

# Colby



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## From the Hill

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## A World of Difference

Davis gift bolsters international diversity at Colby

By Stephen Collins '74

A new scholarship program established by Trustee Andrew Davis '85 and his family should bring a significant number of talented, well-prepared international students to Colby and to four other top colleges beginning next fall. Graduates of the United World College (UWC) system, a network of 10 pre-university-level schools located on five continents that bring together students from all over the world, are eligible for the new Davis UWC Scholars Program.

Andrew Davis, president of Davis Selected Advisers, announced the Davis UWC Scholars Program in February. The family has pledged to meet 100 percent of demonstrated need, including relief from loans or work-study requirements, for any graduate of the UWC system who is accepted and matriculates at Colby, College of the Atlantic, Princeton University, Middlebury or Wellesley College. It's an extraordinary gift—essentially a blank check to pay for as many scholarships as there are UWC graduates who enroll at the colleges, with the colleges aware up front that demonstrated financial need will be covered.

The UWC system describes itself as a "teenaged United Nations" populated by 2,000 of "the most promising students from over 100 countries." Davis said his family got acquainted with

the UWC system through the Armand Hammer UWC in New Mexico, the state where some of the firm's offices are located.

The UWC concept so well matched the family's interests in promoting international cooperation and harmony that last year the Davises endowed 100 full merit scholarships for the most promising American teenagers to attend UWCs for their final two years of pre-university education. Those scholarships, conceived as a junior version of the Fulbright scholarships, will give some of America's brightest teenagers an opportunity for an extraordinary preparation for university-level studies, a global perspective and an International Baccalaureate degree.

Davis said that Colby's emphasis on international education and its commitment to diversity initiatives made the subsequent Davis UWC scholars program the next logical step. "It should help Colby recruit students of different races, different nationalities, different religious creeds, languages and cultures," he said. Each of the five institutions where the scholarships may be applied has excelled, particularly regarding international programs and students, Davis said.

Colby currently has five students who graduated from UWC colleges—one each from Pakistan, Norway, Jordan, Hungary and Denmark. Those



United World College graduates Grete Rod '03 and Zahra Khilji '02 say the Davis UWC scholars program will bring talented international students to Colby.

students were thrilled by news of the Davis UWC scholars program. "There are so many [UWC] kids who do brilliantly and who would do wonderfully at American liberal arts colleges, but they just don't have the money," said Grete Rod '03, a graduate of Nordic UWC in Norway.

Parker Beverage, dean of admissions and financial aid, explained that much of the United States' financial aid system is based on federal money and isn't available to non-U.S. applicants. For that reason the Davis UWC scholarships fill a neglected niche and create important opportunities for students from other countries. "It's unusual to pick up paying customers from the developing world," Beverage said. "The Davis UWC scholarships will give us a bump and will enable us to bring students to Colby from places around the world

not previously represented here."

Zahra Khilji '02, a Pakistani who graduated from Atlantic UWC in Wales, said UWC graduates are extremely well prepared and end up competing against each other for limited opportunities in American colleges. "Something like this will be so nice, because there are so many who get left out," she said. "They can add flavor to the Colby community. Colby will benefit from the global views they bring."

Davis praised President Bill Cotter's leadership in making international education a priority at Colby by expanding study abroad opportunities, enrolling more international students and offering solid international academic programs. "That's critical," Davis said. "If a college isn't thinking internationally today, it's going to be out of business—the same as in the business world."

**"There are so many [UWC] kids who do brilliantly and who would do wonderfully at American liberal arts colleges, but they just don't have the money."**

## On the Scene, Out of the Goodness of Their Hearts

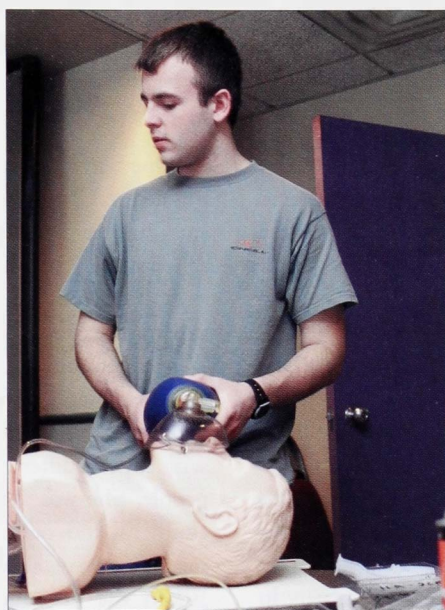
A woman breaks her arm sledding and emergency workers take three minutes to get to the scene—from their Colby dorms. The student EMTs monitor the woman's vital signs, splint her arm, arrange for transport to the hospital and administer oxygen.

For members of the student-run Colby Emergency Response (CER), it's all in a day's—or night's—work. All students, the CER team members carry radios and medical kits and provide 24-hour voluntary medical service to anyone on campus who needs it.

Each CER member has current EMT and CPR certification and serves one to three 24-hour rotations a month. They cover athletic events, parties and concerts and respond to everything from alcohol-related incidents to sledding accidents and flag-football injuries. During each rotation two to three EMTs are on-call and never leave campus. "One is more experienced and therefore more relaxed, and the other one tends to be a rookie," said Jason Gatlin '00, director of CER. The group receives some 80 to 90 calls a semester, most on the weekends. "The worst calls are late at night or if you're in the shower," said Ali Ghaffari '02, a CER member.

During the ice storm of 1998, CER worked around the clock at the Red Cross emergency shelter in the field house. Gatlin calls the storm the most difficult medical situation he's been in. "When you work off campus you see more variety," he said.

When the Colby Security Office receives a call for assistance it radios the CER member on duty, who runs to the scene and begins medical treatment. Security joins them, and if the condition is serious or if the victim is a non-Colby individual, the local ambulance service



John King '02 takes the EMT Jan Plan test.

is called. Usually hospitalization isn't needed and CER walks the patient to the health center for further evaluation.

There are misconceptions about the program. "Students worry that other people or the deans will know if CER was called for them," said Junko Goda '01, scheduling director. But unless someone is sent to the hospital only CER and the Health Center know.

CER members don't get paid. "We're a volunteer squad, so what we do, we do out of the goodness of our hearts," said Gatlin. CER holds monthly mandatory training sessions, says Goda, because "there are things that will catch you by surprise if you just expect the ordinary."

The squad has about 30 students, most of whom it recruits from the EMT course offered every Jan Plan. The course is 111 hours plus eight hours for CPR. Each student volunteers with a hospital or ambulance team and must

assess a minimum of five patients.

Both Ghaffari and Goda are graduates of the class. Goda says she took the course after seeing CER in action and being impressed by its capabilities and being made aware of her inability to help. She is now adept at taking control of situations. "I wasn't as confident as a freshman," said Goda, "but now I have no problem telling people what they need to do."

Chelsea Hoffmann '03 completed the class this January. "I was impressed that Colby offered such a course, so I jumped at the opportunity," she said. Hoffmann now works with CER and said she hopes "to gain some experience and put our training to the test in the field." —Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay '97

## Better Very Late Than Never

Ever borrow a book and forget to return it? Chances are it caught your eye in 10 or 20 years, but that's not the Colby record.

Early in 2000, a letter arrived in Miller Library explaining that *An Outline History of the Roman Empire*, by William S. Davis

(Macmillan, 1911), had taken up residence in the letter writer's library instead of Colby's. "The evidence indicates that it was my doing," he wrote. "The check-out date in June 1951 coincides with the last month I was at Colby as a student."

The book was 48 years and seven months overdue. At the current rate of 25 cents a day, that's

a fine of \$4,433.50. What's a librarian to do?

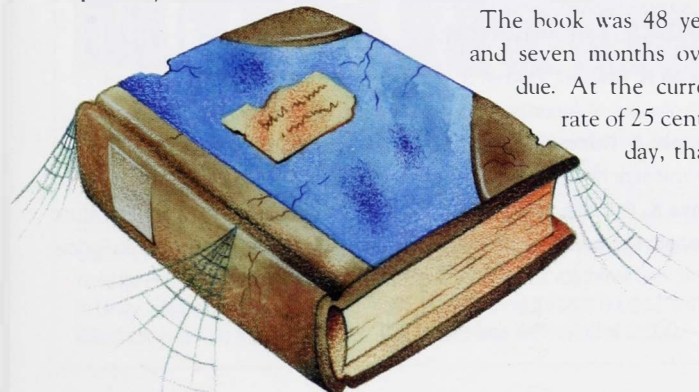
"I thought it might no longer be listed as part of our collection," said Frances Parker, assistant director for public services in Miller Library. She found that the College had the same material in other books and suggested that the borrower might like to have the book for keeps.

Suanne Muehlner, director of the Colby libraries, noted that the alum had found the book while brushing up on his ancient history—and that he had used a Latin phrase in his letter. She sent the book back to him.

"Clearly this is a case of *liber*

*non surreptus*," she wrote in a letter, "and as, in the course of the years, the place of this outline history has been filled by others. . . . we therefore are happy to be able to *veniam dare* for the oversight and to allow the *Outline* to continue its comfortable retirement in your home library."

As for fines, Parker says there's a cap when the bill reaches \$1,000. And all fines revert to a lower, standard amount if a book is returned. "But," she said, laughing, "we don't encourage people to take things and keep them just so we'll give them back!" —Robert Gillespie





# Merely Extraordinary, or Supernatural?

After six generations of Colby graduates, the Ilsley family is still drawn to the College

By Gerry Boyle '78

**X**-files in Colby's Special Collections? Archivist Bill Jefferson may have unearthed some.

Jefferson's brush with the "forces" at work in Miller Library began last August when, as a newly hired part-time archivist, he embarked on the task of acquainting himself with the Colbiana archives. Rummaging through files and folders, he came across a newspaper story from 1969 about the arrival at Colby of a student named Paul Ilsley. The story said the enrollment of Ilsley '73 marked the sixth consecutive generation of the Ilsley family to attend Colby. "I thought, 'Huh. That's interesting,'" Jefferson said. "I figured that must be a record. I sort of put it in the back of my mind."

And there it stayed until October when Elizabeth Broun, director of the National Museum of American Art at the Smithsonian Institution, came to Colby. Jefferson and his wife, Assistant Professor of Art Bevin Engman, went to Broun's lecture at the dedication of the new Lunder Wing of the Colby Museum of Art. Broun cited six paintings from the museum's permanent collection, including an anonymous portrait of

the Rev. Silas Ilsley. "I had seen that painting a number of times but never had the context to it," Jefferson said. "I said to Bevin, 'That's got to be the same family.'"

It was. Jefferson checked the files and found that Silas Ilsley, Class of 1834, was the first Ilsley to attend Colby, the one who kicked things off. Jefferson also noted that Paul Ilsley had gone on to become a professor at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. "I almost thought of e-mailing him and saying, 'Can we expect a seventh?'" Jefferson said.

But he didn't. Instead, Jefferson went about his archivist business and also his business at L.L. Bean. An experienced mountaineer and backpacker, he's worked for the company on and off for more than 20 years, selling outdoors equipment and establishing the first L.L. Bean training programs in map-and-compass orienteering and winter mountaineering and producing a training video for company phone-order employees. This past winter Jefferson did a stint at the L.L. Bean call center in Waterville, one of four the company operates, employing about 800 people to take telephone orders from all over the world.

One Sunday evening before Christmas, just before he was scheduled to end his shift, Jefferson got a call from a woman who wanted to buy five bottles of maple syrup and have the bottles sent to five different people. She was very ebullient and outgoing, Jefferson recalled. When she gave her credit card number, the name on the card was Donna Jones-Ilsley. "I thought, 'Ilsley. Huh,'" Jefferson said.

Jones-Ilsley's address was DeKalb, Ill. She was sending syrup to Claremont, Calif., among other places.

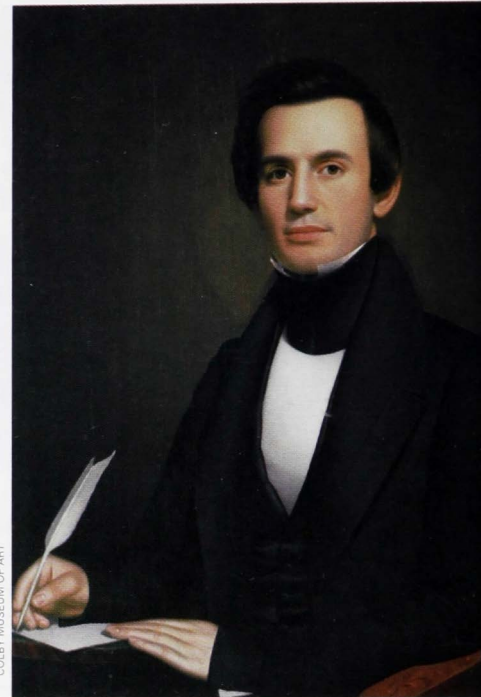
"That's where Paul's father [John Ilsley '46] is," Jefferson said. "I'm thinking, it would be too bizarre to be true. That she would be funneled through to Waterville, much less get me. . . ."

The woman spoke of Maine and her husband's family ties to Colby College. She started to recite the family's Colby lineage, and Jefferson could contain himself no longer.

"I said, 'My god, I probably

know more about your family than you do. And now I know their Christmas buying habits."

Now, the L.L. Bean story did make the rounds of the Ilsley family, according to Paul Ilsley, who teaches ethnography and phenomenology. He said the phenomenon of all those generations at Colby might not end with six. "My son Christopher is just 13," he said. "He is an awfully good student."



Anonymous portrait of the Rev. Silas Ilsley, c. 1840.

## Trustees Appoint Faculty to Chairs

There was a flurry of new endowed faculty chairs in the closing months of the Campaign for Colby last year, and at the January Board of Trustees meeting three faculty members were appointed as inaugural holders of three new named professorships and one new research fellowship. Beginning in the 2000-2001 academic year the following professors will assume new titles:

**Joseph R. Reisert**, Harriet S. and George C. Wiswell, Jr. Assistant Professor of American Constitutional Law

**Kenneth A. Rodman**, William R. Cotter Distinguished Teaching Professor of Government

**Tamae K. Prindle**, Oak Professor in East Asian Language and Literature

**Elizabeth D. Leonard**, Harriet S. and George C. Wiswell, Jr. Research Fellow

## Phish Shtick

Alex Chin '96 cut his teeth in the rock concert promotion business during his senior year when, as social chair of the Student Government Association, he helped bring Dave Matthews to Wadsworth Gymnasium. Since then the assistant director of student activities has had a hand in putting Jewel, the Indigo Girls, the Squirrel Nut Zippers and the Black Crows onstage at Colby.

So what does he do on vacation? For the Y2K holiday break he took a busman's holiday—in a Winnebago actually—with half a dozen Colby students who helped him run the information booth at the huge Phish New Year's show in the Florida Everglades.

Best known as the heirs apparent of the Grateful Dead, Phish attracted more than 100,000 fans to the Big Cypress Swamp over New Year's.

Chin rounded up seniors Jake Conklin and Matt Todesca, juniors Rob Henzi, Tony Frangie and Mead Rust and sophomore Mike Sesko for the 39-hour ride to Florida. They took shifts manning the booth so that each got to see plenty of the seven-plus hours of concert. In the process they helped a penniless woman whose husband kicked her out of their tent, displayed up to 50 lost sets of keys at a time and visited the backstage compound, which featured a swimming pool and volleyball court for band members and their inner circle.

Despite being back from a semester in London for only a week, Henzi jumped at the opportunity to jump on the RV. "I couldn't have asked for a better way to spend my New Year's," said the veteran Phish fan. "I got a paycheck [for his work in the information booth] in the mail last week," he said in February, "and I laughed out loud"—stunned again by his good fortune. —Stephen Collins '74



PHOTO BY DAVID LEAMING/MORNING SENTINEL

### In the Line of Duty

Colby's Wadsworth Gymnasium was pressed into service for two funerals for public safety officers who died in the line of duty this winter. The gymnasium proved the only space in the vicinity large enough to hold the numbers of police officers and firefighters who joined families and communities to honor their fallen comrades. On January 18 a service was held for Robert M. Jones, sheriff of Waldo County and a volunteer firefighter in Unity. Jones died of a probable heart attack during a tragic house fire that killed six-year-old triplets in Unity. The crowd was estimated at 2,000.

## wit & wisdom

"I think this is a place that has a liking for itself; a quiet sense of satisfaction."

*Colby's president-elect William D. Adams, summing up his sense of the College in a question-and-answer session in Cotter Union with students on February 24.*

"A lot has been said this weekend about memorable games and, shall I say, expressive behavior."

*Dick Whitmore (men's basketball coach), at a banquet held February 12 to celebrate his 500th career victory, acknowledging references to shoes thrown and other outbursts by the coach.*

"It's always about people causing trouble and it's never about Joe having two drinks and going home and hanging out with his friends."

*Associate Professor Bill Klein (psychology) at a Wellness Lecture February 10, explaining how the nature of media coverage of student drinking skews what people perceive to be the norm.*

"Professor Bassett has taught and advised for nearly 31 years at Colby since his graduation from the University of Kentucky."

*An Echo report on the impending second retirement of Professor Emeritus Charles Bassett (American studies and English), who holds degrees from the universities of South Dakota and Kansas.*

"We don't have much mud at the moment. I apologize for that."

*Woodsmen's team coach Dave Smith, welcoming team captains to Colby's annual Spring Mud Meet on March 11, when the ground was frozen solid.*

"Mud? I thought this was the Mr. Colby Contest."

*Woodsmen's meet judge Allen LaPan (student post-office supervisor), assigned to referee the ax-throwing contest.*

"Testimony to Colby's growing popularity."

*Dean Parker Beverage (admissions), analyzing an on-campus housing shortage created when 31 percent more midyear admits chose Colby than the College expected.*

"Every year we love coming to Colby; the crowd is the best part."

*The MIT Logarithms' Kuo-Chiang Lian, to an Echo reporter covering "The Blue Lights Invitational," an a cappella festival.*

"Since 1960 each Miss America has gotten thinner, but the average American woman has gotten heavier."

*Luolou Hong, Louisiana State University health educator, in a Wellness Lecture titled "Beautiful Bodies, Beautiful Souls: Redefining Women's Body Image."*

"Although gender has been an important dividing line, a more important dividing line is *yichus*—a combination of one's wealth, education and family connection. It is good to have good *yichus*."

*Howard Lupovitch, Pulver Family Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies, in a Women's Studies talk, "Down from the Pedestal: Thoughts on the Historical Experiences of Modern Jewish Women."*