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From the Hill

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Safety concerns prompt College to ban Johnson Pond "tradition" SW1m11g

The last-day-of-classes celebratory swim by seniors across Johnson poured on it this May. Two seniors were fined \$1,000 each for swimming across the pond on May 9 during revelry associated with last classes and a champagne toast on the library steps. The pair defied a notice from Vice President for Student Affairs Janice Kassman, who warned seniors in April that swimming across the pond had become too much of a safety concern.

As punishment for lesser infractions, mostly being in the water without swimming across, eight other students were assigned community service work, helping the Physical Plant Department prepare for graduation.

In each of several recent years, a hundred or more seniors had made the swim, many after having consumed alcohol and some seriously intoxicated. Each year the Health Center records a spike in admissions for lacerations and intoxication on the day of the event, and some students who made the swim in past years went to the Health Center later with symptoms of swimmer's itch. This year one student was transported to the local emergency room after breaking her arm in a fall, and five others were treated at the Health Center for cuts or for intoxication. Environmental damage in and around the pond is a secondary concern.

Kassman's primary reason for outlawing the swim, however, was danger of drowning, she said. With the likelihood of scores or hundreds of students in the pond, some impaired, and with the muddy water opaque with sediment churned up by foot traffic, there was simply too much risk of loss of life to permit the swim to continue, she said.

Seniors spent a long time cheering, spraying champagne and toasting their imminent graduation before more than 200 headed for the banks of the pond. All but a few made a false charge at the water. Some used the opportunity to wallow and wrestle in the mud.

Kassman said some students expressed their appreciation for the ban, but others were miffed at the new restrictions. "For the last three years at least I have been treated like a child. I have not been treated like an adult at all," Dan Parise '03 told the Waterville Morning Sentinel.

"On balance," said Kassman, "I was pleased with the students' response. Aside from a handful, they were respectful of the changes and understood the need for them." She says she will work with class leaders and security on alternative celebrations for future classes. —Stephen Collins '74



Members of the Class of 2002 turn the shore of Johnson Pond into a morass on the last day of classes their senior year. The accompanying swim across the pond was banned by the College this year, though the scene on the shoreline was comparable to years past.

Environmental Studies Project Tackles Colby Emissions

"We [the United States] produce twentyfive percent of the world's greenhouse [gasses] and comprise only four percent of the world's population," said Visiting Professor Wil Burns of the Environmental Studies and Government departments. "This needs to be addressed at the national level but isn't, and institutions such as Colby have a responsibility to do their part."

Thanks to a project named C3 (Colby Climate Coalition) spearheaded by Burns, Colby is doing its part.

In the fall of 2002 students in Burns's environmental policy seminar began to audit Colby's emissions levels. Students also began researching possibilities for future use of "green" electricity, energy generated by sources such as sun and wind that emit much lower levels of carbon dioxide than traditional fossil fuels. Continued research through the spring soon revealed that Colby uses considerably more energy than Bates or Bowdoin and that appropriate measures for curbing its energy use needed to be at the forefront of the College's agenda.

Beginning the process, the Stude Government Association recently pass a motion in favor of "offsetting" t College's greenhouse gas emissions by percent. This involves funding (at a c of nearly \$7,000) environmentally clear power-generation technology not availal in Maine but that would reduce emissic elsewhere in the country.

The commitment to emissions reducti is college-wide. C3 has the support of C lege Vice President of Administration Arnie Yasinski. And in May, President William Adams signed a pledge with the nonprofit group Clean Air-Cool Planet, joining Colby with more than 60 colleges, universities, communities and corporations in the Northeast working to reduce the emissions that cause global warming.

In the fall C3 will be in the hands of the Environmental Advisory Group (EAG), which will form a subcommittee focused on green energy and offsetting options. "There's a lot of desire among students to see institutional change at Colby that reflects environmental

consciousness and values," said Jessica Kellett '04J, a C3 and EAG member.

"We're connected to where we live and want to lessen our footprint on the environment. When you contribute to the solution, the effects radiate on all levels—locally, regionally, nationally and globally," said C3 member Kate Swayne '03. —Sara Blask '03

Bassett Award Goes to Kasser

Jeff Kasser is ever the philosophical philosophy professor. The 2003 recipient of the Senior Class Charles Bassett Teaching Award, Kasser was thrilled to get the award by a vote of the senior class. However, he hopes the award will encourage students to think about the different ways of teaching well. "If you're a popular teacher it falls to you to raise those questions," he said.

Being an exemplary teacher is what philosophers call a "multiple-realizability," says the assistant professor of philosophy. "It is one thing, but there are a lot of different ways of doing that one thing," said Kasser. "I got the award for trying mighty hard to be a good teacher."

Since 1998 Kasser has taught

courses at Colby on American philosophy, epistemology (the nature of knowledge) and the philosophy of science and religion. He also has been advisor to WMHB

"Jeff makes difficult material accessible better than anyone else from whom I've taken a class," said Peter Osborn '03, a philosophy-math-



Jeff Kasser

ematics and philosophy double major. "After one of Jeff's classes, students feel as though they have conducted a complete study, not just a survey of scattered ideas."

Kasser says he likes his singleminded approach. ("I get wired up on coffee and get as much done as possible," he said.) However, he sees benefits in having more flexibility in the classroom. Kasser says he respects teachers who let students work in small groups but feels there never is enough time in his own classes. He also believes there are times appropriate for a straight lecture to students. "But I can't do it," he said. "I can't leave them out of the conversation."

So, what does Kasser think it takes

to be a good teacher? "You have to really care about two things—students and the material." he said, "You have to care passionately about both of them and you have to make hard choices between them."

For this philosophy professor an award is never merely an award. It's also an opportunity to provoke students. —Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay '97

New Study of College Sports Considers NESCAC, Colby

In their 2001 book, The Game of Life: College Sports and Educational Values, James L. Schulman and William G. Bowen took a hard look at the impact of athletics on a broad range of academically selective colleges and universities, Colby among them. This September a follow-up study will be published in a book by Bowen and Sarah A. Levin titled Reclaiming the Game: College Sports and Educational Values. Colby will figure in the new book too, since it focused on 33 institutions, including NESCAC schools, and since President William Adams chaired the NESCAC presidents' group in the midst of the study.

Reclaiming the Game examines admissions and academic experiences of recruited athletes, walk-ons and other students. Advance notices from the publisher (Princeton University Press) promise the book will provide evidence that recruited athletes at these schools are up to four times more likely to gain admission

than other applicants with similar academic credentials, that recruited athletes are substantially more likely to end up in the bottom third of the college class and that as a group they achieve less academically than their test scores and high school grades would predict.

"Reclaiming the Game is essential reading for those truly committed to the educational value of intercollegiate athletics," Adams wrote after

reading a manuscript. "Bowen and Levin clearly document the pressures and practices that threaten to replace the educational ideal of athletic participation with a purely competitive one. What is more important, they begin to



Colby athletes on the gridiron. A new book examines the impact of athletics on colleges and universities.

show us a way out. This book is a wakeup call for leaders, coaches, parents and athletes at our best private colleges and universities."

Information from the publisher is available at http://pup.princeton.edu/titles/7577.html.

Greenlaw on Books and Boats

Linda Greenlaw '83 stood at the podium to read from her book The Lobster Chronicles to a large crowd in Given Auditorium one night in late April and claimed she had a case of nerves. That's hard to believe of "one of the best captains, period, on the entire East Coast"—Sebastian Junger's tribute in A Perfect Storm to the tireless swordfishing boat captain—a characterization that rocketed Greenlaw to fame as a fisherman and set her sailing a new course as a writer.

Peppering self-deprecation with salty exclamations, Greenlaw reviewed her perfect storm of a life after A Perfect Storm. As a child she said she'd asked her mother, "Do I have to be a girl?" The reply, of course: "You can be anything you want to be." One of the best captains, period, and author of The Hungry Ocean and The Lobster Chronicles said, "I couldn't be more surprised about the whole thing."

Greenlaw admitted to feeling way over her head amid the newspaper and magazine stories about her and her Hungry Ocean book tour. And her editor annoyed Greenlaw, repeatedly telling her she was "adorable." Adorable! No, no, no, her publicist whooped gleefully, the editor said "tourable," as in "an author fit to go on tour."

When USA Today ran a story on her, "I could've cried," Greenlaw said, relishing another anecdote. "The story was all about Linda Greenlaw's fruitless search for a man!" Whereupon she received letters—among them offers of marriage from 18 men, along with 18 pictures of the men's boats but not one with a picture of a man. She also received marriage proposals from prisoners in federal penitentiaries.

"Fishing is no life for an educated person. Get a real job," her parents and others advised her 20 years ago when she decided against attending law school. Now captain of her own lobster boat out of Isle au Haut, Maine, she delights in teasing her sternman, her father, James S. Greenlaw '57. "I tell him he's wasting his education," she said.

"I am inspired by anyone who is good at what they do and enjoys what they do," Greenlaw said. The title The Hungry Ocean, she explained, means "I'm consumed by it. I am proudest to say I am a fisherman," she said, and happiest "being master of my own destiny." -Robert Gillespie

Two Watsons, One Fulbright

With two seniors named 2003-04 Thomas I. Watson Foundation Fellows, Colby's Watson streak remains unbroken since entering the program in 1970-71. Dan Chiacos '03 of Santa Barbara, Calif., and Kelly Miller '03 of Old Town, Maine, each will receive \$22,000 to combine international travel and independent study. Miller, a government and Latin American studies double major, will research "Persuasive Pentecostalism" in Brazil. Chiacos, a Latin American and international studies double major with a music minor, will visit Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador, "Discovering the Soul of Charango in Latin American Folk Music." Chiacos and Miller bring to 55 the number of Colby graduates who have earned Watson fellowships over the past 33 years. More than 1,000 graduating college seniors applied this year, with only 48 fellowships granted.

Also on his way overseas is Jonathan Silberstein-Loeb '03, of Port Chester, N.Y. Silberstein-Loeb accepted a Fulbright Scholarship for next year to study the status of American journalists in Japan. Editor-in-chief of the Echo—and a Phi Beta Kappa history major with a minor in Japanese—Silberstein-Loeb proposed an examination of Americans' access to Japanese press clubs and reductions in the ranks of American correspondents covering Japan. Last year only one in five Fulbright candidates nationwide received a scholarship.

wit & wisdom

"We are off to other things. I wish we could say 'bigger and better.'"

GRETCHEN GROGGEL '03, SGA president, bidding farewell to the Board of Trustees, where she served as student representative last year.

"You have by now discerned that this is the joke edition of the baccalaureate address."

PRESIDENT WILLIAM ADAMS, in his baccalaureate address on May 24 in Lorimer Chapel, after unveiling a new athletic mascot based on an image of Pedro, his family's potbellied pig.

"My mum and dad were both teachers. I began my career teaching at university in Connecticut. It did not escape my attention that there is a limited time that you can teach management without actually doing it."

BOB DIAMOND '73, according to the Times of London, which profiled the chief executive of Barclays Capital on May 1.

"Real diversity has helped Colby become a better liberal arts college. I know; I've been teaching here for 34 years."

Elderly white male CHARLES W. BASSETT (emeritus professor of English and American studies) in his column, "I'm Never Going to Retire," in the April 3 Echo.

"It's been a great transition and a great merging of values that until recently nobody would have thought possible."

KENT WOMMACK '77, executive director of the Maine chapter of The Nature Conservancy, on his organization's move to large-scale land acquisitions through deals made with Great Northern Paper and other timber companies. Wommack was speaking on "Environmental Economics: New Strategies for Land Conservation" at a senior seminar taught by THOMAS TIETENBERG (economics, environmental studies).

"We didn't have courses like that when I was a boy. It was more like 'French Four.'" **DEAN OF FACULTY ED YETERIAN**, at the April trustees meeting, introducing Associate Professor of French Adrianna Paliyenko, who teaches a course titled Parisian Encounters: Great Loves and Grand Passions.

"We really wanted to discourage the tactics of shock and awe."

Student Government Vice President JILL **GUTEKUNST** '03, explaining to the Board of Trustees recent student government campaign reforms aimed at changing the tenor and tactics of elections.

"Here in Belgrade Lakes we use duct tape to keep our friends' TVs on ABC."

Retired Dean of the College EARL SMITH, in an e-mail message to ABC correspondent DAN HARRIS '93, congratulating his protégé on reporting from Baghdad and Amman before and during the war.

"It's snowing heavily in New York. The Yankees have cancelled opening day!"

Dean of Admissions PARKER BEVERAGE, at an open house for accepted applicants. Hoping to convert the accepted students to members of the Class of '07, he was gleeful that Waterville wasn't the only place where snow threatened on April 7.

"I swear to you that in the course of the semester I will make you uncomfortable.

That's what we're here for."

MARGARET MCFADDEN (American studies), describing how she approaches the "challenge" in Colby's tradition of intellectual challenge when she addresses new classes.

"You're doing what? Oh, God, what did you do to deserve that? Please don't humiliate us."

His parents' reaction, according to EVAN MCGEE '03, upon learning he was elected senior class speaker for commencement (from The Colby Echo, April 3, 2003).

Presidential Timbre

Vice President for College Relations Peyton Randolph Helm, Colby's chief fund raiser since 1988, was tapped in March for the presidency of Muhlenberg College.

On July 1, Helm became the 11th president of the 155-year-old liberal arts college in Allentown, Pa., and he notes that there are similarities between Colby and Muhlenberg. Both are liberal arts colleges, both were founded in the 19th century (Colby 35 years before Muhlenberg) and both have mules as their athletic mascots.

At Colby, Helm is credited with bringing development to a new level of professionalism. "His most important and enduring accomplishment was and is the development of the development office," President William D. Adams told the Allentown Morning Call. Adams also credited Helm with creating a "culture of philanthropy" among Colby's alumni and supporters.

During his 15 years as vice president Helm managed the Campaign for Colby, a fund-raising tour de force that raised slightly more than \$150 million—fully 50 percent more than the campaign's original goal. Also on his watch the annual giving rate among Colby alumni grew to an enviable 51 percent participation.

"My goal was to create the best small-college development and alumni relations operation in our league," he said, stressing that team-building was his primary strategy. "I think we are very highly regarded," he said of the team he put together.

Trained in ancient history, with a bachelor's degree from Yale and a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, Helm taught a Jan Plan on Homer and Greek history this year, as he did most years.

He said he will miss "hundreds if not thousands of friendships" that grew out of his work at Colby. The most important thing he received personally in all his years soliciting gifts for Colby, he said, was the tutoring he got from William R. Cotter and Adams, two "very different, but very accomplished presidents."

"This is a terrific place," Helm said. "It's worthy of the support of everyone who ever went here."

A national search is underway to hire a new vice president for college relations. Alumni are invited to submit nominations for the position to Nancy Archer-Martin, Educational Management Network, 98 Old South Road, Nantucket, MA 02554.

The Guard Changes

Faculty ranks lose Archibald, Hogendorn, Rosenblum, Sanborn, Sweney, Wescott

DOUG ARCHIBALD



When Douglas Archibald (English) speaks of the most important changes at Colby during his career, he talks about credit requirements and tenure process-big-picture changes that have had a profound effect on students and faculty at Colby for the past 30 years.

Part of the young guard when he arrived at Colby in 1973, Archibald chaired the English Department at

a time when the College was evolving toward a more democratic institution. He was dean of faculty and vice president of academic affairs (1982-88) when the College moved from a five-one-five system (five courses each semester and a Jan Plan) to a four-one-four. For faculty, the reduced teaching load "was part of the process of becoming more professional," Archibald said. "We taught fewer courses and had more time to prepare those courses."

That also freed faculty to do scholarship. For Archibald that included serving as co-editor of W.B. Yeats's Autobiographies (Vol. III of The

Collected Works), lecturing in both the U.S. and Ireland and contributing to Irish periodicals. Since 1986, Archibald has been editor of the Colby Quarterly, overseeing issues that focused on the work of Michael Longley, Eavan Boland, William Trevor and Seamus Heaney and explored American popular culture, Shakespeare and film, among other themes.

Archibald also points to changes that opened up the tenure process to more faculty involvement. "The faculty as a whole, instead of just a few professors, took responsibility for the tenure and promotion process. We made very tough decisions but I think demonstrated that it could be done conscientiously," he said. "As a faculty body we have become more accomplished, more professional, more demanding."

And the students? Compared with their predecessors in the '60s they're learning in a different climate, Archibald said. Forty years ago classroom discussion was contentious and ideas were debated—and shot down—vigorously.

"If you had asked me, when I first started teaching in '63, if I had one word to tell what I wanted my classroom to be like, I would say 'exciting.' If you ask me now I would say 'safe.' We want students to feel okay. We want them to think that they're being taken seriously. . . . But it's about tolerance and open-mindedness now."

JEAN ROSENBLUM

Retiring flute teacher Jean Rosenblum taught students ranging from "rank beginners to extraordinary players" since she began teaching at Colby in 1968. Whatever their level of skill, she says, they all grew as musicians.

"Wonderful outlets" exist for Colby students,

Rosenblum said. Especially talented players join the Colby Symphony Orchestra, and winners of the College's annual concerto competition perform as soloists with the orchestra. Some students, chosen by audition, give recitals. Her students also play at the annual Festival



of Carols and Lights at Christmastime.

"I try to help them achieve their goals," Rosenblum said. "I'm interested in giving them love of music. I absolutely love music and have my whole life. It's an international language.... You can go anywhere and 'converse.'"

Musical skills, she believes, enhanced her students' self-esteem and the ability to perform better in any aspect of their lives. Most continue to be involved in music after Colby, and many are still actively playing.

"I've taught so many bright kids," she said.

"They become your huge family." These days her students' level of ability "is just incredible," Rosenblum said. "They seem to learn faster and to have more skills since I first came in."

The year she came to Colby she joined both the Bangor and the Colby symphony orchestras. She has seen steady growth in the quality of the Colby orchestra, rating it with Bangor and Portland and among the best small liberal arts college programs in New England.

Rosenblum will continue teaching at the University of Southern Maine, where she signed on several years ago. She also maintains a home studio in Falmouth. If she could get kids for three hours a day as the sports coaches do, she said, "what a flute team I'd have!"

JEAN DONOVAN SANBORN

Professor of English Jean Donovan Sanborn leaves Colby on a high: the Writing Center she launched in the basement of Lorimer Chapel in 1984 has grown into the Farnham Writers' Center, 17 student tutors strong and enjoying campus-wide identity on "the Street" in Miller Library.

The Farnham Writers' Center (the naming grant came with a gift from Margaret Davis Farnham '28) grew from the same pedagogical roots as faculty colloquia, the Center for Teaching and the Writing



Across the Curriculum program. Sanborn says faculty from different disciplines, believing students "were eager to get the same complexity into their writing that's in their heads," concluded that several different types of writing would be components of Colby courses.

"Interdisciplinary work is a great strength here," she said.

The composition that students do today includes journals, response papers, multiple drafts, portfolios and peer-edited projects. Students consulting tutors at the Writers' Center "talk to peers who ask questions to open up their thinking, and a light goes on," said Sanborn, who trained in writing and developmental psychology. The center's goal: to move students from plane to plane, progressing to American academic English.

"It's really pedagogical. It's a piece of the learning pie," she said. Include education courses among other pieces she's served to students during her 27 years at Colby.

For years Sanborn and a colleague coordinated workshops on essay writing at the Conference on College Composition and Communication, composition's equivalent of the Modern Language Association. She also completed the manuscript of a book, Weaving Writing.

Bringing national expert Peter Elbow to Colby to conduct a Writing Across the Curriculum workshop was a notable moment, Sanborn says. Working with Colby's Trustee Commission on Multicultural and Special Interest Housing remains another.

But her high point, she said, was "being wonderfully close to the Writers' Center tutors. That's what I'll miss most—the company of young minds and energies."

After twice heading the Colby in Cork program, Sanborn located on Bailey Island, Maine, where she said she plans to garden, visit with grandchildren and "write more, after years of working with other people's writing."

JOHN SWENEY

John Sweney and his wife, Barbara (admissions), had never seen Colby College when he applied for a teaching job in 1967. With a fresh doctorate from the University of Wisconsin, Sweney met then-English Department chairman R. Mark Benbow at the Modern Language Association meeting in New York. Benbow offered Sweney a job; Sweney called a couple of Colby graduates who were working on degrees at Wisconsin.

"They recommended Colby highly," Sweney said. "We took the job over the phone."

The son and grandson of Iowa farmers, Sweney put down deep roots at Colby. Thirty-six years later, he remembers teaching in the '60s, when campus protest was the rule and a job with a corporation was "a badge of shame." "Now some of the students I've met do seem to still want to change the world, but they're just going about it a different way," he said.

He's gone about changing the world by passing on to students

his love of literature. He's taught composition and British and American literature, has led students into great books, seen the number of low grades dwindle. He speculates that the number of very good students at Colby has gone up.

Sweney also taught for many years at the Colby program in Cork, Ireland, where he learned he



couldn't take for granted that Irish students knew about FDR or the American Civil War. He found that English department meetings in Ireland and America are "depressingly similar"; he found that friendships made in Ireland beckon him to return there.

This spring Sweney teamed with Robert McArthur (philosophy, integrated studies) to teach a course called The Good Life. Is there a "good life" for all of us? What are its ingredients? Students and faculty—read Tolstoy, Thoreau, Rand, Skinner, Kerouac and Samuel Johnson.

Students could have considered the life of John Sweney. "My passion was literature. It seemed to me that my professors had led a good life," he said. "They were reading literature and talking about it to their students and they got paid for it. I thought, 'I'll be reading literature all my life anyway, why not make what I love to do my vocation?""

"I think there are students for whom I've made a difference," Sweney said. "I can't imagine where else I'd be so happy."

JAN HOGENDORN

Jan Hogendorn's adventure in economics began with a Ph.D. thesis-researching trek across the Sahara Desert with his wife, Dianne, in a Volkswagen bus. The adventure (at least the classroom portion of it) ended in May when Hogendorn, the Grossman Professor of Economics, retired after 37 years at Colby.

Hogendorn's students have gone on to prominence in academe, in international banking, in development economics. And while he strived to impart the knowledge he acquired in his career as an economist, Hogendorn hoped to first pass on something more fundamental. "I personally always thought the key role of an undergraduate teacher, rather than to convey information, is instead to convey a love for the subject."

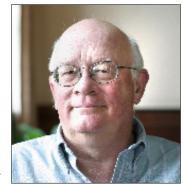
That's why he freely admits that, though many of his students will forget some of what they learn in first-year economics, that course could be the most important in laying

the groundwork for a career in the field if it kindles an interest in economic principles.

Hogendorn did impart his conviction that international trade should not be constrained in general and that free international trade leads to higher standards of living. But there is a role for

public policy to ease the transition, he believes. "There are going to be those who are harmed by free, open trade," he said. "Public policy must take that into account."

It was a position he moved to over time, beginning with his study with the conservative economist Lord Peter Bower at the London School of Economics. Bower was a free-market disciple but he gave Hogendorn free rein to explore his own ideas. At Colby, Hogendorn



has done the same with his students.

"I loved being a liberal arts guy," Hogendorn said. "I just love the way in liberal arts colleges you have a certain freedom you don't have in big universities. In a big university I couldn't have been the same professor who does international trade and

development and at the same time be allowed to follow my interests in the economics of slavery. You couldn't have done that in a big university. And I have also loved the fact that in a liberal arts college students will take courses in another discipline. In international trade and development, more than half my students were from other majors."

"I always loved the input of outside knowledge," he said.

JIM WESCOTT

During his 25 years coaching Colby track and field, Jim Wescott's teams rewrote 28 of 32 records.

The name of the game is development and progress, Wescott says. Eleven of his athletes garnered All-America honors, three of them three times; one earned four. But a miler who pared 18 seconds to run 4:24 progressed as much, Wescott



believes, as the 4:24 miler who lowered his time to 4:06. "You get three attempts at the pole vault," he said. "Life gives us a second chance."

Head coach at Division I North Carolina State University before he came to Colby, Wescott didn't see any less competitiveness or desire to improve in Division III athletes. The 1990 New England Division III Coach of the Year in cross country says he took equal pleasure in dealing with the different levels of ability and success.

The men's and women's track and field programs at Colby offer "a healthy mix socially and academically," Wescott said. Women's head coach Debra Aitken coaches the jumpers; the teams sometimes travel together and cheer each other on at meets. Training partners push one another to higher levels. "You hope they see the value of it. You hope they continue to help each other in life," he said.

Highpoints of Wescott's Colby career include the development of the Campbell Trails, eight miles of stimulating cross-country trails provided by the family of Eleanor Campbell '81. The Alfond Track enabled the College to stage important events, including the 1992 Division III National Championships, which brought top athletes from across the country to the campus. "It was like a miniature Olympic Village," Wescott said.

Keep the fun in it, he counsels his athletes. Take your running shoes wherever you go: "There's no telling what you'll see, from the Champs Élysées to rabbits." A role model of enthusiasm and fitness on his daily runs, he teaches "some sense of staying in shape. If you're in decent shape, you can stay healthy."

The outdoor state meet high jump, recently named for Wescott, reflects the respect of his peers and places him among Maine's coaching legends. They reaffirmed that in June by naming Wescott New England Division III Coach of the Year for 2003.

Community helps bring together a true "South End Coalition" Cataly

Tracy Schloss helps bring together a true "South End Coalition"

The chain of events that directed Tracy Schloss '03 to Waterville's South End started serendipitously.

Schloss, a philosophy and art double major, mentioned to Professor David Simon (art) that she was interested in urban planning. Simon suggested she talk to Waterville's Planning Director Ann Beverage (wife of Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Parker Beverage). Ann Beverage told Schloss about the city's ongoing focus on the South End, one of the poorer parts of the city, and Schloss's first visit there last winter proved an eye-opener. "I had no idea of the severe economic demographics of the Waterville area," she said.

The area's problems were no secret to city officials. Since 2001, initiatives aimed at improving the South End have included upgrading housing there, assigning a neighborhood police officer and opening a teen center. Schloss, however, concluded that there still was a serious need for after-school care, with less than 30 percent of South End children in grades K-5 (40 of 177) participating in after-school programs at the Alfond Youth Recreation Center, across town. "That leaves a large number unserved," she said.

Many an academic inquiry would have ended there, with a convincing quantitative analysis. For Schloss it was merely a stimulus to action.

She proposed the South End Learning Center, a facility to provide mentoring and tutoring through Colby Cares About Kids—a program that already matches more than 200 Colby students with local schoolchildren. Offerings at the Learning Center would include reading, math, computer technology, arts and crafts and character development, according to Beverage.

Quantitative analysis and concrete proposal completed, graduation looming, and still Schloss was not ready to call her work in Waterville done. Schloss, with others, launched herself into the next stages, including a door-to-door canvas of the area to determine whether residents were interested in such a program.

For those who had been working in the South End, the arrival of the energetic student was a boost. "We expected good things and we got great things," said William Bonney, the Waterville police officer assigned to the neighborhood. As the project gathered momentum, Schloss turned to the Hill. "I said, 'Let me see what I can do for you at Colby," she said.

The Colby South End Coalition was established in the spring, the latest and one of the more ambitious on a list of community service programs run by and for students. Program leaders were appointed this spring, including two students, Emily Brostek '06 and Alan Ashbaugh '05, already familiar with the area. It wasn't a tough sell.

"I said, 'This is a very wonderful way to tangibly help people who are in real poverty close to campus," Schloss said.



Tracy Schloss '03 in Waterville's South End near the site of the proposed Learning Center.

The project is moving forward on other fronts. Colby, the city and a host of area agencies have teamed to try to secure federal funding that would provide resources for the Learning Center, a community garden, a food pantry and hiring of a coordinator for community outreach projects, including Colby Cares About Kids, the Colby Volunteer Center and the Colby South End Coalition. "It's a very large initiative," said Lauren Walsh, coordinator for Greater Waterville Communities for Children, who is assisting with the grant proposal. "When Tracy's project came up, it really fit well."

Schloss graduated in May and planned to do an internship in public relations, specializing in public policy. "I wouldn't say my involvement is done," she said. "But it's starting to pass out of my hands and into the hands of the people who can really instigate change in the community."

The project was left in good hands, and progress continues. Since Schloss left Colby, the planners turned their attention to a parcel of land on Water Street next to the Green Street Park, where a skateboard park is proposed. The Waterville City Council will be asked to approve the parcel as a site for the Learning Center. Colby was about to apply for federal funding of a unit director for the center and for computer equipment for it. Other funding sources were being pursued and there was no sign that the project had lost momentum. "They're very tenacious people who are involved here," Beverage said.

One of them, Schloss, is in New York, working in public relations by day, reading reports from Waterville by night. "I send her messages because I know it's really important to her," Beverage said. "I just want to keep in touch."—Gerry Boyle '78

media

A New Chapter

Jenny Boylan (English) speaks about her memoir, *She's Not There*, being transgendered, where her writing goes from here

Novelist James Finney Boylan often wrote from the point of view of characters who bore secrets. In Getting In it was Dylan, a teenager on a college-tour trip who hasn't told anyone he botched his SATs. In The Constellations it was Phoebe, who concludes the way to be liked is to look and act like anyone but yourself. Drawing these characters came naturally to Boylan, in part because he kept a secret himself.

Jennifer Finney Boylan does not. "Rather than write from the point of view of someone who has a secret, [in the future] I'll write from the point of view of someone who finally has put that burden down," she said.

Boylan has done just that, declaring to both the Colby community and the public that she is transgendered. The introduction of Jenny Boylan to Colby came last year; the larger public met her this spring when Boylan began a string of television appearances preceding the publication of her memoir, She's Not There (see review on page 34). The morning she spoke to Colby in her office in Miller Library, shortly after her first national TV appearance, e-mails were coming in by the hundreds. Nearly all were positive. The public was supporting Jenny Boylan—and she wasn't surprised, because the national reaction mirrored the reaction on Mayflower Hill.

"I wish that everyone had the chance to ride around on my shoulder because I had the rare chance to see what the community of this college is really made of," she said. "People went to their best selves and they reacted with intelligence and with kindness, and, in some ways, people thought it was not that big a deal."

But publication of She's Not There promises to make Boylan's experience, if not a big deal, then certainly public knowledge. The "buzz" about the memoir began to build in the spring and promised to grow in the weeks leading up to the July publication. While Boylan was pleased by the enthusiastic reception, part of her was ambivalent. "In some ways it's stupid to publish a book at all, if you think about it," she said. "The thing is, I have what I always wanted. The one thing I don't want to become is a professional transsexual."

On the other hand. as both James and Jenny, Boylan was and is a writer. "This

is what I do," she said. "And I have to tell you. There are just some unbelievably good stories. I couldn't not tell these stories."

Another reason to write, according to Boylan, is to fill a void in the existing accounts: "There are a lot of books on transgender published but they're all terrible."

With the exception of Jan Morris's memoir Conundrum, most books about transgendered people are either self-pitying and lurid or dense with impenetrable theory, she said. "My life is not about a theory. My life is about children and students and friends and a partner and a family."

Boylan has a partner, the woman she married as James. They now live "as sisters," she has said, and continue to be completely involved in the lives of their two sons. In fact, Boylan says her life is pretty normal. She comes to work, teaches creative writing



(a former winner of the Charles Bassett Teaching Award, her courses are booked solid), goes home and tends to her kids. "By seeing me . . . people do learn something about transgendered people," she said, "that the things we have in common with people are much more dramatic than the things that separate us."

Not that Boylan expects to outlive her history. She knows it will always be with her, even as she goes on to write other books,

none of which, she notes, will be novels about transgendered women living in Maine. "I wouldn't want to read that book," she said.

She does have ideas and a few chapters for other novels, is considering a sequel to her memoir, or perhaps a nonfiction book based on interviews with great teachers. She predicts her fiction in the future may be more relaxed and gentle than her earlier works, not because she is a woman but because she is more at peace: "I hope I'm not too much at peace because that's not very interesting."

And she hopes her experience, like her teaching, contains lessons for her students. "I don't want every student in my class to have a sex change," she said. "I want every student in my class to find their courage and to do the impossible thing, to do whatever it is in their life that they need to do and are afraid that they can't." —Gerry Boyle '78

Of James & Jennifer

Jenny Boylan's bittersweet memior, She's Not There, traces her journey from man to woman

There was a moment on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* this spring that embodied, for one charged instant, much of the anger and confusion likely to be provoked by English Professor Jennifer Finney Boylan's bittersweet memoir, She's Not There.

The day before, Winfrey's entire show was devoted to the story of how Boylan went from being a man to being a woman. The follow-up show posed the question, "When a husband becomes a woman—what becomes of his wife?" Winfrey's guests talked for a while about the heartbreak and difficulty that come with watching a loved one undergo such a radical transformation, and the tension began to build until, finally, Winfrey leaned toward the camera and asked, "So what do you think, ladies? Is it selfish to just up and turn yourself into a woman or what?"

The studio audience erupted in applause and vigorously nodding heads—one great tidal wave of female vengeance. Boylan, appearing as relaxed as a person could be under the circumstances, nodded along, her long blond hair glinting beneath the lights. It's a question she's thought a lot about.

As Boylan reports in her forthright, moving and characteristically funny book, from the time she was 3 years old, "the awareness that I was in the wrong body, living the wrong life, was never out of my conscious mind"-yet this knowledge was inextricably fused with the fear of what it would mean to others. For one thing, "knowing with such absolute certainty something that appeared to be both absurd and untrue made me, as we said in Pennsylvania, kind of mental." But more than anything, it meant risking the love of the people who meant the most to her—her parents, sister, friends, and then, as time wore on and adulthood encroached, her wife and children.

Growing up, most of us struggle to accept who we are; Boylan fought to accept who she wasn't. "What I felt was, being a man might be the secondbest life I can live, but the best life I can live will mean only loss and grief. So what I wanted was to learn how to be happy with this second-best life."

And for the most part, she was happy. As anyone who knew her as James could attest, he was funny and buoyant and boyishly handsome, in an early-John Lennon sort of way. As a child he decided that maybe he could be "cured by love" (a fairly Beatles-esque notion, come to think of it) and throughout his adolescence optimistically held tight to this idea, keeping his secret at bay with jokes and high spirits and energetic ambition; after college he edited a humor magazine, soared through graduate school, became a writer, and moved to Waterville to embark on what proved to be a satisfying and successful teaching career at Colby. Along the way, he fell in love with the woman he calls Grace in the book, and, finally having found his cure, set about raising a family. Together they had two sons.

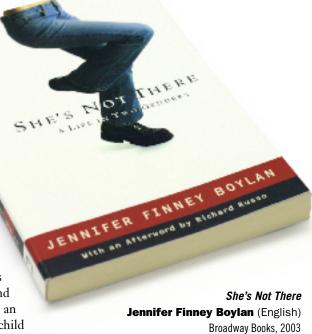
At one point in the book Boylan writes that it was her mother's "legacy of cheerful wit" that sustained her. It sustains Boylan's four previous books as well, and now her memoir, which manages to infuse a complicated and difficult story with a generous dose of levity. And comedic writing, as Boylan would tell you, is not nearly as easy as it looks.

Another author might have taken the relatively underexposed, highly misunderstood

topic of "transgenderism" as an occasion to preach to the masses; yet another might have incorporated reams of scientific research and explanation as ballast. Boylan, however, relies on nothing but her candid, comic voice, even eschewing the temptations of dramatic effect. Not long before he met Grace, for instance, Boylan took a trip to Canada, checked himself into a motel and put on some women's clothing. "I combed my hair out and looked in the mirror and saw a perfectly normallooking young woman. This is so wrong? I said to myself in the mirror. This is the cause

The moment is ripe for a discursive rumination on identity (which this English professor is trained to do). Instead Boylan concludes, "I thought about settling in one of the little villages around here, just starting life over as a woman. I'd tell everyone I was Canadian. Then I lay on my back and sobbed. Nobody would ever believe I was Canadian."

of all the trouble?"



Yet Boylan never treats her story, or the people it implicates, lightly. Our culture has become more relaxed, relatively speaking, around the idea that gender might be mutable, but that doesn't change the shocking trauma and sense of betrayal that take place when someone you love—your long-time devoted husband, no less—actually undergoes a sex change. If the women in Oprah's studio audience were outraged by the "selfishness" it took for a man to become a woman, just think how Grace felt.

And Boylan does, with great sensitivity, presenting Grace as a generous, devoted and understandably conflicted person. Her pain is keenly palpable, as is that of friend and colleague Richard Russo, who wrote an afterword to the book. As the characters react to the losses they are undergoing and as the genuine love they are discovering emerges, Boylan's narrative becomes more and more heartbreaking—though never overly serious. It's a delicate balancing act, and one that Boylan manages with great, brave finesse. Russo tells us he has witnessed a great love story. So have we. -Kate Bolick '95

A Master of a Drummer

People think African music is simply about drumming, says Jordan Benissan, a master drummer originally from Togo, West Africa. But African music and culture, Benissan tells his Colby students, aren't simple at all: "I want to reflect the different styles of drumming and the diversity of cultural music in West Africa." With his second CD, Beautiful Music From West Africa, the applied music associate aims to properly introduce the music of his homeland to a wider community. This mission fits perfectly with his duties as a master drummer—to be a teacher, an oral historian and a custodian of his people's heritage. While every song on the CD is traditional, Benissan believes it is important to understand how each has evolved through the interpretation and transference of generations of musicians. He says he picked each of the eight songs on Beautiful Music From West Africa because they touched him in different ways. Selections include the healing medicine music "Sakrabude" (Father of the Spirits), the traditional Ewe lullaby "Tutu Gbovi" and the religious and celebratory social dance "Sido."

To become a master drummer, Benissan, a member of the Ewe ethnic group, studied for 10 years with traditional master drummers from the Ewe, Ashanti, Ga and Yoruba people of West Africa and then performed for another 10 years to master the craft. But he claims he's not finished learning yet. He is currently studying the complex rhythms of playing two or three drums and singing at the same time. "Even though you've moved to a point where you're the master of what you're doing, you're still learning," he said. "I think it probably just takes you your whole life."

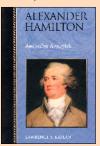
While the CD is a solo act with Benissan performing all of the vocals and percussion, he also has a band, Sankofa, which combines traditional rhythms and songs with modern music. Benissan says he is influenced by classic rock and roll, like Santana and Led Zeppelin, and finds those musicians more inspirational than contemporary pop stars. "Because it took them a lifetime as performers and musicians to achieve what they were doing," he said. "They had to learn everything and experience, experiment." Much like a master drummer. -Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay '97

recent releases

Alexander Hamilton: Ambivalent Anglophile

Lawrence S. Kaplan '47

Scholarly Resources (2002)



Kaplan examines Hamilton's conception of America's role in the world and the foreign policies that followed from his vision. Part of the Biographies in American Foreign Policy Series (Kaplan also wrote Thomas Jefferson: Westward the Course of Empire), this text follows Hamilton's rise as a Federalist and first Secretary of the Treasury to his death in a duel with Aaron Burr.

FamilyFun Boredom Busters

Deanna F. Cook '88, editor

Disney Editions (2002)

No more whining from the kids that there's nothing to do. From getting lost in the clouds to making a tepee, Cook's Boredom Busters is filled with 365 games, crafts and activities for any day of the year. It includes classic and new backyard games (No. 61 Spud, No. 70 Soggy Jog Relay), rainy-day play (No. 113 Box Car Derby), arts and crafts (No. 227 Build a Geodesic Dome) and projects galore.

Back Story

Robert B. Parker '54

Penguin Putnam (2003)

In Parker's 30th Spenser novel the Boston private eye takes on an unsolved murder nearly three decades old. Who fired the shot that killed a woman during a 1974 bank holdup by leftist radicals? Powerful people on both sides of the law want Spenser to leave that question unanswered.

All I Want Is Everything Cecily von Ziegesar '92

Little, Brown and Company (2003)



Will Blair get into Yale? Is Serena engaged to the gorgeous lead singer of America's hottest band? How naughty were they really in St. Barts? And what will they wear at their wild Upper East Side New Year's party—Gucci, Versace, D&G? Aimed at a younger Sex In the City set, this is von Ziegesar's third novel in her Gossip Girl series (gossipgirl.net), and it is just as juicy as the others.

Memoir of the Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy

Joseph and Owen Lovejoy

Lovejoy Press (2002)

Robert W. Tabscott and Robert C. Holt Jr. revised and annotated the 1838 original written by Lovejoy's brothers Owen and Joseph after Lovejoy was shot down on November 7, 1837, by a pro-slavery mob. It includes an introduction by John Quincy Adams, who called Lovejoy the "first American martyr to the freedom of the press and the freedom of the slave," family letters, poems and historical accounts.

Crew Cut Women's crew the best Division III team in the country

□hey came from Alaska, Arizona, Califor-New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington state and Washington, D.C.

Eighteen women, 32 arms pulling, 32 legs pushing, two voices crying out instructions—and the Colby College women's crew brought home the NCAA Division III Rowing Championship title, Colby's first-ever NCAA team championship.

Colby's varsity eight crew won the Grand Final (places 1-6), and the junior varsity eight placed third in the Petite Final (places 7-12) for ninth overall in the May 30-31 meet at Eagle Creek Reservoir in Indianapolis, Ind. With lowest points winning the title, the Mules had 10 points overall, the varsity scoring one for winning the Grand Final and the junior varsity earning nine points.

A year after finishing second in the country to Williams College, this year's varsity eight of Vivienne Ho '03 (coxswain), Leah Hagamen '05, Emily Allen '03, Laura Mistretta '04, Annie Szender '05, Leah Robertson '03, Andrea Piekarski '04, Megan Loosigian '05 and Ellie Boyce '03 earned bragging rights as

the best Division III boat in the country.

Colby's varsity eight drew nine women from nine different states or territories.

"I always knew there was a lot of diversity on the team in the way we think, our backgrounds, our majors," said co-captain Emily Allen. "It was a lot of different people coming together for one goal."

That goal seemed impossible earlier in the season. Both boats lost badly to the Coast Guard Academy in dual meet races. The varsity eight finished last in the Grand Final at the New England Rowing Championships in early May.

"We certainly never hit the panic button," said third-year head coach Stew Stokes. "We knew there was speed to be gained. We settled down as a group and talked about not worrying about things we couldn't control and instead worrying about getting faster."

That mentality—and the gift of a new boat from an anonymous donor this spring—made all the difference for Stokes and his crews.

"I think it helped psychologically to have a new boat," Allen said, "but also seeing the difference on the water was a big deal. The IV got our old boat and I think they felt more

comfortable in a better boat. The morale was real high after that wonderful present."

The top finisher among New England Small College Athletic Conference (NES-CAC) schools at the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) meet on May 10-11 in New Jersey would receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Championships. The Mules earned the bid after being the only NESCAC school and one of only two Division III schools to make the ECAC Grand Final.

The NCAA meet got off to a great start when the varsity eight won their heat on the opening day, automatically qualifying for the Grand Final the next day.

Strong 32 mile-per-hour winds greeted rowers for the finals. With rain forecast for later in the day, NCAA officials pushed up race starting times by about two hours.

"Some crews were out there warming up forty-five minutes to an hour," Stokes said. "The water was getting rough, it was a little cold, and I didn't want the boat filling up with any more water than was necessary. We worked out in a boathouse there and did exactly what we would be doing on the water."

Stokes and his JV crew knew that Ithaca



The women's varsity eight pulls away from the competition at the Division-III Championships in Indianapolis, Ind., in May.



Coach Stew Stokes, right, and the newly crowned national champions.

College and Trinity College had strong JV boats. Finishing third would be like a victory for Colby's junior varsity crew of Becca Reisman '06 (coxswain), Katie O'Neill '04, Caitlin Chamberlin '05, Caroline Andresen '05, Cameron Fisher '04, Sarah Dunham '05, Liz Johnson '05, Liz Shepherd '06 and Liz Curran '05.

The varsity eight led their final from start to finish, beating secondplace University of Puget Sound by nearly five seconds in the 2,000meter race.

"The last five hundred meters was so emotional because I think everyone knew we were going to win," Allen said. "We were just flying. It was the most fun I've ever had in a boat."

After receiving Colby's first NCAA team championship trophy at the awards ceremony, the Mules spent the night together bowling and getting ice cream.

"We had kids who were going away the next day back to Seattle, California, Texas or wherever they were going," Stokes said. "We wanted to spend one more time together as a team. That night was a lot like the kids are—loose, relaxed and fun. They are such a tremendous, spirited group." -William Sodoma

More Colby All Americans

Selections announced this spring brought to 18 the number of Colby athletes named All Americans in 2002-03.

> **LEAH HAGAMEN** women's crew **ALLY KING** women's lacrosse KATIE TRAINOR women's lacrosse **ELIZABETH FREDERICK** women's outdoor track and field (pole vault) SARA HUGHES women's tennis (doubles) BRITT PALMEDO women's tennis (doubles)

National Academic All Americans NICK BAYLEY men's hockey **ELEANOR BOYCE** women's crew

sports shorts

SOFTBALL became the first Colby athletic team to host a NESCAC Final Four. LAUREN OLMSTED '06 was the NESCAC Pitcher of the Year and earned league first-team honors with WENDY BONNER '05 and ANNETTE CASWELL '05. Olmsted led the conference with a 1.15 earned run average, Bonner led Colby in nine offensive categories and Caswell was second in the league in batting average (.443). . . . After a solid start to the season in Florida, the BASEBALL team ran into some tough competition up north. Catcher ERIC ROY '04 earned NESCAC first-team honors, leading the Mules in batting at .380. Center fielder MATT GIBSON '03 led the Mules in numerous offensive categories. . . . WOMEN'S LACROSSE won 10 consecutive games at one point, went 13-4 overall and made the NESCAC semifinals. ALLY KING '03 became Colby's all-time leading scorer in women's lacrosse with 109 goals and 113 assists for 222 career points. King had 27 goals and 44 assists this season and was ranked seventh in the NCAA in assists per game (2.39). KATIE TRAINOR '03 was seventh in the nation in caused turnovers per game (3.29), finishing as Colby's alltime leader with 178. Trainor earned both NESCAC and New England Region first-team honors. . . . In MEN'S LACROSSE, injury problems took a toll on the team. Long-stick midfielder BEN WINSTON '03 earned NESCAC and New England Region first-team honors. BARRON BUTLER '04 led the team in scoring with 11 goals and 21 assists despite missing three games with an injury. MATTHEW LAPAGLIA '04 made 171 saves and had a fine .633 save percentage. . . . SARA HUGHES '05 was the Co-NESCAC Player of the Year in WOMEN'S TENNIS. Hughes went to the NCAA Tournament in Redlands, Calif., for

singles and doubles play. BRITT PALMEDO '03 also made the trip to the NCAA tourney. . . . A young MEN'S TENNIS team showed marked improvement despite some key injuries and should be a force in NESCAC next year. BEN CRANE '06 and TIM STENOVEC '06 each showed promise in their first seasons with Colby. Crane went 16-10 in singles and doubles



Karima Ummah '04

while Stenovec was 15-8. . . . WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD placed second at the New England Division III Championships and third at the NESCAC Championships. KARIMA UMMAH '04 was honored as NESCAC Outstanding Female Performer of the meet after winning the high jump, long jump and triple jump titles. ELIZABETH FREDERICK '03 earned All-America honors after tying for seventh place in the pole vault with a school-record leap of 11'7" at the NCAA Championships. . . . In MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD, XAVIER GARCIA '05 won the 400-meter dash, long jump and triple jump at the conference meet and earned NESCAC Outstanding Male Performer of the meet. LEE RANKIN '03 won the hammer throw and RYAN HOLLETT '05 the 100-meter dash at the league championships. . . . WOMEN'S CREW made the NCAA Championships for the second straight year after finishing as the top NESCAC team at the ECAC Championships. At the NCAA meet the women won Colby's first team national championship. **LEAH HAGAMEN** '05 was honored as a first-team All-America selection. ELEANOR BOYCE '03 earned Verizon All-Academic District 1 honors.

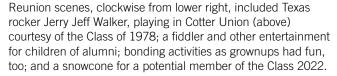
Together Again Record turnout as nearly 1,700 join for Reunion 2003













Reunion 2003 was marked by a record turnout as 1,674 alumni and guests gathered on Mayflower Hill June 6-8 for lobster, the traditional parade of classes, children's activities, a variety of guest speakers and dancing to the music of venerable country rocker Jerry Jeff Walker. Alumni Award winners in 2003 were William Violette (Colby Brick Award), Sally

Lovegren Merchant '83 (Colby Brick Award), Susan Comeau '63 (Ernest C. Marriner Distinguished Service Award), Joseph F. Boulos '68 (Distinguished Alumnus Award), Thomas P. LaVigne '58 (Colby Brick Award), James S. Cook Jr. '78 (Outstanding Educator Award), Beverly Nalbandian Madden '80 (Edson V. Mitchell Distinguished Service Award) and G. Arthur Brennan '68 (Colby Brick Award). For more reunion photos and news go to www.colby.edu/alumni/ reunion/2003/.