Colby students are doing for Waterville,” and that residents can come and enjoy.

Abby Gordon of Waterville, walking on the grassy field with four young children including her two daughters, said she enjoyed Hill ’n the ’Ville tremendously.

“It’s nice to see Colby and Main Street work together,” said Gordon, noting the variety of activities offered throughout the day, from the band John Brown’s Body, which makes regular appearances on the Billboard reggae chart, to the Dumb Beautiful Ministers, one of Colby’s student bands.

“It’s a good beginning,” said Duane Wheeler, who grew up in Waterville and now owns and operates the Dairy Queen on College Avenue. “When Colby had its campus downtown, in fact not far from here, students came a lot downtown, but since it moved up the hill, students are not as much a part of the town as they used to be.”

Strolling the field, Wheeler smiled as he gazed at the crowd gathered in front of the big stage, dancing along with the music. “Today is a great opportunity to interact with students in a variety of different ways,” he said, “I want to see more of it.”
In a photograph that appeared in the Central Maine Morning Sentinel September 11, Kate Vasconi ’09 is shown with 3,000 American flags she and other members of the Colby Republicans arranged on Miller Library lawn. Vasconi, daughter of a New York City firefighter, spoke to Colby about the memorial she helped create and about 9/11.

You didn’t know what was planned for the 9/11 memorial on Colby’s quad before the Republican Club met?

No, I went into the meeting and there was this big poster, pictures of 9/11. I was standing there, very shaken by it. I was very emotional about it because I didn’t know it was something that we were doing. When we finally got out there to put the flags down, it really hit me. It was September 11 again.

And you had lived through it once?

On Staten Island.

Where did you see it from?

I was in math class, and out the school window you could see all the smoke, because we’re right across from lower Manhattan.

What happened in the school that day?

We had actually heard about it on the radio. My mom works at the school. I’d been sitting in her office and somebody said a plane had hit the World Trade Center. People just assumed it was some kind of an accident and things just went on normally. When the second plane hit, I was in class. The building actually shook. At that point people were starting to panic because now we knew there were two planes that had hit.

We had all gotten put into sort of a lockdown situation. We couldn’t leave the rooms we were in, and over the loudspeakers people’s names were being called when their parents were there. Slowly but surely people kept leaving school until there was no one left. I went home with my neighbor because my mother couldn’t leave the school.

Where was your dad?

My dad got called in to help with the emergency because they needed all the help that they could get.

Did you know that then?

No. When I got home, my neighbor told me. She went to pick up my little sister and they wouldn’t let her pick her up … so my dad actually had to come back to get her. Thinking about it, he would have been there a lot earlier had it not been for the fact that he had to go pick up my sister. So there are a lot of what-ifs that you can think about in that situation.

But that didn’t spare him entirely?

He was there for three days. Well, he was there for longer than three days but for three days we hadn’t heard from him. So we were obviously very worried about where he was. It was just that they were working straight for three days, trying to recover anybody who was caught under the rubble and just trying to bring home anybody dead or alive to their families. He had been in Ground Zero for something like two weeks, coming home sporadically. They set up tents for them to eat and to change.

He never came home in that time?

He came home sometimes just to shower and say hello and he’d go right back.

Is he the same person he was before?

Yeah. My dad’s a very jovial, fun-loving person and I’d say maybe—I don’t want to say it aged him because he’s still very young. But it does make him more serious about things. He doesn’t like it when I travel alone into the city. He was like, “Oh, you’re going so far away to Maine to go to school.” But then he was like, “Well, maybe it’s a good thing because maybe you’ll be safe there.”

Are your family members all New Yorkers?

Yeah.

So the city wasn’t seen as a dangerous place?

No, we just had the same things a regular dad would say. Don’t go walking around by yourself at night. Setting curfews if we were in the city so we wouldn’t have to take the subway alone or something like that. But I worked in the city all summer and he hated it when I was commuting. If something was going to happen, it would happen during commuting hours.

You said your brother is a firefighter?

Yes, this is his first full year on the job. My dad’s really proud of him.

Does your family worry about him?

Yes and no. All of us really worry when something bad comes on the news, when a fireman is killed. At the same time, everyone in my family knows it’s a job he’s going to be really good at, and it’s a job that he’s passionate about.

Your dad has a health issue? When did that start to crop up?

When he first got back from the actual site of September 11, it was a problem, coughing up phlegm and things like that, just from debris. And then a year or two passed and he was okay, but then it really started three years ago. His lungs started deteriorating. My dad’s been a minor league athlete, in baseball. He’s always been healthy. He never had lung issues. Now he has pretty bad asthma. It’s pretty obvious that’s why he has it.
He's not alone?
There are a lot of his friends. Not just lung things. He has friends who have prostate cancer, things like that. They’re finally coming to terms with it. For the longest time, what was so frustrating for my dad was that [the city] wouldn’t say, ‘You’re sick because of this.’ He had to keep going and going and eventually the doctors were like, ‘He really is sick.’

Did you consider being a firefighter?
No, physically I could never do it. I could never make it through the academy. I’m only four-eleven.

So instead you’re a classics major.
Yeah.

You think that’s one of the majors that’s probably furthest from being a firefighter?
Yeah, I’d say so. But when I was little I wanted to be a librarian. So nothing really shocks my family about me anymore. They’re really supportive of me and they know it’s something I’m passionate about.

So what turned you on to classics?
I really loved The Odyssey, so one of my first classes freshman year was on The Odyssey, with [Professor] Hanna Roisman. Two weeks in, I was just hooked.

So is it classics all the time?
I’m in three classics courses right now. I love it. I’m having fun.

So what do you think you’ll do after Colby? Whoops. Do I sound like a parent?
I want to go into sports administration. I absolutely love professional sports, especially baseball. But anything really. I want to go into marketing for a professional sports team.

So are you a—
I’m a huge A’s fan. It’s a pitching and defense thing. And I’m a big Giants fan. That’s my New York team, I guess. I’m a Mets fan, too. But mostly A’s.

So when did you decide that you wanted to go into sports?
At first I wanted to be a sports journalist. And then I worked in marketing at Penguin Publishing this summer. I really loved marketing, but I didn’t necessarily like it in publishing. So the thing I like about marketing and sports—I always say it’s like trying to get your neighbors to come to dinner. And there’s so much community involvement to it. That’s what draws me to it. How involved you have to be to get the community to succeed in your own goal.

So what does that have to do with The Odyssey?
At Colby, you’re getting such a background at being analytical. And so much of classics is, when you’re reading a text, it’s like reading between the lines. And I think in marketing, in some sense, you really having to think outside the norm. Classics really prepares you for that. What can you do that’s new and different? When you think of classics, these are texts that have been around for thousands of years, but why are there so many classicists who have new ideas about what each line means?
Reality Check

Economic forecasts by Michael Donihue’s students have real-world value

Whit Richardson Story Fred Field Photo

Donihue doesn’t lecture on macroeconomic theory or give students hypothetical case studies. Instead, Donihue, who studied econometrics in graduate school at the University of Michigan, tosses his students into the deep end of the pool. “[Typically] we teach our students these theoretical models like how government spending in the war will affect the U.S. economy. It all works nice and neatly on the blackboard,” Donihue said. “But it’s not always so nice and neat” in the real world.

Many of Donihue’s students end up in finance or policy work, where he says the real world will involve using raw data to create a forecast, whether it be a company’s future sales or the price of oil. It’s the world Donihue says he tries every year to prepare his students for. “It’s the thought process and skill set that’s attractive to employers,” he said.

“At some point the textbooks are left behind,” said Caroline Theoharides ’06, a former student in Donihue’s seminar who is now a senior research assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Theoharides, a Maine native who grew up in Lincoln, says a key to doing her Fed job is being able to look at the economy, not as a single entity but as a complex machine with hundreds of moving parts. “I really had to understand that when something happens to oil prices, something happens to consumption, and then something happens to overall GDP,” she said. “Forecasting [at Colby] helped me think like an economist.”

But forecasting can help more than just economists. Trevor Hanly ’07 used his experience putting together the CEO to land a job on L.L. Bean’s sales forecasting team. He can now forecast shoe sales or the number of calls expected at a call center a given week for the Freeport-based outdoor retailer. “It’s definitely not something a lot of people get to have a background in,” Hanly, a Michigan native, said of forecasting. “To put out a Colby Economic
“I really had to understand that when something happens to oil prices, something happens to consumption, and then something happens to overall GDP. Forecasting helped me think like an economist.”

Caroline Theoharides ’06, a former Donihue student, now a senior research assistant at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

In general, Donihue says the forecast is well received and is usually in line with professionally produced forecasts—especially when it comes to predicting interest rates. But the students have been wrong on occasion. The most notorious faulty forecast came in 1990, when Donihue’s class was putting together the CEO on the brink of the First Gulf War. There was a lot of “saber rattling” going on, Donihue recalled, and students predicted that if war broke out in the Middle East oil prices would rise to $65 a barrel and could cause a worldwide economic recession. In reality, there was a war, he said, but oil prices spiked and then went down and there was no recession. “I guess the consolation was that we weren’t further off than other forecasters,” Donihue said.

But Economics 473 is ultimately designed as a learning experience, so Donihue says he doesn’t worry when the students get it wrong. “You’re predicting the future,” he said, “and by definition the future is unknown.”
First the plague, and now, in 1507, famine reduces a small German village, hemmed in by forest, to a kind of concentration camp inhabited by living skeletons. For two years the crops have failed; people are starving. Grievances spew forth—a hen no longer lays eggs, a cow’s milk spoils. It’s obvious to all that someone has brought God’s punishment upon the land. When Friar Johannes Fuchs shows up armed with Mal-leus Maelfcarum (an actual book published in 1485-6), all the demons of hell are loosed.

The friar speaks the word Hexe: witch. “I travel our land charged with the duty of ending the devil’s work begun in the hearts and souls of womenfolk,” he declares, announcing his intention “to ferret out the worst in women.” The game is already rigged.

Innocence is guilt, good is evil. That irony is at the heart of this fine and frightening novel. Speaking for the Holy Church, which speaks for God, the friar whips up fear, pagan superstition, and soul-searing mischief worse than anything witches might conjure. The step-by-step description of the friar’s inquisition is chilling.

Knowing about witch hunts, knowing the end of many witch trials, we know the essential story, and Mailman’s intense narrative moves relentlessly toward a wind-up it’s impossible not to see coming. The mad goings-on in Tierkindorf, repeated for hundreds of years all across Europe and in our own Salem, proceed with the inevitability of Greek tragedy. Good people, some with esoteric knowledge of healing herbs, some only forlorn outcasts, are thought to possess the power to disrupt the cycle of fertility in women and fields, drive game from the woods, turn men’s heads from their wives. For that, the witches must burn. Mailman’s richly detailed story has it all down cold.

The characterization of the story’s narrator is central to the hallucination and delusion that erupt in the village. An elderly woman whose mind slips on occasion, Güde isn’t always aware her actions invite suspicion, though she has more than sufficient wit to be a reliable narrator. Nevertheless, turned out of her house in the night, wandering in the snow-filled woods, her mind disordered by age, fear, cold, and hunger, Güde sees a woman floating in the air, hears chants, signs the devil’s book with her blood, ruts with creatures (including her dead husband), feasts on roast pig. She believes these events occur. Perception is reality; hallucination is dramatic event. Mailman manages illusion and reality, one of fiction’s grand themes, so adroitly it’s easy to believe it all happens.

In the historical sense, it did all happen—the author discovered a Massachusetts ancestor who twice stood trial for witchcraft—even when events in the novel feel as if they take place in the far-away and long-ago. Sentence constructions and rhythms are elevated just enough above modern English to sound foreign, archaic, even ceremonial as befits high drama. Metaphors drawn from Güde’s village life and the surrounding woods are primitive and earthy. It’s Mailman’s witchery with description and somber tone that compels belief in this world.

The Witch’s Trinity may sound like a children’s book title, but it’s hardly aiming to cash in on the success of the Harry Potter books. For sure, this novel is about specters and monsters, but none are supernatural. Reading Güde’s disturbing narrative is like watching a horror movie shot at night in black and white—the black of the night sky and woods, the white of the snow, the symbolic black and white robes of the friar whose mindset is terrifyingly black and white. The witches never had a prayer.
The Write Stuff for a Tough Business

“Environmental journalism is not a cheerful field of work,” Edward Abbev wrote in the introduction to his collection of essays Down the River. It’s an epigram that could describe the career of Ted Williams ’69.

Williams is an investigative conservation journalist who works to bridge the gulf between sportsmen and environmentalists. He’s best known for columns and articles in Audubon (where he’s an editor at large) and Fly Rod & Reel (where he is conservation editor). In October he published his third book, Something’s Fishy (Skyhorse Publishing, 2007), a compilation of pull-no-punches articles from those and a half-dozen other periodicals.

To paraphrase Abbey, these are not generally cheerful tales.

In the introduction Williams maintains that “staying hired is easy. What takes talent, effort and spine is getting fired—or, rather, choosing to get fired when principles are at stake.” And he speaks from experience. A top national fishing magazine hired and fired him the same day over his demand that the magazine defend him in case of a lawsuit.

The 45 essays in Something’s Fishy include vivid accounts of fishing excursions and in-depth analysis of major land conservation initiatives and ecological controversies (ethanol policy e.g.). Some essays advocate killing prized trout species with rotenone.

He describes the same species, brook trout, as the most beautiful creatures in Massachusetts and the ugliest creatures in Moraine Lake, Alberta. They’re native to New England but were introduced in Alberta. In “Fish-Poison Politics,” and several other pieces in the book, he suggests even brook trout should be poisoned trout if they’re invasive and if it will preserve native species.

“Ted’s tone is harsh on occasion,” writes Fly Rod & Reel editor Paul Guernsey. “But the threats are growing and our living natural resources are in great peril. Someone needs to speak up and lead the way, and that someone is Ted Williams.” —Stephen Collins ’74

RECENT RELEASES

Motorized Obsessions: Life, Liberty, and the Small-Bore Engine
Paul R. Josephson (international studies, history)
The Johns Hopkins University Press (2007)

From lawnmowers and leaf blowers to personal watercraft and all-terrain vehicles, machines powered by small gasoline engines have become quite literally part of the American landscape. But, as Josephson demonstrates in this groundbreaking study, small engines also carry significant social and environmental costs. Motorized Obsessions explores the history of the development of these mechanized devices and their profound damage to ecosystems and the atmosphere. “The internal combustion engine is an institution ....,” Josephson writes. That institution has changed our lives, his study shows, in many ways for the worse.

Counting the Dead: The Culture and Politics of Human Rights Activism in Colombia
Winifred Tate (anthropology)
University of California Press (2007)

Tate, who joins Colby’s faculty in 2008 as assistant professor of anthropology, spent years in Colombia, as an intern, a staffer with an NGO, and as an “embedded anthropologist.” The result is a detailed, wide-ranging, and nuanced study of human-rights activism in a country in the throes of a complex conflict. Tate offers an analysis with lessons not only for Colombia and those interested in its fate but for anyone compelled by the ways rights activism and conflict both coexist and intersect.

Dinosaur: Four Seasons on the Green and Yampa Rivers
Hal Crimmel ’88, with photographs by Steve Gaffney
The University of Arizona Press (2007)

The latest in the series of books Desert Places, Dinosaur, moves through the high desert of Dinosaur National Monument in Colorado and Utah. Essayist, Fulbright Fellow, and former river guide Crimmel joins with Gaffney to explore, chronicle, and contemplate the beauty and mystery of this stunning landscape in all four seasons. As Crimmel writes of one stop on an isolated winter trail, this is “a place of confluences. Of creeks and rivers, certainly. Of cultures, rocks, seasons, too.” The same can be said for this thoughtful and graceful blending of words and images.

Perfect Together: Astrology, Karma, & You
Alice Shest Loffredo ’62
Sterling House (2007)

Astrologer Alice Loffredo has written a book that provides the lay reader with astrological information that has been the private domain of serious students of the discipline. Perfect Together allows readers to consider the ramifications of their sign and house and to use that information to draw a road map for life. Astrology, Loffredo says, “can allow us to feel understood, maybe for the first time in a long time.”
Focused
Nordic skier Fred Bailey is sequestered in northern Maine in his quest to be one of the best

STEPHEN COLLINS ’74 STORY AND PHOTO

The lifestyle of the elite U.S. ski racer may conjure up images of Bode Miller living the high life, appearing on magazine covers, defining après ski in Aspen.

For a slightly different experience, go to the list of elite ski racers at the Maine Winter Sports Center, one of just a handful of top national training programs for Nordic skiers, and read about Fred Bailey ’07.

Sure, there’s a difference between a gold medalist and a young up-and-comer—and between an alpine and Nordic skier. But Bailey’s decision to tackle the pinnacle of competitive skiing by training at the facility in northern Aroostook County has led him to a life that evokes more monastic solitude than jet-set glamour.

It’s about living in an old farmhouse on top of a windswept hill, working out two to five hours a day, then fulfilling community service requirements building trails or working with schoolchildren. It’s about wondering how he’ll afford both the vast quantities of food he requires and repayment of his student loans. It’s about focusing on training for the next three years just to see if he has what it takes to race at the international level when he reaches the peak for endurance athletes—the late-20s through early-30s.

In his blog he writes: “Since my return [to northern Maine] I have had to adapt to life with limited television, but that’s really not such a bad thing. I read a lot more now.” Driving through Caribou’s modest downtown he reflects on the life of a single-minded 22-year-old athlete: “Yes, it’s a distraction, but you do need a bit of a social life.”

Which is not to suggest that Bailey complains. About anything. He’s thrilled to be chasing his dream. He’s passionate about the science of turning his body into an optimally tuned endurance machine, though it will take years and there are no guarantees. He spent parts of the fall training at Lake Placid and Sugarloaf, and he will spend much of the winter traveling to meets in the United States and abroad.

He’s psyched to be sponsored in a program that gives him coaching, housing, health insurance, skis, wax, and, perhaps most important, time to both work out hard and rest sufficiently.

It’s a rare job that requires an afternoon nap most days. And that can be a major problem for endurance athletes attending colleges like Colby.

“For sure, it needs to be a good fit,” said Bailey’s coach, Will Sweetser, about matching skiers to the program. While Caribou isn’t right for everyone, it’s a great place for someone who appreciates the great outdoors, a supportive community, and the need to focus.

Bailey grew up on a dairy farm in Andover, Maine, near Rumford. Generally quite serious talking about skiing, he gets downright animated describing races, particular exertions to pass a rival, individual and team success that resulted from “hammering” a little harder. But he grew to realize, working with Colby’s head Nordic ski coach, Tracey Cote, that a serious training regimen determines just how hard a racer can hammer.

Cote credited Bailey’s leadership as captain for helping raise the bar among his teammates. Talking about the fine balance between athletic achievement in the context of rigorous academics and general student life, Cote said, “It’s crazy that you can get the education while you are training at that level. It takes a lot of organization and dedication to do it ... but my team is doing a really good job of it.”

“We like to say there are three S’s—school, skiing, and social,” she said. “And that you can only keep two.”

During his senior season, Bailey and the team set some daunting goals. “I didn’t think that was possible,” Cote admits. But, after taking their bet, she had to buy Ben & Jerry’s ice cream and T-shirts when they took second as a team at a carnival. Colby ultimately placed six skiers in the top 20 in a race, and sent two skiers, Bailey and Nick Kline ’08, to the NCAA championships.

At the NCAAs Bailey finished 20th in a field of 38 in the 10K skate and 29th in the 20K classic despite ski problems—the result of an earlier pile-up crash in the final carnival race that left him without enough time to determine optimal “wax zones” for another pair of skis. The fact that half of the higher NCAA finishers weren’t Americans throws more light on Bailey’s status in the pyramid of elite U.S. skiers.

He says there are about 50 elite Nordic skiers in the United States—on the U.S. Ski Team, in programs like his, and on a couple of corporate-sponsored teams. And Cote agreed. “He’s right in that mix—the next group chasing the U.S. Ski Team,” she said.

It will require patience from Bailey and from those following his career. But he may well be part of the future of U.S. Nordic skiing.
20s/30s newsmakers

Congratulations to Frederick A. Howard '29, who turned 100 October 5, 2007. In 1938 he started Howard Insurance in Norwood, Mass., now run by his sons almost 70 years later. Howard has returned to Colby each year for more than 25 years, first with his wife, the late Celia Sakakeeny, then with his son Philip. He marvels at Colby’s growth and prosperity. Howard has five children, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

milestones


42 Amy Lewis Small had a busy summer. She spent a large portion of time editing the yearbook for a local club she belongs to and also editing the monthly bulletin for her branch of the American Association of University Women. But her big summer event was the annual visit of her daughter and her 16-year-old granddaughter, who live in Switzerland.


44 Alumni Reunion Weekend in June was a delightful time for all. The weather was beautiful and the new alumni building, which was the hub of activities for the first time, was the perfect origin for the parade of classes—it’s the right distance from the gym for walking. If any of you brought up The Blue Light Web site on your computer, with the pictures and stories of the event, you probably wondered who was carrying the 50-plus banner. My nephew David McAlary attended the event with me and he volunteered our services! He’s not a Colby graduate but both his parents, an uncle, and two aunts were, so he feels close to the College. Those present from our class were Bob St. Pierre and his son, Mike, Esther and Dick Mountfort, Najla and Harold Joseph, Gabe Hikel and his wife, and Dick Jones. At the Boardman Memorial service, five of our classmates were remembered: Alice Katkaskaus Deming, Pat Berquist Donna, Arthur Eaton, William Frazier, and Martha Wheeler Zeltsman. I did receive a few letters. Lois Peterson Johnson wrote to tell of the trips she and her husband made. They attended the Big Muddy Folk Festival in Boonville, Md., had an 11-day trip touring national parks, a two-night trip to Berea, Ky., and Renfro Valley, plus visits with their children. Nancy Bell Martin moved to Oklahoma City, Okla., to be near her daughter. Judy Jones Zimmerman wrote and recalled several activities from before we all moved up to Mayflower Hill, such as laying bricks in the wall of the new women’s union as it was being constructed. Also the visit of Eleanor Roosevelt when she spoke at the old alumni building back of Foss Hall. We all attended the reception that followed so we could shake...
her hand. She was such a gracious lady! * Pauline Tatham Stanley
sent a clipping of her daughter’s experience as an exchange teacher in Estonia at an English-speaking school where she taught music to preschoolers through tenth graders. —Josephine Pitts McAlary

45 An article dated June 7, 2007, in the *Windham Independent* about gunpowder mills, featured an interview with mill expert and long-time Gorham, Maine, resident Maurice Whitten, Ph.D., professor emeritus in chemistry at the University of Southern Maine. Maurice also celebrates the recent re-release of his book, *The Gunpowder Mills of Maine*, He sold and signed copies of it after

46 Cloyd Aarseth and his wife, Joan, have recently had two wonderful events, beginning with the birth of their first great-grandson. Jackson David Aarseth, was born to their grandson, Paul and his wife, DeeDee, in Richardson, Texas. On June 14 Cloyd and Joan celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. “It doesn’t get much better than this,” Cloyd wrote. *Faye O’Leary Hafford*

47 David Weber spent time in April with his family on a cruise in the Greek isles and just narrowly missed seeing their cruise boat sink three days before they arrived! Luckily they were able to enjoy Mykonos, Patmos, Ephesus, Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini on a replacement ship. Afterwards, he and his wife enjoyed the art and history of Florence, Italy, before spending the majority of July marveling at the landscape and language of Iceland.

48 Burt Krumholz has sold his home in Roslyn, N.Y., and moved to nearby Melville. His current address is 592 Bardin Drive, Melville, N.Y., 11747 and his e-mail is bakrumholz@aol.com. Burt was disappointed that last year’s reunion with classmates in Florida did not come to fruition and he is hopeful, as are we, that we will have success this winter. He hopes to be at Colby for our 60th reunion in June 2008. *Mike and Kay Weisman Jaffe* met Carol Stoll Baker and her friend Selig after Carol had attended a dance program at Jacob’s Pillow in Becket, Mass. They had dinner at the New Boston Inn, which Kay highly recommends. Shortly thereafter, Kay and Mike became great-grandparents with the birth of Noah Jaffe. They have three great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter. *Evie Helfman Malkin*’s first granddaughter was born on September 2006 in Nantucket. Evie has moved into an apartment that is only an eight minute walk to Harvard Square. In May she had a wonderful time in the Netherlands, France, and Brussels. She is still busy three days a week working as a social worker in pediatric radiation.

49 In my last column, Richard Fisch told of his recent retirement. Now he tells of his unexpected new findings. “About a month ago I made a decision I thought I would never

50 My sister Alice Jennings Castelli, Connie Leonard Hayes, Ginny Davis Pearce, Connie Foxcroft Perrigo, Stubby Crandall Graves, and I got together at Pat Root Wheeler’s home in Jaffrey, N.H., this summer. Patty, who has learned how to play the steel drums, has a set prominently in her living room and plays with a group. She did a demonstration for us and played a CD with her playing a lead drum. She played in a steel drum festival.
in Yarmouth, Maine, this summer with a group from all over New England. In addition to her musical talents—bell ringer and organist—she is starting her 38th year running her Sandbox Nursery School in Jaffrey. • **Connie Foxcroft Perrigo** went on an Elderhostel trip this June in the Acadia area of Maine. It was a multi-sport program, including sea kayaking in Bar Harbor and Blue Hill Bay, mountain biking, and hiking. Only five of the group of 20 were from New England. Most evenings they had a scenic tour—driving up Cadillac Mountain for the sunset, scenic walks along the shore, historical tours of churches and “cottages,” and a lobster demonstration. The last day they biked on Sargent Drive, “one of the most spectacular short boulevards in New England.” They wound around Somes Sound, and headed into the “old money” village of Northeast Harbor, passing many of the summer cottages that survived the fire of 1947. Connie heartily recommends the trip. She and her friend turned out to be the eldest of the group—most folks were in their 60s. • **After Jaffrey, Allie,** and I went to our family reunion in Wolfeboro, N.H., at the home of our sister, Ann Jennings Tausigg ’49, on Lake Winnipesaukee. Later in the summer Allie and her family went to a Castelli family reunion at the summer home of Rudy’s brother Bill on Cape Cod. • Have you run into any Colby friends recently, moved, traveled, or read a great book? I’m looking for news for our next column. Please let me hear from you. —**Elisabeth (Dodie) Jennings** Maley

51 Last August in Lubec, Maine, **Mary Leighton Robertson** met with Bill and **Jean Griffin Carey** for the first time since the two women were bridesmaids together in 1952. The Careys have retired to Lubec but have spent many years living all over the world. • **Ernie Fortin,** lured back by fond Colby memories, spent five weeks of vacation in Maine last summer. Ernie was called back to Florida early due to his election as president of the Sarasota Meadows Community Association. • **Richard J. Bowen** was honored with the Jay D. Blitzman Award for Youth Advocacy from the Lawrence Bar Association for his work in the juvenile court. He continues to work as a public defender for juveniles, despite undergoing coronary bypass surgery last year. He and his wife, Lucy, celebrated their 56th anniversary this year. He still stays in touch with

Bob Brotherlin. • The Maine Sunday Telegram featured **Arnold Sturtevant**’s generations-old family farm, which he has owned and operated as a bed and breakfast since 1987. The paper recommended it as an excellent and historically-informative vacation idea.

52 **Sheila and Don Haier** met with **Carl and Muffie Morgan Leaf,** Judy and **Herb Nagle,** and **Charlotte and Lumm Lebherz** at the Landfall in Woods Hole (on Cape Cod) for dinner. They had a grand time reviewing the 55th reunion. **Joan Kelly Cannell** missed the reunion, but she did have lunch with Ned ’51 and Barbara Hills Stuart ’54 and Jean and Bob LEE ’51 in Maine in July. • Bill Taylor says, “No news. My spinal synopsis is still in charge, unfortunately. I can’t walk very well for any distance.” Bill, we all hope you’re feeling better. • **Norman Crook** says that, “Josette and I are both well. Fifty-three years of life together and still able to spend virtually all of our days traveling in our motor home about the Southeast. Although we have a home base in Summerdale, Ala. (a bit north of the Gulf), we manage to show our Chinese SharPei at the dog shows from Ky. to Fla. and states in between. Life has been good to us; our four kids (including Rebecca Crook Rogers ’83) and grandkids are all well!” • **Doris Miller Raphael Winder** has moved to a retirement community in Newton, Mass., which is part of Lasell College. “I’m back taking college courses and enjoying the whole experience. Lasell has two child-care centers, which was my field. I volunteer at one of them. It’s great! The Village also has a gym and a pool so I am keeping up being fit as my mind active.” • **Barbara Bone Leavitt** had an extended visit with her old friend and roommate **Caroline Wilkins McDonough** in Greenwich, Conn. Caroline had to go to Chicago for some serious surgery and Barbara went along to help her out. • Mel Lyon wrote from California to say he is “doing just fine, still working in the laboratory. Discovered recently that I now have six grandchildren, all doing well and apparently very clever little ones, as expected.” Mel works on a prenatal stress-induced animal model for autism, with hopes of finding some way to prevent this disorder. Mel recently talked with Bob Hooper, who is in good health again, but had a difficult year before that. He was his usual good-humored self and is now planning a possible cruise tour to Alaska with his wife, Iris, who cared for him through all the hard times. • Russ Wallace reports that, “My friend Anne and I had a wonderful time at reunion. The Lebherz, Leafs, Hailers, Nagles, and Dave Crocket really made us feel at home back on the East Coast. Having gotten the travel bug in Maine, we tried the Med in July—Sicily, Crete, Santorini, Ephesus, Athens and a couple of other spots. Excellent study tour. Having gotten acquainted with multi-hour layoffs in Frankfurt airport, we went back in August with The Natural Gas Jazz Band, a group from Marin County, just across the Golden Gate Bridge. They had gigs in Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. Another excellent experience.” • Thanks again so much for responding with all this news. Isn’t it great to catch up on old friends? Until next time, enjoy life. It is so precious. And be well. —**Jan “Sandy” Pearson Anderson**

53 Through some misunderstanding on my part I missed a deadline and thus I have received an unusual volume of notes. In July John LEE cruised to St. John, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway. His granddaughter will attend the University of Virginia after winning, he writes, every possible honor in high school. His grandson will graduate from West Point in May 2008. • **Ellie Hay Holway** wrote a nice note from her cottage on Casco Bay. Her six children (five daughters and one son) along with their families surprised them with a 50th wedding anniversary party. They have eight grandchildren, so there are many special events to attend in Massachusetts and Maine and vacation in Florida. In 2008 she and her daughter Amy represented their family at a huge Clan Hay gathering at a castle in Scotland, then took a tour of the surrounding towns. Both Ellie and Paul Westcott were “spurred on” to write when the ’53 news was missing in the spring issue. Paul is still working as CEO of Howell Laboratories in Bridgton, Maine. They engineer and build machinery for the Navy and, under a different name, Shively, build FM broadcast antennas. The antenna on Roberts Union comes from this company. Paul has been a trustee of the university of New England for 20 years and now is a trustee of the Maine Historical Society. He says that Harland Eastman ’51 is also on that board. He and his wife, Peggy, highly recommend the Colby-sponsored tours; they enjoyed one to Russia and another to China. • **Ginnie Falkenbury Aronson** spent a couple of weeks in Prague with her son who teaches math there. She said she spent an interesting evening in a Czech pub listening to her son fluently speaking with the local people. She also spent some time visiting an 11th-century castle and its castle, Cesty Krumlov. • **Tommi Thompson Staples** enjoyed another Intergenerational Elderhostel with her 13-year-old granddaughter. They went to Kentucky with a group consisting of 10 girls, 10 grandmothers, and one grandfather. She said they saw the horse Smarty Jones in retirement life. Then she took her other granddaughter to the Grand Canyon. Tommi was expecting to have **Carolyn English Caci** as a houseguest and they planned to visit **Marty Friedlaender** in New York. • **Rick Tyler** was at their summer home in Ogunquit, Maine, beginning in June. He and Ann took a few days and traveled to Bermuda with his sister and husband. The rest of the summer he played tennis and enjoyed the beach. They returned to Salt Lake City in September and planned to travel to Africa for an animal adventure in November. • Just when I thought I had all the news, I got an e-mail from **Priscilla Eaton Billington,** whose granddaughter is a freshman at Colby and is excited to be there. Her youngest grandson has entered Brooks School in Andover, Mass. She said that Ray had his 80th birthday and they had a gathering of classmates who also turned 80; there were six of them. • On the sad side we lose three more classmates: **Paul Ostrove,** **Celia Lasbury Johnson,** and **Bobbie Weiss Alpert. —**Barbara Easterbrooks Mailey

54 Mary and **Herb Adams** celebrated their 30th anniversary in August. Earlier this year they spent time in Spain visiting the burial place of Herb’s one-time idol, Orsen Welles. Herb gave the keynote address to the annual cluster meeting of SW Florida Unitarian Universalists last March and he has been speaking frequently on contemporary social/political issues at UU churches. Herb writes, “The fact is, for whatever reason, I have become very much interested in what our Colby classmates are up to, and look forward to our small part of the alumni coverage. The older I get the more I think of those fascinating magnificent years ‘on the hill’.” Herb would appreciate some word about his old pal, Ward Tracy. • **Ben and Diane Stowell Duce** attended their seventh Alumni College session this
In Massachusetts, the 2007 Jay D. Blitzman Award for Youth Advocacy went to Richard J. Bowen ’51. Established in honor of Judge Blitzman’s long career as an advocate committed to juvenile rights, the award is presented annually to an advocate who “assures that children accused of criminal conduct are treated fairly and with dignity in the courtroom.” Bowen was honored for his impressive work as a public defender for juveniles in Massachusetts.

summer and then enjoyed a July family reunion with their three children and six grandchildren. *Bill Ames*, also a regular at the Alumni College, keeps fit by playing a great deal of tennis. *Bob Fraser* is another classmate who spends time during the summer at the Alumni College. *Carol Dyer Wauters* has a new e-mail address: cwauters@bresnan.net. She continues to do a deal of tennis.

Greetings classmates, wherever you are. Best wishes from the Outer Cape. The big news with most of us this fall is our 55th high school reunion. Janet Nordgren Meryweather was headed for Shrewsbury, Mass., Linda Burrage Sprague and I to Weymouth, and who knows how many back to Newton. There were 11 Newton High graduates in our freshman class at Colby, and I deferred to Janet Stebbins Walsh for the list: Julie Brush Wheeler, Janet Stebbins Walsh, Russ Nahigian, John Chatfield, Don Dunbar, David Dunn, Ed Hatch, Don Kupersmith, John Marshall, and Jay Smith. These girls left after a year or two: Joan Arcese, Louise Allen Freedman, and Toby Lunder, Peter’s twin. Peter Lunder went to Bigelow Junior High then to prep school, otherwise he would have been at Newton, too. Barkry Boole and Charlie Morrissey were Newton High School class of ’51. They did a post-grad year at Cheshire Academy in Connecticut so ended up in our class. Jan also wrote that she went to Nortton to follow Tiger around and that her own golf game improved after that fabulous day. *We saw Tom ’54 and Susan Miller Hunt while visiting Lou ’55 and Kathy Mcconaughy Zambello in August. The Maine contingent keeps in close touch and share several events each summer. John and Lou had a great day playing golf at the Falmouth Foreside with Larry Pugh and Guy Vigue ’57. *Dave and Rosemary Crouchamel Sortor had another interesting summer in Boothbay Harbor. Dave mentioned that Barbara Nardozzi Saxom moved from her farmhouse to a smaller pond-side cottage in Wilmington, N.C. Dave wrote, “We joined the Zambellos, Haiggets, and Wews on Larry Pugh’s boat for the July of Fourth fireworks. Dave is interested in your ideas for our 55th class reunion, which, believe it or not, is planning distance away. “It seems as though we should plan a major trip, and I’d like to know if anyone has a special place in mind, in or out of the U.S.” Please e-mail suggestions to Dave at dsoror@aol.com. *This issue’s Jeopardy! challenge comes from Charlene Roberts Riordan. And again, the classmate with the correct answer gets a Colby T-shirt at the next reunion. From Robbie: “Last Tuesday I was in St. Petersburg, Russia. As I exited the Hermitage, I saw a car with a Colby sticker (as well as one from Kent). The car had a Russian registration, as well as a campus sticker. How weird! In a land where it is so difficult to communicate English, I did not try to leave a note.” The challenge is, of course, to find out who owns the car. Robbie is still teaching, by the way. Lucky students. *That’s it for now. Please don’t hesitate to share your anecdotes with us. We care about each and every one of you. To the many of you undergoing hip and knee replacements, we wish you success. To the pacemaker and other cardiovascular problems, good luck as well. Keep moving and take those supplements! Until next time, God bless you all. —Joan Williams Marshall

We are still in awe that so many gathered together for our 50th reunion—and what a great time was had by all! *Larry Roy is still on a high from all the fun he had reconnecting with everyone at reunion! Life back home at Brigham’s Cove is spent caring for his wife, Kathy. Larry was off in September for some bicycling and photography in Austria and Germany. *Mickey Chomicz Manno is relieved to have finally sold her home in North Jersey. She has moved to Ocean Grove, N.J., a few blocks from the beach and loves her new location. *Fifty-


50s newsmakers

Richard J. Bowen ’51

Richard J. Bowen ’51
four Septembers ago, we arrived on the campus as freshman and I still vividly remember so much of that time!" So did Ellie Shorey Harris as she recently strolled around the beautiful campus and observed the current crop of incoming students arrive! Ellie had just lost her husband, Joe, in July, after a 20-year struggle with Alzheimer’s. All of us send our deepest sympathy on her loss. * Buddy Bates would like to thank the Class of 1957 for the incredible support for our 50th anniversary fund. The final participation rate was 75 percent, and our 50th anniversary gift came to a grand total of $2,109,073. A big “thankyou” to all who worked so hard on the campaign! Back in Aspen, with the campaign behind him, Buddy is enjoying tennis, hiking, music, and the Great Ideas Festival sponsored by the Aspen Institute. * After the reunion Jim and Nancy Hansen Marchbank headed to England to attend their eldest grandson’s graduation. A day at Royal Ascot with box accommodations was part of the event, complete with formal morning dress (top hats and tails) for all gentlemen, no matter what age—and the Queen arrived in her carriage (but, of course!). Next for Jim and Nancy is a change of pace: a two-week trip to Russia, including Moscow and a river trip to St. Petersburg. * As most of us know, Janet Kimball Clymer suffered a massive stroke at her home two days before she planned to leave for our 50th reunion. She is currently in a health care center in Keene, N.H. and would greatly appreciate cards and notes from classmates. Janet’s address is: Langdon Place of Keene, 136A Arch St., Keene, N.H. 03431. In early August Janet was visited by Ellie Gray Gatenby and her mother, who strictly by chance ran into Ellie Jones Rogers and Pat Martin Maloney, who were on their way to visit Janet as well. They had a very nice visit and found that Janet’s smile and wonderful spirit were there, as always. She is working hard to restore some of her speech and motor skills. Her right side is basically paralyzed, but her mind is as sharp as ever. Mary Jo and Butch Maguire also visited Janet and, although they expect her improvement to be slow, Butch is optimistic of her great attitude. * Tom Brackin’s new titanium hip (guaranteed not to rust!) has him once more hiking and fast-walking—but no more running. * Mac Blanchard, our new class president, is already encouraging us to return for our 55th, and we join him in his enthusiasm! Once again we would like to thank Bill and Nancy Rollins Spence for all they did in putting our yearbook together—an outstanding job! — *Gay and Eleanor Ewing Vigue

**58**

I begin this column with somber news that Howie Clarke passed away in Melvin Village, N.H., February 17, 2007, after a long struggle with cancer, and George Denneen died in Windham, N.H., June 26. Heartfelt condolences to their wives, Ann Clarke and Wendy Denneen, and families. They leave big holes. We will be sure to take time to remember them when we meet for our 50th in June. * Jan Pratt Brown’s trip to Australia and New Zealand sounded very exciting! It included a stop in Hawaii, visits with family and friends in NZ, whales, penguins, and albatross, then several days in and around Sydney. Six grandchildren keep them bustling between Seattle, Rhode Island, and Virginia, as well as frequent trips to Block Island to keep up with Jan’s aging mom. Jan still does pottery and husband Dave is a great woodworker. They hope to join us at our 50th. * Dick and Cynthia Fox Dancer moved from Florida to New Hope, Pa., after nearly 30 years, to escape the heat and be nearer families. Cynthia retired following 29 years working in alcohol and drug treatment centers. Now she hopes to have more time for some of her favorite things like reading and making jam, pickles, and bread! * Ted and Sally Howes Hansen continue to enjoy living in Cambridge, Mass., with its cultural and volunteer activities. “We often see son Ted and granddaughters Holly, 15, and Robin, 9, who live in Brewster, Mass. We also have learned a lot more about the aging process from my mother-in-law, who died peacefully in June 2007 just three days short of her 103rd birthday. Each August we spend three weeks at Sebago Lake reconnecting with Maine friends.” * Bob Saltz said summer’s “saddest note was the loss of the first member of the ‘Tau Delt graduating class, George Denneen.’ Bob is still fighting prostate cancer with the help of the great Dana Farber medical facility in Boston. “Every time the disease learns to beat one mode of treatment, they come up with something new. So far they’re batting 1000 to 4 for 4.” Bob and wife Lynne most recently went to Alaska, where they actually mushed, and to Italy and Croatia. Their next trip will be Tahiti. They spend about eight months a year in winter digs in Scottsdale, but their “real” home is in Swampscott. Bob told his mother on her recent birthday that he never thought he’d have a 100-year-old mother, to which she replied, “I never thought I’d have a 71-year-old son.” She remembers playing at Colby near the train tracks and watching the logs drift by on the Kennebec. He reminded me that the Burgurs and Saltzes didn’t make our 45th as they were rear-ended in Camden. Thursday evening—be sure to stay away from all those road jockeys and get to Waterville safely in June! * Jane Gibbons is now clerk of Sweden, Maine, population almost 400. Seems like full circle in a way that many of us might envy. * Judy Brown Dickson’s 2006 travels took her to Cambridge, England, then Greece, then Portland, Ore., for the arrival of her first grandson. She adds, “How can it be the 50th for us? I don’t feel any older! I can remember when the first alumni magazine arrived and I saw those folks who were celebrating their 50th and beyond and they seemed so old! And here we are, and of course not old at all!” * My summer high in a summer of highs was a visit to son Dave and family in their new environs in Oregon, along with a week-long road trip to ride horses in the Black Hills National Forest with grandson Bobby! * Well, friends, I trust you all have June 2008 on your calendars and will get there by one means or another to participate in a great collective ‘58 hug!’ —Beryl Scott Glover

**59**

Marty and Ann Segrave Lieber are enjoying life on Cape Cod, where they moved in February 2006 after selling their home in New Jersey around Christmas. Marty is still singing her brains out and enjoying every minute of it. She sings with groups in Falmouth, Chatham, and Dennis, putting lots of miles on her car. In May the Colby Club of Cape Cod and the Islands had its first gathering at the Museum of Art in Dennis. Organizers with Ann and Marty were Karen (Beganny ’63) and Don Megathlin, Bev (Johnson ’60) and Keet Arnett, and Joyce and Charlie Foley. Professor Sandy Maisel regaled the group with Colby tales, and there was a lot of socializing. Attendees ranged from the Class of ‘45 to classes in the mid ’60s. There are more than 300 Colby alumni in the Cape area, and they are trying to reach out to alumni who spend summers or weekenders there. Anyone who would like information is free to e-mail Ann at ann.lieber@lamb.com. * Margaret Lippincott Brezel enjoys life in the small town of Kailua, Hawaii, (which Margaret calls paradise) on the east side of Oahu. She is just 20 minutes from Honolulu, where she and her husband, David, enjoy the symphony, opera, art museums, etc. For her 70th birthday David gave her a trip to Paris. He doesn’t enjoy traveling, so Margaret found a girlfriend who lives on the East Coast and they met in Paris and shared a week. In addition, Margaret’s 80-year-old cousin from Germany took the fast train over and together they enjoyed walks, museums, cafes, fabulous food, concerts in ancient churches, ballet, etc. * Carol Sandquist “Sanka” Banister writes: “Time has gone so fast. The 50th reunion is coming up before we know it. The longer the years go by the more fortunate I feel that I was able to be a part of Colby. I hope that you all are planning to attend in 2009, the Lord willing. Also hope that you are able to make a pledge now no matter the amount to Colby to ensure their continual excellence.” * In May Helen Moore and I had lunch with Barbara George Rose and Lee Farwell Hubbard at Fruitlands in Harvard, Mass. We had a wonderful time reminiscing about our Colby days and catching up on our lives since then. * I appreciate all the news you have sent me since our 45th reunion. I have had a wonderful response to my requests. As you read this it will only be about a year and a half to our 50th. Keep up the good work! * See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes.—Joanne K. Woods

**60**

Robert Haggett, like many of us, hit the 70-year milestone this year, and family and friends helped celebrate. His three children did a wonderful job putting together a “program,” some at his expense. He continues to substitute in southern Maine. Bob and his wife traveled with friends to Banff, Alberta, and Glacier National Park and he considers them perhaps the most beautiful venues they have visited in the U.S. and Canada. The Haggetts also visit family in Arizona each winter. * Steve Curley had an interesting get-together in July with Ed Marchetti, Jock Knowles, Pete Cavari ’61, and Bruce Kingdon ’62. They met for lunch at the Red Auerbach Basketball School at Bryant University in Smithfield R.I., where Steve and Peter worked. It was fun, with lots of stories and great memories. Jock also stopped in to see Betsy Perry Burke ’61, and she is doing very well, considering. * John and
Rebecca “Becky” Crane Rafferty got together with other Colby folks (mostly DKEs) in N.H. in September. * Judy Allen Ferretti has moved to a townhouse from a single-family home. She continues volunteer work with the Executive Service Corps and this September became chair of the Mount Ida College board of trustees. She is also a member of the board of Scholarship America. This fall Judy and her husband traveled to San Antonio and Albuquerque before attending a board meeting in San Francisco. Her new address is 27 Bartlett Way, Unit 1, Waltham, MA 02452-7861. * Eunice Spooner took a 24-day cruise in January and February from San Juan, Puerto Rico, to the Amazon River and Manaus, Brazil, then back. They stopped at 10 ports and had a great time, especially crossing the equator. It was a “cruise of a lifetime.” This summer Tony ’57 and Bev Jackson Glockler visited Eunice while attending his 50th reunion. The Glocklers returned in July with Larry and Janice Rideout Carr. * David Fowler has been retired 12 years after 34 years in secondary education. Alice Stebbins, his wife for 31 years, died in December 1991. David and Alice have three daughters, who have given him nine grandchildren. He is remarried, to Polly Brown, a professional social documentary photographer. They live north of Santa Fe, N.M., and have a cabin in Montana. He recently finished his first mystery novel, Cloud Swallower, set in the Southwest. Check out www.cloudswallower.com. He has also written poetry, which can be found at www.DavidFowlerSantaFe.com. Polly’s daughter lives in China, so they have visited twice, including trips to Bali and Vietnam. Their proximity to Mexico has encouraged extensive travel there, for vacations as well as language lessons. * Hilary and Richard Lucier were in France at the end of August. They rented a house in Burgundy and spent four days in Paris. The highlight was attending opening night of the opera in Paris. Dick and Jock Knowles played in two member-guest golf tournaments but did not distinguish themselves. * Last year Barbara and Ronald Weber went to London, Berlin, Warsaw, Crestowa, Krakow, Budapest, Bratislava, Prague, and Vienna. He reports that Berlin was great (especially Potsdam), Warsaw was like New York (tall office buildings), the Black Madonna in Crestowa was really worthwhile, Krakow was terrific, Budapest always beautiful (especially on the river), Vienna had fabulous concerts, and Prague is a must, but crowded. * See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes.—Jane Holden Huerta

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“The greatest thing in this world is not so much where we are but in what direction we are moving.”

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.

61 Carol Trigg Friedley, who lives in Sunriver, Ore., spent part of last summer in her motor home with two grandchildren retracing the Oregon Trail from the Idaho border to the “end of the trail” in Oregon City (south of Portland). This fall, along with the majority of our class, she and husband Dave celebrate their 50th high school reunion, the Friedleys at Wellesley High School. “I get to see Stu (Sandy) Arens as we share both alma maters.” Most of Carol’s trips include time in New England with family. Her dad is 92 and lives near Boston. Their two youngest grandchildren, born this year, brought the total to 11. Carol and Dave enjoyed a very interesting river cruise of Russia, visiting the mother country and several of the independent states. Last fall they spent a few weeks on the Costa del Sol, in Torremolinos. “Maybe the total immersion will help me to brush up on my two years of Spanish at Colby—one year Mexican Spanish and the other Castilian. * Henry (Hank) Sheldon, in Carol Stream, Ill., admits the summer of 2007 proved busy for his family. “Our youngest, Brian, graduated from Purdue University with honors and is now contemplating his future.” Hank’s oldest, Christelle, was married, and all were immersed in the “frenzied wedding preparation.” In September Hank sailed, along with wife, Elise, and a group of Colby fraternity brothers (Sigma Theta Psi/Alpha Delta Phi), on a Boston to Bermuda cruise. Then, in October, Elise and Hank traveled to Elise’s hometown in France, “where she celebrated birthday number 60 with a group of her childhood classmates.” Hank regularly sees Sue and Bob Hartman ’60 as they live only three or four miles away, Jo and Bill Wooldredge, and John Sheldon ’63. Hank traveled to Boston last winter/spring, where he stayed with Trish and Bud Johnson ’59. Hank attended a testimonial dinner honoring his former roommate and fraternity brother Elmer Bartels ’62. “There were numerous other brothers in attendance, and this was where the plans for the cruise were fomented with the aid of generous amounts of libation.” The second trip was a very sad occasion, Hank notes. “Elmer’s wife, Mary, passed away last year Barbara and Ronald Weber went to London, Berlin, Warsaw, Crestowa, Krakow, Budapest, Bratislava, Prague, and Vienna. He reports that Berlin was great (especially Potsdam), Warsaw was like New York (tall office buildings), the Black Madonna in Crestowa was really worthwhile, Krakow was terrific, Budapest always beautiful (especially on the river), Vienna had fabulous concerts, and Prague is a must, but crowded. * See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes.—Jane Holden Huerta

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funeral.” ✶ Bebe Clark Mutz says she’s still cataloging genealogy and local history books for the Daughters of the American Revolution but has taken some time off this year. In February she traveled—as for the past 15 years—for two weeks to Negril, Jamaica, to study yoga. In May and June she visited her Jamaican roommate at her home in Stratford-on-Avon. From England on to Barbaste and Lunas, France. “Lots of grape vines in France,” says Bebe of her first trip there. Back in England, she boarded a train to Lancaster to visit her son-in-law’s mom, who guided Bebe around the beautiful Lake District. Then, “In August, my son, Glenn, his wife, and their boys came down from West Chesterfield, N.H., to Bethany Beach, Del., where we have a summer home. Last year my kids gave me a kayak, which I love to use to check out the water birds and turtles. Don’t think I’d ever have gotten one had I not had so much fun birding on the Androscoggin with Carol (Chickie) Davidson Jack. I usually visit her in the fall when I’m up in New England visiting Glenn. I sometimes go to Tyngsboro to see Judy Dupras Stanford ’62 as well.” ✶ Go to www.colby.edu/alumni/directory and click on the “Keeping Up” link to find our class page link and a wealth of other information! ✶ Adventurers all, the Class of ’61! Please continue to share your stories. Hail, Colby, Hail! Aloha.

—Diane Scarfotn Caben Ferreira

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On June 8 the Class of ’62 arrived on Mayflower Hill, 60 classmates and spouses strong, to celebrate 45 years since graduation. Jimmy Johnson surprised us by introducing his bride of two weeks, Phyllis. As always, Jimmy and Patty Downs Berger led us in the parade of classes. Jim also fascinated us with a presentation of his two trips to Mount Kilimanjaro, the second one the more successful, as evidenced by a photo of Jimmy unfurling a Colby flag at the summit along with a banner that said, “I love you, Phyllis.” ✶ Nancy Rowe Adams, widowed just a few months, has moved to Boothbay, Maine, where she has a wonderful support group and a busy life. Nancy, Patty Downs Berger, and Mary Ballantyne Gentle formed a dynamic threesome, successfully finding the location of the dancing on Saturday night. Mary, perhaps even more beautiful than ever, spends part of her year on Martha’s Vineyard and the other part in the Bahamas. ✶ Jean Koulack-Young, also present at reunion, has a full life in Beverly, Mass. After 20 years in the corporate world, Jean returned to teaching, first at the Horace Mann School for the Deaf in Boston and then the Beverley School for the Deaf, now taking on the role of media coordinator. Jean says: “My daughter and grandson live in Oakland, Calif., and I count on making one trip out there every year. I’m hoping to visit Gary and Margaret (Peggy) Bones Miles there again.” ✶ Although not able to join us at reunion, Bob and Sandy Rollins Kilgore enjoy the “Florida lifestyle” in the winter but are always “glad to return in June to our Cape Cod summer home for a rest!” They also see their five grandchildren who live nearby. Sandy says: “I will definitely make a special effort to attend the BIG one in five years!” ✶ It was great to see Harry and Judy Hoagland Bristol all the way from Houston, Texas. Judy has been elected class president for the next five years and is enthusiastic about communicating with the class and getting a big group together for the 50th. ✶ Helen and Terry Corderoy were present, their youngest child just having graduated from Colby this spring. ✶ Dennis Connolly motored up from Princeton, N.J., in his snazzy convertible. Unfortunately, the Maine State Police also thought it was really cool and wanted a closer look. ✶ Margaret and Cy Theobald were in attendance. Cy recently retired from the Kent School in Connecticut. The school named its new football field for him in honor of his many years of service. Congratulations, Cy. ✶ Allan and Gail Smith Gerrish joined us from Boulder, Colo. They spend as much summertime as they can at beautiful Melvin Village on Lake Winnipesaukee in New Hampshire, where they see Gail’s sisters and families. They recently took a trip through Europe by rail, “hiking in Dorf Tyrol near Meran, Italy, and then visiting Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, and Bled, its premier lake and mountain resort town.” ✶ Ellie Tomlinson writes: “Five years ago you elected me president of our class. I was amazed! Thank you. On June 9th, it was an honor, as president, to stand at the podium during our class dinner.” Thank you, Ellie, for all you did. Ellie mentions the presence of John Joseph, friend to all of us during our Colby days. John still has the beautiful head of hair (now silver), a wonderful smile, and a sense of humor and a memory that’s better than most of ours. As John greeted us with such great fondness, John “Spud” McHale queried: “John, do I owe you any money?” We can’t thank John “Spud” enough for being with us. ✶ Boyd and Muff Symonds Leavitt also were present. For the past 20 years, Muff has been involved in school-to-career programs to encourage youth to get an education and find productive careers. She sees her experience at Colby as “the beginning of possibilities” for the rest of her life. Muff and Boyd began their trip to Maine from their home in Porterville, Calif., with a few days in Cape Elizabeth with Harry and Judy Hoagland Bristol and continued to Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park. Muff is too modest, by the way, to add that this year she was named “Woman of the Year” in her hometown. ✶ See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Nancy MacKenzie Keating

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Just a reminder! June 5-8, 2008, is our 45th reunion! Class president Karen Begnay Megathlin and her committee have worked hard organizing an eventful and fun weekend. Perhaps you have heard from a class caller or a friend. Karen and the committee met at her house in beautiful Cotuit, Mass., September 15. Planning was completed and volunteers given tasks, but not without some socializing and fun. Those who could stay enjoyed a mini-vacation and a wonderful September weekend on the Cape. ✶ Cindy Peters McAdoo writes, “Just a note to say hello after a ‘century’ and to share that my husband, Rod, and I visited with Paul and Mary Jo Cahill Schroeder in Seattle in May after a cruise to Alaska. It was great to catch up. Sadly, their daughter, Betsey, who has battled illness for years, died in August. It is a difficult time for them. I also reconnected with Pat Dunn Field and we have been chatting about future cruises. We relocated from Fairfax Station, Va., to Pinehurst, N.C., at the end of 2004—had a home built on Lake Pinehurst and are involved in all the social and cultural activities this charming resort town offers. We hope to make the reunion unless travel dates conflict!” ✶ Sarah and Michael Sylvester returned from Africa, having been in Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe. Mike recommends that “everyone should try to get there once in their life!” ✶ Thomas Thomas has sold his company, Thomas Travel Service, to Frosch Travel of Houston and has begun to enjoy semi-retirement. “There are so many things to do in the next chapter of life.” The Thomases went to Japan in April and France this summer. One exciting moment was riding a bike around the Place de l’Etoile in Paris at 7 a.m. on a Sunday morning when Thomas and his sister had it completely to themselves. ✶ The New England Real Estate Journal reported that Whit Bond opened his own commercial real estate office, Bond Real Estate Advisors, in Babson Park. Whit will continue to do consulting and brokerage. He has served as an officer of many professional organizations and has done much to support his alma mater, Noble and Greenough, as a trustee and past president of the graduates association. ✶ Lillian Waugh and her husband, Dr. Yvelton, enjoyed a couple of weeks in Somerville, Mass., visiting their daughter and new granddaughter, born January 2007. ✶ Bill and Barbara Haines Chase went to Switzerland in June and July with a group of local singers and enjoyed the
country side despite clouds and rain. In October they headed for a week in Honduras with a Rotary medical team. • Pauline Ryder Kezer reconnected with Laurice (Poochie) Puglia Haines in Hampton Beach, N.H. They hadn't seen each other for 42 years! • Joanna Buxton Gormley still helps out at Roxbury Latin and recently discovered that a good friend, Lois, who works out with her at the health club, is the wife of Dave Jacobson ‘62. • Ruth Pratley Madell got to her granddaughter Stephanie’s graduation from Colby in May. Ruth’s niece and Stephanie’s mother, Debbie Wanten Finn ’74, is an overseer. Ruth writes “For those who haven’t been on the campus since our last reunion, there have been lots of changes.” • Jane Melanson Dahmen says that there is a reunion cocktail party planned at Connie Miller Manter’s house in East Boothbay on the Thursday night before reunion. Do plan to come! • See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes.—Karen Forslund Falb

64 How I enjoy Alumni College! This was my fifth year. This year’s subject was “In the Shadow of the Great War.” George Shur was there for the first time and reports loving being a first-time grandfather. Mary Ellen and Wayne Fillback also were there. Wayne has retired after teaching high school history, lives in Andover, Mass., and is graced with four grandsons. • I was overjoyed this summer to get a call from a classmate we haven’t heard from in a long time. John Brassem has sold a large part of his jewelry business and is settling into retirement in Torrington, Conn. He is currently writing a book highlighting both Holland and Vietnam. John was born in Holland and has many stories to tell about relatives and friends during WWII and beyond. • Morgan McGinley retired this year as editorial page editor of The Day in New London, Conn., receiving much praise for a career begun in 1963 and concentrated on keeping elected officials honest and accountable. He is now president of the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information. • Richard Pious has written a book called The War on Terrorism and the Rule of Law and has been using the book as a springboard for lectures. His bio says: “Pious is a leading scholar of the presidency and one of the nation’s premier experts on the War Powers Act of 1973, has authored numerous books, and been a consultant to congressional committees and the White House Office of Policy Development.” • Retirement agrees with Jan Young Stinson, who spends “a lot of time on the road, some of it in Centre Square, Pa., with my husband, Glenn, and some of it at my place in Hilton Head Island, S.C., near my son Jason and his family. This is the first time that I am actually living near one of my sons and was able to be there when his youngest, Noah, was born in January. I visit my other son, Dave, and his family, who live over here. I do not find everyone resource manager for a software company ended about five years ago and Glenn retired after 32 years with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection a year or so later. We keep busy with an eBay consignment business, which we’ve been having fun with for nine years (ID: savannah3).” • Jim Harris was recently in Walla Walla, Wa., near the site of the Whitman massacre, which took place in the middle of the 19th century. • Susan Woodward writes, “I got my RV the end of May (27’ Winnebago Sightseer) and am starting to make travel plans. Maps all over the place and lists of things to take. It’s very exciting!” • In response to my request for book recommendations I received the following: “The last nonfiction book I read was 1213, which is the year of the Magna Carta. I have also discovered a mystery series by Michael Jecks set in the 14th century in Devonshire, England. A Northwest writer I’ve found irresistible is Clyde Ford. • “The most interesting book I have read recently is His Excellency, George Washington by Joseph J. Ellis. The book is well written and keeps you engaged on a topic that maybe everyone would not find exciting.” • In response to “Will future battlefields see great casualties such as WWI, WWII, and the Civil War?” I got these opinions: “Clearly, future battlefields will never again have armies massed against each other. Why should they? Technology has become so powerful that a massed enemy can be found and killed at great distances. Conversely, simple weapons like the rifle and RPGs can keep other armies at bay; look at Vietnam and Iraq.” • See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Sara Shaw Rhodes

65 Things change—follow your bliss. Our “most retired” classmate, Dave Hatch, “is coming out of retirement to teach Spanish at a small private school in Fort Meyers, Fla. I became a little tired of feeding the squirrels and blue jays in my back yard.” • Nancy (Mitchell ’64) and Norman Miner live in Hopkinton, N.H. Norm is retired from a career of production management (semiconductors to electro/pneumatic valves) plus 30-plus years with the U.S. Navy and N.H. Army National Guard. Nancy has been with Home Depot for 10-plus years, in the garden department, and will have retired by the time you read this. Pneumatic valves are not near as much fun as sailing. “Our attentions will focus on our 36’ cutter-rigged sloop we keep in South Freeport, Maine.” • Virgil Hervey has also changed focus. “At age 55, I traded the stress of a New York City law practice for the cultural island in a sea of cornfields and cow pastures that is Yellow Springs, Ohio. [Correspondent note: Miss Ford would not let us write this colorfully in freshman English.] Since moving here, I have held a number of part-time administrative positions while pursuing my true love, writing. In seven years I have written a number of short stories (some published), a novel (not published), and most recently a play. For the past year, I have been working as a reporter for the Yellow Springs News. While I never pictured myself as a journalist, I have settled in and find it rather rewarding.” • Sharp eyes would have spotted Fran Holmes Varney lunching with Steve and Judy Guitill Simmons in New Sharon, Maine, last May. • Dave Fearon is not ready for a change. “I’ll retire when I run out of ideas.” Dave and his son, Dave ’89, presented at a conference at Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif., on the topic “A son and a father talk about organization procreation.” • Dave did not explain “procreation” but it might have been covered by Dean Nickerson in his famous Given Auditorium freshman orientation talk.” • Ann and Bud Marvin are snowbirds and enjoyed the July family reunion in N.H. visiting their one-year-old grandson. When in Florida, they visit their granddaughter. Bud played golf in Concord, N.H., in August with Zete brothers Dick Dunnell ’66 and Dag Williamson ’66, Frank and Barbara McGillicuddy Bolton stayed with Ned and Lynn Urner Baxter in Gettysburg, Pa., while on a business trip last June. Lynn “was busy reading up on WWII in preparation for her week at Alumni College, which she attends every year with Sara Shaw Rhodes ’64.” The Boltons live in Brooklyn, N.Y., and have a summer home in Maine. Lynn occasionally spots her old
roommate Jean Ferguson Cole “in the supermarket between the frozen foods and the produce.” Barbara reports that Robert and Rhoda Goldstein Freeman visited the Colleges at their summer home “to officiate at Jean’s son’s wedding,” which took place on the College’s deck. • Sorry classmates, but Charlie Bonsall “has the very best grandkids—four girls. Every year we take at least one camping trip in the high mountains a couple of hundred miles from our home in Sandy, Utah. We sleep in a 45-year-old outfitter’s tent and cook in Dutch ovens. We love the incredible view of the clear night sky at 8,500 feet—Milky Way, shooting stars, etc. Coyotes are howling at night and we see lots of elk, deer, and moose. Lots of fishing—trout for breakfast.” • Sunny Coady discloses that on CSE:NY, the character Lindsay Munroe is played by Anna Belknap, daughter of David and Louise Melanson Belknap. Sunny and Louise touch base each year at a Super Bowl party attended by many Colby folks. • My 10th or so cousin George Hooker sent word of a change of address in Bangkok, Thailand, but no news. • Hail, Colby, Hail for now. —Dick Baukert

66 Dag Williamson went with Fran Finizio, Dick Dunnell, and Bud Marvin ’65 in 2007, visited Jon ’65 and Jane Peterson Moody ’68 and Karen (Sward ’68) and Eric Werner, and keeps in close touch with Peter Anderson. Dag plays tennis and played in eight New England singles tournaments in the past year. It must be in his genes—his 96-year-old father still plays doubles every week. A book recommendation from Dag: Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson. • Betty Ann Henberg Went has a visit from Ellie Caito Thompson last spring and looked forward to a September visit from Jay Fell. Betty was blessed with her first grandchild, Ethan Sherrick Went, on July 13, 2007. • The 40th Reunion Committee continues to meet, conducting no further business for now, but having a lot of fun partying! Brian Shacter was host for a gathering marked by large lobsters at his Cape Cod home last July. It was attended by Debbie Anglim Higgins, Barry Clark Hews, Fran Finizio, Stan Marchut, Mary Sue Hilton Wecks, Karrin Riendeau Remine, and some of their mates. The same group planned to take the Monhegan Island boat trip out of Boothby Harbor on September 15, a trip cancelled by inclement weather the day before our 40th reunion. • Sue Turner of Charleston, S.C., caught up with Ann Ladd Carlson and Diane Van Wyck after our 40th. Sue and Karl attended daughter Alissa’s graduation from Lawrence University in Wisconsin in June and also enjoyed visiting Deb and Geoff Quadland at their cabin on Georgian Bay in Canada. Sue and Karl continue to spend every July 4th with Linda Hall Lord and her husband in Brooks, Maine. Their love of kayaking continues, with summer paddling in the sea caves of the Apostle Islands of Lake Superior and among the Thousand Islands on the St. Lawrence Seaway. • Russ Monbleau fulfilled a 40-plus year fantasy by rowing a one-man scull when he heard of a one-day test demo of an Echo scull on Lake Winnipesaukee this past summer. After 45 minutes of instruction he set forth, fearing he resembled a highlands gorilla flailing away in a pool of quicksand. So much for fantasy. • Terry Saunders Lane retired last June as vice president at the Boston Foundation, where she was in charge of dispensing about $15 million a year to local nonprofits. She and her husband, Jon, decided to take time to see and do new things. They especially looked forward to exploring around their rented house on the island of Kea in Greece in September 2007. • It sounds as if David Benevy flunked retirement. When his client, Barnes & Noble, retired the last of the music listening systems he had developed, David retired, and he and his significant other, Laura, moved to the house they had built in Effort, Pa. Next he bought and renovated a dilapidated apartment building in Lansford, Pa., then bought and renovated a two-story home in Brooks, Maine. Their love of kayaking continues, with summer paddling in the sea caves of the Apostle Islands of Lake Superior and among the Thousand Islands on the St. Lawrence Seaway.

67 Seems like classmates are enjoying travels, preserving their sense of humor, and valuing their time with loved ones and friends. • Jim Katz did a house exchange in West Vancouver, B.C., and then visited San Francisco. He writes, “Both of those turned into steep uphill walks. I have a new mantra: Walking is good for me,’ spoken in a desperate gasping death-rattle croak.” • Tif Crowell climbed Camel’s Hump with Walter Judge ’82. They were on the annual Downs Rachlin and Martin hike, which included three lawyers (including Tif’s wife), two summer interns, one spouse (Tif), and two dogs! • Nick Hadgis is dean of the School of Hospitality Management at Widener University in Philadelphia. He and his Anna, enjoyed the 40th reunion but find it hard to believe 40 years have passed. He welcomes classmates coming to Philadelphia to visit. • Do you still have a Sandy Miller silk scarf? At reunion some folks mentioned that they still have her batik scarves from her Colby days. Who could imagine that Sandy’s been making them for 40 years and has made 721, not that she’s counting! Shortly after reunion, J.J. Mueller Sinton and Patty Whittemore Jenkins came into Sandy’s shop in Milton, Mass., and I.J. wanted to buy a scarf! Afterward, they went back to Sandy’s home for a nice visit. Sandy’s family has had a difficult summer as they watch her sister bravely losing her battle with lung cancer. Sandy looks back to her trip to Italy, and her time at Colby, with pleasure, holding her breath for what is surely to come. She reminds us that life is precious and that we should enjoy each moment while we can. • Our mailbag is pretty empty, so please drop a note or an e-mail so that we can include your news in future columns. If not, we’ll have to make stuff up about you, and Robert and I have very vivid imaginations! —Judy Gerrie Heine

68 Barbara Bixby writes: “I’m on the music faculty of the East End Arts Council, Long Island, and I’m a certified ‘historic site manager,’ and for many years have been the curator of the world-famous Big Duck, a registered national historic place” (a 30-foot-long by 20-foot-high concrete duck-shaped gift shop). Barbara lists among her favorite Colby memories being class secretary back in the ’80s and ’90s and playing old Sigma Kappa songs on the piano for nostalgia buffs. • Linda Levy Fagenholz says: “All is well here in Erie, Pa. I retired last year as a pediatrician after 30-plus years in practice with my husband, Allen. I have finally had time to pursue my artistic interests and have taken up classical ballet, which I dance four to five times a week. Going on pointe was a trial, but I have managed with no injuries, yet, but I must admit that I will go kicking and screaming into old age! Our eldest and youngest are in Boston. Peter is a surgical resident at MGH and Elizabeth is at Tufts. Andrew, our middle child, is a lawyer in N.Y. and got married to a wonderful woman we all adore, whom he met in law school.” Linda looked forward to her Colby friends coming to the wedding and having a Colby table with Charlie and Sue Volpe Hely, Donna Massey ’69, Faye Kolhonen Kurnick ’69 and Don Johnson, and Barry and Pat Andrea Zlotin! • Glenna White Crawforth writes: “My passion is traveling. I’ve lived in or visited nearly every country in Europe. I’ve also been to Australia and New Zealand, and more recently, China, Russia and Egypt. Just finished a train and drive trip to the Canadian Rockies. • Jane Finkeldey Stephenson writes: “We just had Jean (Peterson ’69) and Chris Balsley and Chris and Bob Goldstein ’67 here for a weekend and we all went to see the Smothers Brothers perform. They were as funny as ever, and boy, did watching them take us back 40 years. The Balsleys and the Goldsteins are all retired, and the Balsleys have recently moved to Welllington, Conn., to be near their daughter Elaine and her boys. Bill Goldfarb also stopped by for a quick visit this summer. I haven’t seen him for at least 10 years, so it was very good to catch up with him.” Gregg Crawford, Dana Heikes, and Donna Massey ’69 came up for the Columbus Day weekend. • Linda and Joseph McCormack served on a mission trip to Liberia, Costa Rica, in August. “I became proficient in making, carrying, and pouring concrete for a Methodist church there. My wife taped and floated sheetrock. About half of the mission team were physical therapists and they treated the handicapped children in Liberia. It was a very rewarding experience. Earlier this summer, my wife and daughter traveled to Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. Then my daughter continued her travels by visiting Spain, Italy, and Greece. She returned home in August.
just before we left for Costa Rica, and she left for Kellogg School of Business at Northwestern the day after we returned home. Kellogg starts its students off with a week in a foreign country as part of their team-building experience. Our daughter, Jocelyn, travels to Beijing, China. We should arrive in Evanston, Ill., the day she returns from Beijing." Joe Boulos and Steve Ford both request that I encourage everyone to attend our 40th reunion next spring. So ordered! *See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Peter Just

69 If you are cruising the Maine coast next summer, stop at the Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club and be greeted by Louise Cratty Holmes, first woman commodore in the club’s history. Last summer BHYC celebrated its boating presence on the Maine coast since 1895. Louise and husband Andy (past commodore of BHYC) live in Edgecomb and reacquired Gypsy Bear, a 38’6” powerboat previously owned by her father and one of the original ‘lobster yachts’ built by Chester Clements in 1938 in Southwest Harbor. Cruise in and say “ahoy and hello.” Moses Silverman spent a ski week this summer in Portillo, Chile, fulfilling a 45-year dream. This fall he saw his son off to law school and daughter off to do her junior year in Spain. His wife recently became general counsel of the Anti-Defamation League. Moses has practiced law for 34 years at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York City. Bill Antonucci has been operating his own insurance agency for nine years after 22 years working for others. He also has coached youth hockey for 25 years in Wolfeboro, N.H., and recently became president of the New Hampshire Amateur Hockey Association. His youngest son just turned 9 so Bill expects to have a few more years of coaching ahead of him. This fall he retired as a board member of the Kingswood Golf Club, where his son Zach was club champion last year. Bill’s son Thomas is marrying this November. Bill Burgess lives on Lake Erie in Euclid, Ohio, with his wife of 25 years, Charlene, and their English Setter, Connie. Bill also just entered his 25th year of operating Burgess & Burgess Strategists, a medium-sized consulting firm serving the public and private sectors. Clients include colleges, schools, government, business units, health and human services, elected officials, and political and tax campaigns. His future plans include spending more time in western North Carolina and Hilton Head. Joe May Gary Austin ended 15 years with a defense contractor as senior director for an engineering department. This follows his earlier Air Force retirement, in 1992. This summer he visited Colby during a two-week trip to Maine playing golf and eating lobster. Future plans include more time with his children and six grandchildren, lots of travel, golf and sailing, some volunteer work, and courses at the local community college. Susan Johnston Morse’s son Canaan recently graduated from Colby Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude, with a major in East Asian studies. He participated in two musicals and two European tours with the ColbyChorale, studied music with Paul Machlin, and classical Greek with Hanna Roisman. He spent the summer in China teaching at “The Laid Back English School” where he was arrested along with the rest of the staff in what turned out to be a bribery shakedown. He got his passport back, but was docked 10 days’ pay for failing to lie in support of his boss’s testimony. Susan’s husband still grows “whatever fruit the mercurial weather of central Maine will permit,” and she still works in Internet and customer services at L.L. Bean. Ines Ruelius Altemose took it easy this past summer, healing from back problems and doing some clinical research consulting. She had an opportunity to have dinner and attend a dance concert with Paul Wielan in New York City and says, “He doesn’t have e-mail so you will have to correspond with him by snail mail.” Bonnie Allen Rosenberg wrote to inform me that Debbie Rose has been awarded a post-doctorate fellowship at the National Institute of Aging. Debbie was a holistic practitioner in Cambridge, Mass., and in Rhode Island. Don Clark reports that he has completed his work with USAID and now lives in Bradford, N.H. * See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Ray Gerbi

70 Brenda Hess Jordan sang at the Kennedy Center in June as part of a national choral group conducted by John Leavitt. Ken and she live in “that wonderful city, Chicago.” Brenda works with school librarians in northern Illinois and Ken travels extensively in his work with Citgo Group. Recently they vacationed in Switzerland and Italy. Ken and Brenda have two little grandsons. They enjoyed visiting with Steve Cline recently when he was in Chicago on business. Brenda writes that Molly Carroll Mains has a new granddaughter. Mary Langevin Hepler has been an executive with an IT company headquartered in Michigan for the past 10 years and is currently doing a lot of work in the healthcare IT market. Mary spends as much time as possible with her husband, Fred, and riding/ showing her horse, Engaged (he has a perfectly shaped white diamond on his forehead). They recently competed in a three-week series of shows in Traverse City, Mich. Mary was the leading adult hunter rider for the series. Congratulations, Mary! Kathy Hill Wade sends greetings to her old friends and classmates. She loves the West! Kathy lives in Amarillo, teaches German at the high school and junior college levels, coordinates an exchange program with a German school, and is a grandmother. Recently her husband and she purchased property near Las Vegas, N.M. They enjoy their RV and their poodle. Son Tim is doing mission work in Chile, while son Jon and his wife have just moved back to Amarillo. Lin Fenn Stone Gallagher writes, “Colby friends are still the best!” Lin, Sarah Orton Glickman ’71, and Ann Arbor traveled together to Ecuador recently. Check out their photo on our class Web page. Brian J. Cooke has joined Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs at their West Palm Beach office. Brian, a shareholder and managing partner, is a stock and asset acquisitions attorney. Previously he was a senior partner at Arnstein & Lehr’s West Palm Beach office. Shea Clark Smith is overseeing the geochemical quality control and assurance programs for Rye Patch Gold’s Wileo Project, which includes two gold deposits northeast of Reno, Nev. Shea, who has 30 years of geochemical experience, owns and operates Minerals Exploration & Environmental Geochemistry, a laboratory, research, and consulting company. Barb Fitzgerald has accepted a coaching job in Park City, Utah, where she will teach skating both off-ice (a conditioning/ballet class) and on-ice at a new rink. Her husband will join her after they sell their home in Cleveland. Her family, spread all over the country, looks forward to Utah skiing! Barbara’s children’s book is nearing completion. Be sure to check out her Web site, www.BarbarAnn.com. Steve and I adore our beautiful granddaughter, Julia Helen Mansfield-Priest, born June 12. It is such fun hearing from all of you. If you have not appeared in the column recently, please send me an e-mail. We would love to hear what you have been up to. Yes, Colby friends are still the best. —Deb Fitton Mansfield

71 With a busy summer behind us, with the leaves turning already and the days getting shorter, I write with lots of news from classmates. Andrea Thompson Leeson writes of her busy life training and showing champion dressage horses at agricultural exhibitions. In addition to their “real jobs” as librarian and car auctioneer, she and her husband, Garry, manage their livestock; they log, cut, and sell firewood; they’re installing a windmill for supplemental power at their main house; they’re wiring their house for solar power and adding water. More powertyou! Claudia Caruso Rouhana is proud to share the news that she is being honored by the Landmark on Main Street in Port Washington, N.Y., for her 25 years of philanthropic endeavors and serving cultural, educational, and family-oriented nonprofit organizations. The Landmark is a historic building saved from destruction by the community that has since grown into a community center attracting world-class entertainment and more. Ruth Moore Barningham and Christa Mc Carter Kaufman left their husbands behind to ski while they went on an enjoyable cruise to various Mexican destinations last March. Jim Hawkins not only competed in and completed his 12th Ironman race, this summer in Lake Placid, he also got married at the finish line. Both Jim and Nancy Hertzberg Hawkins are avid Ironman competitors, but their nuptials marked the completion of their race. Nancy marked the beginning of her joyful married life together. Debbie Wentworth Lansing planned a return visit to Tuscany this fall, where she will continue to practice her Italian. Bill Simons had planned to spend last July in Israel doing research on Israel’s new professional baseball league. Ken Didsbury writes from Florida, where he is academic dean at the Benjamin School in North Palm Beach. He says he has come to like Florida. In his spare time he enjoys woodworking. Nancy Hammars Austin was offered a contract to teach math and science at the Hampshire Educational Collaborative, a locked juvenile detention facility for females. This is a new career for Nancy, a licensed teacher in Mass. Diane and Jon Ray are thrilled to announce
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the birth of their first grandchild, a girl born in July 2007. Jon is in his fourth year of teaching AP U.S. history and AP government at the Villages Charter High School in Lady Lake, Fla. • After retiring from public education in 1997, Charles B. Jones has built a successful private investigation company with notable overall success bringing pedophiles to justice. He enjoys traveling on his Harley and working on a couple of books. • In August, I had the opportunity to see Faith Tiberio Dougherty at her family’s annual reunion event in Sherborn, Mass. There were more than 80 people in attendance, four generations of family. Faith and I had a wonderful visit, which happens rarely since she lives in Ohio. • Keep those e-mails coming. I love to hear from you.

—Ann E. Miller

72 Our 35th reunion in June was fantastic! We had a good turnout with about 77 classmates returning to Mayflower Hill. I must say that we really showed the Class of 1992 how to dance—did we not? Our next big reunion will be our 40th and we will be over 60 by then. (How did that happen?) Let’s plan on making that a memorable reunion in June 2012. • Richard T. Fournier became the new pastor at the First Congregational Church of Buckland, Mass., in August. After Colby Richard attended Boston University School of Theology and earned a master’s of divinity degree. He was ordained in 1982. At the reunion dinner Richard spoke after a wonderful slideshow of our class from 35 years ago—we all looked great! He reminded us that we were the ones that were going to change the world. • I hope you think that the world is a better place now? He encouraged us to continue to promote change and not to become the complacent middle-aged people that we complained about in 1972. • Lynn and Larry Bigelow still own a restaurant in Canada so they were unable to attend this year’s reunion (the first one he has not attended!). Larry is still a banker, managing corporate relationships with Massachusetts nonprofits, while Lynn manages the restaurant. They are surviving and business has grown, but they are contemplating selling so that Lynn can return home and run her software business. “Any Colby alumni interested in becoming a restaurateur in North Bay, Ontario?” • Pat Mustakangas Sabir has been disability-retired for more than two years. She, however, working part-time at a company that does technical support for ISPs and other companies that provide software for business and individuals. She continues to play her horn and is in the North Winds Woodwind Quintet, the Clarkson University Orchestra, and the Crane School of Music Community Band. She also is involved in a program called SOAR, Stimulating Opportunities After Retirement, sponsored by SUNY- Potsdam. • Congratulations to Gary Petzold, who in May was selected by the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District to receive the Pioneer Valley (Western Massachusetts)Excellence in Teaching Award for 2007. • Cathie Joslyn pursued art projects in Peru during May and took a student on an art study tour. • Doug McMillan’s daughter Marley plays hockey for Dartmouth, and he had a terrific time visiting her this year. “Art and Jeanne Emerson Young, Clark Ruff, Dave Rea ’71, Todd Smith ’70, and Chip Edgerton all came to see some games,” Doug writes. Doug reports that Linda and Mitch Fox are happily living in San Francisco and have a small place in the Napa Valley for weekend getaways. Mitch works for Kaiser Permanente in the medical field and is doing extremely well. • Martha (Hamilton ’74) and Joe Benson are still selling and appraising real estate in Minnesota. • Linda and Dana Fitts sell furniture and are doing well in western Minneapolis. • Bob and Judy Moreland Spitz went to Italy in May to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary! She is in her 12th year teaching first grade at Solomon Schechter. • Paul McGurren lives in Lincolnville on the coast of Maine (33 years now) with his wife, Carol, and their two lovely daughters, Emma and Clara, ages 10 and 9. He works for an outdoors outfitter in Rockport, where he is a manager, buyer, fly fishing educator, and guide. “Any fly fishers out there who come through the area should look me up.” • Lastly, I would like to acknowledge all the work done by my predecessor, Janet Holm Gerber, who was our class counterpart, well, it seems like forever. Janet, you are a hard act to follow. • Looking forward to hearing from all of you.

—Nancy Roand Halley

74 Alli Baird spent a month in Tanzania and got to see elephants, leopards, water buffalo, giraffes, and other awesome critters and gorgeous birds. In the Ngororogoro Crater she got to see lions mating and rare black rhinoceros. Her two most memorable experiences were seeing an authentic traditional healer perform a magic ritual, complete with spirit possession, and seeing Jane Goodall’s chimpanzees. She also visited Zanzibar (Spice Island) before returning to work as a riparian buffer specialist for the Virginia Department of Conversation and Recreation, Division of Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance. • Remi Browne is now the lead manager of Munder Capital’s International Core Equity discipline and is based in Boston. Before joining Munder Capital, Remi was a senior vice president and portfolio manager for The Boston Company Asset Management, where he led an international equity team for 11 years. • Dennis Delehanty made a business trip to Moscow after a 30-year absence (he lived in Moscow for four months in 1977-1978 as a graduate student), and took his 17-year-old daughter, Carmen, with him. Dennis sent me a fascinating report detailing local customs, the culture, and the frustrations of dealing with Russia today. He ended the report by stating, “Moscow in the early 21st century is a city on the move, a crazy combination of the speed and energy of New York, the horizontal, ancient layout of a London, and an oriental style peculiar to Russia. It is a city that is just now finding its voice; a voice that I expect we will hear loud and strong before too long.” Dennis currently works at the State Department in Washington, D.C., in the Bureau of International Organization Affairs, where he is the principal officer responsible for policy related to international mail and express (private courier company) shipments. • Mike McNamara, by the time you read this, will have returned from a cruise to Bermuda with his wife of 25 years, Joyce. The trip was a present from their sons, John and Andrew. John graduated from Loyola College and is working as a financial analyst. Andrew is a sophomore at St. Joseph’s University, where he is a member of Lambda Chi Alpha. Mike says there is no ATO at St. Joe’s. • Gay Peterson is now the proud parent of TWO college graduates. Abby graduated from UMaine-Farmington with a degree in secondary education; Anders graduated from Colby with a major in physics and a minor in art. Gay continues to work at L.L. Bean as an occupational health nurse. • I have had an interesting year with a tour to England, Wales, and Scotland, the death of my mother-in-law, Norma, and a large construction project on my house, which resulted in my daughter having her own dressing room and my husband having updated work space. We plan trips to Aruba and North Carolina in 2008. • Please keep sending me your news. —S. Ann Eaton

75 Thanks to all who responded to the recent mailing: Janet Hansen and Bruce Drouin ’74 had just returned from a Cape Cod vacation and were planning to deliver their two oldest children to college. Son Chris is a junior at Worcester Polytechnic and daughter Sarah is a freshman at Claremont McKenna College (Calif.). Their son Jon began pre-season soccer as a high school freshman. Janet is a principal in a Portland (Maine) based architectural firm. • Charley Bolger reported that his daughter graduated from Middlebury this spring. He was looking forward to the Colby-Bates football game although he will be rooting for the wrong team since his son plays for Bates. • Roddy Jones has accepted a new position with the same firm, Canadian Steamship Lines, which means that he and his wife, Joanne, will be moving back to Montreal next year. • Marty Womer, besides keeping up with his VP and Alumni Council duties, founded a new law firm in Kennebunk, Maine, specializing in elder law and estate planning. • Linda Guite Hall-huard wrote that her oldest daughter is a freshman nursing major at Boston College. Linda is still kept busy on the booster clubs for her three-sport athlete daughter, working part-time with a 160-mile commute to Portland, and substitute teaching at Winslow High School. Her third child is a freshman at Colby. • Lisa Turtz Birnbaum wrote of her magnificent vacation to Greece with her daughter Rose. She especially describes the colors, landscapes, history, and beauty of Messinia and Santorini. Her daughter Zoe is a freshman at Colgate. • Laurie Fitts Loosigian is now full-time faculty at Exeter Academy as community service coordinator. She and her husband, Wayne, are participating in a farm transfer program to buy a small pick-your-own apple orchard in New Hampshire. • As Carol Majdalany Williams drove her son, Peter, to Colby for his freshman year, she was interested in how their mutual experiences would compare. • I was also on the road, taking my son David to Delaware for his second year at
Claudia Caruso Rouhana ’71 was the guest of honor November 3 at the Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street in Port Washington, New York. The event, the “Landmark Gala 2007 honoring Claudia Caruso Rouhana,” celebrated her 25 years of philanthropic endeavors and service to cultural, educational, and family-oriented nonprofit organizations. “She is an inspiration to all to continue the cycle of charity, good will, and improving society,” the program said. Anne Emerson ’72

Claudia Caruso Rouhana ’71

Was named director of Valley Ridge Student Center, an independent school in Vermont for female students in grades 3-12 who struggle with social, emotional, behavioral, and academic challenges. With experience in the educational, social service and legal communities in the Brattleboro area, Emerson will be responsible for overseeing and enhancing the school program. “I am a firm believer in quality academics for at-risk populations,” Emerson told the Brattleboro Reformer. Anne Emerson ’72
In June Karen Keithline Diop ’78 returned from Iraq and her work there with America’s Development Foundation, where she is vice president of the Iraq program. In an interview on National Public Radio, Diop recounted her final two months in Baghdad closing down the NGO due to lack of funding. “At some point, [Iraq] is going to fall apart,” she said, noting that the goal is to get people to be able to “cope with that point and help it move forward.”

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Lots of news, so let’s get started! Dale Marie Crooks Golden joined Alta Alliance Bank as vice president and private banker after 13 years at Wells Fargo. She serves businesses and high-net-worth individuals. Anne Emerson ’72
Christine and Tony Shupin live along the Jersey Shore in Sea Girt. Christine is an artist/grapher specializing in beach portraits. Tony heads up Allied Security Innovations, which provides security products and technologies internationally to ensure identity unattended asset protection. Tony’s sons are both attending George Washington University: Mickey working on his master’s in business, Eric pursuing law while raising funds for schools in Belize or traveling for Habitat for Humanity. Years ago, Jimmy Hayes was Tony’s best man; Tony stays in touch with Jimmy’s parents and family. David McKay Wilson returned to campus last year to work on his article about town-gown issues facing Waterville and Colby. The article appeared in Colby magazine’s spring 2007 issue, one of several college and university magazines for which David writes. He spent 20 years writing for The Journal News in White Plains, N.Y., covering education, politics, and government. Most recently he was working on an infomercial for a home design product and developing an online publishing venture. Carolyn (Anderson ’75) and Dana Pope recently built a house on Lake Winnipesaukee. Early guests included Talia and Peter Leschner and two kids. Peter is a real estate attorney in New York. Dana’s daughters Lindsay, Cecile, and Laurian are with Mt. Holyoke College, but Lindsay recently graduated. Dana’s business develops and owns apartment communities in New England and the Baltimore-Washington corridor. Dana raises funds for Dana Farber Cancer Center and spends time with “politically-correct” fox hunting—pursuing foxhounds that pursue fox scent (instead of actual foxes). Wendy Broadbooks Roberts’ daughter Lisa started college this fall as a music education major at Lebanon Valley College (Pa.). Her son Brian is now a high school sophomore. Wendy B reunited last spring in New York with Rocky Carvallo and Florence Van Volkum, Pomona exchange students at Colby our sophomore and junior years. Rocky is a software application consultant for IBM in Phoenix. Florence recently retired to Montana with her husband and two teenage children. * Another Wendy, Wendy Swallow, returned to full-time writing after 18 years of teaching journalism at American University. She and husband Charlie Shepard are temporarily relocating to Reno, Nev., while all four kids attend college, at University of Chicago, Bates, Yale, and Carleton. (Talk about a busy parents’ weekend)! Janet Breslin Gilmartin is home in Massachusetts after 13 years in Switzerland, London, and Hong Kong, and another 13 in Connecticut. They bought a waterfront home in Hull; Janet’s husband Rich commutes to Boston by boat. Older son Jason is attending Bryant University; younger son Kenton attends Portsmouth Abbey in Rhode Island. Alan Rosenfeld writes from Laconia, N.H., where he’s been a cardiologist for 22 years. His wife, Lisbeth Lawson Rosenfeld ’75, switched from law to education and now works as a librarian at the local elementary school. Son Michael graduated from Miami University (Ohio) and works in Colorado in property management. Daughter Joanne graduated last spring from Colby. Paul Kueffner planned to sail this past summer, visiting friends and relatives along the Maine coast. Paul had news about Brandon Kulik, who is involved with maple syrup production at Colby. Brandon sent photos of the three-foot striped bass he and his son caught in the Kennebec. Paul writes, “Apparently some of the fish ladders and spillways Brandon’s helped design are improving fish populations.” * Well, from foxes to fish, that wraps up this column. For those of you I missed, I’ll catch up next time.

Wesley College. My youngest son, Jonathan, is a freshman boarder at the Brooks School in North Andover. I would love to hear from some new people for the next edition! —Dianne Billington Stronach


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Block writes that her son Aaron is a sophomore at Colby and living in Foss, which was her dorm for four years. I won’t say, “If only the walls could talk.” *Alexandria Levintov Howell lives in Hanover, N.H., and continues in the field of HIV research at the V.A. Medical Center in White River Junction, Vt. She is also on the faculty of Dartmouth Medical School. In between shelling out small fortunes to support two college-aged sons (one recently graduated) and the insatiable appetite of her 11-year-old daughter for new hockey equipment, she finds time to run marathons. Her husband, Peter, is a schoolteacher in an independent K-8 school in Lyme. *Richard Conant also attended our 30th reunion. He had a great time and promises to attend our 35th. Dick and his family traveled to Europe this summer and visited London, the French countryside, and Paris. As I reported in the last column, Leslie Warren Van Berkum rocked the house at our reunion with her reunited Colby band Summer Dreams. She writes that her daughter Karina is in college and her son Ben is taking a year off from Syracuse to travel around the world. His travels have included a teaching gig in China. Jake, her third child, is a high school junior. Leslie’s business, Van Berkum Nursery, won the Best Family Business in N.H. award last year from the Small Business Association. (Did I mention my fake photo album award for writing this column?) Please keep the news coming! —Mark Lyons

Lisa Klein Boltz writes: “We spent much of the summer cheering sons Alden, 12, in baseball and Ian, 15, in lacrosse. When we finally got a real vacation we headed to Upper Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks, as we do each year, where we biked, hiked, and kayaked. The huge adjustment for this fall is that Ian has left for boarding school. He will be a sophomore at The Lawrenceville School.” *Karen Keithine Diop wrote in May that she has been spending quite a bit of time in Baghdad working on one of the programs to support civil society development and Iraqi organizations that are working on gender, anti-corruption, reconciliation, human rights, and independent media issues. “I provide U.S.-based support for this project and it took me a long time to reconcile myself and my family to the idea of a trip into Baghdad to provide on-site support. Once I got here, I was hooked. Our Iraqi staff and partners are incredibly dedicated people and our security company is highly competent, which makes me able to leave the worrying to them and trust to fate for the rest. My first trip was for a month, from mid-February to mid-March, and I’ve been here this time since mid-April.” *Larry Hill moved back to Greenwich, Conn., this fall to live with his 12-year-old son, Harry. He’s working for Star Analytics, a start-up software company, running their sales in the Eastern U.S. *Nick Levintov’s daughter, Sara, is attending Davidson College as a freshman this year. *Peter Schmidt-Fellner’s daughter, Ali, is in the freshman class at Colby this fall. Having found herself an empty-nester after her daughter, Sarah, left for her sophomore year at the University of Maine-Orono, Theanna Poulos Pateropoulos has moved cross country to San Francisco, where she is starting graduate school at the California Institute of Integral Studies. She’ll be working on her master’s in somatic psychology. I hope by now you have the dates of our 30th reunion marked on your calendars—June 6-8, 2008. It’s hard to believe it’s been five years since our 25th, which was a great time. We’re looking forward to seeing you in June! —Lea Jackson Morrissey

Paul and Kathy McCulloch Wade are still in Seattle, with daughters Callie and Betsy in high school and son Alec going into sixth grade. Kathy is the newly appointed director of marketing for Ramseyer Vineyards and Paul was recently promoted to full affiliate professor at the University of Washington and spends most of his time running a killer whale research project in the Aleutian Islands. Callie, 16, raced in junior national sailing regattas (420’s and multi-hulls) and went to the high school crew nationals in Cincinnati. Betsy, 14, was captain of her select soccer team.康熙 Caine Babbitt’s daughter, Emily, sailed in the women’s college nationals this past spring and will be co-captain of the women’s sailing team at Georgetown. Karen’s son, Ike, started his freshman year at Hobart and William Smith. Karen is starting a certification program to qualify her for principalship while still continuing to teach fourth grade. She saw Jean Minkel, Allison Ernstien, Jacobsen, Hillary Morton Shontz, and Cornelia Ambrecht Brefka in NYC this past winter. *Sue Horwitz Kerr’s oldest son, John, is on the Colby in Dijon program this fall and making his way to campus in January. Trisha and Elliott Pratt were slowly coming to grips with the fact that daughter Katie would be leaving the nest and starting her freshman year at Gettysburg College. Over the Fourth of July, Warren Pratt brought his 10- and 6-year-old daughters for their first holiday Down East. They saw the John Carpenter clan and Jay Moody in Portland and, on their mandatory stop in Freeport, stepped out of Bean’s and ran into Ted Tinson, passing through on his way to Owl’s Head. Pete and Lynne Seeley Lee are still in Yarmouth, Maine. Son Spencer is a senior looking at colleges and son Travis is going into sixth grade. Pete is still practicing law, doing triathlons (Alcatraz in June), and trying to be a writer (with great success—he’s fifth story was published this spring!). *Carol Sly writes that “even after seven years in Virginia, New England still feels like home.” She keeps busy teaching her sons John, 11, and Neal, 8, how to water-ski on their small lake outside Winchester, Va. Jane Hartzell ’81 and her family visited Carol this spring. This summer, Carol rode in her 19th Pan-Mass Challenge (Boston to P-town and back) to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and saw lots of friends, including Jan Barker McFarland ’79 and her son. Also on the Cape this summer, Lynn Collins Francis ran into Andy Miller, who was living in Truro while completing an eight-year project to build the town’s municipal water system. Andy and family (daughters Delaney, 8, and Savannah, 9) live in Jacksonville, Fla., where Andy is an independent hydrogeologist whose work takes him all over the country. While on the Cape, Lynn also ran into Deb Clark Nelson, Diana Herrmann, and Leslie Mitchell. Congratulations to Jen and Steve Kirstein, who welcomed Eli Harvey Kirstein to the world in March. Eli’s middle name is in honor of Steve’s late father, Harvey Kirstein ’51. Congratulations also to Liz Martin, who married Paul Rinehart this past May. Liz and Paul live in Kinderhook, N.Y. Paul runs a busy bicycle shop in Williamstown, Mass., and Liz works as a historic preservation architect in Albany. During the past five years, she’s worked on Newport mansions in R.I. and on projects in Nashville, Tenn. Her boys, Byron and Avery, are entering their teens, and Liz recalls “Robin Gathany Shea standing in front of Johnson during one of our reunions telling me about her...
kids, who thought she was the mostidiculous person on the planet during
their teens. I don’t feel so alone when
I remember that!” • *It’s been great
to hear from so many classmates
recently. Thanks for all your news. I
hope everyone will continue to keep
in touch. —Tom Marllt

81 Peter Coccardi proudly reports that son Matthew, heavily
recruited by Bates for football, will be
a freshman there in the fall. • *Victor
and Ginny Bulford Vesnaver’s eldest
child, Victor Jr. (“’97”), is a Colby
freshman. Two younger daughters
follow close behind, hopefully
continuing on Mayflower Hill as
well! • When John Clevenger’s
family vacationed in Tuscany last
summer, they rented a villa outside
Lucca, which he recommends for
anyone wanting to “go native” and
really experience a foreign country.
John’s only problem is integrating
his new Italian habits into rural
Connecticut life, in particular,
two-hour lunches followed by two-
hour naps! • Fifteen members of
Faith Bramhall Rodenkirk’s extended
family visited Kauai, Hawaii, to
celebrate her parents’
still beautiful though. Visiting Colby
at Bean’s along the way. Says Jonathan:
“I remember that!”

82 Here’s my first column as your
new class correspondent. I want to
thank Janice McKeown for her
training and advice. In the past year
I have realized how important it is
to stay connected with Colby and with
all of our classmates. I look forward
to serving in this role and hope I can
do as good a job as my predecessors
have! • *Abby Smith wrote from
New Zealand this summer. She says
it’s winter there! It’s chilly and cold
in the Southern Hemisphere, where
her family lives on a steep hill above
the city of Dunedin. She has two sons,
Ned, 12, and David, 8, who both play
basketball and cricket. She and her
husband are both faculty members
at the University of Otago—he’s a
zoologist and Abby teaches marine
science. Currently she serves as
president of the New Zealand Marine
Sciences Society—less of an honor
than it sounds, she says. She is also
now a fully qualified cricket coach.
Sometimes she finds Colby students
on their junior year abroad in her class,
and that’s always a treat. • *Carolyn
Berry Copp has stepped down as
executive director of the Boston
Classical Orchestra and in the fall
will focus her career on fund raising.
She became a certified fund-raising
executive this spring and hopes to
reconnect with her good friend
Chris Schmidt in a serendipitous
manner. While at her daughter
Molly’s high school graduation, Liz
fell into conversation with Molly’s
friend’s mom and grandmother and
talk turned to college choices. Liz
admitted that she saw Molly as
something of a traitor by going to
Bowdoin. The grandmother chimed
in that she had a son and a son-in-
law who graduated from Colby.
Liz nearly fell off her chair when
she heard that Chris Schmidt was
her son-in-law! Chris and Liz have
e-mailed, exchanged family pictures,
and hope to catch up in person. Chris
is busy with his wife and daughters
in the Boston suburbs. Liz lives in
the Philly area with hubby Neal
Cousins ’84, Molly, and son Tate,
a high school sophomore. Neal is
the director of college counseling
at the Haverford School and Liz is
the library director at the Shipley
School in Bryn Mawr. • *Becky Crook
Rogers laments that she still really
doesn’t get summer vacations. She’s
the camp and childcare registrar for
the North YMCA of central Ohio.
They served more than 700 kids last
summer in camps. Becky was in
the process of setting up another 700
for the school year. Becky and husband
Jesse’s oldest son, Jamie, is a junior,
so they are thinking about colleges.
Their younger son Michael is a high
school freshman. • *Lisa Murray
MacLean still works in what she
says is her perfect field as a guidance
counselor and adjustment counselor
in Maynard, Mass. Lisa loves the
kids and has been working more with
special-needs students. Son Andrew
is attending University of Tampa.
Daughter Amanda is a high school
junior. Lisa sees Paul Revere and
his family on the Cape in summer.
Last year Lisa and Katrina Jannen
Donnelly drove to Scituate to attend
Karlin Foster Palmer’s dad’s wake.
Lisa was hoping to see Kevin and
Karen Nickerson Purcell, who also
live on the Cape. Lisa and her husband,
Norman, have property on the Cape
as well as in Jackson, N.H. Caitlin
Rumrill ’08 and Becky Thorburn
’09 are a couple of Lisa’s students
who now attend Colby and love it.
Lisa says it’s great to share the Colby
experience with a student. *Ann Noelle Ponclete* has been promoted to full professor of neurology at UCSF and has an endowed chair in education. She is also co-directing an innovative integrated third-year clerkship for medical students where they follow their own patients for a year. Ann’s daughter, Chantal, is in fifth grade and competes in level five gymnastics. Ann saw *Steve Albert* and *Eric Dechheimer* during an annual pilgrimage for spring training in Scottsdale. Steve still lives in Zuni, N.M., and is doing environmental consulting. Eric moved to Austin and is a projects reporter for the *Austin American-Statesman*. Ann also visits the parents of *Keren Holtz* in Falmouth every summer to celebrate her memory. *Jennifer Thayer Naylor*’s children, Duncan and Persephone, “Persie,” are attending a Waldorf School that offers the kids an excellent and wide variety of language instruction, arts, and music. The family is a two-cello one, so there are sedan–driving challenges. Last year Jennifer co-founded a company with a couple of tech heads. She said: “Wow—new technology, no money, small chance of success? So when do we start?” Her company develops new image-rendering systems for broadcast sports. Jen’s been happy working and has gotten good at the NY to SF run. She’s been in touch with some former Colby friends through LinkedIn.com *Emily Batchelder*’s daughter Alexandra is a sophomore at Union College and is having a great time. One of her good friends is Mike Daley, son of Joe Daley, who was at Colby with us. Em says, “Seeing how happy Alexandra is and her interest in everything from sports to her economics classes makes me realize what a special time those college years are.” *After 20 years in the same house, Mair Sirakides Hill and her family moved just six blocks down the street. Mair’s business is going really well. She works part-time from home around her three boys and is happy about being able to travel and enjoy life because of her hard work.* *Rick Manley,* after 19 years at Ropes & Gray LLP in Boston, he has joined the law firm of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP as a partner in the public finance department. *Chip and Martha Driscoll*’s son Peter went to the prom with Erin Hatton, the lovely daughter of Deb (Scanlon ’84) and Craig Hatton. Chip works as the head of commercial banking in Maine for KeyBank while Martha works part-time as an editor for *Running Times* magazine. Their other two boys are 15 and 11. The Kelleys stay constantly busy with soccer, hockey, and even some golf. Martha sees Sarah Russell MacColl ’79 as part of a co-ed running group. *See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes.* —Sally Lovegren Merchant

85 Thank you to everyone who responded to my request for information on how you spent your summer. *Shireen Shahawy* sent daughter Ally Stinneford off to her first year of college. Ally decided to start school close to home, so Shireen is dodging the empty-nest syndrome for now. Shireen has been busy voicing the TV and radio commercial campaign addressing the negative impact of cigarette marketing on young people (sponsored by Healthy Maine Partnerships). Commercial voiceover work and marketing communications consulting keeps Shireen busy, but she is realizing there may be new frontiers with her daughter starting college. *Laura Kozloski Hart* lives in Wellington, Fla. (Palm Beach County), with her husband, Jay, and their 14-month-old daughter, Caroline, who is the love of their lives. Laura is in her fifth year as an associate professor of international business at Lynn University in Boca Raton. She also has a consulting firm assisting multinational companies and government agencies with strategic planning. Laura keeps in touch with Sheryl Larson Mortensen, Cindy Smith Wing, and Kim Glendon Getschow. *Marc Murray* waited 22 years to answer the request for information, but he finally did! Well done, Marc! Marc’s silence is not because he didn’t appreciate Colby; in fact, he thinks back fondly on his time at the College. Marc celebrated his 15th wedding anniversary with his wife, Laura Grooms, whom he met 17 years ago in NYC. Laura is a fashion-fit model, fiction writer, and, currently, an at-home mom to their 16-month-old adopted daughter, Olivia Louise. Marc manages investment portfolios for Morgan Stanley in NYC. He and his family split their time between NYC and South Carolina. Summer was about playing games with Olivia, taking trips to SF and LA, and celebrating with family at the Jersey Shore. *Mary Alice Weller-Mayan* graciously filled me in on her family life. Her son, Alex, just graduated from St. Thomas More Prep in Magnolia, Del. A terrific baseball player, Alex was invited to play in the Blue-Gold baseball game with other top baseball players in the state. Alex is attending Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, where he plans on playing baseball and studying neuroscience. Her daughter, Natalie, a dancer, will be entering high school this year. Mary Alice keeps busy working for the Department of Justice for the State of Delaware in the victim services unit. *Elisa Maxwell Tetreault* relocated just outside of Charlotte, N.C., in June with her family. Luke, 11, is an avid hockey player and golfer; Hailey, 9, has just discovered horseback riding; and Hannah, 7, is happiest playing dress up. Elisa is a local representative for a promotional marketing company called *Legos Your Way*, and her husband, Todd, is helping reopen a Corning, Inc., plant that had been mothballed a few years ago. *Marion and Mark Howard* and children Jack and Millie had a great summer setting deeper roots in Maine when they moved to a new summer home in East Boothbay. The Howards christened the cottage with Dave Resnicoff and family over Memorial Day weekend and ran into Keith Turley and his family near their home in Five Islands. *Mike Muir* also wrote from Maine, where, for the last seven years, he’s been director of the Maine Center for Meaningful Engaged Learning (McMEL) at the University of Maine-Farmington. He works with schools on motivating students and integrating technology. This year an organization that designs schools to motivate students has contracted with UMF for McMEL’s time to work on the educational program for their schools. Mike’s first operational school is for hard-to-teach students in Buffalo, NY. He and his team have spent the year preparing for their second year of implementation. He’s even working on a supplementary teacher certification program to recognize teachers for the specialized skills they need to teach in this environment. Information about the project is available at http://schoolsweened.wikispaces.com/. *Have a great winter, and thanks for keeping us updated!* —Gretchen Bean Bergill

86 Ricardo Sieveking notes, “All’s ok here in Guatemala.” He still part of a company that exports vegetables, coffee, macadamia, etc., and also has a Land Rover dealership. Ricardo adds, “My three boys are now 15, 13, and 9, and all are great soccer players.” He’s hoping for news of Dan Hurley and Tina Babarovic. *At most medical schools, ski night is a classic event where medical students poke fun at themselves, their professors, and the profession.* When Brent Harris was asked to play a role in this year’s Dartmouth Medical School ski night with a second-year medical student named Vasilena Zheleva ’05, he readily agreed. The skit was a spoof of *Gray’s Anatomy*, with Brent as Dr. McCreany opposite Vasilena in “Vasi’s Anatomy.” It was all in good fun and supported one of the local free clinics. “I especially enjoyed getting Vasi to blush during the filming. She’s one of my favorite students,” remembers Brent. *More potential Colby legacies? Becca (Sears’ ’87) and Charlie Cleary see Esther, 14, start high school and Thomas, 12, enter seventh grade this year.* Kevin and *Joyce Sutton Anderson* just celebrated 21 years of marriage. Joyce has been teaching French in Winchester, Mass., for more than 18 years and recently presented at the AP national conference in Las Vegas. Joyce notes they’ll soon “be visiting Colby with our son, James, 14, and our daughter, Lindsay, who will be a junior in high school.” Joyce had a mini-reunion with *Kara Schwartz, Steven* and *Karen Jo Giammusso Shapiro* in Cambridge this summer. Kara teaches in the Boston area, Steve is a physics professor, and Karen Jo has just had her second children’s book published. *Carolyn Rhodes might want to check in with Karen Jo, as Carolyn has written children’s stories and is looking for a publisher.* When not writing, Carolyn is an information architect and Web strategist for Vanguard Group outside Philadelphia. She moved to the area 12 years ago with her husband, Geoff Schad, who was working on his doctorate in history at the University of Pennsylvania. His research took them on many wondrous trips to France and the Middle East. Carolyn also had a mini-reunion with *Kara Schwartz* this year, along with *Robin Warren and Sonja Muchmann*, in Wareham, Mass. Carolyn visited with Jennifer Creamer and her husband, Randy Fink, in Bethlehem, Pa., recently. Carolyn’s two-year-old, Juliette, had a great time splashing around the pool with Jennifer’s girls, Zoe, 10, and Daphne, 6. After Colby, Jennifer taught English in Japan, worked as an archaeologist in Hawaii, Guam, and the U.S. West, and completed her doctorate in cultural anthropology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Jennifer is the director of international studies at Moravian College. *Jeanne Choquette*
Dawn Sweeney '81 was named president of The National Restaurant Association, according to The Washington Post. Her appointment marks the first time in its 88-year history a woman has headed the association’s 50,000-member group. Not affiliated with a political party, Sweeney offered hope of converting the association from a “Republican bastion” into something more impartial. ✶ Keith Wilson ’84 was named president and chief scientific officer of Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited, a U.S.-based drug discovery company in San Diego. Wilson brings “a wealth of scientific excellence” to Takeda, said Shigenori Ohkawa, general manager of the pharmaceutical research division. With formal training in protein X-ray crystallography, Wilson has contributed to more than 30 peer-reviewed publications and is co-inventor on six issued U.S. patents covering multiple drug candidates. ✶ Life sciences venture firm Third Rock Ventures, L.L.C. has launched its first fund, and partner Kevin Starr ’85 is excited to “help entrepreneurs launch innovative companies.” Third Rock invests in companies that make a difference in people’s lives. According to Starr, Third Rock “has a strong track record for integrating scientific ideas with business strategy” that will help companies in the early stages of formation develop products that create medical breakthroughs.

Kevin Starr ’85

Radvany had a fabulous summer with husband Dave and kids Rachel, 8, and Andy, 6. They enjoyed beach time in R.I. with Jeanne’s family, an annual outing to Mohonk Mountain House in New Paltz, N.Y., and a week at Sugarloaf. When not vacationing, Jeanne volunteers, most recently as head of fund raising for a local education foundation. Dave continues to work for Accenture in the insurance sector. ✶ Two issues ago, Colby incorrectly reported the name of Cary Hills’ wife. Cary is married to Jennifer Jackson and they now have two daughters, Clara, 2, and Esther, 1. Apologies for the error. ✶ Lizzie and Kevin Mead, son Michael, 5, and daughter Alexandra, 3, live in New York City. Kevin loves seeing all the alumni birth listings, as he is the SVP of Stores at The Children’s Place. Kevin sees Chipper Burch whenever he drops into the city and also had a great call with John Fitzpatrick, who was actually wearing a herringbone suit and raising a pint from Scotland, where he and his wife, Kate (Appleton ’89), now live with their girls after John graduated from business school. John looked forward to the annual fall Coburn reunion, when Andy Peor, Jeff King, and Nick Silitch ’83 spend the evening telling tall tales. ✶ Lee Scammon Kubish is the IR director for a regional accounting firm in New England. She and hubby Tom have been together 18 years and have two kids, Hayden, 8, and Nicole, 11, a cat named Columbus the Explorer Cat, and a new second home in Maine on a lake. Lee also teaches Ashtanga yoga. ✶ See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Henrietta “Hank” Yelle

87

I can’t start the news any better than this: in February 2006 Kathleen Lowney celebrated 20 years of being cancer-free! Says Kath, “In April I became director of administration and operations for continuing education at Tufts Medical School, then we moved from Cambridge to Newton. Several weeks later we had our second child, Maggie, who is crazy about her big brother, Liam. My husband, Peter, is renovating the century-old Victorian we bought with my mom. Family and friends have been involved all along the way—it reminds me how many dear people we have in our lives.” She caught up with Louisa Bell Paushter, Nancy Simarano Carey, Birgit Uhling Caliandro, Elaine Segal Snyder, and Carol Hani and her husband for an impromptu local reunion dinner in Concord. She adds that Susan Lawrence-Smith, husband Jon, and three girls are on sabbatical in Scotland. ✶ Could there be even more news? Goodness me, yes. ✶ Noriko Miyakoda Hall was inducted into YWCA Boston’s prestigious Academy of Women Achievers, Class of 2007. The gala took place at the Sheraton Boston Hotel June 13. Congratulations, Noriko! ✶ Beth Gifroy had her second child, Emma Kathryn Dawson, on May 27, 12:24 a.m., hence her absence from reunion. Big sister Kimberly, 4, is “very proud.” (As she was quoted saying in the New York Times.) ✶ Jane Nicol Manuel stayed with John and Kathi Harnett Linger in Chapel Hill this summer en route to dropping their son at camp in West Virginia. After reunion she spent quality baby time with Rick and Joy Pratt Schifffman’s twins, who were born March 31. “Rex and Libby are cute as can be and Joy seems to have slipped into motherhood seamlessly. While in Manchester, Mass., I ran into Pam Blanchard Harrington. Her clan, including husband Tony and kids Jack, and Kate, seemed great.” ✶ Irene Izquierdo Patterson couldn’t go to reunion because it was the weekend her daughter, Anna, graduated from Harvard. Her son will be in third grade at St. Andrew School, where she, too, will be going, as the first-grade teacher! Her husband, Tom, is a TV engineer for CBS, in that big building in Hollywood where Bob Barker did Price is Right. She keeps in touch with Jill Paradis and Steve Sanborn. ✶ Larry and Beth Harrison Cutcliffe, along with their daughters Jessica, 14, and Jennifer, 12, spent the summer aboard their 46-foot Grand Banks trawler, cruising the coasts of N.H. and Maine. Some of their favorite spots were Frenchman’s Bay, Blue Hill, and Castine. They moved back to their home in Bedford, N.H., in time for school. ✶ Elizabeth Warren Bogo saw Mitch and Jeanne Morrison Cook when they made their annual trek to Michigan. She came east to pick up her daughter from an Outward Bound trip and spent a night with the popular Joy Pratt Schifffman in Newport. (Joy might set a record for mentions this issue.) Otherwise, Elizabeth’s keepin

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Deborah Gassner ’87 graduated from Colby with a degree in art history. Not drawn to the major’s more traditional career opportunities in museum work or art writing, Gassner relocated to Los Angeles and enrolled in CalArts for a degree in graphic design. “While Colby taught me to question, write, and express standards and settings in an analytical way, my studies in art school enabled me to shift this method of thinking to a more creative expression in design,” Gassner said.

After completing her B.F.A., Gassner migrated to New York City and then Milan, Italy, where she worked in design firms. “I specialized in print collateral, corporate identity, and advertising. It was just as much learning for me as creating. Creative design is very liberating in that sense,” said Gassner, relaxing outside a Seattle café.

When she relocated to Seattle in the mid-1990s, Gassner worked as a designer in several firms—retail, financial, and high-tech companies, including Microsoft. “Designing for a massive corporation required a different approach than a smaller company, because typically the brand [for the large corporation] is very strong,” Gassner said.

Gassner now prefers the freedom—both creative and personal—afforded by freelance work for developing companies. “More often these days, I am inspired by working with new companies who are just beginning to identify who they are or what they want to be,” she said.

While collaborating with a local clothing store, for example, she studied the company’s audience, mission, and competition. Gassner then created several design directions in which the company could begin to define itself as a business. This included a logo, a color palette, and some promotional materials associated with the brand’s character. “The client really responded to one of the options, and we moved on from there. Design is essentially problem solving, a task that draws from both my B.F.A. and my Colby degree,” Gassner said.

“What I love about design is the challenge of solving a problem in a creative way. Each project for me is a fresh start where I have the opportunity to explore and learn about a business in order to help them grow.”

Gassner described wandering down an aisle of products in a grocery market and recognizing her packaging design for a Seattle chocolate company, a product on which she worked a few years back. “My job is to create the face of the product. So, to then watch a company grow, in part because of my relations with them, is very rewarding.”

Still, new challenges always await.

“My test now is to find a good balance between kids and work,” Gassner said, smiling as she cradled her coffee cup. Despite this negotiation of time, she is glad to have some flexibility and to be free to plan her own day. Also, with both of her daughters still under 5 and her husband, Joe Park, pursuing his own creative ambitions as an artist, this artistically oriented family is free to travel and find inspiration abroad.

“We are looking into visiting relatives in Seoul, South Korea, for an extended period of time in the near future. Both my husband and I can use new environments as creative inspiration for our work.”

—Robin Respaut ’07
and their four daughters moved from Conn. to London at the end of the summer. If you're in London, look her up!  Michael and Courtney Ingraffia Barton and their daughter, Josie, spent July 4th in Vermont with Bebe (Clark ’90) and Bill Bullock and their family and Seth Brooks and his wife, Kelly Kieffer. Courtney also recently had dinner with Stacey Mitchell, who was recently married and was just named chief of the environmental crimes section of the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.  Bill “Manute” Carr and his wife, Lynn, live in Seattle, where Bill regularly sees Kirk Koenigshauer, Kate Roosevelt, and Jeff Ballaine ’88. He recently had lunch with Lisa Beliveau. Bill and Lynn have a two-year-old son, Evan, and another baby due in fall 2007.  Scott Jablonski celebrated his 40th with a keg party at his new com. It’s called Parent P-L-A-Y, and you can find it online at www.parentplay.com. It’s called Parent P-L-A-Y, and you can find it online at www.parentplay.com. In August Ingrid Barton, her husband Mark, and two kids moved from Conn. to Needham, Mass.  Brian Kaplan and his wife attended the wedding of Stephanie Goff ’94 in Maine last fall and got to see many Colby people. She keeps in touch with Krista Lundborg Dirico and with Sarah Poriss, who is an attorney in Hartford, Conn.  Paul and Katie Bredbeck Thurst have two beautiful kids, Eliza and William. They moved from NYC to the Catskills in 2005. She missed reunion but, during a vacation south, saw Colbyites including Katie Thompson-McKenna ’95. She visited Roger Schuman in Baltimore during that trip.  Rob and Lisa McMahon-Myrhan and kids Charlie, 6, and Alice, 4, have moved back to the Seattle area. She is happy to be home, but misses life in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and being close to Colby friends on the East Coast.  Jim Condron lives in Baltimore as an artist and teaches as an adjunct at Towson University. He has two art shows this fall, one at Red Door Gallery in Richmond, Va., and another at the American Center for Physics in College Park, Md. Two museums have just acquired his paintings, The Long Beach Museum of Art in California and The West Valley Museum of Art in Arizona. He sees Doug Oppenheimer often, who is doing well teaching.  Brooke Coleman (your new class president!) is the director of Upward Bound at North Shore Community College in Lynn, Mass.  “Talk to you all again in three months!” — Karen Wu

91 Susan Cummings Wiseman reports a hectic year. She had her fourth child, a girl, a year ago. She and her husband now have one boy and three girls. Colleen Halleck Taylor, who lives in Virginia, recently visited. The house was busy with six kids under eight. Colleen is training for a marathon and hopes to qualify for Boston.  * Good news from Del Lloyd, who recently got engaged to Lee Wegener, whom she met while they were both working for Wells Fargo. The ceremony will be in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, in March 2008.  * The Westfield Evening News ran an article on Charles Leach III, who became vice president and senior investment officer for the Bershires Bank’s Asset Management Trust Group. Based in Pittsfield and working throughout western Massachusetts, he works with clients on investment planning and portfolio management.  * Laura Friedewald Notes sent a letter from the Upper West Side of NYC, where she moved with her three children, Jackson, Madeleine and Lily, after a divorce. Laura is an attorney in the money-laundering unit at MetLife. After six years in Ft. Lauderdale, she and the kids love living in the Big Apple.  * This fall Candace Green moved to Los Angeles from Pittsburgh. If any alums are in the area, she’d love to hear from them.  * I was happy to hear from my former roommate Rob Deacon, who has been working with computers and (among other projects) wrote much of the “behind the scenes” code for the Hotwire.com system. He and his wife, Amy, expect their first child in January.  * Jim Hayes moved back to NYC’s Upper West Side in May. He works at the law firm of Morvillo, Abramowitz, et al., and he and his wife, Julie, are expecting their first child in December.  * Kay Cowperthwait recently gave birth to her second child, a son named Tate, born July 2, 2007, joining big sister, Sophie, 6. Kay recently visited with Lizzie Mazzola ’92 and her kids, which she reports was a lot of fun.  * One classmate who remained in Maine is Katherine Dauge-Roth. Katherine, husband Alexandre, and daughter Claire, 8, are thrilled to welcome Amyeric Michel, born February 25, 2007. He is a happy, relaxed, and very active little fellow! Katherine is an associate professor of romance languages at Bowdoin, and Alex is in his third year of a tenure-track appointment at Bates. Claire has taken up theater and is becoming quite the actress.  * In May Alan Yuodsnukis completed a year-long graduate-level teacher training program at the University of Southern Maine. In June his oldest daughter turned 13. “It’s strange to consider myself the parent of a teenager,” Alan writes. He and wife Lynn marked their 15th wedding anniversary at Lorimer Chapel, he resigned from L.L.Bean for the second time, and he was hired to teach ninth and tenth grade world civilizations in Gardiner, Maine.  * As for me, I’m looking forward to my 20th high school reunion. I hope to see or hear from high school (and Colby) classmates Fred and Debbie MacWalter Bright, Scott Osborne, David Mumford, and Alison Dunphy Shearer. Expect a full report. There are a lot of Colby classmates I’d like to hear from, so drop me a line at classnews1991@alum.colby.edu.  * See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Dave Shumway

92 Thanks for all the e-mails. Keep them coming. Christy O’Rourke and Jenny Alford Seeman were driving home from reunion and hit two moose near Kennebunkport. Thankfully, Christy and Jenny were okay, though the moose did not fare as well.  * Bob Gramling is an assistant professor at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. He and his wife, Lindy, have two kids, Cailin, 9, and Finian, 7. Bob keeps in touch with George Linge, Mike Gorra, and Mitch Rogers ’93. Bob, George, Mike, Mark Boles, and Steve Swartz attended Jason Eslick’s wedding to Sarah Ackley. In Bob’s words, their dancing “made the Student Center pit look tame!” (Bob sent me a photo of him at the wedding, which I am not allowed to share. But, boy, did it look like fun was had by all, at least by Bob!)  * Anne Bowie lives in Boston and is the public service manager for the law firm of WilmerHale. She manages the charitable giving/philanthropy program and pro bono legal services; both roles allow her to “help the least powerful in society.”  * John Cook and partner Gabe Speyer bought a house in San Francisco (after a few years in southern California and Berkeley). He recently swam in the Trans Tahoe Relay, where five teammates and he took turns swimming the 12 miles across Lake Tahoe. It was lots of fun, but cold water temperatures were reminiscent of Maine beaches.  * Charles and Chantel Begin Mihm have a 26-month-old named Sophie and another daughter on the way—due September 13. They moved back to Maine (she had been in Calif. since 1999) and built a home near Augusta. She works for the Togus VA hospital as director of the PTSD program. She is in touch with Heather Ferguson, who lives in Washington D.C.  * Michelle Fortier Biscotti recently visited Rockport, Maine, with husband John and two boys, Anthony, 3, and Dominic, 18 months, but didn’t get to Colby. Next time though.  * Chris Petron and his wife Kathleen have a first baby due in the end of November.  * Tracey Hardman is a trial lawyer living outside Middletown, Conn., with husband Steve Hrynniewicz and their two rescue dogsies, Arwen and Strider. She recently opened her own law firm, The Hardman Law Offices, in Middletown. In February she went to London and visited Catherine Coyne ’93 and Matt Lown and their daughter, Lily. Tracey and Steve attended the wedding of Stephanie Goff ’94 in Maine last fall and got to see many Colby people. She keeps in touch with Krista Lundborg Dirico and with Sarah Poriss, who is an attorney in Hartford, Conn.  * Paul and Katie Bredbeck Thurst have two beautiful kids, Eliza and William. They moved from NYC to the Catskills in 2005. She missed reunion but, during a vacation south, saw Colbyites including Katie Thompson-McKenna ’95. She visited Roger Schuman in Baltimore during that trip.  * Rob and Lisa McMahon-Myrhan and kids Charlie, 6, and Alice, 4, have moved back to the Seattle area. She is happy to be home, but misses life in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and being close to Colby friends on the East Coast.  * Jim Condron lives in Baltimore as an artist and teaches as an adjunct at Towson University. He has two art shows this fall, one at Red Door Gallery in Richmond, Va., and another at the American Center for Physics in College Park, Md. Two museums have just acquired his paintings, The Long Beach Museum of Art in California and The West Valley Museum of Art in Arizona. He sees Doug Oppenheimer often, who is doing well teaching.  * Brooke Coleman (your new class president!) is the director of Upward Bound at North Shore Community College in Lynn, Mass.  “Talk to you all again in three months!” — Karen Wu

93 On June 11, April (Armstrong ’97) and Shawn Campbell celebrated the arrival of daughter Molly Elizabeth. Shawn also received a
promotion at WorldWinner.com, where he has worked as a senior software engineer since 2000. He continues to maintain his own game site, HotFlashGames.com and reports to be enjoying fatherhood immensely. • Lesley Frymier Cook gave birth to her first child, Mason Cook, August 14. • Connie (Huffine ’94) and Jeff Zlot had their third child, Noah, who joins his brothers Jacob, 4, and Sam, 2. • Peter Caruso writes that Saylor Colby was thrilled to meet her new sister, Savannah Dory, who was born June 18. She looks forward to teaching a law and administration class at Boston University beginning in spring 2008. • One more is on the way for Janine Deforge Olson, who expected her fourth child in late September. Meanwhile, she continues to work as director of product management for Morningstar’s Investment Services. Last June she had the pleasure of attending Sarah Oelkers’ wedding in Maine, where she saw several other alums. From time to time she reconnects with Jay Collins in Chicago and has been encouraging Sarah Burditt McDougall, who lives with her husband, Chris, in Oregon, to come visit. • When he’s not teaching ninth grade math or coaching high school girl’s soccer at Concord Academy with his wife, Sally Zimmerli, who works as a history teacher and basketball coach at the school as well, Tim Seston spends his time as a family entertainer. He performs his own songs and stories at libraries, schools, summer camps, and special parties in the Boston area. See his Web site, www.frompagetoplay.com. • Vanessa Lloyd Beauchaine recently played bass and sang with Irish Catholic recording artist Robin Mark at a concert in Eastham, Mass. She has also been busy implementing her leadership project for her doctorate this year. • In New York City Dave Crittenade made partner at the law firm Jacob, Medinger, and Finnegan. He lives in Montclair, N.J., with his wife, Laurie, and Jeffrey, 5, and Bethany, 2. • Chris “Chinny” Chin had a great time catching a Red Sox/Angels game at Fenway Park with Dave Bartlett and Andy Rossi, who was visiting from Steamboat Springs, Colo., with his wife and daughter. Dave is working for his own artist management company and Chris has begun his own blog on fatherhood, at chinny8.blogspot.com. • Chris Chamberlain made the May 24 West Hartford News for being named the new publisher of the Herald of New Britain, The Middletown Press, The Bristol Press, and Imprint Newspapers.

94 Alice (Amstutz ’95) and Greg McDonald and their two kids, Molly and Maddie, joined my family and me as we traipsed through my hometown, Stow, Mass., picking apples and eating ice cream. It was great to see Greg and hear updates about Jim Lindstrom getting married, Zach and Kim Kessler Rubin, Elliott and Bonnie Johnson Barry, Alex Bie, and many others. • T.J. Winick is joining the Washington, D.C., Next One, a service ABC News provides to affiliates. T.J. covers news in and around the nation’s capital. Before joining ABC in June 2007, T.J. worked as a general assignment reporter for WZB-TV in Boston. He’s worked at New England Cable News, WTAE-TV in Pittsburgh, and WBBH-TV in Ft. Myers, Fla. T.J.’s introduction to television came as an intern for ABC Sports and as a production assistant for ESPN. He has also produced for America’s Most Wanted and The History Channel. It’s amazing what a government degree will do for a guy. We’re proud of you T.J! • Jon Mitchell says Paul White (AKA Pablo) was out for a visit recently. The two went into NYC for a night and then to N.H. for some camping. Jon still teaches and sent an article about him eating an exotic-looking water bug at the farmer’s market. • Peter ’95 and Dawn Kalloch Murphy bought a house last year in Acton, Mass., so have been doing house projects as well as chasing after their son, Connor Paul, 1. Dawn works part-time as a social worker at New England Baptist Hospital in Boston and Peter is an English teacher at The Bromfield School in Harvard, Mass. • Chris Austin married R. Lauren Lohmeyer of Portland, Maine, in October 2006 in Freeport. The wedding party included John Kyle Grady and Greg Christopher. Other Mules making the trip were an eight-plus months prego ‘Becca Freeman Shultz and Erin Crossland Christopher. Chris and his wife just bought a house in Falmouth, Maine, and just finished the lead in Portland Players musical The Full Monty, and, yes, they did go all the way. YOWZA! • Heather Eskey is moving back to the United States from Japan in January. She and her husband plan to live in either San Francisco or Los Angeles. • Jen Hurd had just returned from an amazing five-week (man, I want her job) vacation through Italy and southern France—gorgeous vistas and excellent food and wine everywhere! She has decided to take a break from corporate IT and move into real estate in Cambridge and Somerville as well as become a professional organizer. Jen lives in Arlington and sees Bruce and Meredith Gregory Ksander. • Greg and Erin Crossland Christoph live in San Francisco with their 2-year-old daughter, Shannon, and newborn son Alex. After finishing Columbia Business School last May, Greg works in estate investment and Erin is principal with A.T. Kearney. They see Catherine and Josh Ececk and their son, Jackson. They all headed to Long Beach in October for Chris Lohman ’95’s wedding. • Jen Zwick Somer recently moved from SF to Florida with her family to start a new position with the FS. Erinne Clark, who lives in Seattle and works for Panasonic, and Ray and Alyssa Schwenk Adams visited SF in April before moving back to NY, where Alyssa teaches law at West Point. • Frances Van Huystee got married last year to Robb Morris. Heather Post Lafrance was a bridesmaid. On April 16, 2007, Frances and Robb welcomed Elisabeth Maria Morris, born a month early but in good health. The happy family lives in Connecticut, where they are close to both sets of parents/babysitters. • Mark and Heather Lounsbery Lysaght welcomed Zachary Grout Lysaght into the world August 10, 2007. • Jeff ’93 and Connie Huffine Zlot had their third boy, Noah Morris Zlot, July 28. Andie Sulak shared the update and was up to her way to meet him. • Stephanie Cain Sherman gave birth to son Harold in January and is in the process of getting certified as a professional birth doula as part of the volunteer doula program at Manhattan’s Bellevue Hospital. • See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes.—Jessie Newman

95 Brent McLean lives in Huntington Beach, Calif., doing resort and hotel development throughout the Southwest and Hawaii. He and Matt Muszala met in Maui in August for a 10,000-vertical-foot mountain bike ride from the top of the island’s largest volcano. They also spent a few days beating themselves up learning to kite surf. Brent reports that Franchot Tone lives in Los Angeles and has a new CID out with his band, Culver City Dub, available at http://cdbaby.com/ cd/culvercub. • Emily and Mark Griffin live in sunny Santa Barbara, Calif., and are enjoying raising three girls. Margaret was born last December and has older sisters, Mary, 5, and Anne, 3. Mark is a research analyst at Santa Barbara Asset Management. • Delia Welsh and her husband, Yahia Amehraye, had a baby boy January 15, 2007: Zachary Abed Amehraye. • Conrad ’96 and Jen Benwood Saam had their second child, Scarlett Walker Saam, May 16, 2007, in Seattle. “Her big brother, Lars, 21 months, is slowly adjusting,” writes Jen. • Dan Polk is on the board of directors for the Daraja Academy of Kenya. They just leased a beautiful 150-acre school/campus four hours north of Nairobi near Mount Kenya. He is in the process of lining up Gavin Newsome and Dave Eggers to speak at their winter benefit dinner in San Francisco. • Karen Rose and her husband, JT Leonard, bought a house in Durham, Maine, two years ago. Between Karen’s job as a copywriter at L.L. Bean and JT’s landscaping business, they spend their “free time” renovating their home. They celebrated their first anniversary May 27 by returning to their wedding site, Pemaquid Lighthouse. Their daughter, Iris Gale Leonard, celebrated her first birthday September 27. “She’s a bubbly, outgoing little ham and we’re enjoying her very much” writes Karen. • Keith Stockmann completed his doctorate in applied wildland economics from the College of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Montana in December 2006. He now works full time for the USDA Forest Service in Missoula, where he and his wife, Karen, recently bought their first house. They had a great trip to Bermuda over Memorial Day to attend the wedding of Greg ’97 and Sarah. The wedding of Rainey Doak ’99. • In January 2007 Heather Beusse left a six-year career at Intel Corporation. “As proud of my accomplishments as I was, it was time to leave and follow my passions,” writes Heather. She now works for GLOBIO, a children’s education nonprofit that is building a free online encyclopedia called Glossopedia. Heather’s in charge of new project development and partnerships. “I couldn’t be more surprised (and pleased) at how the culmination of my experiences, from Colby to Teach for America to the high-tech corporate world, have prepared me for this dream job.” • Abe Rogers is currently deployed to Afghanistan with the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division. • Eric ’96 and Maureen Finn Schwartz announce the arrival of their son, Ryan Matthew, born
90s newsmakers

Award-winning filmmaker Nick Childs ’90 was named executive vice president and director of content development at the communications firm Grey New York. Childs brings 15 years of experience as director and producer of independent, corporate, and documentary films and has overseen brand and communications projects for companies such as American Express, Deloitte, and Pfizer. According to Steve Hardwick, president of Grey New York, Childs “has excelled in all facets of film, TV, and interactive media, and I’ve witnessed firsthand his ability to bring out the best in a team.” — Clarkson University School of Business appointed Allan Zebedee ’90 assistant professor of economics and financial studies. Zebedee has taught at San Diego State, Case Western Reserve, and Georgetown and was a visiting economic fellow at the Securities and Exchange Commission. He’s also worked as a project manager on energy conservation for Xenergy Inc. Zebedee’s research focuses on corporate finance issues. — Betsy Morgan ’90 is the new chief executive at The Huffington Post. Calling it “an opportunity too good to pass up,” Morgan will switch from running the Web site for a traditional media company, CBSNews.com, to running a news Web site just over two years old. Morgan “brings everything we needed in terms of a business and journalism background,” Arianna Huffington told The New York Times.

milestones


Births: A son, Alexander Rios, to Percy and Michelle Corrigan Rios ’92 • A daughter, Mia Catherine Cote, to Paulina and Adam Cote ’95 • A daughter, Molly Elizabeth Campbell, to Shawn ’93 and April Armstrong Campbell ’97 • A daughter, Ashley McCord, to Tyler and Sandra Swanson Hill ’98

June 8, 2007. Maureen enjoys her time at home with Ryan and will return to work in January in her fourth year as crisis intervention social worker at Lowell High School in Massachusetts. Eric was recently promoted to managing director at PricewaterhouseCoopers. • On July 14, 2007, Lindsey Slotnick and I got married under beautiful sunny skies in Berkshire County, Mass. Colby friends in my wedding party included Joshua Eckel ’94, Michelle Grdina, Sean McBride, and Andrew Vernon; Christopher Lohman was best man and Marc Rubin officiated. Other Colby attendees included Mike Rosenthal, Jon Blau ’94, Cary Charlebois ’97, Steve Kidd ’97, and Carter Davis ’97. Lindsey and I live happily in Cambridge, Mass. • See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Yubgo Yamaguchi ’97

Hi everyone, I don’t want to waste a word, so right to the news! Karen Blaisdell Faiman recently left her job as executive director of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick to relocate to Burlington, Vt. She welcomed a son, Joseph, this past May. • Liz Baker Meehan now works as the director of foundation and corporate relations for the nonprofit KIPP, the Knowledge Is Power Program, a national network of free, open-enrollment, college-preparatory public schools in under-resourced communities. • Stephanie Healy Pokrywa was married in June. She and her husband, Scott, were married under perfect skies in Vermont and then honeymooned in Bali. Sue Hesselbach Pierce, new mother to Isaac, served as bridesmaid. • Wedding bells also rang this summer for CJ Polcari and Christine Griffin, whom he met while in pediatric residency in Providence, R.I. They relocated to Massachusetts, where CJ works as a pediatrician at an inner-city health center in Roxbury. At the wedding were Mark Adelman, Dana Cease, Steve Kidd, Carter Davis, Will Rafferty, Marnie Eckelman Steffe, Anna Hamlen, Dave Barr, Lauren Bayersdorfer Winstead, and Mark and Chrissy Killheffer Sinclair. • Zoe Kaplan married Matt Presley at their farm near Portland, Ore., September 1. Colby guests included Jill Picard Paine ’96, Jen Vogt and James Loveland ’96, Linsay Cochran, Margot Higgins, Kelly Cueman, Lindsay Franz Field ’96, and Jon Ostrom ’94. • Katie McGovern was married May 26 to Richard Pizi. Living in Portland, Maine, Katie represents low-income tenants through her work as an attorney at Pine Tree Legal Assistance. • Shawn ’93 and April Armstrong Campbell announce the arrival of their daughter, Molly, born July 11. April will return to Assumption College this fall to finish her second B.A. (this one in biology) to pursue a veterinary career. • John and Katie Nevin Naylor just moved to Palmer, Alaska, 40 miles north of Anchorage. She finished her residency in internal medicine last year and works at Mat-Su Regional Medical Center. She writes, “It is unbelievably beautiful here with mountains, glaciers, lakes as far as the eye can see. We’re very excited about the new adventure and we’d welcome visitors!” • Hyun Eliot Jung got married in June 2007 in Boston. Colby representation included Bow Stratton, Trish and Steve DiLella, Kate Lawn and fiancé Prashant, Eunbyol and Mike Gallant ’98, as well as May (Cummings ’96) and Erik Mitchell. Hyun works in Washington, D.C., for the Department of State, while his wife, Hyunna Ellen, is doing her orthodontics residency in Newark, N.J. • Nate Pierce married Jody Keeler at Maple Hill Farm in Hallowell, Maine, October 13. • Peter Nealis, Kevin Fontanella ’98, and Matt Jancovic ’98 attended. Nate and Jody live in Winthrop, Maine. • Melanie Macbeth works as an optometrist as part of a two-doctor private practice in Belmont, Mass. She writes, “A year and half ago we moved our office to a brand new, spacious facility with four exam rooms, all with state-of-the-art instruments. lovewhatIdo!” Melanie and her husband, Roger Binggeli ’96, have been living in Waltham, Mass. for the past two years. They enjoy life with their 13-month-old son, Lukas. Melanie shared that Liz Fagan Gottlieb is married and has an 11-month-old daughter, Sage. Liz and her family are living just outside San Francisco, Calif. • Welling and Heather Derby LaGrone moved to Nashville, Tenn., in 2001, and since that time have both earned M.B.A.s from Vanderbilt. Heather is at home now with two children, Miranda, 2, and Zara, 3 months, while Welling is a director at a software services company. Welling has also been racing as a triathlete for the past three years, including an Ironman distance event (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride, 26.2 mile run). Impressive! —Leah Tortola Walton ’98

Jody Navitsky works in San Jose, Calif., as a pediatrician for a county hospital. She lives with her husband and daughter, Eva, in Mountain View. • Erika Ayers Nardini works at Microsoft in international branded entertainment, which allows for exciting international travel. She...
Different Drummer | Harris Eisenstadt ’98

While it’s hard to find the right word to describe the music of percussionist Harris Eisenstadt ’98, it’s even harder to find a wrong one. Plain old “jazz” doesn’t quite do this music justice because, really, this is something new.

The opening of his Ahimsa Orchestra album is so full of animated motifs and crashing percussion that it more closely resembles the soundtrack to an old episode of Tom and Jerry than it does anything you might associate with a jazz ensemble.

Likewise, Eisenstadt recently performed at The New Languages Festival in New York in a jazz group called Attack/Adorn/Decay. Its name summed up its appearance and sound.

Consisting of 11 players, on alto and tenor sax, two cellos, a trumpet, trombone, piano, upright basses, and percussion, the group spilled off the small red-lit stage into the crowd. When bandleader Nate Wooley picked up his trumpet the music began, not in unison, but in sporadic outbursts from each instrument. Each musician seemed to be playing at random, yet clearly each knew his own turn as there was little overlapping or clashing. Eisenstadt, tucked into the back left corner of the stage, kept his eyes on his fellow musicians, reading them as if they were the music. He hit a cymbal here, slammed on the snare there, or quickly stopped in time for a flurry of trombone notes to break through.

As chaotic as it may sound—about two thirds of the music was improvised—Eisenstadt explains that it came naturally. “It was mostly improvised, yeah, but so is any conversation you have. That was kind of a conversation between musicians,” Eisenstadt said afterward.

Eisenstadt, an accomplished percussionist, has always improvised. Realizing Waterville was not a thriving jazz scene back in his college days, he fled “abroad” to New York City as a junior in order to learn jazz through osmosis—and through courses at The New School. “I went to New York and went to hear as much music as possible,” he said.

Not that he limited himself exclusively to domestic jazz clubs for his education. “I studied world music and translated literature and loved that they had a function in society, not just as art,” he said.

Eisenstadt took these two themes to the recording studio in 2006, when he laid down his own translation of Wayne Shorter’s 1965 album The All Seeing Eye. Interestingly, Eisenstadt chose not to include Shorter’s signature instrument, the saxophone, on the recording. “I [had] been inspired by that music for years and wanted to pay tribute by re-imagining it with new forms and different instrumentation,” he said.

Indeed one of Eisenstadt’s primary concerns is making music that is vital, moving forward instead of rehashing. “I want my compositions to be visceral and smart, an alternative jazz where all kinds of music go into it,” he said. Sounds about right for a jazz musician who is as likely to cite architecture, a walk through his neighborhood, or Texas folklorist Townes Van Zandt as influences as he is Blue Note or “Autumn Leaves.”

Unfortunately, finding inspiration is much easier than finding financial security in the world of jazz music. Sitting outside at a corner bar in Jersey City, New Jersey, where he was living (he has since moved to Brooklyn), Eisenstadt sat with a pile of CDs and a book and contemplated his living.

“It ain’t pretty. Well, it is but it isn’t,” he said.

On one hand, music has been his ticket around the world and an invitation to meet many of his idols. He shared various studios and venues across the country with the likes of rock icon Les Claypool and jazz legends Sam Rivers, Leo Smith, and Yusef Lateef, and he toured Europe, the U.K., and Australia playing with a one-man show of Macbeth.

He just wrapped up a trip to Senegal, where he taught film scoring and studied traditional drumming.

On the other hand, the demands of professional musicianship keep him living a nomadic lifestyle, wandering from band to band. “I get to meet a lot of great people, but it’s impossible to develop a band sound if you are always changing groups,” he said. One night he may be playing a small club with a new jazz quartet. The next he might be holding down the beat for a rock group or teaching lessons to novice drummers.

With such a constantly changing array of gigs and musical pursuits, Eisenstadt can be hard to pin down as one thing or another. He admits to being a jazz musician—easy enough—but to describe his music? You’d have to improvise.

—Brendan Sullivan ’06

Leff and his wife had their second daughter, Eliana, in October 2007. Their first daughter, Suzi, is two. Miguel recently opened his own law practice. * Nathan Wheeler lives in Laguna Beach, Calif., and works as a drama teacher at St. Margaret’s Episcopal School. * Andrew Porter started a new job at Hinckley Yacht Service in Portsmouth, R.I., and recently sailed in the Leukemia Cup Regatta in Bristol, R.I. Their son, Wyatt, is almost two and wears his little Colby shirt with pride. * Casey and Melissa Carpenter Haire have their first baby, Courtney Marie, July 12, 2007. They live in NYC and Melissa works in prime brokerage at Credit Suisse. * Dan Maccaroni married Melissa DeLancy, August 25, 2007, at the Mystic (Conn.) Aquarium. Andrew Glos ’97 presided and Mark Nichols and Brad Reichek ’00 were in the wedding party. Colby alumni in attendance were Erik Bowie ’00, Stuart Luth ’01, Liz Frankel ’01, and Leff. Mike Coyle ’97, Stuart Luth ’01, Liz Frankel ’01, in attendance were Erik Bowie ’00, in the wedding party. Colby alumni reunion! — thanks for sending in all the interesting news.

Regatta in Bristol, R.I. Their son, Dylan, started a new job at Hinckley Yacht Sales as a drama teacher at St. Margaret’s School in Maine. He works in the Department of Family Medicine. He is engaged in the Department of Family Medicine and is an attending physician at Boston Medical Center in the Department of Family and Sports Medicine. He works in the Boston University School of Medicine Institute and serves as a team physician for Boston College. One of Doug’s first medical students in the hospital was Scott Whitlow, who is in his third year at BU School of Medicine. * Anne Nettles married John Stanford September 16, 2006, in Birmingham. Colby alums in attendance included Ali Tetler El-Ayadi, Meghan Bouchard, Tiffany Antikes, Shana Dumont, Heather Davidson, Christina Holmes, and Brenda Bloom. Anne and her husband live in Atlanta, where she is the communications director at the Margaret Mitchell House and Museum and its Center for Southern Literature. * Katie Haas has enjoyed living in Crested Butte, Colo., for two years, getting in lots of outdoor time. She’s planning a wedding for next June in Crested Butte and is really settling into mountain living. If anyone is in the area, look her up. * Eli Cohen married Christina Shepard June 23, 2007. Colby alumni attending were Mary (Holanah ’98) and Michael Baru, Jenny Tanenbaum ’00 and Douglas Heffer ’00, Mitchell Goodman, Peter Edwards, Daniel Rizza, Morgan McDevitt ’00, Sarah Cronan ’00, and Marco Rafanelli ’00. Eli works at Neuberger Berman as an international equity analyst. He recently graduated from NYU Stern School of Business. The Cohens live on the Upper West Side in NYC with their dog, Nessa. * In July, Molly Frazier married Jason Kelly in Winterport, Maine. Several Colby friends attended: bridesmaid Julie McMaster, Christina Repp, Maxine Guay, Laura Harley, Kelley Martin, and Erica Montgomery Mulder. The newlyweds honeymooned in Hawaii and returned to Brooklyn, N.Y. * Adam and Christie Browning Rana are doing well after their first year in Boston. Christie gave birth to their son, William Simms, July 26, 2007. * David Mattattall married Colleen Barry June 30, 2007, in Hartford, Conn., and they moved into a new home in Wethersfield. David received his M.B.A. from Notre Dame in 2005 and works in finance for CIGNA Healthcare. * Janaa and Lee Minton welcomed their first child, Liv Minton, March 27, 2007. * Sandra Dubarry Laffl amme, who lives in New Hampshire with husband Jesse, started her fourth year teaching first grade at the St. Johnsbury School. She completed her fifth marathon in the spring at the Vermont City Marathon and will compete in the VT 100 on 100 Relay, a 100-mile team relay event, and the Reach the Beach Relay, a 200-mile team event. Sandra enjoyed visiting with Donn and Kristen Northdowny and their daughter, Louise, this summer. * Josh Waldman and Andrea Keisler welcomed Eli Robert Waldman, born June 15 in Taos, N.M. * Dubek Kim competed in the Black Fly Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Tournament in July in Maine and won the absolute purple division for competitors under 175 pounds. * Melissa Knight got engaged in February and soon after bought a six-bedroom Victorian home in Somerville, Mass., with her fiancé, Michael DuBois. They are restoring it themselves and have wedding plans for April 2008. * John and Steph Sharples Sulzbach had a baby boy, Mason, September 18, 2006. They bought a house in Killingworth, Conn. Steph works with her husband at their family’s business, Astroaeol, where they manufacture lightning protection for the aerospace industry. Steph recently saw old Colby friends, including Shelby Thibodeau Dineen, Jessica Montgomery Green, Meghan Flanigan Parrott, and Katie Lovett Hitchmough at Katie’s wedding in Cleveland last August. * Thanks for the updates, and keep them coming! — Lindsay Hayes

00 Jonathan Rickert writes: “I moved to Seattle in July 2006, after finishing b-school, in order to start a software company, Array Health Solutions, with Christopher Moneta ’03. The company’s mission is to decrease the number of working uninsured people.” Check it out at www.arrayhealthsolutions.com. * Phil and Sarah Church Murphy recently moved back to Boston with their son, Oliver. * For the second year in a row Alison Silberman was to run the New York City Marathon for the Lance Armstrong Foundation. * Having just finished her Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology at Dartmouth, Brooke Frappier Jude heads back to Colby to serve as a visiting professor teaching genetics. * Annalise Blech currently works as faculty coordinator for the Department of English at the University of Texas at Austin. * Sarah Andel, who has been working as a family nurse practitioner, has joined the Bingham (Maine) Area Health Center as a full-time provider. * Carolyn Noggle, D.D.S., just finished her year of internship after medical school and is looking to move to Newburyport, Mass. * Parke Burmeister, currently lives in Portland and is back to school at the Maine School of Law. In even greater news, he married Sarah Plimpton October 13. * On June 23, 2007, Caitlin Smith married Ronni Turtuici in a ceremony on the playground of her elementary school in Carmel Valley, Calif. Corrie Marinaro served as her bridesmaid and Liz Parker was also in attendance. Caitlin and Ronni now live in San Jose. * In an August 18, 2007, ceremony on the water in South Portland, Maine, Caitlin Nelson married Joshua Merrill. * From Philadelphia,
ALUMNI AT LARGE

Christopher Bonafide, M.D., writes that on May 12, 2007, he married Elizabeth Valentine. The guest list included Drew Davis, Matt Davis, Danielle (D’Entremont ’01) and Huey Lam, Aubrey Love, Sarah Czok, James Mason, Alexander Moskos, and Matt Albaugh ’02. Chris works as a chief resident at Children’s Hospital in late September. Lam recently received a promotion at Broadway—books—and will be working with Colby’s very own Jenny Boyd to promote her upcoming book I’m Looking Through You. Jessie Davis ‘01, Jory Raphael ’02, Hilary Jansen and Matt Davis ‘02, Sean Dugan, Marybeth Wilhelm ’01, and Andy and Carrie Keeling Miller. Brad Reichek married Sarah Horowitz August 11 in Berkeley. Dan Maccarone ’98 was present for the celebration. Abigail Campbell announced her engagement to Brewer Bastien Rove and planned an October wedding in Bermuda. On April 24 Jared and Megan Davis Poor welcomed the arrival of their son, Jesse. Nick and Kamini Bhargava Marinated announced their first baby in late September. Brian and Caroline Nutt Linz report that their “biggest accomplishment and news is our son, Charles Andrew Linz, born on February 7.7.07 in Bend, Oregon. Seth and Hilary bought a house in Salt Lake City, where Seth started a Ph.D. program in biology at the University of Utah while Hilary continues to work in water resource management. Janice Greenwald completed her Duke M.B.A., moved to NYC, and began work in brand management at Unilever (she’s associate brand manager on the I Can’t Believe It’s Not Butter! brand). Sarah Belanger moved back to Boston and lives in Charlestown with her husband, Oliver Hay. Sarah started a job with Citizens Financial Group as a vice president and communications manager. Jessica Alex married Pot Keenan ’00 this fall. David Forsyth got engaged to Kerrin, whom he met while they were both students at UT Austin. They live in Denver with their dog, Chubs, and David is an account manager with Innovar Group, a recruiting firm. Jutika Kalghatgi Nazef and her husband moved to Edinburgh, Scotland, in September. Her husband will pursue a Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh, and Jutika will be a senior business development executive at Brodies Solicitors. Karin Feinly married Brian Ney July 23, 2007, in a log cabin church in Rangeley, Maine. Lambie Bickford moved from Napa Valley back home to Denver, where she is still in the wine business working at Bouchard Cooperages. Debbi Schwartz married Garreth Beigun in Waitsfield, VT, May 27, 2007. Angela Makkas spent the summer in Buenos Aires doing an internship with Kimberly Clark for her M.B.A. program. She is now onto her second year at Thunderbird and will finish in May. Lindsay Huntoon would love to hear from everyone from Colby. Jeff and Michelle-Nicholle Ramings Calareso welcomed their second son, Rivers Scott Calareso, June 8 in San Francisco. His brother, Paxton, will be 2 in July. Justin Pare married Cassandra Cottreau May 26 in North Attleboro, Mass. They live in Ridnge, N.H. Justin is founder and CEO of Teach Abroad, Inc., an international education and travel consultancy he started after his return in 2005 from working as an English teacher in China. Teach Abroad Inc. sent three recent Colby grads to Beijing this fall to teach English. Mark Paustenbach is in Wilmington, Del., working for the Biden for President campaign as national press secretary. Luis Perez and Jennifer Miller married October 21, 2006, and now live south of Boston. Many Colby alumni attended, including bridesmaid Liz “O”bel Oberlin. Luis and Jen traveled to El Salvador this fall. Liz married Bryan Kessler this fall. Seann Tulloch received an M.S.W. May 20 and is still working toward a master’s in public health. This summer he was a whitewater river guide in Maine, working for Northern Outdoors. Pam Foyles lives in Pasadena, Calif., and, works as an environmental planner focused on sustainable development. She’s engaged to be married to Greg Arfman next summer. Anna Leavitt started vet school at Colorado State in Fort Collins. See www.colby.edu/ mag for more class notes. —Dana Foley Charette
Commission. * Dave Ryan just finished up five years working on Capitol Hill for the senior senator from Massachusetts, Edward M. Kennedy, and is glad to be moved back to Boston to start classes at Suffolk Law School. * Blake Doherty continues to write songs in Spanish, including her recent works Deme un Dulce (Give Me a Candy). Blake reports that Katie Dimiero and Katie Levy live in NYC and just started a small side-business called, “I’m The Babysitter Extraordinaire!” * Erin Clark and Bill Simpson recently participated in the Ultimate Adirondacks Adventure Race. They slogged 40-plus miles on foot, bike, and by canoe over 13.5 hours to win the three-person team division. * Sam Heck lives in the West End of Portland, Maine, with his fiancée Katie Worthing (Bowdoin ’01) and had plans for an October wedding. * As for myself, I will be joining the wedding parade next June. Although many friends and family in Williams ’98, isn’t a Colby alum, we are fortunate that he is in the NESFAC family. —sally hall

03 Sarah Walsh spent most of summer 2006 traveling around Turkey and Greece, then moved to Chicago last winter. She took a trip to Minneapolis this summer to visit Erin Bodner and Sam Allen ’01. * Nicole Russo and her boyfriend traveled through Thailand last summer, exploring Bangkok and Phuket, snorkeling with sharks, and spending four days living with a Thai family in a fishing village. I’m sure there was some great Thai food in the mix as well! * Alex Burgess and Britney Lazar ’04 finished up a year of living and working in Barcelona, ending their year in authentic fashion by walking the Camino de Santiago, a 500-mile pilgrimage across Spain. Alex proposed to Britney in Spain in May 2007. Congrats! They are now back in the States, where Alex started his M.B.A. at Tuck School of Business. * John Brightenti spent summer 2007 traveling through West Africa in preparation for his master’s in international agriculture and rural development, which he started this fall at Cornell. * Devon Douglas, working on her master’s in environmental policy and pursuing her M.B.A. at Michigan, wrote from Southeast Asia, where she was traveling with a group of Michigan M.B.A.s through Thailand and Cambodia last summer. This summer she interned in Burlington, Vt., at Seventh Generation, an eco-friendly cleaning products company. * PK Marshall bought a condo in San Diego seven blocks from the ocean and was recently promoted to VP of investments. * Alex Libby thoroughly enjoys her position in Florida and was heading to be a groom’s-lady in Meade Barlow’s wedding over Labor Day 2007. * Pete Loverso started his M.B.A. this fall and is now a project coordinator for Blue Cross and Blue Shield. * Sarah Barclay started her second and final year of her master’s in public policy at Duke. This summer she was a Mayoral Fellow for the City of Baltimore Health Department, where she worked on a project pertaining to lead-poisoning prevention in children. She’s been in contact with Traci Speed, who is doing well at Hopkins. * Karli Jaffe, who is finishing up her M.S.W. this year and interning at Maine Medical Center in geriatric psych, and a group of Colby alums threw Leah Robertson an adventurous bachelorette party on the Penobscot River! Karli, Chelsea Hoffmann, Katie Nastou ’02, Carolyn Lindley ’02, Cat Benson ’02, and Meg Cassella ’02 took Leah whitewater rafting. They were one of the few boats not to flip! Of course, after Senior Week, they are seasoned rafters! * Lauren Calimera is in Boulder, Colo., working on her Ph.D. in economics. She attended Holly Niles’ wedding to Matt Getty ’04 in New London, N.H., last summer. The newlyweds are settled in Rutland, Vt. Lauren reports that Steph Hicks, who finished her master’s in public affairs last May, is director of policy and research for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Corporations of Massachusetts, Inc. Steph got married in September to David Hirst. Congrats! * Patrick Koch proposed to his girlfriend, Kelly, who, for about a minute and a half, needed to step back and be sure Pat was serious before answering yes. Pat proposed on the Maine coast in March. Pat and Kelly live in D.C. * There were also a few summer weddings! Dan Deacon and Laurel Burnham were married in August in Wisconsin, Laurel’s home state. Peter Lloyd, Brooke McNally, Caitlin Keys, and Libbie Mayhall all traveled to Wisconsin to take part. Owen Kenney, Luke Ferriter, Phil Geiger ’04, Laura Barrow ’04, and Anne Tricomi ’02 were also in attendance. * Courtney Hoffman and Matt Tsiaras were married in July in Barrington, R.I. Colbyites in attendance included Matt’s parents, Nancy (Meyer ’68) and William Tsiaras ’68, Nate Good, Catherine Jessop, Chris Zeien, Andrew Harnett, John McManigal, Tom Mace, Justin Hedge, Alice Henderson ’05, and James Oh ’06. * That’s it for now. I love hearing from everyone. Can’t wait to reunite at our five-year this June! Take care! —lauren Tiberio

04 Eric Reinauer just started at Georgetown for an M.B.A. * Jason Koch is working towards a master’s in education (TESOL and Spanish) at NYU. * Reese Kelly transitioned from a woman to a transman. He teaches sociology of gender at SUNY-Albany, where he is completing graduate coursework in the hopes of defending his dissertation proposal by the end of this academic year. * Jeff Moyer is finishing his master’s in education and is getting his master’s in educational leadership. He hopes to go to Germany in January to try out with the German national lacrosse team. * Kelly Welch started at the family nurse practitioner program at Boston College this fall. * Anne Olmsted is in Somerville and is in a musical production of The Mystery of Edwin Drood at the Turtle Lane Theatre in Newton, Mass. * Alexis Caselle lives and works in NYC. She got engaged to Phil Bancroft (Bentley) and the two are planning a May wedding in Massachusetts. * Annika Svores participated in a 189-mile running relay race from the border of Canada down to Whidbey Island, Wash. Her teammates included Chris Castile ’02, the sister and husband of Natalie Buccola Keilholz ‘02, and eight other runners. They finished in 26 hours, 41 minutes, and 27 seconds and no sleep. Annika continues to design the interior of head-of-state and private Boeing business jets, and she is working on interior concepts for the 787 Dreamliner. * Rebecca Taylor works at Tilton School in Tilton, N.H., as director of performing arts and loves it. Nick Malick ’05 also works at the school, and the two recently got engaged and will get married next July. * Ann Claffin started a new job as a young adult librarian in Birmingham, Mich. * Ariel Martin-Cone married Morgan Talbot this past August. In attendance were Ann Claffin, Andy Lizotte, Becky White Schaeffer, Laura Barrow, Phil Geiger, and Cici Malik. Cici started a Ph.D. in Spanish and Portuguese at Stanford this fall. * Cassie Cote married Andrew Grantham, brother of Jason Grantham ’02, and she now works at MaineHealth as a program coordinator for their clinician education and employee health programs. * Allison Turner got engaged this summer to Josh Osgood (Dartmouth ’04), and they are getting married next August in Wolfeboro, N.H. She lives in Brookline, graduated in May from a three-year grad program in school at Colby.
“Once an eagle grabs a hold of you—you’re stuck,” said Tom Rogers ’04.

Holding up his sun-bronzed hand, Rogers pointed to where he was grabbed by a bald eagle last winter. “I was stuck to the eagle for ten minutes, with no one around; no walky-talky or cell phone. I thought I’d be stuck for quite some time.”

As a researcher at Craighead Beringia South, a nonprofit science and education organization located just outside of Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, Rogers spent six months (in 2006-2007) trapping and testing bald and golden eagles for ingested heavy metals.

As he looked down at the faded scars on his left hand, Rogers conveyed both a fascination and respect for North America’s largest raptors. “Eagles are really dangerous. [They’re] the largest and most powerful of the raptors—they can crack bone.”

Rogers began working with eagles somewhat by chance. Prior to this most recent study, the team at Craighead Beringia South had discovered high lead levels in the park’s raven population. Scavengers that feed on the dead elk, moose, and deer, including leftover “gut piles” from the Grand Teton National Park’s big-game hunt, ravens appeared to be ingesting the residual lead from hunters’ bullets and shot. Worried that the effects of lead exposure and poisoning could have a similar effect on the park’s birds of prey, Derek Craighead, Beringia South’s president, decided to expand the raven study.

“Most people don’t know that eagles are also huge scavengers,” Rogers explained. “Eagle migration comes to the Tetons because of the hunt and what they can get out of it. Grand Teton National Park is one of the only national parks in country that allows a big-game hunt. [As a result] the hunting is unlike anywhere else in country, and the eagles that used to go to California for salmon runs [that no longer occur there] now come to Jackson Hole.”

As evidence of this shift in eagle migratory patterns, since September 2006 Rogers and his colleagues have trapped 40 eagles, including a record-sized 18-pound golden eagle. Once a bird is safely trapped, Rogers and his team members take blood samples for lead testing and feather samples for carbon profiling to determine the eagle’s origins (for young birds) and age and to locate residual metals. They then release the eagle with a USGS band in order to track the bird in the event that it is recaptured.

The findings of the team’s study have yet to be published, but the potential of dangerously high lead levels in a national symbol living within a national park could spark quite a response. Asked if his work at Beringia South has helped to inspire political and conservation initiatives, Rogers said: “We try to remove [the study] from political motivations. We’re out there to do the science—to try to determine if there is a problem. ... It’s not our position to say what to do about it.”

If the researchers did otherwise, “All of a sudden, our science becomes less credible,” Rogers said.

His emphasis on the hard science of his study over any potential political or conservation movements has roots in his experiences at Colby. A biology major, Rogers served as a researcher for Assistant Professor Stacey Lance (biology), working on DNA sequencing, and did a songbird research Jan Plan with Herb Wilson, Arey Professor of Biosciences. Rogers also spent a Jan Plan in Kenya studying zebras with a Princeton biologist.

“Programs at Colby helped me get this type of job and get started down this road as well,” said Rogers. Since graduating, his connections on Mayflower Hill have helped further. “I’ve been in touch with a lot of the biology professors, and they’ve been really helping me find grants and with establishing advisors for grad school,” he said.

In addition to his work with Beringia South, Rogers recently began a study on lead levels in large carnivores. Working with samples from black and grizzly bears, wolves, and coyotes, Rogers has begun to compile data that will give him a considerable head start as he begins applying to graduate schools over the coming year.

From ravens to eagles to grizzlies, four years after leaving Mayflower Hill Rogers has not only taken advantage of the opportunities presented to him but also has combined his passion for the outdoors with a career interest in wildlife biology. Asked if he would share his secrets to success, Rogers smiled and paused.

“My advice to Colby students would be to try to do what you enjoy after college regardless of money,” said Rogers.

—Chris Zajchowski ’07
anatomy, physiology, and nutrition in preparation to start a M.Ed. program in athletic training at Plymouth State University. *Melissa Hinkle* entered the last quarter of her graduate program in journalism, moving from Chicago to Washington, D.C., where she is a correspondent for several small stations across the U.S. She hopes to have her master’s degree before the year’s end. *Graham Brown* was promoted to associate at Canaccord Adams, an investment bank in Boston. He lives with Rich Downing and two other friends in the North End. *Jessica Beetz* has been leading trips for NOLS for the past two years and started graduate school at the University of Washington in aquatic and fisheries science. Bethany Craig ‘04 is in the same program. *During* his first summer of med school at UMass in Worcester. *John Fallon* tended bar in Falmouth on Cape Cod, then hiked Mt. Kilimanjaro. John is still dating Anne Holt, who lives in Brookline and paints for an art gallery based in Camden, Maine. *Nicole Wessen* has been working in Boston at Mellon as a marketing financial analyst. She is still dating Jared Cushman, who now works at The Standard as an employee benefits representative. Nicole and Jared live down the street from Carreau Mueller and Rob Zondervan ‘07 in Beacon Hill. *Ellen Weaver* started classes at USM to work toward her master’s in child education. She lives with her boyfriend, Derek, in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. *Ivan Mikhailov* lives and works in San Diego at UCSD, but started an earth and environmental sciences Ph.D. program at Columbia University this fall. *Tim Newhouse* and Stanislav Presolski also live in San Diego and work at the Scripps Research Institute Doctoral Program. *Emma Lynch* lives in Fort Collins, Colo., working for the National Park Service studying noise pollution in national parks. She sees Katie Lynch, Steph Pierce, and Heather Hansman, who all live near Vail. Katie recently started an engineering program at Colorado University in Boulder. *After* a summer spent working at hockey camps, Mallory Young is now an assistant hockey coach at UMass Boston. *Jessica Berger* works for a medical communications agency in her hometown of Montreal. She recently took a trip to New York to visit with Nandini Naik, Molly Chester, Eric Brockmeyer, Christina Antoinette Madrigal, and Nathan Downes. *Lis Maguire* moved back to Boston this past summer and started a new job in development at the Museum of Fine Arts. *Mary Medlin* finished the Patriot Half Ironman triathlon (1.5 mile swim, 59 mile bike ride, and 13.2 mile run) on July 1 in Freetown, Mass. *Haid Garrett* finished her second year as an instructor with Outward Bound. In the winter she helps supervise a ski school in North Lake Tahoe. *Abigail Robson* is attending the Curry School of Education at UVA and working toward a master’s in teaching social studies education. She spends her summers working as the adolescent riding director at Triangle X Ranch in Moose, Wyo., in Grand Teton National Park. *Have a great winter!* See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Katie Gagne

06 Jackie Roller spent the past year working on private and charter yachts. She spent the winter in the Bahamas and Caribbean on a 115-foot yacht and is currently in the Mediterranean on a 178-foot yacht. Her travels have taken her to Gibraltar, Spain, Monaco, France, and Italy. *Ellie Thermsansen* is working at The New Criterion, a cultural review journal in New York City. She is the director of advertising and writes nonfiction book reviews. Ellie plans to start law school in a year or two, and she ran the Chicago Marathon in October. Ellie also got engaged over Easter weekend to John Duffey (Duke ’06). Ellie sees Julia Rosenfeld quite a bit. *Sarah Kelly* loves San Francisco and recently made a visit up to Colby to visit Jess Moore ’07 and Cait Cleaver. *Josh Montague* met up with fellow Colby classmates at the July wedding of Sarah Becker and Andrew Johnson in the Berkshires. In attendance were Hilary Easter, Emilie Coulson, Jess Minty, Ian Cross ’07, Clifford White ’07, Tucker Burr, Malcolm Iter ’07, and Jen Anderson ’07. *John Wheelock* biked 100 miles in the Connecticut Challenge last July and raised $1,500 in charity for cancer survivors. *Lindsay Masters* works in Los Angeles as an environmental consultant and is planning a long trip to Chile next year. *Carly Alexander* and Bethany Peck live together in Snowmass, Colo. They hope soon to have jobs working on the mountain. *Marcy Rollerson* and Dan Lake live together in Boston and both started law school this fall. Marcy is at Suffolk and Dan is at BU. Other Boston law students include Travis Agustin, who started his first year at Northeastern. He joins Alex Brougham, who is in his second year. *Bethann Swartz* finished her M.A.T. from Simmons College and is beginning her second year teaching high school Spanish in the greater Boston area. Bethann visited Emily Judem in Ecuador last February. *Claire Walsh* still lives in NYC and works at a nonprofit organization that supports youth in foster care. She ran her first marathon in March 2007 at the Firefly National Marathon in Washington, D.C. Fellow ’06er Tucker Burr ran it too. Claire also ran the Philadelphia Marathon in November. See www.colby.edu/mag for more class notes. —Jen Coliflores

**00s newsmakers**

Sarah Miller ’02 became Sister Mary Anselma Miller in August when she made her first monastic profession as a Benedictine Sister of Perpetual Adoration. The 27-year-old Cleveland, Ohio, native confessed that it wasn’t easy for her to find her path until she visited the contemplative Benedictine Sisters in Clyde, Missouri. “I don’t think I’d have been happy finding God any other way” she said. *Boston College* named Scott MacPherson ’02 head coach for the men’s and women’s skiing programs. Previously head of the alpine ski program at Noble and Greenough School in Dedham, Massachusetts, where he guided the team to five consecutive undefeated seasons and captured two New England championships, MacPherson is a USSA certified coach with international coaching experience. MacPherson is also an alpine ski coach and weekend program assistant for the Waterville Valley race program. *A high five to Dan Vassallo ’07*, who won the 16th Maine Marathon with a record-breaking time of 2 hours, 26 minutes, 54 seconds. It was the very first marathon in which he competed. The 22-year-old from Wilmington, Massachusetts, said he ran it “faster than I thought I’d be able to run.” The previous record holder, Bryne Decker ’89, placed third. Roundout the Colby contingent at the awards ceremony was Stephanie Crawford ’99, the women’s winner with a time of 3 hours, 1 minute, 16 seconds.

**milestones**

**Deaths:** Robert S. Silberman ’03, September 26, 2007, in Stamford, Conn., at 26.

Miriam Rice Schulze ’27, August 20, 2007, in Southbury, Conn., at 101. She taught high school French in Maine and Connecticut until 1970. She was a 53-year member of the Newtown (Conn.) Congregational Church, volunteered at the Fairfield Hills Hospital, and was a cellist in the Danbury Symphony Orchestra. She was predeceased by her grandfather, Charles E. Owen 1879, and her mother, Edna Owen Rice 1902. Survivors include her son, Lawrence Schulze ’64, two grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

Ethel Henderson Ferguson ’29, July 30, 2007, in Houlton, Maine, at 98. She taught school in Houlton for 12 years then moved to Concord, N.H., with her husband. She was active in her church and with AAWU, belonged to the Order of the Eastern Star, and in retirement was a member of the Houlton Garden Club. Her daughter, Jean Ferguson Cole ’65, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren survive her.

Forrest M. Batson ’30, November 4, 2007, in Fair Lawn, N.J., at 98. He earned a doctorate in chemistry from Brown and worked as manager of technical services at Allied Corporation, now Honeywell, until retiring in 1972. He belonged to the Central Unitarian Church of Paramus, N.J., for more than 60 years. His daughter, Barbara Frey, a sister, and four grandchildren survive him.

Maxwell D. Ward ’32, September 3, 2007, in Brunswick, Maine, at 96. He started teaching in a one-room school in Clinton, Maine, then taught for more than 35 years in Clinton, Fairfield, and Waterville. He served as principal in Oakland, Maine, and was the last principal at Clinton High School. He enjoyed travel, belonged to the Lions Club, and was an active member of several genealogy societies. Survivors include his wife of 67 years, Amanda, his son, and two granddaughters, including Rebecca Pease Henning ’91.

Kathryn Davis Harper ’36, September 26, 2007, in East Dennis, Mass., at 94. The owner and manager of the Snack Port in East Dennis during the 1960s, she became a caterer for 25 years, retiring at age 82. She did crosswords, gardened, and volunteered at the Dennis Senior Center. Survivors include her son, Edward Harper, and her daughter, Ann McCarthy, a brother and two sisters, three granddaughters, and a great-granddaughter.

Kermit S. LaFleur ’37, October 27, 2007, in Clemson, S.C., at 92. He worked as a research chemist at Milliken Research Corporation until 1966, when he left to complete his doctorate in soil chemistry from Clemson University. He then taught at Clemson and conducted research, receiving international recognition. He retired in 1980 but continued to write, paint landscapes, and study science and philosophy. He is predeceased by his father, Daniel K. LaFleur ’14, his brother Robert ’43, his brother-in-law Henry L. Crowley ’26, and his sister-in-law Ruth Crowley Brandmire ’24. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Mary Crowley LaFleur ’39, his daughter, Karen LaFleur Stewart ’66, a brother, and two step-grandchildren.

Bernard H. Burbank ’39, M.D., September 20, 2007, in Windham, Maine, at 88. He served as a battalion surgeon in Europe during World War II and was promoted to major in the Army Medical Corps. He worked for nine years in general medicine followed by a 31-year career in New York City as a corporate medical director. He sang bass solos, played various instruments, and traveled widely, including to Antarctica, where, in 1965, he flew a Colby pennant at the South Pole. Predeceased by his wife, Hannah Putnam Burbank ’41, he is survived by sons Jonathan and David and a daughter, Jane, and nine grandchildren.

Leland C. Burrill ’39, M.D., October 20, 2007, in Menlo Park, Calif., at 89. He earned his medical degree in 1944 from Tufts and served in the U.S. Public Health Service during World War II. A general practitioner and a surgeon, he worked at Stanford Medical Center and Sequoia Hospital, both in California. He loved sports, gardened, and played golf. Survivors include his twin sons, Richard and Robert, his daughters, Michelle and Susan, and several grandchildren.

Clarence E. “Doggie” Dore ’39, M.D., November 6, 2007, in Sidney, Maine, at 92. A football player at Colby and a DKE, he earned his M.D. at Thomas Jefferson School of Medicine. In the Army Medical Corps he survived the Battle of the Bulge and other conflict in World War II, earning praise as a “hell of a soldier” from Gen. George Patton. He returned to Waterville to practice and served as College physician from 1939 to 1982, receiving a Colby Brick in 1965 and an honorary doctorate in 1974. Known as an enthusiastic outdoorsman, the colorful country doctor in his signature flannel shirt was portrayed in the novel M.A.S.H. Goes to Maine. Predeceased by his wife, Marjorie, and son Peter, he is survived by five daughters, 13 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

Rev. Nathanael M. Guptill ’39, September 16, 2007, in Newton, N.C., at 90. He was ordained in 1943 and served as pastor in Maine and Massachusetts. In 1962 he became Connecticut Conference Minister for the United Church of Christ and oversaw the church’s growth. Colby awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1959 and a Colby Brick in 1982. He was predeceased by his father, Horace M. Pullen ’11, and his brother John S. Pullen ’38. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, two daughters and two step-daughters, his brother Richard D. Pullen ’50, two grandchildren, eight step-grandchildren, a nephew, and four nieces, including Lynne Pullen Carlisle ’68.

Jane Lodge Stradley ’43, October 10, 2007, in Kemblesville, Pa., at 87. A frugal and humble woman, she was a teacher and a farmer who lived off her harvests. For many years she owned and operated her own airport in Cecil County, Maryland. She valued antiques and art and favored bloodhounds. Described as an independent woman, she outlived her first husband, Richard B. Irvine ’43, and married several times.

Robert W. Pullen ’41, October 24, 2007, in Waterville, Maine, at 88. He earned a Ph.D. in 1949 from MIT, where his teaching career began. He taught economics at Colby for 35 years, chaired the department for six, and served as faculty representative to the Board of Trustees. He was appointed administrative vice president in 1973 and was secretary to the corporation for four years. He served on numerous committees and boards on campus, in Waterville, and for the state. The College awarded him a Colby Brick in 1971 for his long service. He was predeceased by his father, Horace M. Pullen 1911, and his brother John S. Pullen ’38. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, two daughters and two step-daughters, his brother Richard D. Pullen ’50, two grandchildren, eight step-grandchildren, a nephew, and four nieces, including Lynne Pullen Carlisle ’68.

June Saunders Marshall ’39, August 22, 2007, in Sturgeon Bay, Wis., at 90. After raising her children, she became owner and operator of a gourmet cooking shop in Naperville, Ill. She was an avid reader, a gardener, and a member of the Christian Science Church. Survivors include her husband of 68 years, Scott, three children, a brother, 11 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

Robert W. Pullen ’41, October 24, 2007, in Waterville, Maine, at 88. He earned a Ph.D. in 1949 from MIT, where his teaching career began. He taught economics at Colby for 35 years, chaired the department for six, and served as faculty representative to the Board of Trustees. He was appointed administrative vice president in 1973 and was secretary to the corporation for four years. He served on numerous committees and boards on campus, in Waterville, and for the state. The College awarded him a Colby Brick in 1971 for his long service. He was predeceased by his father, Horace M. Pullen 1911, and his brother John S. Pullen ’38. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie, two daughters and two step-daughters, his brother Richard D. Pullen ’50, two grandchildren, eight step-grandchildren, a nephew, and four nieces, including Lynne Pullen Carlisle ’68.

Donald M. Johnson ’44, September 25, 2007, in Windham, Maine, at 86. He served on a Navy destroyer in the Pacific during World War II, then taught school in Maine and earned a master’s from Harvard. He built
a career at Rand Corp. and Systems Development Corp. in computers and the defense industry during the Cold War. After retiring he resumed teaching and was a lacrosse coach in Maine. Remembered for his big smile and red hair, he had a passion for art. With his wife, Mary, he raised three children.

Edward H. Smith '45, August 26, 2007, in Portland, Maine, at 86. He served with the Coast Guard in the Pacific during World War II and was awarded five battle stars. He ran a hotel and cabins in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, for more than 25 years, working nights and winters as a news and sports reporter. An avid sports fan and reader, he worked as a freelance writer in retirement. He and his wife raised three children.

Priscilla Weeks Currier '47, October 28, 2007, in Exeter, N.H., at 81. She lived much of her life in Plaistow, N.H., teaching at the town’s Pollard School, worshiping at its First Baptist Church, and serving as a trustee at the Plaistow Public Library. Survivors include her husband, Clayton E. Currier '47, a son and two daughters, and four grandchildren.

Paul A. Choate '48, August 16, 2007, in Auburn, Maine, at 79. He served in the Navy during World War II then earned an LL.B. degree in 1951 from Boston University. He practiced law and became partner of Linnel, Choate & Webber in Auburn. He was predeceased by his parents, John F. '20 and Bertha Cobb Choate '22, his first spouse, Virginia Yorke Choate '39, his sister, Constance Choate Trahan '46, and his brother John S. '49. Survivors include his wife, Irene, his son Andrew B. '79, his brothers David A. '48 and Philip S. '64, and several cousins including Virginia Hill Field '48 and Joanne Price Rockett '60.

Alice Crooks Austin '49, September 18, 2007, in Eliot, Maine, at 79. She was a homemaker and a mother who worked for New Hampshire Insurance for 14 years. She was a member of the First Congregational Church, and she followed New England sports teams and cheered for her children's teams. Survivors include her companion, John Sargent, five children, nine grandchildren, and a sister.

Samuel T. Horne Jr. '49, November 3, 2007, in Waterville, Maine, at 83. He served as a Navy medic during World War II and received a Purple Heart for fighting in the South Pacific. He earned a law degree from Boston University and practiced in Maine with Allstate Company. He fished and hunted, was a Maine Guide, and played saxophone for dance bands. Predeceased by his sister, Donna Horne Ellis '41, he is survived by his niece, Madonna Ellis Browne, a grandnephew, and a grandniece.

Ivan A. Yeaton Jr. '49, July 31, 2007, in Concord, Mass., at 86. He served in World War II in the quartermaster corps in the Philippines. He received an M.B.A. in 1950 from the Wharton School, worked in various finance roles for Raytheon Company, and was a lecturer at Northeastern University. He held committee positions with his church, served as national director for the National Association of Accountants, and was a substitute teacher during his retirement. His children, Richard and Linda, two sisters, a granddaughter, and two great-grandchildren survive him.

James F. Doughty '50, October 26, 2007, in Scarborough, Maine, at 83. He served in the Navy during World War II, then came to Colby. He worked in insurance and became vice president and treasurer at Blake, Hall & Sprague in South Portland. He had a passion for sports, loved reading and music, was a Mason, and introduced his family to golf. Survivors include his wife of 58 years, Florence, two sons and a daughter, a sister, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

John J. Ratoff ’52, October 26, 2007, in Exeter, N.H., at 81. During World War II he served in the Navy as a crew member on a PB4Y Liberator aircraft. He earned a degree in pharmacy from Northeastern and operated Toby's Drug Store in Hampton, N.H., for 20 years. He served in the New Hampshire legislature for two terms and held other positions in the state, including liquor commissioner and commissioner of the Department of Employment Security. His children, Andrea Checovitch, Nancy Johnson, and John A. Ratoff, three brothers, two sisters, and 10 grandchildren survive him.

Mary Ellen Betts Harrison '53, September 8, 2007, in Springfield, Vt., at 76. She graduated from Andover Newton Theological School in 1956 and became an ordained minister that same year. Her work focused on youth ministry. Along with her husband, Harold, she raised two sons.

Aaron B. Schless ’58, September 14, 2007, in East Hampton, N.Y., at 70. He received his law degree in 1961 from Columbia University and practiced law in Connecticut. He also served as the assistant town attorney for Fairfield, Conn. Survivors include his wife, Phyllis, and son, Daniel '03.

Suzanne Burleigh Meyer ’62, September 3, 2007, in Fairfax, Va., at 66. She received her master’s in education from the University of Maine and taught art at elementary schools in Maine, New York, Ohio, and Virginia. She belonged to the Methodist church for 27 years and participated in adult education. Survivors include her husband, David, two sons, a sister, and one grandson.

Philip E. Stearns ’67, September 2, 2007, in West Hartford, Conn., at 62. An English teacher for 35 years at Manchester (Conn.) High School, he mentored his students in independent study projects, through AF5 Intercultural Programs, and during summer trips to Europe. Described as full of life and words, he relished conversation, good food, and cats. His partner, Stephen Purdy, and a cousin survive him.

Thomas G. Maynard '69, August 25, 2007, in Durango, Colo., at 60. He earned a master’s from Hunter College and worked as an urban planning consultant. A jazz musician and a composer, he served on the board of directors for the San Juan Symphony. He was also a runner, competing in triathlons, marathons, and cross-country skiraces. Survivors include his wife, Lorna Gail LaDage, a sister, two uncles and two aunts, a niece, and her fiancé.

Robert S. Silberman '03, September 26, 2007, in Stamford, Conn., at 26. A media buyer for OMD in New York, he died from Ewing’s sarcoma. Adventurous and energetic, he played hockey and lacrosse, snowboarded, hiked, and cycled. He is survived by his parents, Mary and Alan ’50, two sisters, Lauren and Alison ’00, and his dog, Molly.

Janice Miller Thorpe ’79, August 6, 2007, in Montclair, N.J., at 50. Employed by Automated Data Processing, Inc., she developed a passion for tennis at Colby and it continued throughout her life. She played in several adult leagues and was an instructor. A natural left-hander, she relearned the game right-handed after a wrist injury. Her husband, William, two stepsons, her mother, her sister, and two nephews survive her.

Shawn E. Gager ’92, September 14, 2007, in Boston, Mass., at 36. She received her M.B.A. from Babson and was an IT consultant for Darwin Partners. She played ice hockey and coached hockey at the Brookwood School. A dedicated athlete, she was an avid runner, a mountain biker, a scuba diver, and an expert skier. Photography and travel were other passions. Her sudden death was a result of an infection that entered her spinal fluid. She is survived by her father and stepmother, John and Linda, a sister, two uncles and two aunts, a niece, and her fiancé.

Susan Gernet Adams ’78, August 26, 2007, in Chappaqua, N.Y., at 51. A television producer for Dateline NBC, she was a four-time Emmy Award winner. She also worked for Nightline and Primetime Live at ABC and covered the 1988 Olympics in Seoul. Survivors include her partner, Pope Brock, two daughters, and a sister.
No Shortage of Material

By Leslie Robinson '85

I suspect I’m one of the few homosexuals who grieved the death of Jerry Falwell.

His outlandish statements about gays and lesbians kept him in the news and me in business. My humor column for gay newspapers will go on, but, by God, I’m going to miss the man who was manna to me.

Fortunately for me, if unfortunately for the rest of gays everywhere, the world still has lots of aggressively homophobic folks ready to attack and demean gays and to blame us for everything from 9/11 to the Asian tsunami to Brussels sprouts.

Echoing Falwell, the official children’s rights watchdog of Poland called for an investigation last spring into whether the Teletubbies character Tinky Winky promotes homosexuality to Polish children. People giggled the world over, but it reminded me that, although the Rev. Falwell had just passed, my source material remained abundant and flourishing.

Eastern Europe as a whole has been doing me a power of good the last couple of years. Local gays and lesbians want a piece of the freedom that came to the region; many of their fellow citizens would rather drop an iron curtain on their heads.

Tensions have boiled over during attempted gay pride parades in cities including Moscow, Budapest, Zagreb, and Riga, when gays have been arrested, beaten and had goodies like rotten food and human feces thrown at them. Stalin would be proud.

In an assortment of African countries, governments and religions are trying like the dickens to stamp out homosexuality. Nigeria earned the distinction of seeking to pass the world’s most draconian anti-gay legislation, and it may try yet again to outlaw gays talking to one another. A hellacious prospect for gay Nigerians; a bumper crop of columns for me.

Of course, I don’t have to look beyond American borders to find the sublimely ridiculous. In June, on Fox News Channel’s The O’Reilly Factor, host Bill O’Reilly actually devoted a show to spreading the breathtaking “news” that a national network of lesbian gangs is terrorizing American cities.

His crime expert claimed there are more than 150 lesbian gangs in the greater Washington, D.C., area alone. From coast to coast, often bearing pink nine-millimeter Glocks, these wanton women attack men and rape girls.

Part of me was impressed. On my best day I couldn’t have come up with a tale that fanciful.

One of my favorites of 2007 was the case of North Carolina’s Dr. Robert Crummie, who, serving as the volunteer Doctor of the Day at the state legislature, took the opportunity to hand out to lawmakers free copies of his book, Dr. Bob’s Grocery Store Medicine and Healthy Life Anecdotes.

Dr. Bob’s long career in medicine led him to write, “There is no such thing as a homosexual. The Gay Movement is a hoax.” The good doctor added, “Individuals who act out homosexuality are at best very neurotic and at worst psychotic.”

This was one of those occasions when I didn’t have to work to create humor—he did it for me. I’d write him a thank-you note but for these damned psychotic episodes.

It’s a weird truism that some of the most homophobic people are actually homosexual. A number of closet cases have been caught over the last year with one foot in the straight world and another part of their anatomy in the gay world.

For me, Ted Haggard is the gift that keeps on giving. One of the nation’s leading evangelicals, with the requisite anti-gay positions, his career sank amid allegations of sex with a male hooker and drug use. But the story didn’t end there. Haggard went through three weeks of intensive therapy, after which he was declared “completely heterosexual.”

That’s a bigger miracle than the loaves and the fishes.

In 2007 Haggard relocated from Colorado Springs to Phoenix. He’s working toward a counseling degree, which is scary. Recently he had the gall to ask his supporters for monetary donations. Those overseeing his “restoration” told him, Ted, get a job.

I think we’ll be hearing more from Pastor Ted. He won’t let me down.

On the very day I’m writing this for Colby, a judge in Minnesota has denied Senator Larry Craig’s motion to withdraw his guilty plea in The Great Bathroom Case, and the Idahoan startlingly declared he won’t resign his Senate seat after all. Well, I don’t know how this will play out, but you can’t beat it for drama.

With his family values pedigree, Craig insists he wasn’t trolling for sex in that men’s bathroom in the Minneapolis airport. Do I believe that? You betcha—just as much as I believed Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad the other day when he announced his country has no homosexuals.

All these wacky claims about gays and lesbians are job insurance for me. I promise that, if people around the world get a notion to stop demonizing homosexuals, I’ll be willing to try a new line of work. For now, eight years after I started this gig, I have as much job security as the Pope.

Leslie Robinson '85 is a former columnist for the Colby Echo. Her humor column is at www.GeneralGayety.com.
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U.S. Ambassador Patrick Duddy ’73, a career diplomat, has been asked to find common ground with President Hugo Chávez of Venezuela. Page 20