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A Children's Crusade

Ushari Mahmud, the 2002 Oak Human Rights Fellow, works for victims of slavery, incarceration and child soldiering

Halfway across the world and a cultural universe away, Kuj Akon tirelessly searches for his missing daughter. He doesn't know what she would look like today and describes her as she was 10 years ago, when she was abducted by slave raiders.

This is the image that Ushari Mahmud remembers at Colby when he reflects on his work improving human rights in Sudan and helping the Sudanese children who have been

Toddlers are stolen from their families and sold into slavery. Thirteen-year-olds are handed weapons and ordered to kill and mutilate their enemy. Slaves are often beaten. Moreover, these practices are used as war strategies by both sides; slavery is tolerated by the northern Khartoum government and child soldiering is adopted by the southern rebels.

Met with admiration by some and searing hostility by others, Mahmud has put his personal safety on the line to expose these ugly practices. His work documenting and revealing the reality of slavery in Sudan, now a controversial issue in the media, landed him in prison for two years.

Mahmud has found a safe haven at Colby this semester—a respite intended to give him a chance to relax and reflect. “I don’t have time to relax, but I will do a lot of reflection,” he said. As well as helping to organize the Oak Human Rights Lecture Series, he is teaching a course

called Human Rights in a Global Perspective, giving presentations at high schools and writing manuscripts on issues such as child protection, human rights and language rights.

He said he is delighted by the atmosphere at Colby and especially by the receptivity of his students to his work. Mahmud found many students already involved in human rights work in the United States. “It’s encouraging to know that,” he said.

Mahmud developed his interest in human

rights while studying sociolinguistics at Georgetown University, where he received his Ph.D. in 1979. He taught at Khartoum University for 10 years and has worked for the past six years with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in Kenya and Burundi to protect children in Sudan.

It’s a painstaking process, despite the broad ideals UNICEF upholds. Mahmud educates rebels and government officials alike, emphasizing that slavery and child soldiering are considered violations of international law and human rights offenses. Through data gathering, documentation and persuasion, he seeks government approval to release incarcerated children and to help displaced populations. “The main challenge has been knowing how to deal with sensitive issues and handling exposure to danger by those who perpetrate the crimes I’m fighting against,” Mahmud said.

Perhaps the most fulfilling achievement in his career was demobilizing 10,000 child soldiers in south Sudan in 2001, “a one-year project in which I was able to save one of the largest amounts of children I ever have,” he said.

Once demobilized, the children are reunited with their families, if possible. Mahmud’s group also attempts to get children involved in a program designed to reintegrate them into society. Counseling and other services are offered to those children traumatized by their duties as soldiers, and Mahmud tries to get them to go to school.

After he leaves Colby, Mahmud will return to Burundi, where he has been accepted as the chief of the Child Protection division of UNICEF. He will continue to advocate for human rights and to help reunite families that have been torn apart because of the war.

And all the while he will remember Kuj Akon and his stolen daughter. “I met him years ago, and I’ve never forgotten about him,” Mahmud said. —*Yvonne Siu '03*



DAVID LEAMING

Oak Human Rights Fellow Ushari Mahmud teaches in Miller Library.

the victims of slavery, incarceration or child soldiering. “He makes a trip from south to north Sudan every year hoping to find his daughter,” Mahmud said. “He never gives up.”

Mahmud is the 2002 Oak Human Rights Fellow at Colby for the fall semester. For the past 15 years he has been protesting the effects of armed conflict on the Sudanese people, particularly children caught up in a bloody civil war that pits the Muslim north against the Christian south.

Daniel Pearl Receives Posthumous Lovejoy Award

Some meetings of Colby's Lovejoy Award Selection Committee feature spirited deliberations comparing the merits of various nominees. This was not one of those years. A couple of the nationally prominent editors on the committee independently suggested that the 2002 award should go to the late Daniel Pearl of *The Wall Street Journal*, and there was immediate and unanimous agreement.

So on November 13, 200 years since Elijah Parish Lovejoy was born and 50 years since Colby began presenting an annual journalism award to an American journalist for displaying courage in pursuit of the truth, Pearl will be remembered and honored with a posthumous Lovejoy Award.

Lovejoy, who graduated from Colby in 1826, was killed defending his presses against a pro-slavery mob in Alton, Ill., in 1837, and he is remembered as an important abolitionist and as America's first martyr to freedom of the press. Pearl was abducted on his way to interview a Muslim fundamentalist leader in Pakistan and was killed by his captors early this year. The selection committee recognized that both men were committed to the pursuit of justice and understanding through a free exchange of ideas in the press and found it absolutely fitting that Pearl receive the 50th Lovejoy Award.

Since there can be no traditional Lovejoy address with a posthumous award, a program of distinguished journalists will instead present a panel discussion titled "The Perils of Reporting in Wartime, Abroad and at Home." Syndicated columnist and 1990 Lovejoy winner David Broder H'90 will moderate the forum and participate in the discussion. Other panelists include Ann Cooper, executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalists; Noreen Ahmed-Ullah, a Muslim



Daniel Pearl

who has covered the war in Afghanistan for the *Chicago Tribune*; and 1983 Lovejoy recipient Anthony Lewis H'83, who recently retired from *The New York Times*.

The topic was selected to encompass both the physical perils faced by war correspondents and the dangers and difficulties experienced by reporters doing truthful, accurate reporting at home in a climate of tightly controlled information, military secrecy and national security concerns.

The Lovejoy Award was established in 1952. Only one of 50 previous awards was a posthumous honor, in 1977 to *Arizona Republic* reporter Donald Bolles, who was killed as he investigated criminal activity. The decision to present this year's award to Pearl was made by a selection committee that includes Matthew Storin, retired editor of the *Boston Globe*, now associate vice president of the University of

Notre Dame; Ann Marie Lipinski, editor of the *Chicago Tribune*; William Hilliard, retired executive editor of *The Oregonian*; Rena Pederson, editorial page editor of the *Dallas Morning News*; and Rebecca Littleton Corbett '74, assistant managing editor of the *Baltimore Sun*.

Storin, who chairs the committee, said, "Daniel Pearl's commitment to his profession, the drive and determination that were hallmarks of his work, and his unquestionable courage are inspirational to any journalist. His life stands as eloquent testimony to the ideals embodied in the Elijah Lovejoy Award. We could not have a more appropriate or deserving award winner. I only wish he were here to receive the honor."

More information about the Lovejoy Award is online at www.colby.edu/lovejoy. —Stephen Collins '74

Governor Recognizes Colby's Environmental Effort

Colby's Environmental Advisory Group (EAG) is barely a year old, but its commitment to integrating environmental sustainability into academics, campus maintenance and administration is a long-time institutional ethos. Maine Gov. Angus King recognized that, and in September the College received a 2002 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence. Colby was the first institution of higher learning to earn one of the awards, first presented in 1995.

The award is an incentive for people at the College to continue their efforts—from composting yard and food wastes and lowering steam plant emissions to promoting a pedestrian-friendly campus. It also raises awareness of Colby's environmental priorities, says Patricia Murphy, director of the Physical Plant Department.

The Governor's Award recognized Colby's curriculum, which includes

environmental studies majors in policy or science as well as environmental options in biology, chemistry and geology. Recycling unwanted student belongings, reducing paper consumption and food waste in dining halls, using environmentally friendly cleaning solutions, making use of excess steam to generate electricity and favoring native species in landscaping also earned praise.

What's on the agenda for the future? "Looking at green building standards, alternative vehicles and waiting to see what the student body brings us," said Bruce McDougal, environmental compliance and safety coordinator. That doesn't mean simply listening to and responding to complaints.

"You have to make critics part of the solution and get them involved," said Murphy. "I hope this makes people realize how much is going on."

"Aesthetics.' It seemed like such a good idea at the time."

Mike Daisey '96, who performed his off-Broadway hit 21 Dog Years: Doing Time @ Amazon.com at Strider Theater in September; talking in the show about the independent major he designed and completed at Colby.

"I like it a lot. It's a big deal. I wish we had one."

Robert Storr, senior curator of painting and sculpture at New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), quoted in the Waterville Sentinel reacting to the new Sol LeWitt sculpture Seven Walls at the dedication ceremony July 17.

Rosenfeld Hopes to Collect New Audience for Museum of Art

Before Daniel Rosenfeld was named director of the Colby College Museum of Art, he made a clandestine tour of the galleries in Waterville and came to two conclusions: that the museum's collection is extraordinary and that the Colby museum is "a little less known than it should be."

Rosenfeld plans to do something about the latter.

The first new director of the Museum of Art in nearly 40 years, Rosenfeld follows Hugh

Gourley, who saw the museum grow prodigiously in both size and stature during his tenure. Calling Gourley "exceptional," Rosenfeld said he sees the museum as a resource of great potential for both the College and the community. He also noted the commitment of the museum's Board of Governors. "What I find at Colby I found at RISD [Rhode Island School of Design]," Rosenfeld said. "The sub board was composed of people who are very knowledgeable and very serious about collecting."

He served as curator of painting and sculpture at the Rhode Island School of Design from 1984 to 1995 after stints as research associate and acting curator at Yale University Art Gallery.

A native of Philadelphia, Rosenfeld earned his undergraduate degree at The Johns Hopkins University and his M.A. and Ph.D. at Stanford University. He held faculty and visiting faculty appointments at Boston University, Wellesley College, Brown University and the University of Chicago before turning to museum administration at Yale in 1981. After Yale and RISD, he was director of the museum of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (1996-2000), the oldest arts institution and museum in the nation.

Rosenfeld also is the author of *European Painting and Sculpture, ca. 1770-1937*, as well as numerous essays in exhibition catalogues and scholarly journals on topics including the sculpture of Auguste Rodin, 19th-century

French and American painting and modern and contemporary American art.

"His dedication to art and to higher education makes this appointment a perfect fit for Colby," said President William D. Adams.

And the museum is a perfect fit for Colby, too, Rosenfeld says.

He referred to its "layers of audience," including the College and its students and faculty, the trustees and the national art world, and the outlying community, beginning in central Maine and widening to New England. "Each of these constituencies requires different kinds of attention," Rosenfeld said.

He said his goals include making the museum "a very important player" nationally, but also include expanding its use as an educational resource for faculty and students. "It's very important to make the museum a vital resource that contributes aggressively to the educational mission of the College," he said.

Rosenfeld said he can envision the Museum of Art as not only a place to display art but as a stage where art can be produced. He noted the evolution of art forms that is ongoing, pointing to the Whitney Museum biennial exhibition in which only three of 60 artists were painters. Other forms included computer-generated work, installations and video. "You can dislike the stuff at your pleasure, but it's where the culture's at," he said. —Gerry Boyle '78



Daniel Rosenfeld

Colby Scientists Plumb the Depths and Chemistry of Belgrade Lakes

It's 4 a.m., the dawn sky a deep blue over Great Pond in Belgrade. In the center of the lake a boat makes a slow traverse as it has all night long, lights showing, like a fishing boat on the ocean. This boat is trolling, but not for fish. The vessel—actually a 24-foot pontoon boat custom built as a Colby research platform—is trolling for information.

Water temperature. Chemical content. Readings taken at precisely recorded times, depths and locations with an underwater electronic-sensor equipped “fish”. Water samples pumped into sophisticated analytical equipment on the boat itself. Information fed into an onboard computer for analysis that student and faculty researchers hope will provide an unprecedented picture of how this lake works.

The ongoing Colby project could make the Belgrade Lakes chain one of the most scientifically scrutinized water bodies in Maine and serve as a model for scientists studying the effects of development on lake-water quality. “What we’re trying to do is understand the dynamics of the lake over time,” said Whitney King, Miselis Professor of Chemistry.

It's a team effort, involving both the Chemistry and Geology departments with King, Whipple-Coddington Professor

of Geology Robert Gastaldo, Assistant Professor Jennifer Shosa (geology) and Senior Teaching Associate Bruce Rueger (geology) melding their expertise. Last summer, Colby student researchers were joined by Nathan Boland '01, a science teacher in Baton Rouge, La., and high school student interns he brought to Maine through a National Science Foundation grant.

With Colby student research assistants doing much of the work, the team studied chemical composition of lake water at various depths and times of day and season. A highly accurate map of the lake basin was produced, and test wells were drilled in wetland and uplands around the lakes to monitor the direction and variation in the flow of ground water into the Belgrade chain. Another phase of the study involved study of core samples from the bottom of the lakes to consider changes in the composition of sediments and how land-use trends over



GERRY BOYLE '78

The research platform Colby Compass puts out onto the waters of Great Pond. A Colby research team is studying the Belgrade Lakes.

decades—and even centuries—may have changed what sinks into the mud.

The project, funded through grants from the NSF and Colby, comes at a time when lakes are prone to algae blooms and other water-quality problems. Experts variously blame development, fluctuating water levels, agriculture and other factors, but the definitive causes and solutions remain elusive. “The whole point of this,” said Shosa, “is to get away from that speculation.” —Gerry Boyle '78

Grave Matters

For most Americans, massacres and mass graves are horrors from a world away. But forensic scientist William Haglund deals with them daily in an effort to provide their victims a voice. In August, Haglund was on campus to share his experiences working in human rights and mass fatality identification with the 100 medical examiners and coroners attending the New England Seminar in Forensic Sciences, held each summer at Colby.

Since 1998 Haglund has been director of the International Forensic Program for Physicians for Human Rights, working extensively on international forensic missions from Cyprus to Honduras. In 1996 he spent eight straight months working in graves as the senior forensic advisor for the UN's International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. Haglund exhumed and examined hundreds of bodies of genocide victims, advised the tribunals on forensic policy, analyzed results and testified on behalf of the tribunal. In 2001 he investigated the 1941 massacre of 1,600 Jews burned alive in a barn by their own neighbors in Jedwabne, Poland. This year Haglund's fieldwork included missions to Massar-e-Sheriff, Afghanistan, and to the Jenine refugee camp in Israel.

“The face of war has changed,” Haglund told the seminar participants. Worldwide, diverse conflicts include terrorism and internal and small-scale

clashes. “Now we deal with ragtag warlords with fourteen-year-old soldiers, versus armies with codes of honor,” said Haglund.

Though no forensic evidence was used at the 1945 Nuremberg trials, now it is relied upon to prosecute individuals for war crimes and crimes against humanity. But acquiring that evidence has its own obstacles. These range from lack of safety (in some countries Haglund has to remain under military guard) to the logistics of flying a planeload of equipment to another continent. Once there, if you don't have a darkroom for x-rays you tear apart a toilet to use instead, as Haglund did in Rwanda.

Haglund advises international forensic teams to show locals what they are doing and explain the process rather than being seen as “just another official.” Scientists must also be willing to accommodate religious and political concerns. That may mean allowing Nigerians to sacrifice a chicken before exhumations or letting Indonesian religious leaders say a prayer.

Ultimately “you can't create false expectations,” said Haglund. In mass fatalities, not all bodies will be recovered and, even with DNA evidence, not all those recovered will be identified. Since 1996, 1,895 bodies and thousands of partial remains have been recovered in Bosnia. Of those, only 81 bodies have been identified. —Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay '97

A Civil Community

Orientation for the Class of 2006, Colby's 185th entering class, included an address by President William D. Adams to the entire class, assembled in Lorimer Chapel. As Adams noted, this is one of only two occasions when the president has the opportunity to address a Colby class in its entirety. For the Class of '06, the next opportunity will come in four years, at baccalaureate. The following is an excerpt from Adams's speech, which explored the notion of civility. Go online (www.colby.edu/president/articles/firstyr02.html) for the full address.

The civility I have in mind is really a public and political virtue and capacity, not a private one. It happens in public places and in public exchanges like this community. It's about our individual actions but only in a public place like Colby, in this community. Its key elements seem to me to be this. First of all, to be really civil we have to have a commitment to affection for the community of which we are a part. Otherwise it doesn't make any sense. We have to have, secondly, a respect and tolerance for individuals not simply in the way in which they are like us but most especially in the ways they are not like us. And third, I think, elemental to civility is the notion that it is basically about communication. That is to say, it happens only in communication, and its effects and nature are demonstrated in the communications we have with others. And finally I think, I hope in a way that will become clear, civility has to do with something like self-control. But what does it look like in action? What do these elements look like when you put them together? I think it involves listening and openness. Listening especially to things that are hard to hear, that we don't like to hear, that challenge us, that make us uncomfortable and nervous and anxious. [And] a kind of openness to that experience which is very hard—an invitation to others who make us uncomfortable in their differences to keep on talking to us about things they're thinking and caring about. . . .

There's a New Mule in Town



Take a good look at this mule. You'll be seeing a lot of it if you follow Colby athletics.

This is the *official* Colby white mule. It recently replaced several earlier portrayals of the Colby mascot, some of which bore closer resemblance to other equine species, from asses to zebras. The new mule, drawn by Designer/Illustrator Leo Pando and designed by Design Director Brian Speer, is as faithful to the species as possible and reflects the competitive spirit of Colby athletes.

The change was implemented as the College established a formal graphic identity, which gave Colby recognizable and consistent logos for use on everything from letterhead to coffee mugs. In addition to the new logo and seal introduced in the summer magazine, a new mule gallops forward into Colby's future.

Faculty Research Reaps Rewards

Faculty in a variety of departments have won grants from foundations to expand their research. Since last spring the following professors have received grants for these projects:

LYNN HANNUM (biology), \$50,000 from The National Science Foundation for her project on enhancing opportunities for undergraduate learning in immunology (September).

DUNCAN TATE (physics), \$200,261 from The National Science Foundation to support a project titled "Many-body Effects in a Frozen Rydberg Gas" (September).

BOB GASTALDO (geology), \$74,812 from The National Science Foundation for his work on tropical vegetation during the early part of an ice age (August).

STEVE DUNHAM and **DAS THAMATTOOR** (chemistry) and **PAUL GREENWOOD** (biology), \$117,220 from The National Science Foundation for a project called "Acquisition of Isothermal Titration and Differential Scanning MicroCalorimeters for Chemistry and Biology Research" (August).

BEN FALLAW (history), \$60,000 from the American Council of Learned Societies for a project called "Uncivil Society: How the Church, Business, and Press Helped Forge an Illiberal Mexico, 1924-1940" (July).

SANDY MAISEL (government), \$580,000 from The Pew Charitable Trusts for a project titled "Multi-grant Evaluation for Grants in the Area of Candidate and Consultant Conduct Improving Elections Program" (July).

JULIE MILLARD (chemistry), \$33,516 from the Research Corporation for her work on "*in vivo* Mapping of Diepoxybutane Damage Using a Ligation-mediated Polymerase Chain Reaction" (May).

SUELLEN DIACONOFF (French), \$28,800 from the U.S. Department of Education's Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Program for a sabbatical project titled "The New Scheherazades: Women, Writing, and Politics in Morocco" (April).

WHITNEY KING (chemistry), \$19,969 from The National Science Foundation for an exploratory geochemistry field program for minority students (March).

HERB WILSON (biology) and **WHITNEY KING** (chemistry), \$60,000 from the Merck Charitable Foundation, a three-year grant for the Merck/AAAS Undergraduate Science Research Program (March).

A current list of faculty and institutional grants received is available online (www.colby.edu/cfi/current.html).



All the Marbles

Ski coach Tracey Cote excels in the rarified world of extreme sports

Tracey Cote is going downhill fast—on the end of a bungee cord, towed by her white Siberian husky, Lena, of sled dog lineage. Even though Cote is Colby's nordic ski coach, it's not the white stuff she's dreaming of right here. She puffs along behind her pooch readying herself for races in the Hi-Tec Adventure Racing Series—"extreme races" in which three-member teams pitch into kayaking, trail running and mountain biking, the three teammates all the while keeping within 100 feet of each other. That's the rule.

Hi-Tec adventure racing is serious stuff—even when it isn't. On the one hand, at the fourth annual Hi-Tec adventure race in Texas on July 12, Cote's coed elite team, Team Guinness, won all the marbles in a field of 197 teams with a time of 2:08:28. On the other hand, some couch potatoes might think that Cote and her male teammates *lost* their marbles: through the one and three-quarter-mile kayak course, the six-mile run and the 12-mile mountain-bike race the threesome hung together—sometimes hooked by that bungee cord. Besides paddling, padding and pedaling, they crawled through a hay maze, shot paint guns, crossed from one swing to another without hitting the ground and scaled a 15-foot wall.

These people are taking it, as the expression goes, to a new level.

"They throw in special tests, crazy things, like cutting a hole in a piece of paper big enough to get your partners through without tearing it. It's proof of teamwork," Cote said. "It's trying to teach you thinking and creativity to get through something as a team. It's making you work together."

Learning to "control hurting" is challenging, too, but Cote maintains that training for a race is fun. It's fun, running downhill with her dog. "It helped me increase speed. It's an art," she said. On Team Guinness, "If it's a cord now, it's me towing them."

About 300 three-person teams took up



Tracey Cote, center, scales an obstacle while tethered to her teammates with a bungee cord during an Adventure Series race last summer.



the Hi-Tec challenge in this year's eight-race series. It's great sport, Cote says. She meets people with diverse backgrounds, from former world-class athletes—some teams include retired bikers or runners or kayakers who have gone in for adventure racing—to a 65-year-old competing along with his kids. "It's a great group of people. Everyone's just looking for a little challenge," she said.

Team Guinness looked for "a little challenge" in the coed elite category in six of the eight races this year. To be "elite," a team has to place in the top five in the regular division or apply with résumés. "What it means is, you're able to win money," Cote said. "I'm approaching two thousand dollars, total."

Cote competed on an elite team last year, too, until its sponsor went belly up and the team broke up. One night in January, she got a call from two fellows in Arizona, and in the summer she flew out to train with them. The brewing company agreed to bankroll Team Guinness.

"Guinness is a great sponsor," Cote said. "They paid for all of our travel. But most races are in state parks where you can't have beer. I

drank more Guinness before I started than I do now."

The Hi-Tec Adventure Series races, which usually last two and a half to three and a half hours, are considered sprints. This summer Cote also competed in three races in the Balance Bar series, 12- to 24-hour orienteering competitions in which athletes find their way by compass and trail map, sometimes rappelling down cliffs and crossing gorges in climbing harnesses. Biking and running are part of it, as they are in the Hi-Tec races, but the Balance Bar races, she says, are "just a lot longer."

Cote came to adventure racing from nordic skiing and cross-country running at Division I Northern Michigan University, where off-season conditioning meant miles of running and mountain biking. Even that doesn't seem enough preparation for the event she calls her pinnacle, the Appalachian Extreme in Maine.

"Extremes? They're crazy," she said of the 72-hour event she completed on an hour and a half of sleep, "but it's amazing how popular they're becoming. It's a whole new challenge."

—Robert Gillespie



Cancer Clues

Traci Speed '03 looks to unravel chemical puzzles that may defeat the disease

Laboratory research aimed at discovering a cancer therapy or cure carries with it a certain amount of scientific glamour. But as Traci J. Speed '03 knows, that noble pursuit requires innumerable, silent hours of repetitive, exacting and seemingly mundane tasks.

While working on a cancer research project under the direction of her Colby advisor, Assistant Professor of Chemistry Dasan M. Thamattoor, Speed put in nearly 500 painstaking hours in a cramped organic chemistry lab located on the second floor of the Keyes Science Building. Surrounded by computers, piles of notebooks and brown jars filled with chemicals, she spent much of her lab time stooped over a piece of equipment called "the hood," an overhead air-filtration and suction device that draws out noxious fumes of chemicals on a bench below.

"It's just like cooking and adding different sauces," she said, demonstrating how she might tinker with chemical reactions using a round-bottom glass flask clamped over a hot plate. "My main purpose was to synthesize natural compounds isolated from coral compounds known to attack human tumor cells. I lucked out. In the long run, this [synthesis] could be used to develop a new kind of chemotherapy."

Speed actually synthesized two very similar compounds that occur naturally in the coral. Further testing by cancer research labs has yet



Traci Speed '03 in the chemistry lab in the Keyes Science Building.

to be done to demonstrate how effective the synthetic compounds will be against human cancer cells, she said. So far her successful syntheses have elicited interest from the department of zoology at Tel Aviv University. "He [Thamattoor] knew I was interested in doing cancer research and gave me this to work on," she said.

"It has all the potential associated with any other natural product that has activity against cancer cells," Thamattoor said of the synthesized compound. "Whether the potential will be fully realized, only time will tell." It was a tough project for an undergraduate, he said.

"Traci seems to have hands of gold. She is just an absolutely phenomenal worker in the lab. She is so conscientious. It takes a skillful student to make it work."

Speed began her research by analyzing the specific chemical structure of a stony coral called *montipora*, found off the coast of Korea. She did not work directly with the physical coral or its natural cytotoxins but from the molecular structure identified in a research paper published in *The Journal of Natural Products* in 1999.

A cytotoxin is a poisonous substance secreted by certain organisms. In the journal

The Book on the Class of '06

HOW MANY GOT IN 471 students from a pool more than eight times that size.

HOW MANY WERE ADMITTED EARLY DECISION 42 percent.

WHERE THEY'RE FROM 30 countries and every region of the U.S.

WHAT THEY SPEAK 34 languages, but not in the same classroom.

THINGS THEY'VE DONE ALREADY Won state essay contests, received book awards, researched cures, worked in the U.S. Congress, lived with Buddhist monks in Tibet, performed in Carnegie Hall.

WHEN THEY WEREN'T DOING THAT They were all-star athletes, including a four-time cross-country champ from Ontario, the top in-line skater in Norway, a Junior Olympic skier and a nationally ranked race walker.

AND DON'T FORGET Over half were involved in community service during high school. Members of the class have worked with the Roosevelt Island Youth Center, Bombay Street Kids, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and Habitat for Humanity.



paper, researchers reported that lab tests showed that organic compounds in the coral produced varying kinds of activities against a number of different human cancer cells, such as lung, ovarian, skin, central nervous system and colon cancers.

Speed labored to break down the coral's organic compound into segments, using a research method called retrosynthesis. "It's like thinking backwards," she said. "You want to break it down into a chemical that you can easily obtain from a chemical company." Compounds are synthesized in this way because it would take tons of coral to extract a small amount of isolated compound.

"One of the things Traci has done is to make available several hundred milligrams of this stuff, so researchers can use it for further testing," Thamattoor said.

The results of the Colby research were pub-

lished in January 2002 in *Tetrahedron Letters*, a prestigious, international journal for reporting preliminary communications in organic chemistry. For her academic achievements and research experience, Speed was awarded a two-year grant for \$1,500 per year from the American Association of Cancer Research, based in Philadelphia. The grants are available to third-year undergraduates involved in cancer research, she said. The AACR only gives this award to 10 students nationwide, Thamattoor said.

Part of the grant allowed Speed to attend the AACR's national meeting in San Francisco in April. "It was a great opportunity to meet mentors in the cancer field and other cancer researchers," she said.

Speed grew up in Rocky Hill, Conn., south of Hartford. At Colby, she is majoring in chemistry with a concentration in cellular

and molecular biology/biochemistry. She became involved with organic chemistry in her sophomore year.

Since then she has been involved in another ongoing cancer research project in collaboration with Thamattoor and biochemist Julie Millard, associate professor of chemistry. That project involves work with a compound extracted from a mushroom that grows in Japan called *Hydnum repandum*, which also has shown activity against cancer cells. "I'm taking the structure, based on literature and trying to synthesize it in the lab," Speed said, with the modesty that comes from knowing the scope of cancer research. "We've had some success." —*Lynn Ascrizzi*

A version of this story appeared in the *Waterville Morning Sentinel* and *Kennebec Journal*.

A Path Less Traveled

First-year reading reveals how diverse backgrounds color college

Nothing you can't do if you set your mind to it," Barbara Jennings advises her son, Cedric, in *A Hope in the Unseen*. And Cedric Jennings puts his trust in that American ideal—work hard, keep your faith, and you'll attain your goals. He refuses to swallow his pride or succumb to the hopelessness prevalent in his inner-city neighborhood. He dreams of finally getting somewhere he belongs, even if it's someplace he's never seen.

Through Jennings's eyes, *Wall Street Journal* reporter Ron Suskind examines race, class, education and achievement in America. This fall *A Hope in the Unseen* was the first-year book selection for the Class of 2006. Dean of Faculty Ed Yeterian, who oversees the program, said he was drawn to *A Hope in the Unseen* "because it dealt with general issues of personal identity and the transition to college as well as more specific issues of race and class." After reading the book over the summer, first-year students took part in residence hall discussions led by faculty members during orientation.

The book was enlightening on the different ways diversity is perceived, said Jessica Varnum '06 of Presque Isle, Maine: "Every individual in a community brings with him or her a set of predefined ideas concerning identity and diversity."

For Jennings, identity is based on character, not something that simply sets you apart, like race.

Suskind's nonfiction narrative follows Jennings from his junior year at impoverished, crime-ridden Ballou Senior High School in Washington, D.C., to the bewildering—and in some ways more threatening—landscape of Brown University.

On the surface Jennings might seem an urban statistic. He's the child of an unwed single mother and an uninvolved, incarcerated drug dealer. He knows to fill up on lunch at school the week the rent money is due and to avoid the bus stops frequented by gangs. But instead of accepting this life as his lot, Jennings fights off the "dreambusters" around him. ("Their favorite lines are 'you cannot' or 'you will not,'" he says.) With grit, vision and his mother's faith in him and in Jesus, Jennings succeeds in a school where being an academic standout is not only socially unacceptable but dangerous.

Jennings's first glimpse of life outside his community comes at an MIT sum-

mer program for minorities before his senior year. But he can't relate to the self-assured, middle- and upper-middle class black and Hispanic kids around him. He learns "to be reserved, for fear of slipping into a mispronunciation or some embarrassing parochialism," and despite continuous studying he struggles to keep pace academically.

"It just seems like there's no way to give kids like that credit for the distance they've already traveled," the program's director says. "This Cedric had to run three more laps than the other kids, but he'll still be two laps behind, so he loses."

Despite raising his grades through sheer determination, Jennings is told he's not MIT material. "The thing is, I can work harder than other people," appeals Jennings. "When I really set my mind to something, anything, I can get there. It's about wanting it more in your heart."

"That perspective, that belief, Cedric, is admirable, but it also can set you up for disappointment," says the professor. "And, at the present time, it just doesn't seem to be enough."

Even at MIT there are dreambusters.

But Jennings proves this one wrong, too, by getting accepted at Brown. He must now learn to decipher unfamiliar intellectual and cultural codes in the dorm (what is his roommate talking about when he refers to "birding?") and in the classroom (who are Churchill and

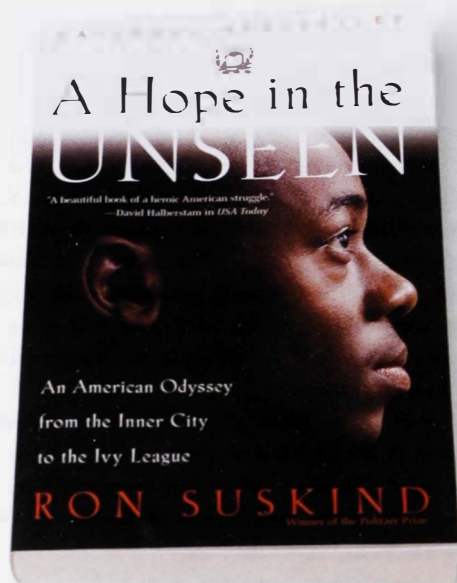
Freud?). Jennings wants to be just another guy, but feels alienated by class, race and his spiritual faith.

The self-imposed system of strict boundaries and isolation that got Jennings to Brown no longer works. To survive here he must learn to negotiate a truce between fitting in and being himself.

A Hope in the Unseen provides an inspiring lesson about sacrifice, perseverance and dreams while admonishing an unfair education system. Suskind's work is as much about how so many American children are set up to fail before the race even starts as it is about the success of one extraordinary individual.

For first-year students, the book provided insights into the different ways their classmates will perceive Colby's academic and residential environment and the ways in which their diverse backgrounds will color their experiences on Mayflower Hill.

—Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay '97



A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League

By Ron Suskind

Random House/Broadway Books (1998)

Greenlaw Chronicles Life, Not Lobsters

Catchiness aside, *The Lobster Chronicles* is a bit of a misnomer for Linda Greenlaw's second book. Its subtitle, *Life on a Very Small Island*, hits the nail more squarely. In these essays, grouped temporally around one lobster-fishing season, Greenlaw '83 explores the challenge of living in a tiny and dwindling colony seven miles off the Maine shore.

Greenlaw was made famous by Sebastian Junger's *The Perfect Storm*, which called her the best swordboat captain on the Grand Banks. She went on to write her own memoir of life among swordfish, *The Hungry Ocean*, and several years ago decided to return to her ancestral home, Isle au Haut. Single and childless—and hoping to change her status on both counts—she moved in with her parents and joined an island community of fewer than 50 souls. She bought a lobster boat, hired her father, James Greenlaw '57, as her sternman and began to fish.

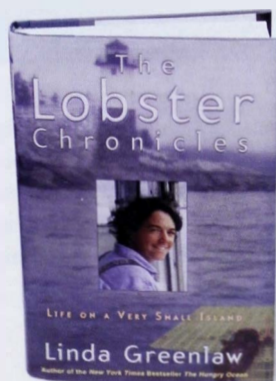
Once a thriving community with four school districts, a population that supported several stores and a lobster-canning factory, Isle au Haut now almost literally lives and dies by lobstering, a legendarily taxing and difficult line of work. Greenlaw notes that the place does have its share of people who turn their faces to the salt spray, put their backs into hauling traps and otherwise live up to the myth of the Maine lobsterman. But the world she describes also is rife with gossip and feuds, pettiness, moral weakness, despair, anger and hopelessness.

In short, Greenlaw chronicles a small community like many in Maine—proud of its past, contentious in its present, worried about its future.

Greenlaw uses her own situation as a metaphor for the island's unknowable future. Isle au Haut's survival depends, she says, on being able to hold on to year-'rounders like her—they must make their lives there, have children, protect the rich fishing grounds from encroachment by off-islanders. And yet, at 40, with no eligible men in reach, Greenlaw is thinking about leaving the island again, going back "off-shore" to fish. She is building a house—the island will be home—but her dream of saving Isle au Haut probably won't come true.

She seems defiant—in a whistling-around-the-graveyard way—when telling the story of Nicholas Barter, a descendant of the island's first settler. Nicholas started lobstering when he was 6 and, for a time, he could barely be persuaded to leave the water's edge. Now 9, Nicholas hasn't pulled a trap in a year, and he enjoys Harry Potter books, his chemistry set and the Internet. But, Greenlaw says, Nicholas "has no intention" of forsaking his heritage, and he is "the hope for the community's future."

That's a lot of hope for one small boy, or for one grown woman.
—Sally Baker



***The Lobster Chronicles:
Life on a Very Small Island***
Linda Greenlaw '83
Hyperion Books (2002)

recent releases

Maine Lakes

Photography by Chris Barnes

Text by Sarah Stiles Bright '80

Maine Lakes Conservancy Institute and Tilbury House Publishers (2002)



More than 100 pages of full-color photographs by Barnes capture the detail of Maine lakes in all seasons. Bright's thoughtful essays and closing poem reflect her own affinity and affection for the water. ("This is not my home, but it is, I realize, my place.") She also describes the need to understand, sustain and protect Maine

lakes and their communities that led her and her husband to found the Maine Lakes Conservancy Institute in 1999.

21 Dog Years: Doing Time @ Amazon.com

Mike Daisey '96

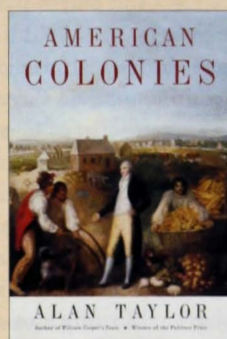
Simon & Schuster/The Free Press (2002)

When a fledgling Amazon.com recruited temp workers in 1998, it gave a simple directive—send us your freaks. Daisey arrived and ascended from lowly temp to customer service rep to business development hustler. Based on his popular off-Broadway show, *21 Dog Years* chronicles Daisey's adventures at the world's largest bookstore—where he says he learned to "slavishly love idealistic mouth breathers, 60-hour weeks and the cult of personality that is Jeff Bezos."

American Colonies

Alan Taylor '77

Viking (2001)



American Colonies is the first volume in the Penguin History of the United States series (edited by Eric Foner, son of the late Colby professor Jack Foner). The book begins 15,000 years ago, with Native American settlement, and proceeds to 1820, through thousands of years of conquest and reconquest of lands and civilizations. Pulitzer Prize-winner Taylor demonstrates the ways in which the clash and meshing of cultures—Native, African and European—molded the modern United States.

Staged Narrative: Poetics and the Messenger in Greek Tragedy

James Barrett (classics)

University of California Press (2002)

While the messenger is a familiar inhabitant of Greek tragedy, one of the most studied forms of ancient literature, the role has received little critical attention. With the works of Sophocles, Euripides and Aeschylus as illustration, Barrett explains that the messenger speaks with a unique voice on the tragic stage—a voice whose truth and authority is finally being questioned and examined by one critic.



His Gift Was Language

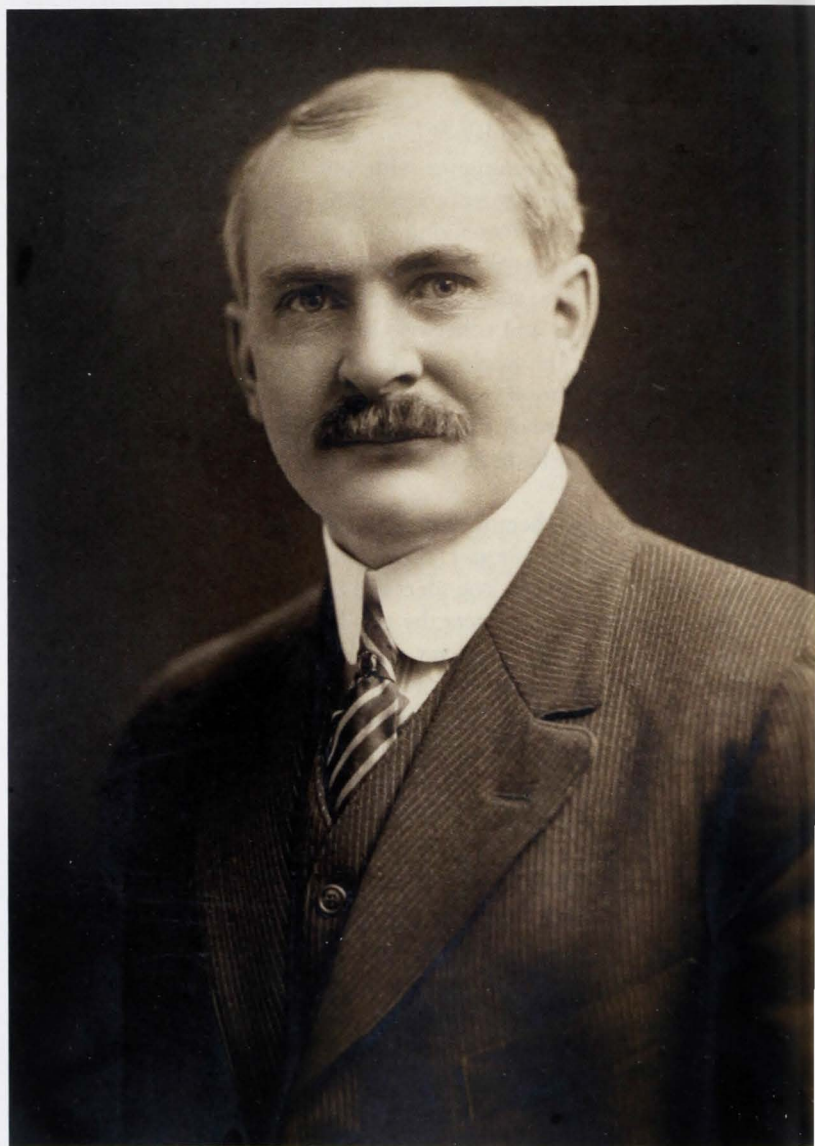
A century ago John Hedman brought romance to languages at Colby

He was five feet, eight inches in height, 140 pounds, a Baptist, a Republican; his countenance was “cunning” and his character “foxy,” says the ’95 *Oracle*. His favorite employment was “exercise on the plains”—he was a baseball star—and he was “fit for leg pulling.” In response to the question “Relation to the opposite sex,” he reported, “Got a girl.” His hijinks with classmates as well as his athletic triumphs were reported in the *Echo*. His name also appears in programs for musical and oratory events, and he helped his debate team win competitions. Grade books reveal his excellence in course work.

Evidently John Hedman, Class of 1895, caught the attention of Colby’s faculty. Upon graduation he was offered a post as assistant instructor in modern languages and he began teaching French classes that September. Seven years later President Charles White reported to the trustees that Hedman was “doing the entire work of the French Department in a most satisfactory manner,” adding that Hedman was “qualified to introduce courses in Spanish, Italian, Swedish and Old Norse” (and presumably to offer courses in Greek, since he also was listed in the course catalogue as instructor of Greek in 1896-1899). That same spring of 1902 Hedman taught an elective Spanish grammar course for juniors and seniors—the first Spanish class at Colby.

On its 100th anniversary this year, Hedman’s basic Spanish course had evolved into a curriculum of more than 20 courses in Spanish language, literature and culture as well as a program of study abroad. As predicted by the *Echo* 100 years ago, Spanish became increasingly popular, and the thriving Spanish Department today is a lasting tribute to Colby’s first professor of Spanish, whose multilingual abilities would galvanize the teaching of modern languages at the College.

Hedman was an immigrant. Born in Undersaker, Sweden, on October 15, 1868, he came to Maine in 1871 with his parents and older brother, part of the third wave of settlers enticed by the state to populate Aroostook County. The family eventually owned a farm in the land grant settlement of New Sweden.



John Hedman

Swedish was spoken at home and in the community. John and his younger brother attended high school in nearby Caribou, where they learned English and perhaps were introduced to French.

Hedman entered Colby in September 1891, just shy of age 23. From his first days, he distinguished himself in his classes, in the Delta

New to the Hill

Four new faculty members who greeted students returning to classes this fall were hired on continuing (tenure-track) contracts.

Carleen Mandolfo (religious studies) is a specialist in the Hebrew Bible. Mandolfo earned her B.A. from California State University and an M.A. from Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. Her Ph.D. is from Emory University, where her dissertation was titled "The Dialogue Between Faith and Experience: Voicing in Psalms of Lament."

Mandolfo brings seven years of teaching experience to Colby. She is fluent in Hebrew, Aramaic, Akkadian, Ugaritic, Greek, German and French. She has three books in progress.

Walter Hatch (government) is a former journalist whose experience includes stints with CBS News and *The Seattle Times*, where he was a business and political reporter.

Hatch, a graduate of Macalester College, went on to earn an M.A. in international studies from Cornell University and a Ph.D. in political economy from the University of Seattle. He has taught at the University of Washington and in Japan and is the author of *Asia in Japan's Embrace: Building a Regional Production Alliance*. He has contributed to books on Asian technology and Vietnam's place in Japan's Regional Production Alliance.

He reads and speaks Japanese fluently.

Jason Long (economics) earned his B.A. in economics from Wheaton College and his M.S. and Ph.D. in economics from Northwestern University. Long's specialties include economic history, labor economics and applied econometrics. He taught for three years at Northwestern before coming to Colby.

His published papers include "Urbanization,

Internal Migration, and Occupational Mobility in Victorian Britain" and "Estimating Labour Market Matching Functions." Long has three works in progress on labor mobility in the U.K. and U.S.

Laura Chakravarty Box (theater and dance) was a visiting guest artist at Colby last spring. She earned an A.A. in theater from Los Angeles City College, a B.A. in linguistics from California State University, an M.A. in drama from San Diego State University and a Ph.D. in theater from the University of Hawaii.

Box taught at San Diego State and the University of Hawaii and was a post-doctoral fellow at Deep Springs College. She has published four books on North African women's theater, directed seven plays and has extensive stage experience in about 20 plays. She is fluent in French and familiar with Arabic and Japanese.

Kappa Epsilon fraternity and on the "base-ball" squad. As a young man, Hedman played on his town's team against neighboring communities in Sunday afternoon games that sometimes involved a round-trip walk of 15 to 20 miles. He often traveled back to New Sweden, where he became known as "Professor John."

The 1890s were critical in Colby's move from the "classical course"—which emphasized Greek and Latin—to a curriculum involving modern languages. Throughout the 19th century, many educational institutions in the United States debated the continued relevance of Greek and Latin to modern life. Colleges and universities worried about appearing archaic to parents of potential students. Nineteenth-century French authors and the 1889 Exposition in Paris stimulated interest in French culture and the French language. Knowledge of German became critical in scientific research, and new immigration patterns and the 1898 Spanish-American War drew attention to the Spanish language.

All of these factors led both small and large institutions to incorporate modern languages—French, German and then Spanish—into the curriculum and eventually to move some Greek and Latin courses to elective status. The Colby catalogue shows an increase in French and German offerings through the 1890s. The term "romance languages" first appeared in the 1901-1902 course catalogue.

In 1899 Colby trustees granted Hedman a year's leave, allowing him to attend the University of Paris for professional development. In his first university class, which had nine other students, he strove to attain "Parisian fluency" and was selected to be toastmaster at the semester-end banquet because of his excellence in French. He also

began studies of Spanish and Italian; his final achievement was winning the prestigious competitive Sorbonne prize in 1900.

Hedman had the opportunity to remain in Paris for a doctoral degree but elected to return to Colby for the 1900-1901 school year to teach French. His \$900 salary as associate professor of modern languages was raised the next year. His genuine interest in students was noted, and he was, as President Lincoln White said, "a Colby alumnus . . . and peculiarly in touch with the spirit and temper of the institution." In June 1902, when he was doing "the entire work of the French Department" and already had taught the first Spanish course, Hedman was promoted to professor of romance languages at a salary of \$1,500.

Hedman's first wife, Alice Mabel Bray '95, the "girl" referred to in the *Oracle*—died at 28 in October 1897, less than three months after they were married.

Hedman's marriage to Delia (Delice) Jane Hiscock '01 of Damariscotta on July 22, 1902, followed his return from Paris and promotion to Colby professorship. She would survive her husband by only five years.

John Hedman died suddenly in 1914 of typhoid pneumonia at the age of 46. When construction of a new dormitory began in 1915 on Colby's campus in downtown Waterville, trustees readily agreed on a name for the new building: Hedman Hall.

The building no longer stands. Its sole surviving artifact, a plaque in the Pugh Center on Mayflower Hill, remembers the man whose extraordinary talents sparked Colby's embrace of modern languages at the end of the 19th century. —Pat Burdick, special collections librarian, and Luis Millones, assistant professor of Spanish



Q&A

Terry Arendell on gender, family and "men who hang in"

Professor of Sociology Terry Arendell has taught sociology at Colby, focusing on gender and family issues, since 1994. She spoke to Colby about her work, her students and our changing culture.

What is the interest that students have in these gender and family issues, when they aren't that far from being boys or girls themselves?

Both the young women and young men students are still reflecting on their own experiences and still trying to sort their way through into adulthood, so they're really caught, I think, in terms of gender identity and understanding, really on a cusp. Generally my experience has been that the women are actually more thoughtful at this point and more open, boundaries are more permeable. College-age men are much more locked into conventions of masculinity.

There is a difference?

Gender class mostly attracts women. What I always find interesting is that women are especially interested in trying to understand men. And I'm talking about straight women here. We have an increasingly visible population of lesbian women, too. Often their interests are different in terms of gender issues. But all my friends who teach gender, we often find that one of the motivating reasons for coming into the class for women is to try to understand men, especially men's sexual lives. That's very generational, I think, very much age related.

Do they find the other gender perplexing?

Yeah. And alluring and all of those things. And especially the women, because of the culture at the moment, coming in and hoping to find a way to have it all. They want the perfect career, the perfect house, the perfect children, the perfect spouse. And of course, you look at American society—you can't have all that at once, generally. The work world is still set up for non-parents, basically.

The students realize that before they get there?

I don't think they realize it before, but they begin to realize it as they read more and more. Of course a few students will have families where it seems to be handled very smoothly and easily. But that's less and less common, too. Many students come from single-parent families where the struggles were obvious, one parent having to do it all. Other students will come from families with two parents, both working long hours. So they had some personal experience.

So what is the traditional family? Or is that a misnomer?

It is a misnomer. You still use it in the culture, and even sociology shares the basic definition that it's the father/husband who is the full-time provider, mother/wife is homemaker and mother full time, and then their offspring or adopted children. I think that data show now that it's less than one in six that fits that model. In fact, I expect that one in six is even high, that if you catch families at any particular point in time, you'd see even fewer families.

Do you find your teaching evolving as the culture evolves?

I hope. Otherwise I'm an anachronism, right? I was thinking about this this morning. I've taught gender for years now and I've always included some on sexuality and sexual variations but only in the last couple of years has that become a key component. In fact, now I offer a course in sexuality. That's very much reflective, I think, of where the discipline is headed but also the culture. We're talking much more explicitly about sexuality.

Do you think that's true at Colby right now with the recent activism and call for "queer studies" offerings?

Yeah, I actually think we're behind. Queer politics has been going on for a decade at major institutions. We're somewhat behind, but we're probably on par with other small liberal arts colleges. It would be interesting to know that.

In the gender course, what do students want to know?

A couple of things, and I actually broaden it for them. Not biological but socio-cultural constructs. So I think that's the fundamental question. How is it we raise boys and girls in this culture to become who they are? Or is it inevitable that they become who they are? . . . They're very interested in interpersonal dynamics, the pop culture thing, "Men are from Mars, women are from Venus." Our students have seen a lot of pop TV. So they've seen a lot of things that are of interest to the general population.

Is that a change?

That's changed some. I think because there are more talk shows available, high schoolers are watching more TV than they were even six, eight years ago. And prime-time TV deals with some of these issues in a way it didn't in the past.

So they have some exposure?

Yeah, the women are interested in issues about employment and the wage gap. Many come believing that most of that is corrected and resolved, although they have some awareness that the gender difference is still institutionalized and embedded in our structures. But I think they're surprised and sobered by the material we cover to see how extensive it still is, particularly in the workplace. Yes, there have been gains, but some estimates say it will be three hundred to five hundred years before women have parity with men in the workplace, the gains have been so slow.

What's the reaction of men in the class?

It's a struggle. With the gender class, one of the challenges is that we not make the men defensive, that they don't become the token representatives of manhood in the culture, that they're also entering the structures, they haven't determined them. But actually oftentimes the men who come into the classes are somewhat progressive in attitudes and approaches. One of the things I'd really like to see is the classes become more equitable in terms of representation of men and women so that family, sexuality, gender, all these courses become a little more balanced. So I admire the men who hang in.



Passing the Screen Test

Waterville festival's reputation grows as luminaries come calling

It's day six of the fifth annual Maine International Film Festival, and festival programmer and Railroad Square Cinema partner Ken Eisen '73 leads a caravan of cars out of the dusty theater parking lot to a dinner party at his home in Fairfield. Eisen occasionally turns to chat with his passenger and dinner guest, who is in town to receive the Mid-Life Achievement Award later that night at the Waterville Opera House.

The guest: Oscar Award-winning director, producer and screenwriter Jonathan Demme (*Silence of the Lambs*, *Philadelphia*, *Something Wild*, *Stop Making Sense*). Unlikely company in central Maine? Perhaps, but in Waterville, where Demme chatted at length with filmgoers after the U.S. premiere of his new documentary, *The Agronomist*, nobody acted star struck. In fact, in the four years since *Colby* last checked in on the festival, the presence of filmmakers of Demme's stature has become *de rigueur*.

Director Terrence Malick (*The Thin Red Line*) and actress Sissie Spacek (*In the Bedroom*) are among those who have come to Waterville to accept Mid-Life Achievement Awards in previous years. This has helped build the Maine festival's reputation in the film world. "Jonathan Demme was very familiar with us and honored to get the Mid-Life Achievement Award," Eisen said. "That sort of lets you know you're somewhere."

And where are they? Central Maine, of course, but also at the hub of what is increasingly a favored stop for movie buffs. This year filmgoers from 26 states and 11 countries converged on Waterville to take in the offerings of a festival that is truly international.

Demme's *The Agronomist*, a work in progress, follows the life of Jean Leopold Dominique, the Haitian journalist and founder of



Jonathan Demme with his Mid-Life Achievement Award at the 2002 Maine International Film Festival in Waterville.

Radio Haiti Inter. The May 2000 assassination of Dominique remains unsolved.

This year's program included unusual films from Iceland, Japan, Hungary, India, Denmark and France. Audience members voted the Tunisian film *Satin Rouge* as best film of the festival. Also featured were nine Vietnam-related films and a concert performance by the Billy Bang Sextet, a jazz band partially composed of vets, and a Vietnam War symposium that opened up a lively political discussion.

Audiences opened themselves up as well. "Movie audiences are far more conservative and cautious in what they go to see [during the year]," Eisen said. "Film festivals, conversely, have been a way in which people are willing to throw caution to the wind—try things

out and just experience—so therefore they're seeing great films. And that's fantastic. That's all you could ever ask for as a film programmer."

Or as the founder—with Gail Chase '74 and Leah Girardin (formerly an audiovisual specialist at Colby) and others—of a cinema that was built in an unused warehouse, burned flat once and rebuilt thanks to an outpouring of support from the community.

That support continues to grow as an ever-widening circle of friends endorses the cinema and the summer film festival associated with it—run by the nonprofit Friends of Art and Film in Central Maine. The festival delivers "the sustenance of art," which "keeps us in any way sane and growing and human," Eisen said. And that means more than just a summer blockbuster movie.

Last summer it meant packed houses for the festival, highlighted by Demme's appearance. The night Eisen took Demme home for dinner in Fairfield, guests included the Haitian novelist Edwidge Danticat, author of *Krik! Krak!* and *Breath, Eyes, Memory*, and the late Dominique's surviving daughter, Natalie, visiting from Haiti. Also in the group was Francois Buggingo, a journalist with Reporters Without Borders, an organization participating in the search to uncover the parties responsible for Dominique's death.

The guests are artists and passionate professionals, not celebrities—a distinction Eisen, who teaches film during Jan Plan at Colby, is well aware of. "We don't ever want to be a Sundance," he said. "That's definitely not a goal. We have no desire to have lots of glitzy stars and the starlets in bikinis on the beach—that isn't here, that isn't going to happen." —Colleen Creeden '02

JIM EVANS/WATERVILLE MORNING SENTINEL

Another Record Year for Alumni Contributions

Despite nationwide concerns about philanthropic support for colleges and universities as the economic downturn slogged into its second year, contributions to Colby's Alumni Fund continued strong in 2001-02. Alumni set a record for cash contributed and extended to four years their streak of at least 50 percent participation.

Alumni contributed \$3,318,160 to the fund last year, a 7.5 percent increase from 2000-01. With a 51 percent participation rate,

Colby remains in a select group of institutions that receive support from more than half of their alumni.

Contributions to the Alumni Fund go directly to the College's operating budget. With an endowment that ranks in the lower third among the NESCAC colleges, and with a conservative approach to spending endowment income, "the annual fund is very important to the funding of the education we're providing here," said David Beers '85, director of annual giving.

Future Takes Shape with Plans for Alumni Center

Four new buildings are envisioned on Mayflower Hill in the 10 to 15 years covered by The Plan for Colby, and the first—a new alumni and development center—is already on the drawing board.

The strategic planning initiative that provided a framework for the College's foreseeable growth recognized needs for three new academic buildings and the alumni center. The latter will give alumni a more central presence on campus in a facility designed to accommodate alumni functions as well as certain other events that don't easily fit into existing venues on campus. The center will be located across Mayflower Hill Drive from the F.W. Olin Science Center, roughly between Lunder House (admissions) and the Hill House (the guest house behind the tennis courts).

Ann Beha Architects, a firm from Boston, was selected in the spring to design the facility, and early schematic designs show a building of about 26,500 square feet located away from the road, near the tree line. Refinements of the design were being hammered out this fall by the architects working with a building committee that includes Phil Wisor '70, a member of the Alumni Council executive committee who serves as liaison to the Alumni Council, and several alumni staff members. Trustees were expected to review placement of buildings at their October meeting.

In addition to providing function space, the alumni and development center will house offices of the College Relations Division—alumni relations, development and communications. Moving those administrators out of quarters in Eustis and Millett will free up space for other administrative offices now housed in Lovejoy. Other shifts will create a domino effect that

will open up much-needed space for additional faculty offices as well, alleviating overcrowding in administrative and academic departments.

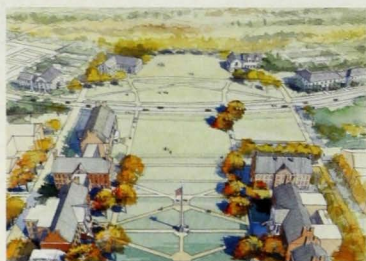
"Construction won't begin until we have succeeded in raising the money to cover construction and an endowment to offset operating costs," said Randy Helm, vice president for college relations. "We are halfway to that goal, and we expect to be talking to a number of alumni

in the coming months to advance the project across the goal line."

The other three building projects proposed in The Plan for Colby include a science building, a music instruction and performance space and a social sciences and interdisciplinary studies center. Next up on that list is likely to be the social sciences building, referred to in The Plan for Colby as a center for public and international affairs.

Landscape Architects Visualize "The Colby Green"

Architects involved in the campus master plan project (Shepley Bulfinch) and the first new building, the alumni center (Ann Beha Architects), got together with a team from Reed-Hilderbrand Landscape Architecture in September, and possible shapes of the 21st-century Colby campus began to come into better focus.



First and foremost among landscaping design challenges is how to maintain harmony with the rather formal design of the existing campus as new buildings are sited east of Mayflower Hill Drive. Part of the solution is a concept called "The Colby Green," modeled on a town common and likely to feature an elliptical lawn across the road from the Miller Library terraces. That shape, and trees and plantings around it, would knit together the existing Lunder admissions building, the proposed alumni and development building and two of the academic buildings envisioned in *The Plan for Colby*—an interdisciplinary social sciences center and a psychology/math/computer science building.

Putting academic buildings across Mayflower Hill Drive "changes the picture, maybe even changes the center of gravity of the campus," said landscape architect Gary Hilderbrand at a campus forum in October. Reed-Hilderbrand proposed a series of zones of different character including the formal, beaux arts precinct of the existing quadrangles; a greensward of rougher lawn and trees; managed woodlands; open meadows and fields; and more diverse woodlands including the arboretum.

Reed-Hilderbrand showed aerial photos of the campus taken in the early 1960s that showed little tree cover in the developed part of campus and pasture from the Miller Library lawn to Messalonskee Stream. "Nothing is static in a landscape," Hilderbrand said.