

Colby



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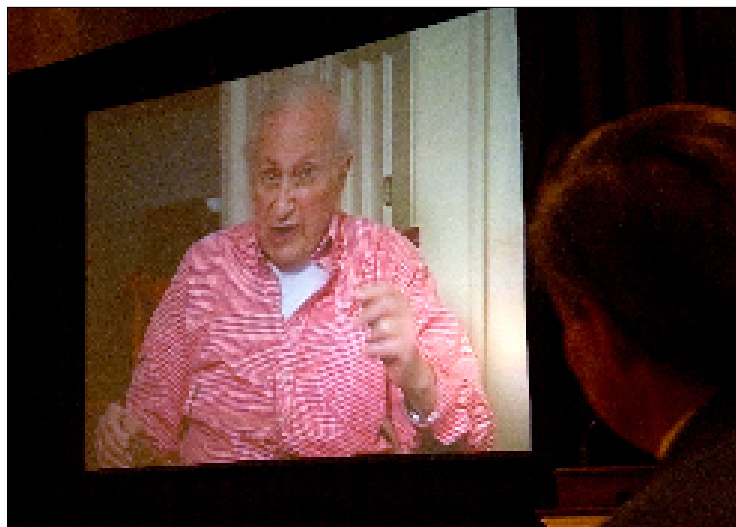
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Terkel, Lovejoy and . . . Ashcroft?

The singular Studs Terkel, a raconteur, activist and historian who thumbed his nose at loyalty oaths and at the House Un-American Activities Committee in the 1950s and lost his job as a result, received the 2004 Elijah Parish Lovejoy journalism award on October 10. Now age 92 and anything but contrite, Terkel used the opportunity to thumb his nose once more—this time directing his criticism toward the USA PATRIOT Act and Attorney General John Ashcroft.

Confined to his home due to ill health, Terkel sent his thanks for the award in a recorded video message (now available online at www.colby.edu/lovejoy) in which he recalled the Salem witch trials—when “witches were the terrorists of the day”—and asserted that the Patriot Act was “born at that moment.” Accepting the award on Terkel’s behalf was his long-time friend, Chicago author Alex Kotlowitz. Kotlowitz, who has written about race and social injustices in America, delivered



Studs Terkel, recipient of this year’s Lovejoy award for courageous journalism, makes his acceptance speech to the convocation through video as President Bro Adams looks on.

the Lovejoy Address, a warm tribute to his mentor and to the power of storytelling in the Terkel tradition.

“At a time when we in this profession are so obsessed with the rich and the beautiful,” Kotlowitz said, “where we ponder such weighty matters as where Martha Stewart is going to go to prison

or how long Britney Spears’s new marriage will last or the outcome of the latest episode of *Survivor*, Studs reminds us of where we should be focused. He captures the rhythms of everyday life, of everyday dreams.”

The Lovejoy Award is presented annually to a journalist who has shown courage as a

reporter or editor. It honors the memory of Elijah Parish Lovejoy, valedictorian of Colby’s Class of 1826, who became America’s first martyr to freedom of the press when he was killed for his strident antislavery editorials.

In a citation that accompanied the award, President William Adams praised Terkel for being “first and foremost, a consummate listener.”

“Your courage—to question authority and to put the common good above self—exemplifies values for which we revere Elijah Parish Lovejoy,” Adams said.

The convocation was preceded by a panel discussion, “Diversity in the Newsroom: Its Effect on What Gets Reported,” sponsored by the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement. In that forum, editors Greg Moore (*Denver Post*) and Ann Marie Lipinski (*Chicago Tribune*) and columnist Jeff Jacoby (*Boston Globe*) disagreed intensely, but civilly, over definitions of diversity. —Stephen Collins ’74

That’s Global Reach



Radio listeners around the world didn’t know it, but one night during the Republican National Convention the political analysis had a distinct Colby pedigree. **ROBERT HOOPES ’89** was in the media box at Madison Square Garden September 1 analyzing Dick Cheney’s speech when he heard a familiar voice. “I looked over, and down the aisle from me was **STU ROTHENBERG [’70]**,” he said. Hoopes, a Washington political consultant with his own firm, Hoopes Strategies, was doing commentary for BBC Radio. Rothenberg, editor of *The Rothenberg Political Report*, was doing the same for Voice of America. “Between BBC and VOA, we had most of the world’s land mass covered,” Hoopes said.

Health Center Restores 24/7

Colby’s Health Center returned to round-the-clock hours this fall and plans to maintain 24/7 service for at least three years. The Health Center also began the year with a new full-time medical director, Paul Berkner, D.O., a board certified pediatrician.

A severe shortage of RNs prevented the Health Center from providing overnight care last year. But after clear signals from parents and students that they placed high value on 24/7 access, a recruiting effort yielded five new nurses and restored round-the-clock service. Colby’s

remains the only college health center in Maine accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care.

“I’m an advocate for accessibility”

Paul Berkner, D.O.

Running a 24-hour operation is consistent with Berkner’s philosophy. “I’m an advocate for accessibility,” he said, stressing that it’s important to provide service when students need it and are able to take advantage of it. He sees the Health Center’s

role as intervening in illnesses “before they become issues.”

“Students’ lives are not all that flexible,” Dr. Berkner said. They are heavily scheduled during the day and are unlikely to recognize that they are getting sick until evening.

Dr. Berkner said he is joining an “amazing health staff and a great program” and that he is eager to see it grow and change to meet students’ needs. As an advocate of wellness and of preventive care, he plans to be as proactive as possible and reactive when necessary to keep Colby’s students healthy. —S.C.

Research Granted

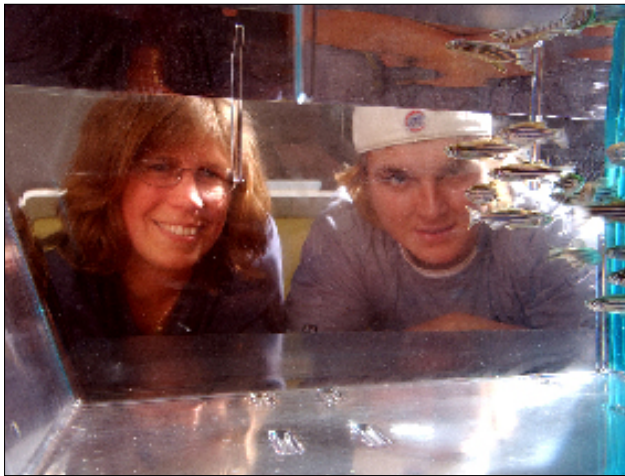
Next time you crack into a lobster or crab shell for a decadent meal, chew on this: the human brain and the brains of crustaceans are quite similar. That's the basis of research by Eric Luth '05, who uses crabs to study the effects of pollutants on the nervous system. After working last summer at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Luth has brought his experience back to Mayflower Hill, where he continues the research for his

ate-level research. Colby received a portion of the collaborative \$17.8-million IDEa Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE), given to nine institutions by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the purpose of advancing biomedical research and collaboration in Maine.

Over the next five years Colby will use the funding for lab supplies, high-tech equipment, a faculty mentoring program, student research stipends and a molecular technician to support faculty research. Lynn Hannum (biology) puts it simply: "It's keeping the lab running. Without it, I couldn't do these projects."

Hannum and her thesis student, Joel Morash '05, are using the INBRE grant to study the circadian rhythms (24-hour cycles) in zebrafish. Once they determine the similarities between zebrafish and humans (which scientists believe exist), the research will apply to broad issues. "It'll help us understand at what point during the day certain cells would be proliferating and growing, [which will] help with certain cancer research," Morash explained.

The sophisticated research being conducted at Colby puts Colby students ahead of undergraduates at comparable institutions. "Increasingly, graduate programs look for that kind of experience," said Bets Brown of Corporate and Foundation Relations, who worked on the grant proposal. "It gives students a leg up." —*Ruth Jacobs*



Professor Lynn Hannum and her thesis student, Joel Morash '05, study the circadian rhythms in zebrafish, thanks to the INBRE grant.

senior thesis under Andrea Tilden (biology).

While Luth slices crabs' eye stalks and cultures part of the eyes to monitor melatonin production—which, scientists believe, may promote neuron growth—he doesn't think about the cost of his research. But professors do. "Modern molecular research is just incredibly expensive," said Judy Stone (biology).

Thanks to a \$1.9-million research grant awarded to Colby in September, Luth is one of many Colby students able to conduct gradu-

Scouting for Sox

The champagne was still spraying in the Red Sox locker room when Sox ace Curt Schilling, on national television, thanked those who had made the historic Boston victory possible—including **GALEN CARR '97**. Carr, director of advance scouting for the Sox, carefully prepped Boston pitchers and hitters before they shut down the Cardinals. So what's his secret? Spending 40 or more hours poring over video of the opposing team, analyzing each hitter's strengths and weak Reports go to the coaching staff. "We'll also give copies to [cat ers] Varitek and Mirabelli," Carr told *Colby*. "Schilling has gotten in on the action this year. He's big into preparation." So is Carr. Read more at www.colby.edu/colby.mag/sox.



Wit & Wisdom

"I got five cents a column inch for anything I wrote as the *Morning Sentinel's* 16-year-old high school reporter in 1930. Seldom has so much been written about so little."

John Roderick '36, now Associated Press special correspondent and the AP's former lead reporter in China, recounting his early years in journalism in a Sentinel op-ed.

"The glass ceiling gets more pliable when you turn up the heat."

The September 8 entry in the 2004 "Tough Dames" quote-of-the-day calendar, attributed to Pauline Ryder Kezer '63, former secretary of state in Connecticut.

"Someone who thinks that it's okay to put discrimination into the Constitution is definitely not my friend."

Candace Gingrich on President Bush's push for a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage

"At the age of 92, he may have been the first recipient who actually knew Elijah Lovejoy."

Ann Marie Lipinski, editor of the Chicago Tribune, on Studs Terkel winning the 52nd Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award. The award's namesake, Colby Class of 1826, ran a newspaper that condemned slavery and died defending his beliefs.

"Hey. My family's from Russia. If we can survive Siberia, I can handle a Maine winter."

Marina Kotchoubey '08, who lives in Manhattan, anticipating November's first forecast snow.

"The top schools increasingly are producing extremely conventional people. You might think that graduates from Yale or Amherst would be the ones to be really creative or become great engineers or inventors. You're seeing instead that the important discoveries and the artistic creativity are coming from places like Colby and Colorado College."

Gregg Easterbrook in "Crying in the Kitchen Over Princeton," an Atlantic Unbound interview.

Historic Watering Hole

Last year's news was that Park's Diner lives in New Vineyard; now we've found Onie's, another erstwhile Colby hangout. Onie's tenure on Silver Street ended with the urban renewal that brought us The Concourse in the 1960s. But Onie's booths, accoutrements and spirit endure in Rollie's (pronounced "ROE-lees"), a Main Street bar in Belfast, just up from the waterfront.

DALE KUHNERT '68, editor of *Down East* magazine and the source of this scoop, said, "Imagine my delight years ago, when I arrived in Belfast after my Colby career only to discover that the landmark bar had preceded me."

Nuts Over Miller

Workers rehabbing the library tower recently found a hole where a squirrel had chewed through the siding to set up housekeeping in a wall cavity about 100 feet up (near the clock faces). No interloper in sight, the carpenters cleaned out a hoard of acorns and boarded it up again. Mission accomplished; tower terror terminated. But no! Monday morning their freshly painted inch-thick board had a new hole straight through. The rooftop rodent had come home to roost. Enter Gus Libby (PPD), his Havahart trap baited with a peanut butter sandwich and Sodexo asparagus. Tuesday morning there's a "massive" grey squirrel in the trap. "The guy from Modern Pest Control took him," Libby reported, explaining the catch-and-release (far away) policy. "Whether he sent him to another educational institution is anybody's guess. I do know he is no longer a resident of this campus."



MARK NAKAMURA

Where Does the Time Go?

While the library tower was refurbished this fall, the clock, which had been leaking and needed fresh paint, glass and gaskets, went back to its Freeport manufacturer for maintenance. Students were overheard saying they had lost track of time. It's back up now; no more excuses.

Spinning with Spirit

The days of relaxed Frisbee toss may not be gone, but enthusiasts might call that child's play. In recent years, popularity of the team sport Ultimate Frisbee has skyrocketed, and Colby offers no exception.

On any given afternoon this fall, pedestrians and motorists passing the Miller Library quad, and later the new Colby Green, witnessed throngs of students spinning discs, forming lines for drills and sprinting from end to end. The club's exponential growth means that come spring, Colby will—for the first time ever—have both a men's and a women's team.

Steve Luke '06, who co-founded the club in 2002, has watched interest blossom from 14 players to nearly 50—about a third of them women. Colby scrimmages local colleges regularly and hits out-of-state tournaments about four times per semester. The word is officially out that, as Luke put it, "When you boil it down, there's really nothing more exhilarating than chasing a piece of plastic for hours on end."

Alas, it's more complicated than that. In a football-soccer-like blend, seven players per team traverse the field aiming to pass the disc to a teammate in the end zone, thereby scoring a point. Contact is never allowed. And unlike most sports, Ultimate is played without referees. "This puts the responsibility of calling all fouls and settling disputes on the players' shoulders. That's where the spirit of the game comes in," said co-captain Krissy Thatcher '07. "That's one of the things that makes Ultimate so fun—everyone plays really competitively but also in a highly spirited manner." That's Ultimate—without the spin. —R.J.



FRED FIELD

Anna Green '07, left, and Kate Nevius '07 during a recent practice.

With Power Comes Great Responsibility

When you run the largest news organization in the world, a lot of things can keep you up at night. Thomas Curley, president and CEO of the Associated Press, shared some of those concerns in a lecture sponsored by the *Morning Sentinel* and the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement on September 29.

Here are some observations from the editor turned publisher.

Speed versus Accuracy

"Today we [the media] have the technological ability to put the story on the air before we know what the story is," he said. Accuracy is a priority, and for that he relies on his editors. "They go over those words very carefully."

*"Fighting for access
[to information] has
never been harder
than it is today."*

Thomas Curley

Freedom of Information

"The trend toward government secrecy continues to grow," he said. "Fighting for access [to information] has never been harder than it is today," he continued. "I think that we are on a slippery slope . . . we are at a pivotal point here and we had better stand up."

Partisan Programming and "Liberal Media"

Asked about stations like Fox News cloaking opinions as news, the businessman replied: "They have done a very smart job of positioning themselves. . . . They have reached out and touched an audience." But the AP takes another approach. "If our reporters are deemed to be one way or the other, I'm in big trouble," Curley said. —R.J.



No More Naysayers

Here's a unique way to use a Colby English degree: editing descriptions of paintings composed by . . . a horse. Sam Sharnik '91, a television editor by day, spends his spare time snapping photos, editing content and maintaining a Web site for Romeo, the horse that paints. Sharnik's wife, Cheryl, parlayed Romeo's habit of picking things up in his mouth into a pastime for the equine. Now, the Florida couple has turned it into a full-fledged business, selling the abstract paintings for hundreds of dollars. But the real kick, according to Sharnik, is seeing the pleasure that others get from Romeo's gift. "We get joy from watching him paint and seeing the paintings on our walls, and we just want to share that with people," he said. "It just makes people smile." A full gallery is online at www.paintinghorse.com.

Colby Update: TRACI SPEED

When we last visited **TRACI SPEED '03** (fall 2002 *Colby*) she was hard at work in Keyes Science Building, painstakingly studying the molecular structure of a coral found off of the Korean Peninsula. Toxins in the coral are thought to have use in cancer treatment, and Speed's work was recognized in prestigious scientific journals and with a grant from the American Association of Cancer Research.

Where to after that? The M.D./Ph.D. program at the Johns Hopkins Medical School, where Speed started her second

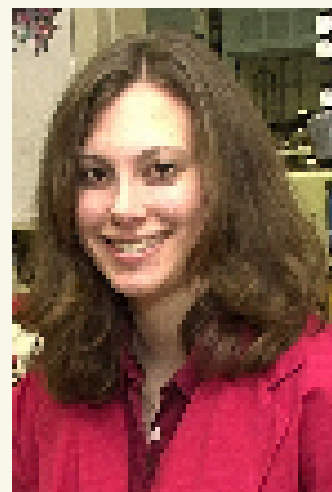
year this fall. This past summer her time was spent in the neuroscience laboratory of Dr. Solomon Snyder, head of the neuroscience department and a Hopkins legend.

"We're studying the functions of a newly discovered protein, in part to learn about vesicular trafficking within cells," Speed reported. "Hopefully, by studying this protein in the neuron, we can gain further insight as to how cellular transportation is regulated."

The research is so novel that all of the implications aren't

understood, Speed said, but the work could lead to a better understanding of the human immune system response to pathogens and of the mechanism that keeps cells from proliferating indefinitely.

Next year she plans to plunge into her doctoral work. She's leaning toward pharmacology but is still mulling, she said. When she isn't in the lab or the hospital, Speed tutors high school freshmen and sophomores in Baltimore. Who better to put younger students on a fast track? —Gerry Boyle '78



Traci Speed '03

Trustee Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the Alumni Council has nominated M. Jane Powers '86 and James E. Cowie '77 for the position of alumni trustee, with terms to begin at commencement 2005.

Powers, who lives in Massachusetts, is a social worker and family therapist who serves as director of a day treatment program. She was active on the Admissions Committee of the Alumni Council (1992-98) and as chair of the Student Services Committee of the council (1995-98). She has been an admissions interviewer and career services volunteer and is currently an overseer, having served on the overseers visiting committees to the Sociology and student services departments and to the Latin American Studies and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies programs.

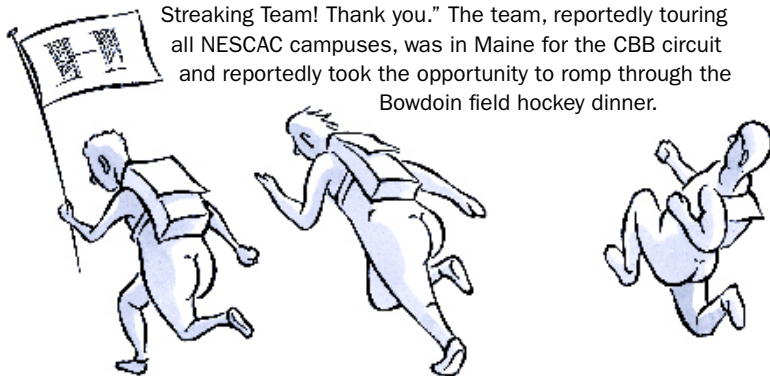
Cowie lives in Kenilworth, Ill., and is married to Kathleen M. Keegan '77. A venture capitalist, he serves on the boards of his local public radio station and the Illinois Institute of Technology. He has been active on his 25th Colby reunion gift committee and as a member of the Alumni Council (1993-97) and currently serves as an overseer.

In accordance with the by-laws of the Alumni Association, other nominations may be made by petition to the Executive Secretary of the Alumni Council with the signatures of one percent of the members of the association on or before February 15, 2005. In the event of no nominations by petition, the above candidates will be declared elected by the chair of the Alumni Council.

Hamiltonian Streak

At 11:30 a.m. Sunday morning during Family Homecoming Weekend, about 10 young men, clad exclusively in athletic shoes and backpacks, were sighted jogging up Cotter Drive carrying a big "H" flag. Later that day the Alumni Office received an official Family Homecoming Weekend evaluation form stating, "You've been streaked by the Hamilton Varsity

Streaking Team! Thank you." The team, reportedly touring all NESCAC campuses, was in Maine for the CBB circuit and reportedly took the opportunity to romp through the Bowdoin field hockey dinner.



Who's new at Colby? Go to *Colby Online* for a complete rundown of new faculty and staff, www.colby.edu/colby.mag/newfaces.

Benissan's Bonanza

Colby students have long appreciated African drumming instructor Jordan Messan Benissan's talent. Now he's reaching big new audiences. Benissan's third CD, *Let Me Play My Music*, is featured on NPR's "All Songs Considered," an online program airing full versions of the songs excerpted during broadcasts. The Togo native is also gaining popularity with younger audiences, thanks to an article in the September issue of *Highlights*, a children's magazine.



Look, It's Green

The Colby Green turned green in August when workers rolled 90,000 square feet of Maine sod over the land between Lunder House and the soon-to-be-completed Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center (pictured at the far end of the green).