July 2014

Media

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.colby.edu/colbymagazine

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://digitalcommons.colby.edu/colbymagazine/vol103/iss1/23

This Department is brought to you for free and open access by the Colbiana at Digital Commons @ Colby. It has been accepted for inclusion in Colby Magazine by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Colby. For more information, please contact mfkelly@colby.edu.
When a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter sets his sights on an athlete as accomplished and complex as Ted Williams, the hoped-for result would be a rich, detailed, and perceptive retelling of a remarkable life.

That’s what Bradlee has delivered after a decade of work—a nearly 800-page opus that is the definitive Ted Williams biography. It’s no hagiography; Bradlee presents “the Splinter” with all of his quirks and flaws. The Williams he recreates is, yes, the best hitter in the history of baseball (a goal Williams pursued with ferocious determination), but he’s also a man filled with fascinating and complex contradictions. From neglected child to national hero, Williams is a biographer’s feast, and feast Bradlee does.

The Kid: The Immortal Life of Ted Williams
Ben Bradlee Jr. ’70   Little Brown (2014)

When a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter sets his sights on an athlete as accomplished and complex as Ted Williams, the hoped-for result would be a rich, detailed, and perceptive retelling of a remarkable life.

That’s what Bradlee has delivered after a decade of work—a nearly 800-page opus that is the definitive Ted Williams biography. It’s no hagiography; Bradlee presents “the Splinter” with all of his quirks and flaws. The Williams he recreates is, yes, the best hitter in the history of baseball (a goal Williams pursued with ferocious determination), but he’s also a man filled with fascinating and complex contradictions. From neglected child to national hero, Williams is a biographer’s feast, and feast Bradlee does.

The wonder of unrealized dreams (theirs, yours, ours), poignant moments of connection and disconnection—he words hook the reader and then pull the line deeper to a place where the waters clear enough for us to see. See page 16.

Freeing the Hook
Peter Harris (English)
Deerbrook Editions (2014)

Peter Harris’s new book of poems brims with the clarity of clear-eyed and meditative reflection. In a poem dedicated to his late friend and colleague John Mizner, Harris begins:

When the sweetest man I ever knew died,/the boat that held us both went on sailing,/exhalations filled the sails awhile,/my mind with his kindling phrases,/ “Birth was the death of me,” he’d say,/and laugh with Beckett’s joy.

The wonder of unrealized dreams (theirs, yours, ours), poignant moments of connection and disconnection—he words hook the reader and then pull the line deeper to a place where the waters clear enough for us to see. See page 16.

Health officials involved in renewed efforts to combat malaria, a scourge in tropical Africa, would do well to read Webb’s pioneering work. A historian who dissolves disciplinary boundaries, he combines materials from biomedicine, entomology, and parasitology and presents and interprets them in the context of the cultural, political, and economic history of the region from the late 19th century to the present. While recent campaigns promoting use of bed nets, insecticides, and antimalarial drugs have had some impact, tropical Africa remains the epicenter of malarial infection, with 100-200 million bouts of the illness annually, and 650,000 to 1.2 million deaths. Webb’s comprehensive examination of the problem is long overdue.

The L Word
Margaret McFadden
Wayne State University Press (2014)

The Showtime series The L Word was the first prime-time television drama about the lives of lesbian and bisexual women. Reaction was swift and largely positive as the producers and writers, within the confines of a soap, explored the ways lesbians have been misrepresented and exploited in popular media. McFadden argues that the show is well aware of this history and sets out to demonstrate how those genres (think lesbian prison movies) reflect sexist, heterosexist, and homophobic ideologies. Through careful examination, she shows that The L Word constructs the lesbian viewer and encourages everyone to look at the show with this lesbian worldview.
MORE FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Paul R. Josephson (History)

The Conquest of the Russian Arctic
Harvard University Press (2014)

The book details ambitious attempts (begun by Stalin and redoubled by Vladimir Putin) from Soviet times to the present to control and reshape the Arctic, as well as the terrible costs paid along the way. Josephson steers us through ill-fated expeditions, brutal Arctic gulags, and collectivization to tame indigenous nomadic people. The narrative continues to the present day, as pressures for exploration for fossil fuels collide with the realities of climate change. This fascinating but not uplifting history shows how this fragile continent has borne the brunt of a century of human exploration—and how greater exploitation looms darkly.


Larissa Juliet Taylor (History):
“Apostle to the Apostles: The Complexity of Medieval Preaching about Mary Magdalene.” A chapter in Mary Magdalene in Medieval Culture.


Karen E. Macke (Sociology): “Que(e)-rying Methodology to Study Church-Based Activism: Conversations in Culture, Power, and Change.” Chapter in Queering Religion, Religious Queers.


Erin S. Sheets (Psychology) and Morganne Kraines ’11: “Personality Disorder Traits as a Moderator of Poor Social Problem-Solving Skills and Depressive Symptoms.” Journal of Individual Differences.

Morganne Kraines ’11:
Erin S. Sheets (Psychology) and

Arthur Levering ‘76
Parallel Universe (CD)
New World Records (2014)

Classical/contemporary composer Arthur Levering’s new collection is influenced by rock, Baroque, and Indonesian gamelan. Written for orchestra, strings, ensembles, and piano, the works have Levering’s voice with its distinctive wit, pacing, and color.

David DeLong ’73
Graduate to a Great Job
Longstone Press (2014)

Based on 30 success stories, DeLong’s latest aims to be both inspirational and practical. It includes a chapter for parents, who just may be interested.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.


Daniel Tortora (History)

Fort Halifax: Winslow’s Historic Outpost
History Press (2014)

Tortora explores the history of the Winslow blockhouse, from its beginning as a French and Indian trading post to its reconstruction after a devastating 1987 flood.


Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith
Fort Halifax: Winslow’s Historic Outpost
History Press (2014)

Tortora explores the history of the Winslow blockhouse, from its beginning as a French and Indian trading post to its reconstruction after a devastating 1987 flood.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.

Earl H. Smith (College historian)
More Dam Trouble

Smith’s second mystery includes a cast of small-town characters who are as engaging as the author’s dry humor and make-you-smile prose.