

# Colby



## Colby Magazine

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## Letters

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## Letters

### Players Were Austin's Priority

I am saddened by Tom Austin's retirement as head football coach; we have spent a tremendous amount of time together over the past 15 years. I will miss the daily interaction that we have shared, but I am very happy for him and [his wife], Faye. He has poured his heart and soul into Colby and Colby football and has worked tirelessly to develop the program into one of the most respected in New England—one that the entire Colby community can be very proud of. People don't really understand the time commitment involved, and we all respect his choice to spend the next phase of his life with his family.

More than anything, Tom has done it the right way. He has been the perfect fit for Colby. He understands the balance between academics and athletics and uses the dynamics of the ultimate team sport to teach his players lessons that will serve them well throughout their life. Tom takes as much satisfaction in what his players accomplish off the field as he does in their football endeavors. Playing football at Colby for Tom has meant being part of a family, and that is a relationship that continues long after one graduates.

Tom has been an outstanding role model for the players; he is enthusiastic, positive, fair yet demanding. Being a part of Colby football has been a meaningful part of the Colby experience; he genuinely recognized the unique contribution that each individual made to the team. The highest tribute that I could pay Tom is that when speaking to the parents of a prospective student-athlete, I would say to them that Tom is the kind of man I would want my son to play for. Tom has always been devoted to the players, and in turn they loved him and would do anything for him. They would literally run through a wall.

Tom leaves as the all-time victory leader in Colby football history, but the impact that he has had on all of us who have coached with him or played for him can't be measured in terms of wins. All of us who have shared the unique experience that is Colby Football with Tom Austin are bound together by a deep sense of "Blue Team Pride."

Unlike most coaches, Tom is not driven by ego; it has always been about the players. In typical Tom Austin fashion, he announced his retirement when he did because to do so before the season or even before the last game would have placed all of the attention on him. At Colby, the focus has always been the kids.

*Ed Mestieri*

Adjunct Associate Professor of Physical Education and Athletics  
Assistant Football Coach

### Posse Photo Delightful

Your *Colby* fall 2003 cover photo delights me! So many beautiful faces and "colors." Thank you for becoming inclusive.

A button I created while working at Union Theological Seminary, N.Y.C. ('80-'92), says, "Racism, Sexism, and Greed are Our Diseases, and *we* are the only cure."

*Grace Keefer Parker '45*  
Babylon, N.Y.

### Lemoine Obituary Stirs Memories

My granddaughter, Erika Seiko Togashi, graduated from Colby this past May. While I was with my family for Thanksgiving, I read in her copy of *Colby*, fall 2003, of the death of Harold F. Lemoine '32.

Father Lemoine was my rector at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Queens Village, L.I., N.Y., in the early 1940s. He performed my marriage service in 1945 and baptized my two daughters in 1949 and 1952.

I know he went on to be dean of The Cathedral of The Incarnation in Garden City, Long Island, but having left Long Island as our family moved on, I lost track of him. As I read of his death in *Colby*, many

lovely memories flooded back to me of this kind shepherd who cared for his flock, of which I was fortunate to be part, so many years ago.

*Eileen Barnes Schinlever*  
Penllyn, Pa.

### Artificial Turf Field Overdue

As an athlete at Colby who spent four years schlepping to lacrosse practice inside the outdated Colby indoor track facility at such hours as 5 a.m. and 8 p.m., I am wondering where the upgrading of that facility and/or a turf field are in the new campus master plan. I am thrilled that the school will improve many aspects of the campus and will add buildings, but I wonder why this glaring need seems to have been ignored yet again.

There are the memories of rolling snow off of the outdoor field in April so that we could play a scheduled game, or practicing with the aroma of "fertilizer" that was used to melt the snow faster. At these moments, we all dreamed of a turf field, where we could practice and play during the last few chilly and snowy weeks of Maine weather.

My experience in sports at Colby was powerful for me; and, of course, part of the beauty of competing at Colby is that athletics remains in balance with the academic experience of the institution. However, I hope that sometime in the near future, the school recognizes that the competitors of the school need a safe, functional and, preferably, unsnow-filled surface to play on.

*Kara Marchant Hooper '97*  
Ojai, Calif.

### Letters Welcome

*Colby* welcomes your letters. Send them to Gerry Boyle, editor; *Colby* magazine; Office of Communications; 4180 Mayflower Hill; Waterville, ME 04901, or by e-mail to mag@colby.edu. Length should be limited to 400 words or less. *Colby* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.



Gleaned from the campus newsletter, FYI

## Hands Off?

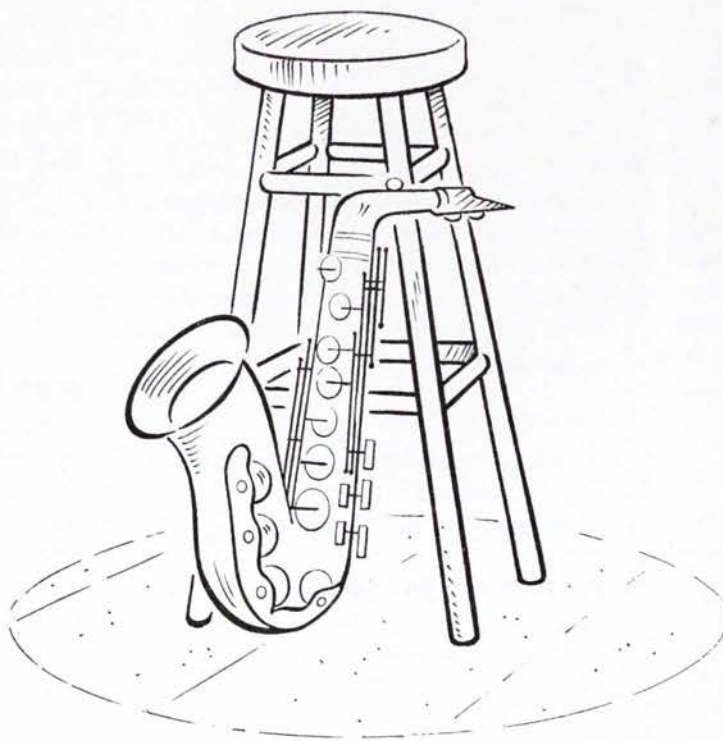
**Ellen Paul** (security) kept a close eye on most of the 11,200 people who visited *Cherished Possessions: A New England Legacy* this summer and fall at the museum. A list of "mosts" she compiled includes the most frequently asked question ("Where is the blue dress?") and items most touched (bed cover and Bombay chair), rules notwithstanding. Current museum attractions include *Memorial Project Vietnam* and the Maine Crafts Association's 20th anniversary exhibition, *20/20 enVision*.

## PBK from Near and Away

From Worcester to Sweden and Cincinnati back to Lee, Maine, recipients of this year's Phi Beta Kappa Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Awards cover some ground. Honored during Family Homecoming Weekend were **Matthew Guy-Hamilton '05**, Worcester, Mass.; **Emilia Tjernstrom '05**, Kalmar, Sweden; **Alexandra Funk '06**, Cincinnati, Ohio; and **Morgan Maxwell '06**, Winn, Maine. Top performers in their classes, these are stunning students all.

## Like It or Not

Yet another college guide has hit bookstore shelves—*The ISI Guide 2004: Choosing the Right College: The Whole Truth About America's Top Schools*. Its ideology, expressed in an introduction by William J. Bennett, advocates a strong core curriculum focused on "the best that has been thought and said by those Western thinkers whose ideas have formed our political, religious, and cultural landscape." That, Bennett writes, is what "best serves students, even in this age of multiculturalism and globalization." Agree with the ideology or not, the authors



## Remembering Al

Colby lost a dear friend when Elias "Al" Corey, Maine's premier big-band leader, died November 9 at 86. Al conducted and played sax at every Governor's Ball since 1950, performed at many a Colby graduation and reunion from the 1940s through the turn of the century and for 28 years gave free summer concerts at the Gould Music Shell. We remember Al for his sense of humor, his generosity and the kindness he showed to all. The *Morning Sentinel* story noting his passing is at [www.centralmaine.com/news/local/154883.shtml](http://www.centralmaine.com/news/local/154883.shtml).

did an unusually thorough job researching Colby, and they say students mentioned **Jeff Kasser** (philosophy), **Andrea Tilden** (biology), **Catherine Besteman** (anthropology), **George Welch** (math), **Peter Harris** (English) and **Bevin Engman** (art) among Colby's best teachers.

## FTE Goes to ES for GIS

Three decades after Colby's Environmental Studies Program was founded, the program got approval to hire its first full-time, tenure-track faculty member. The ES program has been staffed heretofore by professors based in other departments or programs, but in October trustees approved

one of the 10 new faculty lines in the Plan for Colby to hire a faculty member with specialties in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and domestic policy issues. GIS is used in many scientific and social science disciplines. The new person, who should begin at Colby next fall, eventually will be housed in the proposed Diamond Building for social sciences and interdisciplinary studies as part of the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement.

## Winners Were in Lorimer

Despite going head-to-head with the final Red Sox victory and their own Cubs' Waterloo, this year's Lovejoy Award

recipients, **Steve Mills** and **Maurice Possley** of the *Chicago Tribune*, pulled in a good crowd to Lorimer Chapel on October 15 and then inspired listeners with tales of the criminal justice system. During the convocation a cell phone in the second pew kept a small group informed, as the Sox won game six. Those listening did not heed President **Bro Adams**'s earlier advice. "Remember," he prophetically told those distracted by the game, "this is a Greek tragedy."

## A Request Fulfilled

In 1955 a young man stood in Colby's new hockey rink and said, "In all humility, I ask only that I be granted the resources, the ability and the life-blood to enable me to continue to assist young men and women to attend Colby." It was **Harold Alford H'80**, for whom various facilities and scholarships have been named, and his quote was turned up by College Historian **Earl Smith**, who read it at the October 10th dinner to honor the Alford and Levine family as the C Club Family of the Century. Needless to say, Harold's wish 48 years ago came true beyond Colby's wildest expectations.

## Carrying Water for Kerry

When **Michael Cuzzi '98** accepted a job in Manchester, N.H., this fall as advance site lead with Senator John Kerry's presidential campaign he discovered a strong alumni contingent already at work. Cuzzi, who spent two years in Eustis as the AmeriCorps coordinator for literacy programs, now works with **Jean-Michel Picher '96**, **Alison Silberman '00** and **Spencer Hutchins '03**, all of whom are on Kerry's campaign or senatorial staff. **Emily Boyle '06** is a



an Plan intern at the campaign's New Hampshire headquarters.

### Johnson Pondering

A query about aquatic life in Johnson Pond unearthed a few facts about the oft-photographed body of water—some, perhaps, little known. The six-acre pond was excavated in 1939 and named for Franklin Johnson, Colby's 15th president. The College needed the fill to landscape the terraces in front of Miller Library. In 1997-98 it was drained and dredged to remove silt and nutrients that contributed to algae blooms and afterward was stocked with rainbow trout, some of which survive today, according to Keith Stockford (PPD). Bass, sunfish and carp also inhabit the pond now, though how they got there is not known. Anglers take note: John Sweeney (Eng-

lish) reminds that the pond is protected—closed to all fishing. It's true that an erstwhile dean once gave local kids permission to fish there, but he had to do some fast talking when the warden arrived. Digging another pond to provide material for building the Colby Green was an idea entertained briefly but ultimately rejected.

### Remember, It's in Waterville

On Mapquest.com, Colby, Maine, is a location 10 miles west of Caribou and three miles south of Sweden. That's where Colby Road crosses an abandoned railroad grade. It's 235 miles northeast of Waterville, but unsuspecting travelers occasionally end up there looking for a college. The weekend before Thanksgiving a mother from Syracuse, N.Y., picked up her daughter in Lake

Placid in the middle of the night to visit the College armed only with directions from the AAA. She called admissions to say they would be a bit late for a morning interview. When she arrived in Colby, Maine, she called again. More than six hours late, the daughter had her interview, the pair ate a hasty meal in the dining hall, and they were southbound that evening.

### He Paid Deerly

At 7:05 a.m. on November 24, a three-point buck crashed through a plate glass window into a hallway area in the Hillside complex. Seriously injured, the deer moved into the Leonard lounge before it collapsed. Police were called and had to destroy the animal. Condolences and kudos to the PPD team that had to clean up an extensive mess. Too late for the deer, but homi-

nids should know that most (not all) of Colby's campus is a Maine Wildlife Management Area, and it is all posted against hunting by any means. Contrary to some published reports, it is not a wildlife refuge. In all of Waterville, discharge of firearms is illegal.

### Insufficiently Well Known

In addition to entries about Connecticut's Nut Museum and New Hampshire's Horse Cavalry Museum, a new book, *Unknown New England: Landmarks, Museums, and Historic Sites You Never Knew Existed*, by Jon Marcus, has three entries under Waterville, Maine—the anti-gravity stone out by the Colby Green, the Colby College Museum of Art and the Redington Museum and Apothecary downtown. Marcus would get his name in bold here if were he a Colby grad; he went to Bates.

## Colby Update: Tracy Schloss

When community activist Tracy Schloss '03 graduated, she figured she was leaving her pet project—a learning center for young children in Waterville's South End—in good hands. Turns out she was right.

Since Schloss left Waterville in May, work has continued on the learning-center project as a variety of community groups have pitched in to keep the dream alive. In the fall, the learning center received a boost when the Paul Newman Foundation kicked in \$15,000 for the center. Newman was filming scenes in the neighborhood for the HBO film adaptation of Richard Russo's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *Empire Falls*. That donation quickly doubled when a family foundation with ties to a Colby faculty member got wind of the Newman pledge and decided to match it.

In addition to the unexpected grants, the children's center plan took a big step forward when the Kennebec Valley Community Action Program agreed to provide pilot space for the new program at the KVCAP building on Water Street. As of last month, the plan was for the center to open in September.

"It is literally a dream come true—unbelievable," Schloss said. "I am so grateful to those who have believed in this dream and donated their time, space, funding and effort to make this a reality. I often go down to the South End Teen Center [opened in 2002],

and there are always young kids there begging to come in on rainy and snowy days. Now they will have their own place to go."

She has seen some of these developments firsthand. After stints with a New York public relations firm and the Maine Arts Commission, Schloss returned to Waterville in November. While waiting to enter the University of Michigan Law School next fall, Schloss has been working for a nonprofit that helps provide academic support for at-risk youth through the Colby Cares About Kids mentoring program. The nonprofit also provides arts, culture, community service and physical recreation opportunities for children and youth throughout Waterville who would not normally have access to such opportunities.

All of these interrelated efforts have a strong Colby connection, thanks in large part to Schloss's efforts during her senior year. With other students, she founded the Colby South End Coalition, which links Colby students to neighborhood teenagers. Program leaders now meet regularly with neighborhood activists as the College becomes more and more a part of the South End's revitalization.

"The most important thing is that Colby is now seen as a partner at the table," Schloss said, "a group that can be called upon for participation and aid in the neighborhood. . . . Now they trust and rely on Colby students." —Gerry Boyle '78