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Periscope

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Gleaned from the campus newsletter, *FYI*

Focus on Environment

In April the New England Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency gave Colby an Environmental Merit Award for its “exceptional work and commitment to the environment in 2003.” In a presentation to trustees about the achievements of Colby’s Environmental Advisory Group, **Tom Tietenberg** (economics and environmental studies) said Colby has become recognized as a national leader in sustainability.

Managing Admits

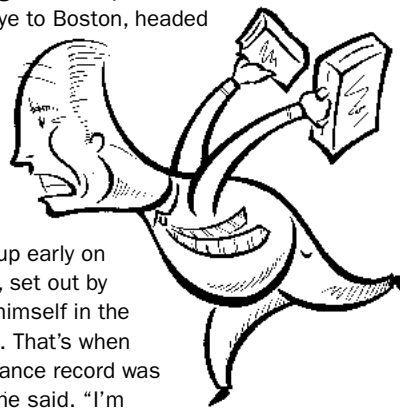
Dean of Admissions **Parker Beverage** reported on the strongest admitted class ever, noting that the mean SAT scores continued their ascent to a combined 1,383—16 points higher than last year’s admitted group. Of the 1,441 prospective students offered admission in the Class of ’08 from a pool of 4,065 applicants, 132 had a perfect 800 on either the math or verbal SAT. That’s more than twice as many as in the admitted group three years ago. Offers went to students from every state except Louisiana, Mississippi and South Carolina. Last report had the class on target for slightly more than 500 first-year students.

April Fools Pranks

We aren’t (officially) amused by the hacker who impersonated President **Bro Adams** to announce a bogus museum acquisition April 1. But it brought this from *FYT*’s editor emeritus, **Earl Smith**. Early in his term as dean of students, long before e-mail, a student got hold of official stationery and fired off letters to a half-dozen or so schoolmates—“students whom he knew to be miscreants,” Earl writes. “The let-

30 Years, No Excuses

If you have **Cal Mackenzie** (government) for a professor, plan to have an extraordinary excuse for an absence. In his 30-year teaching career, Cal has yet to miss a single class. His closest call came when he gave a Colby campaign kickoff speech in San Francisco, caught a red-eye to Boston, headed north at extra-legal speeds and pulled in just in time for his 9:30 a.m. class. As the spring semester drew to a close, Cal made sure the streak would continue. After his car made ominous noises going home Thursday, he got up early on Friday, borrowed his wife’s car, set out by dawn’s early light, and found himself in the office with two hours to spare. That’s when he realized the perfect attendance record was becoming “a real albatross,” he said. “I’m getting too old for this.”



ters, over my fake signature, demanded that these students appear at once in my office. Three of them confessed to their crimes before I could inform them of the scam.”

History with a Bang

Students from Professor **Elizabeth Leonard**’s Civil War history class got a firsthand look into history when **Ron Poulin** (PPD) arranged to bring more than a dozen Civil War reenactors to the field house parking lot for an encampment and demonstrations on April 26. One piece on exhibit was the Civil War cannon that Ron built. The decision was made not to actually fire weapons, so reenactors had to make do by shouting “bang” instead.

Special Delivery

Nice to see Colby families arriving for commencement activities, no one more welcome than the brother of **Charles Data** ’04, Jackson Malish, who arrived from Uganda. Student Postmaster **Allen LaPan**

proved his legendary generosity knows no season by paying for Malish’s travel arrangements. “It’s called an investment,” said Allen, typically modest about his role. “Charles told me when he becomes president of his country, I can be postmaster general,” Allen explained, “and that he’ll pay me the same five-fifty an hour that I’ve been paying him for four years.”

Colby Continues to Care

About 200 students and President **Bro Adams** turned out April 24th for the eighth annual Colby Cares Day, reports **Jenn Rosenberg** ’04, director of the Colby Volunteer Center, which sponsors Colby Cares Day Volunteers invested about four hours each, and crews attacked 15 different projects in Waterville and neighboring towns, from cleaning up the three-mile loop to working at a retirement home to helping out Waterville fire and rescue. Kudos to Jenn and student organizers who keep this admirable tradition going.

Another Watson

Colby’s Watson Fellowship streak remains unbroken since 1970-71 with **Karen Prager** ’04 of Medfield, Mass., named a 2004-05 Thomas J. Watson Foundation Fellow. Karen, a history major and Russian language and culture minor, will receive \$22,000 to travel to Russia to study “Faith Under Fire: Women of the Russian Orthodox Church.” She is Colby’s 56th Watson fellow.

And Two Bright Fulbrights

Also traveling abroad are Colby’s newest Fulbright Scholarship recipients: **Elizabeth Holmes** ’04, an international studies major from Hofheim, Germany, and **Christine Mehta** ’04, a government and German studies double major from Lawrenceville, N.J. Beth’s project, “Women’s Participation in Development—Building Morocco through Literacy,” will take her to Morocco. Christine will travel to Berlin for her project, “The Implication of German Asylum Laws for Kurdish Refugees.”

Moosecellaneous

Dean of Admissions **Parker Beverage** told of a guidance counselor who called to inquire about an applicant’s status. Some investigation on both ends revealed that while Colby had received all the necessary letters of recommendation, the student had sent the actual application to Colby-Sawyer in New Hampshire....Seniors honored Assistant Professor **Jonathan White** (sociology) with the 2004 Charles Bassett/Senior Class Teaching Award and **Lydia Bolduc-Marden** (health services) received the Senior Class Service Award for outstanding dedication and service to students.