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Terror's Other Casualty

Civil liberties threatened by Bush's security measures, journalists say

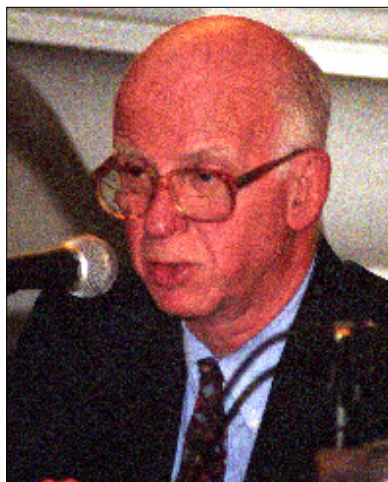
Unprecedented threats to American civil liberties and encouragement to repressive regimes around the world that want to crack down on independent media are two consequences of America's war on terror, according to journalists who discussed "The Perils of Wartime Reporting" at this year's Lovejoy Convocation November 13.

After the 2002 Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award was presented posthumously to Daniel Pearl, four journalists spoke in Lorimer Chapel. *Chicago Tribune* reporter Noreen Ahmed-Ullah recounted experiences covering U.S. actions in Afghanistan and Pakistan; executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalists Ann Cooper talked about dangers faced by journalists around the world; Anthony Lewis H'83, retired *New York Times* columnist, warned of unprecedented abrogation of American civil liberties; and David Broder H'90 described news gathering in Washington as the country seemed headed toward war against Iraq.

Lewis, a constitutional and legal scholar, said, "If the administration has its way legally, anyone in this room, any American citizen anywhere, could be picked up and detained indefinitely in a Navy brig or prison, barred from seeing a lawyer, not subject to indictment or trial but just detained indefinitely. How? Simply by the president

designating that person an 'enemy combatant.'"

He described the case of Jose Padilla, "a kid from Chicago" who converted to Islam, went to Pakistan and on his return was arrested at O'Hare Airport as "a material witness" to an unspecified act of or plan for terrorism. Two days before a hearing, President George W. Bush designated Padilla an enemy combatant, which allowed him to be put in a military prison, "unable to communicate with a lawyer, unable to lodge any kind of protest, to speak to anybody," Lewis said.



David Broder H'90.

"It's a claim of presidential power, I think beyond anything that I've known in my life, over individuals," Lewis said. He described historical precedents, including the Pentagon Papers and the case of a German war bride who was detained without charges, and said, "My general view is that security assertions by the government almost inevitably, when they do get challenged, when they are examined in court, prove to be threadbare."

"Lovejoy's lesson to us is the duty of the



Noreen Ahmed-Ullah.

press to speak out despite popular disapproval, to speak out most of all against injustice," Lewis said. "I think that duty is pressing domestically in the wake of September 11. It is up to us in the press to keep account of what the government has done and is doing to civil liberties in this country in the name of fighting terrorism."

Cooper warned that the U.S. war on terrorism, with its rhetoric and restrictions on the media, has made life worse for journalists around the world. In Zimbabwe, for example, journalists have been labeled as terrorists. "When these limitations are put on American journalists, by the U.S. military for example during the conflict in Afghanistan, we believe they set a terrible precedent. They are watched by other leaders, who use them as an excuse to clamp down on press freedom in their own countries."

Broder talked about the Bush administration's "intense desire" to control the information and messages that Americans receive from their government. "It's a highly organized and a highly centralized effort to channel information in ways that serve the policy purposes and, incidentally, the political purposes of the administration," he said. "This particular government is not unique in any respect in that regard. But they are perhaps more efficient about enforcing it than some of the other



Anthony Lewis H'83

administrations, notably the Clinton administration, which leaked all over the place.”

In the run-up to a possible war with Iraq, though, discipline in the administration's effort to control information started to break down, Broder said. Secretary of State Colin Powell publicly challenged the direction that the vice president and secretary of defense were steering the administration, and the uniformed military, chafing at restrictions and policy decisions, began leaking information to air dissenting views about how the war was being planned, Broder said.

Ahmed-Ullah gave a view from the conflict zone, talking about her experience and

the risks she encountered as one of the first Western journalists into Kandahar. “After we first entered Kandahar, I walked through the remains of Mullah Omar's home, going through his cabinets, desk drawers, bedroom dressers, walking into rubble of bombed out remains. There could have easily been undetonated devices there. These were places that could easily have been booby-trapped for stupid journalists like me,” she said. She described chasing rumors of Al-Qaeda in remote villages and pushing across dangerous terrain.

“People talk of the fog of war, and in this war the fog was really heavy,” she said. —Stephen Collins '74

Pearl Lauded for Uncompromising Conviction

For 50 years Colby's Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award has recognized journalists for their courage, so it ran against type when Tamara Pearl said, “Danny was very cautious,” referring to her brother, slain *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Pearl, this year's recipient.

Speaking to a hushed Lorimer Chapel audience on a cold, rainy November night, she drew a distinction between recklessness and courage. Her brother did not court peril, she said. “He was very careful for his physical safety and that of his colleagues.” He did his research. He assessed risk. He rejected going into Afghanistan because it was dangerous.

In another way, though, he was courageous, his sister reported. “He did not let anyone or anything intimidate him into abandoning his truth or his search for truth.

“He was not intimidated by anti-American demonstrators burning the American flag. He told one of his colleagues, ‘I want to look in their eyes and see why they hate us so much.’ In the end he was not intimidated by his captors into lying about his Jewish identity. . .

“His truth was that of a common humanity. Danny was an ordinary guy with an ordinary sense of decency. But where he was extraordinary was in staying true to himself and his principles,” said Tamara Pearl, who came from western Canada to accept the award on behalf of her family and the Daniel Pearl Foundation they co-founded to promote cross-cultural understanding through journalism, music and innovative communications.

“We believe,” she concluded, “that Danny is a powerful symbol to inspire people all over the world to reduce cultural, ethnic and religious hatred and to move even beyond tolerance to the kind of acceptance, respect and even celebration that Danny had for people



Tamara Pearl

from every background.”

President William Adams echoed that sentiment in a citation addressed to the murdered reporter. “Those who took your life hoped to kill that for which you stood. Instead they inspired a worldwide effort to promote your ideals and to honor your memory.”

Gary Putka, representing the *Wall Street Journal*, remembered an extraordinary colleague. “In a culture as steeped in cynicism and competition as journalism, what has utterly disarmed and humbled me in recent months are the stories that have poured forth from his colleagues within the *Journal* about the full-throated, wide-open kindness of Danny Pearl,” he said.

Praising Pearl's humanity and his talents as a fiercely intelligent and inquisitive journalist, Putka said he couldn't imagine a better choice for the Lovejoy award. “Danny now stands as a symbol and a martyr to *our* cause—to enlightenment and free expression, a martyr for understanding between peoples and the quest for truth.”

This year's convocation marked the 200th anniversary of Lovejoy's birth and Colby's 50th Lovejoy award. Valedictorian of the Class of 1826 at Waterville College, now Colby, Lovejoy was an abolitionist editor who grew increasingly strident in his denunciations of slavery. He was shot by a pro-slavery mob in Alton, Ill., in 1837 and was buried on his 35th birthday.

On November 9 the Town of Albion, Maine, celebrated Lovejoy's legacy with a ceremony at the Lovejoy homestead. Richard Moss, Colby's Gibson Professor of History, led the event, and other events raised money for a Lovejoy monument in town. —Stephen Collins '74

For more information on the Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award, including

"No words can describe the agony I suffered in my youth. Since then we A-bomb survivors experienced great tragedy.

That war is still going on."

SEIKO IKEDA, a survivor of the Hiroshima atomic bomb, speaking at Colby Nov. 4.

"I wouldn't mind changing the world."

ALEXIS GRANT '03, assistant news editor for The Colby Echo, responding to a question from New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis H'83 about why she's interested in a journalism career.

"I will tell you it's kind of a scary freedom."

Long-time New York Times columnist **ANTHONY LEWIS H'83**, telling members of the Echo staff what it was like writing a column that nobody edited.

"Sweet Justice: Oh, how the tables have turned."

A Nov. 21 Echo headline about the museum's fall faculty art show. Subhead: "Faculty art exhibit allows students to judge their professors' work."

"Once the Congress acknowledges its guilt, it has the burden of making those words believable. They can only show atonement by a heroic task."

Professor **ROY L. BROOKS** of the University of San Diego School of Law, in a debate at Colby Nov. 3, arguing for reparations for African Americans.

"The etymology of 'supercilious' is 'to raise one's eyebrows.'"

PETER HARRIS (English), describing the faculty's reaction years ago when former President Bill Cotter proposed more hands-on and service learning. Harris contrasted initial raised eyebrows with the current enthusiasm for students' involvement in mentoring and other service learning in the Waterville community.

"And thanks to my colleagues in the History Department, who have given Jewish Studies a home—as opposed to being the wandering Jewish Studies Program."

HOWARD LUPOVICH, Pulver Family Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies, after acknowledging the Pulvers for endowing Colby's chair in Jewish studies.

"They must have been using a very narrow definition of god. The vast majority of students have spirituality in their lives and practice their spirituality."

MARILYN PUKKILA, acting head of reference and instruction librarian and faculty advisor to the CIRCLE (Collective for Insight, Refuge and Celebration of Life Experience), speaking to The Colby Echo on a past Princeton Review comment that said Colby students "ignore God on a regular basis." Colby has since been dropped from that list.

"It gets crowded as exams roll around."

AIMÉE JACK '04, on attendance at Mass in Lorimer Chapel.

"I'm old enough, I'm embarrassed to say, that I don't always get it. . . . It has to be part of the program of what we do in the future, even if people throw stones at me."

Museum of Art Director **DAN ROSENFELD**, addressing the Colby College Museum of Art Board of Governors, about the importance of contemporary art in the museum's exhibition plans.

Colby Protestors Join Anti-War Ranks

It's not often that Colby students gather with their fellow Maine residents to support a cause. In a scene that harkens back to the anti-Vietnam War rallies of the 1960s and 1970s, 30 Colby students joined 3,000 other protesters in Augusta to demonstrate against a potential war and the use of U.S. military force abroad.

This time the country in mind was Iraq.

Protesters gathered at an Augusta middle school and marched to the capital building.

"It was like all of Maine coming together," said Clark Stevens '03, of Yarmouth, Maine, one of the three Colby students who started the coalition, STOP WAR, which organized the trip from Colby. The goal of STOP WAR, which stands for Students and Staff Opposed to Pre-emptive War, is to inform and rally stu-

dents to the cause of opposing war against Iraq. The coalition's other founders, Emilia Tjernstrom '06, of Uppsala, Sweden, who was active in political and social movements in Europe, and Susan Ellsworth '03, of Simsbury, Conn., said students so far have been very receptive to the coalition, with 1,250 expressing interest and signing up for informational packets.

STOP WAR was formed as a related but separate entity to the much larger Colby student group Movement for Global Justice, which is associated with a range of advocacy issues from environmental protection and human rights to racism and police brutality.

This year the coalition is trying to raise awareness of reasons the U.S. should not attack Iraq as a way to increase U.S. security. "We believe that war is not the most productive way

to solve the problem," Stevens said. "People associate attacking Iraq to the war on terrorism. But the war would only detract from the war on terrorism, and it would result in more oppression of the Middle Eastern people."

Among the reasons the coalition opposes war is that members believe war would lead Middle Eastern leaders to suppress their own populations without regard to human rights. "So, while [the U.S. is] justifying the war as a defense of democracy, in reality we will be acting against democracy," Stevens said.

On the coalition's agenda is a campus-wide walkout scheduled for 24 hours after a declaration of war. "It would ideally be part of a coalition of schools, and students as well as faculty would be encouraged to participate," Ellsworth said. —Yvonne Siu '03

Muehlner Leaves Miller Much-Changed



Suanne Muehlner

Suanne Muehlner, who retired last month after more than 20 years as director of Colby's libraries, remembers the Miller Library she inherited: the stacks dark and dirty, the metal desks too small to hold much of anything, the staff crammed into little rooms. That's the way it looked in 1981, back in the days of the card catalogue, when computers on campus were rare and the World Wide Web was pie in the sky—back when Muehlner was the unanimous choice to assume directorship of the three libraries on campus.

Colby's investment in the 1983 addition to Miller "transformed everything," Muehlner says—opening up space for more books, letting in light, combining study areas with the stacks. In the advancing electronic age the cumbersome card catalogue disappeared.

"We took some risks. You evaluate what's out there and go ahead and do things," Muehlner said. "It has served us well."

The perception of the library changed, too. One surprise: "Students today are reluctant to

use books," she said. For years they have been able to use the Internet from their rooms, a practice she thinks will become even more pronounced.

Muehlner advocated user education during her two decades in command of Miller and the art and music and science libraries. Librarians not only have to keep up with all the full-text databases and show students how to use them, she says; they have to teach the difference between reliable and unreliable Web sites. And they'll nudge students toward hard copy and other traditional formats.

"Librarians now know so much more," she said. "Librarians think it's a good idea to expand their interests. The more you know, the better off you are." When she hired new library personnel, Muehlner sought people with broad academic backgrounds.

"We're not a major research institution," she said. "We want to serve the institutional needs of our faculty and students."

And while new books came in, new technology enabled disks to hold more and more informa-

tion, and space planning became important. Little wonder the M.B.A. she earned at Northeastern turned out as useful as her degree in library science from Simmons. "Management techniques and statistical analysis were handy to know," she said.

Even if today's students don't use the library as students did 10 or 25 or 50 years ago, never fear, Muehlner says: libraries will still be full of books because countless volumes and monographs will never make it onto the Internet.

She has walked through the library looking for drips and leaks, fielded complaints about fines, aided faculty in book selection, worked out budget allocations for the various subject categories and administrative services in all three libraries. She's also made her own pottery in Colby's pottery studio, where she says she'll continue creating her pieces and giving lessons to students. Her safety study of the studio created a new location and safer venting system for kilns—just a couple of other ways Muehlner has shaped the College over the past two decades. —Robert Gillespie

Colby: Love It and Leave It

In a survey published in November comparing the numbers of students from various institutions who go abroad to study, Colby ranks ninth in the nation among baccalaureate colleges. That's based on the raw number of 365 Colby world travelers during 2000-01. The Institute for International Education's annual "Open Doors" study provides statistics on American college students going abroad and on international

students coming to the U.S. On a percentage basis, Colby ranks fourth among the colleges in the list, with 20 percent of our students going abroad in 2000-2001 alone. Only DePauw, Austin and College of St. Benedict (Minn.) had higher rates. The report says India surpassed China as the largest source of international students at U.S. colleges and universities. The IIE survey is online (opendoors.iienetwork.org).

Iphigeneia's Truth

Revisiting classical themes as war looms

By William D. Adams

It now seems virtually certain that the United States will go to war with Iraq. The United Nations resolution will first require the shadow play of inspections, but just beyond the likely failure of that enterprise the real war looms with a tragic aura of inevitability. And tragic is the word. I was reminded of that last weekend while watching students at Colby perform a classical tragedy about that same aura, written two and a half millennia ago.

In *Iph* . . . , Colin Teevan's fine contemporary adaptation of Euripides's *Iphigeneia at Aulis*, the goddess Artemis is said to require that Iphigeneia, daughter of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, be sacrificed before the Greek fleet is allowed to sail off to war with Troy. The chilling and still resonant truth of the play—we sacrifice our children for the nation, “for Greece!”—was made all the more ironic by listening to these children—*our* students, *our* children, Iphigeneia's distant successors—speak it.

Teevan's reworking of Euripides's story is especially relevant now because of its stark insistence that the sacrifice that is called for in war is concrete, immediate, personal and inescapable, no matter how smart the bombs and irrespective of the histories and accents of the children falling beneath the knives.

By some historical measures (the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution comes to mind), the debate preceding the congressional resolution supporting the use of force in Iraq was reasonably full. And the divisions in American public opinion regarding the necessity and wisdom of war express an appropriate level of turmoil.

But so far, most of the discussion about the prospect of war—supportive *and* critical—has been eerily abstract. The war planners are focused, reasonably enough, on operational matters. Politicians worry about immediate and long-term costs, both financial and political. Supporters and critics alike muse fretfully about post-war Iraq and the immense political complexities lurking there. Pervading all is the preoccupation with the technology of warfare—Saddam's weapons of mass destruction and the remarkable American arsenal of smart bombs and war machines, in particular.

What has *not* been much discussed, except in the most clinical way, are the bloody details of suffering and death. How many American and Iraqi battlefield casualties? How and where will those casualties occur? How many civilians—men, women and children—will die under the various planning scenarios?

It is natural to avoid such issues before any war, I am sure, but we are more prone to that avoidance now precisely because of the highly technological aspect of the contemporary battlefield and our connection to it. In the coming war in Iraq, we face the surreal prospect of watching televised images of unmanned drones producing televised images of their own laser-guided missiles striking targets thousands of feet away. What we will not see, and what we are now failing to imagine with appropriate intensity, is the horror beneath.

The truth of *Iphigeneia* consists in its willingness to entertain the



necessity of war even as it reveals and inspects its horror. Iphigeneia herself—daughter, citizen, victim—ultimately assents to the logic of necessity. The fullness of the misery her sacrifice produced, however, is never suppressed. It remains front and center in the keening presence of Clytemnestra, who is at once this mother and all mothers. *She* will not bend to the logic of necessity; *she* will not forget.

Iphigeneia was first produced near the end of the brutal Peloponnesian War, in which Sparta defeated the Athenian Empire. Appropriately, Teevan rediscovered and applied the play's meaning in the vengeful cycle of politics in Northern Ireland.

Alas, we have no national theater or tragic festival to remind us of certain things as we prepare for our own departure. But as I watched our students performing this work, I was grateful for the more local insight it provided. And I was reinforced in my conviction that a true political education for the demanding world our children must soon inherit and lead requires more than an acquaintance with history, cultures, diplomacy, strategies and the dynamics of power, as if that weren't enough. It must also involve a close encounter with the tragic moral vision of human conflict that Euripides so clearly understood.

It would be a good thing if the President and his senior staff were to have a private showing of *Iph* . . . before our own troops depart for Iraq. We could then be more certain that the full force of what is about to happen to our children, and theirs, is apparent to those who give the orders. I am sure that Colby's undergraduates would be willing to take the show on the road.

William D. Adams, Colby's 19th president, is a Vietnam War veteran.



Morality Play

For Cheshire Calhoun, philosophy is the right call

Cheshire Calhoun once considered studying biology, following in the scientific footsteps of her accomplished psychologist father, the late John B. Calhoun. Biology gave way to music, as the younger Calhoun, a serious musician, enrolled at Northwestern to study with a noted oboist. But while at Northwestern, Calhoun followed her academic muse once (and only once) more, this time into the realm of philosophy.

She still recalls calling home to Maryland with the news. "I remember feeling sort of embarrassed in telling them I was going to major in this impractical activity," Calhoun said.

As it turned out, she had her parents' blessing, including that of her pioneering-scientist father, who early on had encouraged her to think in terms of "big ideas." Calhoun went on to earn her doctorate in philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin. That was more than 20 years and four faculty positions ago. The publications and presentations portion of her vita runs five single-spaced pages, with much of her work in the area of ethics and the areas of moral, feminist and lesbian and gay philosophy. When President William Adams addressed the Class of 2006 in September, he cited Calhoun and her work on civility.

Adams spoke of the need, at Colby and beyond, for respectful discussion and debate. Calhoun says any discussion of civility must begin with serious consideration of social norms for appropriate behavior. A civil society must have socially agreed upon standards for respect, tolerance and considerateness.

When Calhoun started exploring the idea of civility, she found a dearth of writers dealing with the topic. There was one, though, whose work on civility was read by millions of people every week. "Miss Manners [syndicated



Cheshire Calhoun with one of her horses, Picasso.

columnist and author Judith Martin] was one of my key sources," Calhoun said. "She's really very astute, I think."

Civility is a hotter topic in academe now, and at Colby it's often related to ongoing diversity initiatives, the discussion of proposed multicultural housing and other sometimes-controversial issues. Calhoun says social norms have changed considerably since she arrived on Mayflower Hill a decade ago, and she points to a speaker brought to campus in 1992. He described gays and lesbians as "emotional cripples," she said, people to be pitied but not to be given rights. Few "majority" (e.g., straight, white) students strenuously objected to his speech or his appearance on campus.

That wouldn't be the case today, when a variety of groups have joined to explore issues like multicultural housing, which can become the crucible for testing the community's shared sense of what is considered civil behavior. A coalition of queer students, students of color and other allies have called for some form of specialty housing, citing offensive behavior by other students in residence halls.

Discussion of the issue has brought the perspectives of minority members of the Colby community to the forefront. "There really has been a sea change," said Calhoun, who is working with Vice President for Administration Arnold Yasinski on strategic diversity initiatives for Colby.

how we teach

Information Technology Services (ITS) recently introduced capabilities for online academic forums, more familiarly known as bulletin boards or online discussion groups. The hope is that professors can initiate or continue class discussions online using the Internet. "The idea of the forum is to ask a focused question about the reading and to allow free-form debate among the students," Dana Professor of Poetry Ira Sadoff explained in an Information Technology Services newsletter this fall.

"Students take a posed question or statement and run with it for a couple of paragraphs," he said. An example might be "in poems x, y and z, Emily Dickinson debates or interrogates questions of desire and autonomy. What are the pleasures and pains of each in these poems?"

What ensues is a virtual classroom discussion that runs for a couple of days or over the weekend, but with an entirely different dynamic. Students argue, form alliances and amplify one another's comments, but they do it all through a keyboard, and participants read the postings as sequential blocks of text.

The discussions, which are moderated by the professor or the professor's designee, can branch into various threads, and students can follow any of the threads of the online conversation. The system is set up so students also can receive the sequential postings automatically as e-mail messages. Access to the forums is controlled by passwords, so only class members can participate.

Sadoff, who credits colleague Karen Karbiener (English) for the bulletin-board suggestion, said one payoff is that students come to class with

a larger stake in the discussion, and his experience is that they participate more actively.

Perhaps most valuable is the way that online forums neutralize some of the personality dynamics of face-to-face classroom discussions. In the virtual environment, shyer students sometimes find their voices and dispute the views and opinions of students who may be more vocal in the class.

"In some classes I ask a question each week; in other classes I might ask questions when a particularly challenging essay or long poem will be discussed," Sadoff said. He assesses online discussion the same way he considers class participation—individual comments aren't graded, but active participation does get factored into the grading.

Sadoff reports that the forums, easily accessible and easy to use, are integral parts of a writing-intensive literature course.

"I think of it as a conduit, a way to make learning more reciprocal, to help students talk to each other, to ritualize the act of writing and thinking so students become invested in articulating a position or questions about the material," he said. "I always use the forums to get students thinking about shaping our next discussion, so I can look at the forum and find out what they're thinking, where they're confused, what engages or loses them. This kind of project makes for more work, requires a capacity to think on your feet more than we do traditionally, but class discussions are more rewarding and it seems in most classes to make students feel more like a community of learners."

Calhoun also has noted how independent-minded her Colby students are, that they have their own vision and are self-motivated enough to explore their ideas. "Sometimes you feel like you're struggling to keep up," she said.

Perhaps it's no surprise that students say the same of Calhoun, who is known for pushing students beyond what they thought were their intellectual limits. Dennis D'Angelo '99, now working for an education nonprofit in Newton, Mass., said he turned to Calhoun, Colby's "resident ethicist," when he was looking for an advisor for his thesis on "moral luck." For an entire year, D'Angelo's week ended with a meeting with Calhoun and discussion of his

work, which explored the idea that people are judged not on moral decisions they make but on moral decisions that circumstances and good fortune allow them to make.

"It was always a mind-bending way to end the week," D'Angelo said.

As of last year, there was a good chance that opportunity would have been lost to Colby students.

In 2000, Calhoun met Carleen Mandolfo, then a visiting professor in religious studies at Colby. A romance blossomed, and, when Mandolfo left Colby, Calhoun did, too, looking for a college or university where they could both teach. Calhoun taught last year at the University of Louisville, where Mandolfo also

was offered a position. Then Mandolfo applied for a tenure-track job at Colby and was hired.

They returned to Colby last fall, with three horses in tow, including one named Picasso "because he's a paint." Their house is also home to a multitude of cats and dogs. Most of the cats are expectant mothers taken in temporarily from the Waterville Humane Society so they can have kittens away from the confines of the animal shelter. "It's like a Home for Little Wanderers for kittens," Calhoun said.

She made sure to put in a plug for the shelter and its need for more homes for kittens and cats. Morally and ethically, Miss Manners would approve. —Gerry Boyle '78



Q&A

André Siamundele on snow, French and *King Leopold's Ghost*

Assistant Professor of French André Siamundele came to Colby in 2000. He is a Goddard-Hodgkins faculty resident, teaches French, Francophone studies and African studies, and twice has led discussions as part of the residence hall reading program. He talked

with Colby about life at Colby.

How do you feel about snow this early in November?

That's the first question? Ha. I love it, since we missed it last year. I remember I went to New Hampshire for New Year's Eve and my friend said, "That's incredible. We don't have snow."

Tell me about your academic background.

For my undergrad, I was a linguistics and literature major. Then I focused more on French literature for my master's back home in the Congo. . . . I got the master's degree in pedagogy, how to teach. . . . Because I went to high school in Canada I wanted to come back to North America. I remember my brothers and sister found that this was kind of crazy to go that far for a Ph.D. . . . I graduated [from Yale] in 1999 and I started looking for jobs. My first job was at Louisiana State University. It was a one-year position.

And how is Colby different?

It's like a small community; I've never been in a university like that. Also the type of interactions you have with students as a professor—I remember when I was at LSU I was on campus twice a week, and when I'm not on campus, you can't reach me. You can leave a message, you can call the secretary. But no one was calling my home and saying, "Can you come? Can you have dinner?"

Tell me more about your formal training in pedagogy.

When I was a graduate student at Yale we started teaching in our third year of grad school. Some of my classmates said, you know, "We're going to start teaching tomorrow? We don't even know how to teach!" They expect because you have a Ph.D. you can go in the classroom and teach, but it takes more than that. It takes preparation, it takes some of the things you do in class. How to react. The psychology of students . . . how to make students participate in a classroom when you can see they're tired.

Did you find a big difference between students at LSU and students at Colby?

Yeah. Yeah. The students at Colby are students. At LSU I had students who were working full time—coming to school and working full time, and that's very bad for learning a language. I'm very happy to be back to the north; they're more like the students I had at Yale. They take it seriously.

How has it been to be a faculty resident, living on campus?

I wanted to do that my first year because it was something new for me. I go and live on campus and I know my students. Living on campus you see students when you want to see them, you don't have to come back to campus. Also there's a lot of things going on in Waterville, but at the same time most of the stuff I do is happening here. I'll work till seven and then I'll go to something at 7:30. . . . Students can send me an e-mail and I can say "stop by and tell me about it."

The French Department has evolved. What do you mean when you say you teach Francophone studies?

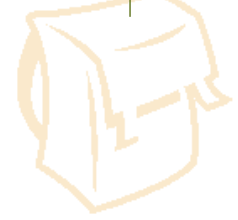
In our department we have Madame Moss, Jane, who teaches Quebec studies; Adrianna [Paliyenko] is doing the Caribbean; I do Algeria and sub-Saharan Africa; and Madame [Suellen] Diaconoff did also Morocco. . . . I have a class on Francophone literature, Francophone studies, where I teach writers from Senegal, from Cameroon, from Algeria, from the Congo. There's another class I call "French Africa," I'm teaching it next semester, where I have French writers like Gide, Sartre, talking about Africa, and I have Francophone African writers talking about France.

You taught *Heart of Darkness* and *King Leopold's Ghost* in the residence hall reading program. Tell me about that.

I did it my first semester here when [Associate Dean of Students] Ron Hammond told me about the program. He said, "You can read a book you like, share it with students, meet six times to discuss the book." I said "Ha! That's wonderful!" So I picked *Heart of Darkness*. I'm always fascinated by the idea of traveling. When we travel, in our mind we try to bring something where we're going. But sometimes we forget that where we're going can change us, and maybe when we come back we're a very different person than when we went.

***King Leopold's Ghost* is history. How was teaching that different?**

It's not like a normal historical book where you have to remember dates. The narrative is very good; it flows. So when I read it I said, this book can be like a novel, basically. But this is not a novel, it's a true story of my country. . . . I want people to remember those facts are real. My country went through all these atrocities. That was back in the colonial period, but we can say the same thing about after the independence, too. We [the reading group] just saw the film *Lumumba*. These things didn't change, they just changed hands.



Refuge or Regression?

College Affairs Committee considers multicultural housing as debate continues

It's the issue that won't go away.

Multicultural housing, studied and rejected by the College in 1995 and demanded again by some students last year, was rekindled as a hot issue this fall, with debate flourishing in a variety of forums.

Special-interest housing, in practice at many colleges and universities, houses students according to any of a number of interests and backgrounds, from race to academic major. That concept has been rejected by the Board of Trustees at Colby. As proposed at Colby this fall, multicultural housing—one form of special-interest housing—would be available to students who want to live with other students who share an interest in multicultural issues and perspectives, according to proponents of the concept.

The push for multicultural housing at Colby this year came from some students of color, who want a more comfortable and inclusive residential experience; from some queer students, who said they felt uncomfortable and even unsafe living in conventional dormitories; and from other students who want to make multicultural experience a more prominent part of their residential life.

Some students said multicultural housing would serve to proclaim the value of diversity where other efforts at Colby have fallen short. "The Pugh Center has proven ineffective in celebrating diversity," said Elizabeth Parks '03 at a debate sponsored by the Pugh Cultural Board in October. "It's time to bring Pugh to the Commons."

The call for multicultural housing was



considered this fall by official College groups, including the College Affairs Committee, the Multicultural Affairs Committee, the Queer Task Force, the Committee on Race and Racism, and the Presidents' Council as well as student groups including the Coalition for Institutional Accountability and The Difference. The Presidents' Council, comprising the presidents of each residence hall, voted in November to send a message that "establishment of multicultural housing should be examined by the administration as a viable option for the Colby community."

Some students had already considered the idea and pronounced it long overdue. Supporters described one version as a separate residence hall, open to all interested students, that would create an atmosphere that "celebrates, embraces and affirms" differences among Colby students. They also cited a need for creating a campus where students would feel comfortable expressing and sharing their differences. Some proponents see precedents in Colby's chem-free- and quiet-dorm housing options.

At a "town meeting" forum in Novem-

ber, students aired a plan that would give them the option to apply for multicultural housing regardless of their race, gender, religion or sexual orientation. The process would be color blind, they said, but applicants would be selected according to their need for a place in a multicultural dorm or on a multicultural floor. Applicants who would best fulfill the vision of the multicultural house or center would be given

preference, they said.

Supporters cited examples of successful multicultural housing at Wesleyan, Amherst and other Colby peer colleges where language- and culture-oriented housing is offered. Queer students and students of color argued that they have a right to an education without the added burden of serving as educational tools for the straight, white majority.

Opponents, however, argued that the move is unnecessary at Colby and actually would hinder diversity efforts already underway. "To hide away in multicultural housing is to ignore a stigma that still exists," said Edwin Stone '03. "It is defeatist."

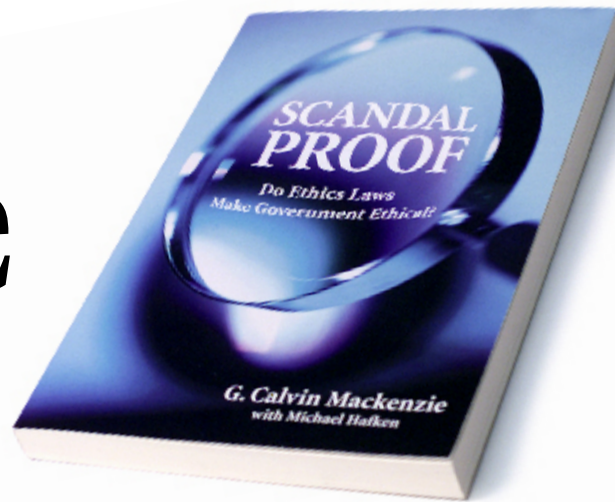
As discussions continued in public, they also moved forward behind closed doors. Dean of Students Janice Kassman said the College Affairs Committee was studying the issue and preparing a proposal. While Kassman declined to reveal the details of the proposal, she said it would be presented to President William D. Adams in December.

The proposal had not been completed as this issue of *Colby* went to press. — *Gerry Boyle '78, Yvonne Siu '03 and Neha Sud '05*



Less is More

Mackenzie concludes ethics laws may do as much harm as good



When G. Calvin Mackenzie suggested in his latest book that ethics laws should be repealed, he realized that was a bit like criticizing motherhood. Who, after all, is opposed to ethical behavior by public servants?

Mackenzie, Goldfarb Family Distinguished Professor in American Government, was undeterred. His contrarian book, *Scandal Proof*, analyzes the history of federal ethics regulations (e.g., disclosure of personal finances, restrictions on post-government activities, bans on accepting outside honoraria) as well as their effectiveness and some unanticipated consequences. And in the end he waves a red cape before this sacred bovine. “Deregulation,” he concludes, “will make public service more attractive to talented people. It will speed up the emplacement of new administrations. Politics will be de-fanged in important ways. Presidents will be freer to concentrate on their policy and administrative leadership responsibilities. The American people will have less reason for skepticism about government integrity.”

Mackenzie’s efforts to determine whether government has been more ethical since the proliferation of ethics laws, particularly in the post-Watergate era, are inconclusive, and he doesn’t anticipate a significant increase in unethical behavior if certain provisions are repealed. “The law is too blunt an instrument to define or ensure proper behavior,” he writes. “Public employees act ethically when they adhere to high standards of conduct and when they possess sensitivities that cannot all be etched in law.”

Mackenzie’s research on ethics laws is part of his broad interest in the executive branch and presidential appointments. He’s clearly

discouraged by the evolution of the appointments process and the way ethics laws have contributed to gridlock. He likens a new U.S. president to a corporate chief executive who sweeps into office only to be told: “Oh, by the way, did we mention that any of the people you choose to run the divisions of the company will have to be approved by a committee of your worst enemies, each of whom has a veto over your choices? And they will expect you to choose people who are willing to have every aspect of their private lives subjected to constant and penetrating scrutiny and to forgo any income that doesn’t come from the company and to dispose of any financial asset that might benefit from the decisions they make for the company.”

Scandal Proof reviews how most of America’s ethics policies developed in the second half of the 20th century. In the climate of McCarthyism, Dwight Eisenhower ordered FBI background investigations for presidential appointees. Lyndon Johnson instituted confidential financial disclosure for senior federal employees. In the wake of Watergate, “no politician wanted to be on the side of less ethics,” and the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 and other post-Watergate reforms erected a maze of laws, rules and regulations unprecedented in world history, Mackenzie says.

After that, presidents voluntarily added their own policies in a game of leapfrog with the goal of appearing more ethical than the previous administration.

Mackenzie argues that, while clearly setting high standards of conduct is essential, current financial disclosure requirements and

Scandal Proof: Do Ethics Laws Make Government Ethical?

G. Calvin Mackenzie (government)

with Michael Hafken

2002, Brookings Institution Press

the broad use of FBI background investigations both need to be curtailed. The financial disclosure rules cover more than a quarter of a million executive branch employees, mostly career civil servants. His research found that publicly disclosed financial statements rarely are requested for review and, when they are, “political embarrassment and harassment” seem to be a common motivation.

FBI investigations should be shrunk to cover only appointments with clear national security implications, he suggests, and they needn’t “delve into matters of reputation and character, of medical or marital history” or other areas not related to bona fide national security concerns.

While Mackenzie expects the main audiences for his book to be journalists, scholars, current and potential government employees (“I signed a bunch of copies for members of Congress,” he said in an interview shortly after the book’s release), it got a laudatory review from syndicated columnist David Broder. “Academics are never more useful than when they are taking on conventional wisdom and tearing it apart,” Broder wrote. “Cheers for [Mackenzie’s] having told us that the emperor of government ethics has no clothes.”

Still, Mackenzie isn’t optimistic for a rollback of ethics rules. “Just think how it would sound in a thirty-second ad in your next election campaign,” he said. —*Stephen Collins* ’74

One Good Record Deserves Another

When Jason Spooner '95 was growing up his dad had two record collections. One stack was the pop music left out for anyone to play. "He didn't care if the kids were listening to the Bee Gees records," Spooner said. "Because then they could get scratched and destroyed." Then there was the music Spooner's dad cared about and protected—early Van Morrison, Stevie Wonder and Marvin Gaye. It was that second stack of songwriter-based records that influenced Spooner's musical style. Once his father saw how Spooner connected with that music, Jason was allowed to spin those albums on the family stereo. No more Bee Gees for him.

Spooner has been writing and performing his own music in coffee houses and clubs since shortly after picking up an acoustic guitar as a high school freshman. In November the singer-songwriter released his debut record, *Lost Houses*. The "self-produced, self-funded, self-everything project" includes 11 tracks of folk, soul and blues-influenced tunes.

Spooner's songs range from the wistful "Morning" ("Maybe she ain't no Juliet but in this life you gotta take what you get/And I can sleep well in her arms until the morning") to the fun, campy country tune "Pickup Truck" ("She got more features than a Winnebago/She's had more rednecks than Lake Sebago"). In addition to vocals and acoustic guitar Spooner also plays a mean harmonica.

Until about 18 months ago Spooner was a solo act, based in Portland, Maine. "I hadn't been seeking a band," he said. A chance meeting with a drummer wanting to buy Spooner's speakers changed that. The duo added a bassist a short time later, and all appear on *Lost Houses*.

"I didn't want to sound like a big loud band," Spooner said. "I think the fact that it's organically gone from solo songwriter, throw in a little drum and throw in the bass in sort of a layered way, has enabled the songs and the songwriter vibe to really be the focal point."

Spooner started recording his first demo as a Colby senior and finished it soon after. The demo even earned him his first job at an independent blues record label. As for the long wait for his debut, "I really wanted to wait until everything had matured," he said. "To do something polished."

It's worth the wait. For a preview, check out the music clips and concert schedule on Spooner's Web site at www.jasonspooner.com. —*Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay '97*



Lost Houses

Jason Spooner '95

Produced by Jason Spooner (2002)

recent releases

Conquering Infertility

Alice D. Domar '80

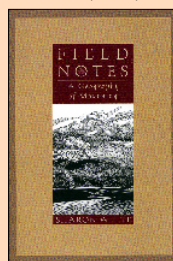
Viking Press (2002)

Psychologist Domar has seen infertile couples suffer the emotional and physical stress of treatment and struggle with feelings of failure and crises of faith. By sharing her successful mind/body infertility program in print, Domar provides support and hope to more couples. Promoting mind/body techniques in conjunction with medical treatment, Domar gives infertile women the skills to cope with family, financial, medical and career pressures and take control of their lives.

Field Notes: A Geography of Mourning

Sharon White '74

Hazelden (2002)



"Sometimes I feel as if Steve has taken me away with him, and I can't find a path through the woods home," writes White, who lost her 33-year-old husband to a brain tumor after a year and a half of marriage. White finds a new cadence in the natural world and maps her journey from bereavement back to herself.

Wilderness and Spirit, A Mountain Called Katahdin

Huey (James Coleman '70) (2002)

With legendary stories, dances and music of the Penobscot people woven throughout, Huey examines Katahdin through the words of Thoreau, the paintings of Hartley and the hikers and climbers of Maine's foremost mountain. Subjects also include descendants of Governor Percival Baxter, the original AT through-hiker Earl Shaffer and Donn Fendler of *Lost on a Mountain in Maine* fame. Huey's main collaborator on the film was Emeritus Professor of Art C. Abbott Meader (www.filmsbyhuey.com).

Ciao America

Joe Ciota '81 (screenplay)

Mavex Productions (2002)

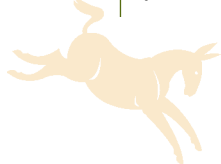
Ciao America follows an Italian-American college grad to Italy to coach an American football team of Italians in Italy's fledgling American Football League. He finds a group of players who can kick from field goal to field goal, but they take smoke breaks and can't catch. And then he meets a girl. Ciota, a former Colby running back, based the screenplay on his own experience coaching in Italy after college. His brother Frank directs the movie (www.ciaoamericamovie.com).

Math Through the Ages: A Gentle History for Teachers and Others

William P. Berlinghoff and Fernando Q. Gouvêa (mathematics)

Oxton House Publishers (2002)

Two Colby professors collaborated on this informal and accessible book, with 25 independent sketches and a short overview of the whole history of mathematics.



Practicing by the Book

NESCAC presidents issue rules
reminder on out-of-season practices

Colby's sports news this fall didn't all come from game-day competitions.

The New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) policy on out-of-season team practices, which for years had not been interpreted consistently or properly around the conference, was clarified and reemphasized following a September 25 meeting of NESCAC presidents. The rule states: "on-field/on-court activities called by any member of the team and confined primarily to members of that team are not permissible."

Following that meeting President William "Bro" Adams disseminated the policy at Colby and issued a statement that said, in part: "I was not a NESCAC president when the original policy was enacted, but its rationale seems clear: the playing and practicing season ought to have discrete limits, thus permitting and encouraging students to engage in activities outside their sports."

NESCAC presidents agreed to go back to their campuses to discuss the issues surrounding the rule against "captain's practices" with their administrators, coaches, students and faculty. The presidents were scheduled to reconvene at Tufts University Dec. 18 for reports on those discussions and to consider a proposal from NESCAC athletic directors.

Meanwhile, Ivy League presidents similarly worried about the breadth of their athletes' experiences are requiring teams to hold no practices during a total of seven weeks per year beginning this fall.

The announcements concerning the out-of-season rules prompted a flurry of protest at Colby, with student athletes demonstrating outside the Eustis Building one afternoon in October. "Our first reaction was disbelief and frustration because we had no idea what the policy was," said Sarah Walsh '03, captain of the women's basketball team. "There were so many different interpretations. . . . We just

wanted a clear explanation of what was and wasn't illegal."

Though the most recent interpretation may appear more strict than in past years, the ban on formal out-of-season practices has been in place since the 1971 formation of NESCAC, which has more restrictive athletic policies than most Division III conferences.

According to Athletic Director Marcella Zalot, interpretation and implementation of the policy has varied at Colby and at other conference schools under different administrations and athletic directors. An effort has been underway for at least two years to better define just how the restrictions would be clarified and implemented. "It got confusing as to what the rule actually was," Zalot said.

The discussion was already ongoing but came under a spotlight in September when a Colby men's hockey player was seriously injured during an on-ice captain's practice at Kents Hill School in Readfield. That practice, arguably permissible under the rules in use at that time, prompted Adams and other presidents to step in, said Sally Baker, executive assistant to the president at Colby. But Baker said interpretation of the out-of-season practice rules had been troubling for some time.

"Bro has been thinking about this ever since he got here," Baker said. "He's been concerned about the balance that students need to maintain between athletics and academics, that it was tipping too far toward athletics in some cases."

At Colby this fall, an ad hoc committee of coaches, faculty members and administrators assisted the Athletics Advisory Committee and Adams in crafting an interim rule governing out-of-season activities that "adheres to both the spirit and the letter of the NESCAC policy."

That policy "may be refined depending on what comes of the presidents' discussions," Adams said.

Following early opposition and protest, an understanding was reached. Walsh said

initial concerns that all out-of-season activities would be banned were alleviated as she and others met with Adams. Some students felt that decisions were being made unilaterally by the administration, but Walsh said she felt Adams listened and seriously considered the athletes' concerns. More clarification came at a subsequent panel discussion open to the campus at large during which Adams, Zalot, Walsh, men's hockey assistant captain Sean O'Grady '03 and Pro-

fessor James Meehan (economics) fielded questions from students.

Walsh said she came away from the process satisfied. "It seems fair to me and the rest of the captains," she said. "We can play pick-up. We have equipment available to use."

Zalot, meanwhile, said she was ready to get back to the business of overseeing Colby athletics, without the distraction of the practice-rules issue. "It's taken up my September," she said, "and my October, too." —Gerry Boyle '78

Guidelines for out-of-season activities*

- Allow voluntary pick-up games and voluntary strength and conditioning programs;
- Ban any required out-of-season activities;
- Prohibit out-of-season scrimmages against outside teams;
- Place responsibility for enforcement of the guidelines with the director of athletics.

* AS OF DECEMBER

Stepka Racks Up Yards, Records

Like all good running backs, Colby's Aaron Stepka '05 knows he is only as good as the blockers in front of him. That's why he treats Colby's offensive linemen with an abundance of respect.

Stepka spends the majority of his time in media interviews talking not about his accomplishments but about the guys in front of him battling to create holes to run through. During the off-season you'll likely see Stepka working out with his offensive linemen buddies in the weight room.

The combination of Stepka and Colby's offensive line worked so well this season that the sophomore tailback broke the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) single-season rushing record with 1,370 yards on a NESCAC-record 293 carries—this in a 4-4 season for the Mules. Stepka also broke the 30-year-old Colby record for single-season rushing previously held by Peter Gorniewicz '75, who had 1,170 yards in 1972.

"The thing that separates Aaron from others is his work ethic," Colby football coach Tom Austin said. "He trains so hard in the weight room and in practice. He's the type who will run a play in practice at full speed and go 20 or 30 yards downfield when he doesn't have to after the whistle blows. He's getting tired in the games like everybody else, but his slippage is much less than those around him." —*Bill Sodoma*

A Morning Sentinel feature story on Aaron Stepka '05 is at www.centralmaine.com/sports/College_Sports/021114stepka_f.shtml

Smith C Club Person of the Year

Patricia Valavanis Smith '80, a record-setting Colby basketball player and star softball pitcher as a student and an inveterate supporter of women's sports ever since, was named the C Club Person of the Year at the club's fall dinner on Oct. 18.

As a four-year starting guard on the basketball team she set 12 individual records, was the first woman to score 1,000 career points at Colby and was a tri-captain her senior year. In softball she led the team in batting as a sophomore, won 35 games in her career as a pitcher and recorded two no-hitters. She threw 15 strikeouts in a single game and pitched a one-hit shutout against the University of Maine to win the 1979 state championship. Smith graduated Phi Beta Kappa and was named Maine Woman Student Athlete of the Year by the Maine Sports Hall of Fame.

Today Smith remains active, playing softball in the Wakefield, Mass., recreational league (on the same team since 1986), golfing and helping coach her son's youth soccer team. The mother of 5- and 7-year-old boys, she said, "I was golfing when I was nine months pregnant—both times."

A long-time member of the Alumni Council Athletics Committee and the first woman president of the Colby C Club, she sees at least one Colby women's basketball game each year and is thrilled by the quality of competition. "The level of play is really pretty mind-boggling," she said. And she doesn't believe the women's progress has been at the expense of men's athletics.

Smith says she is satisfied with the equity in athletics since Title IX was passed but sees women lagging in one respect dear to her heart. "My fervent hope is that women join the C Club. Where are all these people?" she asked, noting the discrepancy between the number of women athletes and those who stay connected to Colby athletics through the club.

At the dinner in October the C Club also honored Christina Lavertu '02 and Katie Ward-Waller '02, captains of last year's women's crew team, who received a plaque acknowledging the team's second-place finish at the national Division III championship. And Rob Saunders '05 was recognized as the first Colby student ever to win a Division I ski race outright.

sports shorts

VOLLEYBALL had one of its best seasons ever with a 23-10 record and the second seed in the NESCAC Tournament, where the Mules lost to Middlebury, 3-2, in the quarterfinals. Colby went 8-2 in NESCAC play. Outside hitter **CAIT CLEAVER '06** was named NESCAC and Maine State Rookie of the Year and led the Mules in kills with 353. **JOHANNA SCHROEDER '04** and **ABBEY STELLA '04** were named to the NESCAC All-Academic Team. . . . **FOOTBALL** won four of its last six games to



Wendy Bonner '05

finish 4-4. Quarterback **PAT CONLEY '03** threw for 854 yards and six touchdowns.

IAN MACPHERSON '03, linebacker **MIKE MORAN '03** and defensive end **MIKE DISTEFANO '03** were named to the NESCAC All-Conference First Team. . . .

FIELD HOCKEY finished 10-5 and made the NESCAC Tournament for the second straight year due to **WENDY BONNER '05** (see below) and a stingy defense headed up by sweeper **KRISTIN PUTNAM '05** and goaltender **CARRIE MORIN '03**. . . . **MEN'S SOCCER** went

5-0 in non-conference play and 6-8 overall. Forward **JAMIE YUREK '03** and midfielder **JAMIE LUE '03** led the team in scoring with four goals and three assists apiece. . . . **CHRISTINE O'DONNELL '03** became the all-time leading scorer in **WOMEN'S SOCCER** with 12 goals and three assists this season and 43 goals and nine assists total. She was third in NESCAC in points per game and goals per game and was named to the NESCAC All-Conference Team for the fourth year. . . . **GOLF** won the CBB Tournament over Bates and Bowdoin, with **GREG DUPUY '04** taking medalist honors. . . . At the ECAC **MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY** championship **NAT BROWN '04** finished third in 26:43.6 over eight kilometers. **ERIC REINAUER '04** took eighth place and **JUSTIN SUKIENNIK '03** was ninth. A week later Brown qualified for his third NCAA Division III meet by placing 15th at the New England Division III Championships. . . . **WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY** was third of 43 teams at the ECAC Championship and was seventh of 38 schools at the New England Division III Championships, where **MARY PHELPS '04** qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships by placing 19th. . . . In **WOMEN'S TENNIS**, unseeded **SARA HUGHES '05** and **BRITT PALMEDO '03** defeated the second seeds from Williams and the fourth seeds from Bowdoin to reach the championship match at the New England Women's Intercollegiate Tennis Tournament.

Bonner Named Field Hockey All-America

Wendy Bonner '05 was honored as a National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) Division III All-America Third Team selection after finishing this season with 12 goals and two assists. She led the NESCAC in goals per game (0.80), and her 12 goals tied a school record. The honor came on the heels of NFHCA Regional All-America and NESCAC first-team honors. The sharpshooter from Lexington, Mass., is hardly resting on her laurels—one day after getting the All-America news she scored 24 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the basketball team to a 74-33 win over Gordon College.

Brewing Up a Storm

Colby alumni use teamwork as a formula for business success

The compressor and motor don't grind to a halt. They just stop. In an instant, the room is quiet.

"What happened?" asks Brent Ryan '97. "Do we have a massive failure here?"

He looks at Derek Luke '98, who has his hands full of empty, sanitized beer bottles ready for the suddenly crippled bottling machine. Luke, the brewmaster, can only shrug: "Who knows?"

There's a sense of urgency but not of panic. The temperamental machine has fizzled before. An electrician in the building next to Coastal Extreme Brewery headquarters will, for a foamy fee, revive the bottler. "Beer is a wonderful commodity," Mark Sinclair '97 explains. "Electrical work, oil changes, welding, fork lifts."

But it doesn't come to that, and soon Sinclair and Ryan have the machine humming.

Eight hundred cases of beer will be bottled in Middletown, R.I., on this day. By 11 a.m., they have been bottling for four hours, and as long as the machine holds up, they should be finished in eight or nine more.

For now, it's just Ryan, Luke and Sinclair getting their hands dirty. Will Rafferty '97 is upstairs, catching up on some bookkeeping.

This might seem like a never-never land for college buddies, but it's serious business. After years of slowly carving out a niche in Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts, the company did about \$500,000 in sales last year. This year, with distribution expanded to Boston, Ryan expects to top \$1 million.

When they arrived at Colby, they had no brewing aspirations. Sinclair was a physics major. Ryan, Luke and Rafferty studied cell and molecular biology.

But Luke and Ryan were fast friends—and beer enthusiasts. The two began with a homebrew kit Luke gave to, then took from, his sister. Soon the conversations began taking on an entrepreneurial tone.

"My parents knew something like this was going to happen," Ryan said, sipping a bottle of his own brew while working the bottling line. "Two of my sisters are investment bankers . . . so two out of three ain't bad."

Luke took a year off from Colby to ski competitively, so he had another year to study when Ryan graduated in 1997. And though the details were still hazy by graduation, the two pledged to make their brewery a reality.

Sinclair, who had sat in on the brewery talks but wasn't sure where they were heading, took a job teaching physics. But Ryan, who landed



From left, Brent Ryan '97, Mark Sinclair '97, Will Rafferty '97 and Derek Luke '98 at the Coastal Extreme Brewery in Middletown, R.I.

a job as a researcher for a pharmaceutical company, was biding his time. The biology and economics double major spent most of the year perfecting a business plan.

Luke, meanwhile, was working towards graduation and perfecting his brewing skills. Some weekends he'd drive to Skowhegan to volunteer at the Oak Pond Brewery. "People were going for interviews and I was going to start a brewery," he said.

Luke and Ryan connected again after graduation and reached out to Sinclair, who signed on despite some parental apprehension. Rafferty, a Washington state native, came on board as vice president of operations.

But, of course, there was no boardroom, no headquarters. The team only picked Newport because it had a booming tourist population and no microbreweries. They then raised \$300,000 of start-up money, about 60 percent of which came from family and friends. The team wasn't asking for handouts; they wanted investors. "A lot of our investors sit on our board of directors," Ryan said. "And over the past few years, their money has been

safer in this company than in Yahoo! or Dell."

Maybe, but so far nobody's getting rich. Their company is flourishing, but only because of what business school types call "stick-to-it-iveness." The partners share a house in downtown Newport but spend most of their time at the brewery or on the road on brewery business. Rafferty handles sales and much of the bookkeeping. Ryan, the president, oversees marketing. Luke is the brewmaster but shies from the title. Sinclair is the assistant brewmaster and resident troubleshooter.

Since Coastal Extreme Brewery launched its Newport Storm brand beer in 1999, expansion has been slow but calculated as the first years have been spent building a name. The company sponsored concerts and got their beer on tap at the Providence Civic Center. *Newport Life* magazine named Hurricane Amber the best locally produced product. Newport Storm runs television spots that are minimalist theater. In one, a bartender wrings out his rag into a patron's glass ("Good to the last drop"). When the brewers offered a lifetime supply of beer to anyone who got a tattoo of their logo, *The Advertiser* quipped, "Just think how many beer logos one beer gut could take."

For the record, a member of the Warwick, R.I., branch of the Hell's Angels gets a six-pack a month for life. The tattoo is on his arm.

For their next trick, the Coastal Extreme boys are planning a late-2003 expansion to Newport Beach, Calif., a laid-back town with a convenient name and, they hope, a lot of thirsty people. —Matt Apuzzo '00