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From the Hill

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Tuesday, September 11
9:15 a.m. Senior staff meeting interrupted with news of attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.
10:20 a.m. Student phone centers in the Dean of Students Office and Eustis open, staffed by deans and counselors. Pugh Center designated TV-free zone, staff and snacks available. Student with parents in affected areas contacted by deans. Students and faculty in Colby programs abroad and in Washington contacted and advised to cancel all travel. Athletic contests postponed.
12:03 p.m. Colby phone system nears capacity. Request to limit nonessential calls.
12:05 p.m. President Adams announces plan for evening community gathering.
1:52 p.m. Some professors receive e-mail from Michael Daisey '96. From New York he reports: “The sky is black with ash, the people have been panicking and fleeing in unadulterated terror.”
7:30 p.m. President Adams opens “Community Gathering” in overflowing Page Commons Room. [Story on page 3.]

Wednesday, September 12
7:00 p.m. Government Professors Sandy Maisel and Joe Reisert speak and moderate discussion in Anthony-Mitchell-Schupf residence halls.

Thursday, September 13
11:12 a.m. Web pages on College’s response to tragedy launched.

1:03 p.m. Mass e-mail to alumni about online resources (alumni directory, bulletin boards, Web pages). Use of online directory doubles and alumni bulletin boards see 6,402 hits the following day.

Friday, September 15
Noon Interfaith Prayer and Remembrance service in Lorimer Chapel. Students, faculty and staff are led in prayer by College chaplains, Rabbi Raymond Krinksy and Rev. Ronald Morrell. The chaplains invite anyone to remain in the chapel after the service. Many do.
7:00 p.m. Candlelight vigil at Lorimer Chapel.

Monday, September 17
Noon Silent Rally for Peace on library steps attracts about 300 students, faculty and staff. One student chooses to sing the national anthem, a cappella, from the base of the flagpole. Another rises from the ranks and speaks before placing a rose before the monument to Colby’s war dead. “I’ve learned that we all grieve differently,” said Katherine Rauch ’02. “I just had to get up and say something.”
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Students solicit money in Cotter Union for the American Red Cross. This and an evening event raise more than $4,000 for disaster relief.

Wednesday, September 19
8:00 p.m. Colby Muslim Group convenes forum (titled “Am I a Terrorist?”) on Islam, in the Pugh Center. Overflow crowd listens as Muslim students, from several different countries, explain the tenets of Islam. “It’s a very peaceful religion,” says Amjad Tuffaha ’02 of Amman, Jordan. He directs the audience to the group’s Web site: www.colby.edu/muslim.

Thursday, September 20
9:30 p.m. Forum in Foss. Two hundred students stay past 11 p.m. Margaret McFadden (American studies) asks students to consider coverage of the attacks: “The mass media shapes the way we see the world all the time. . . . We don’t notice it; it’s like asking a fish to notice water.” Kenneth Rodman (government) compares events with the Truman Doctrine: “When Pearl Harbor was attacked, we were invaded by a state. We knew what the return address was.” Jeffrey Kasser (philosophy) speaks of the necessity of adequation of thoughts and events: “What ought we aspire to if we can’t grasp these events?”

Looking Ahead
In the weeks following the attacks Adams articulates the institution’s role. “I believe that Colby, and colleges like Colby, must play an important part in the long-term solution to international discord and violence. By teaching young men and women from this and many other countries to debate issues rationally, to resolve disagreements peacefully, to appreciate cultural and religious differences with open hearts and open minds, and to assume positions of thoughtful and responsible leadership, we are doing what we can to make this world better and safer.”

A candlelight vigil at Lorimer Chapel September 15, upper left. Amjad Tuffaha ’02 at forum on Islam on September 19, above. Flowers remain at Colby’s war memorial, left.
Giving Victims a Voice

Oak Fellow Sevdie Ahmeti chronicles travails of Kosovo casualties

Sevdie Ahmeti was in mid-sentence during an interview in her Lovejoy office last month when somewhere in the corridor a door slammed. It had been two years since the bombing of her native Kosovo and three years since Ahmeti jumped a wall to escape capture by Serb soldiers, later enduring beating and torture at the hands of marauding paramilitaries. Still, when the door slammed in the corridor, the Albanian human rights activist gave a visible start, lowered her head and sighed. And then, just as she refused to abandon her mission to publicize rape and torture during Kosovo’s decade-long turmoil, Ahmeti forged on with her comments.

"I am a human rights worker," she said. "I leave to save my skin? It is moral to save your skin and interview people from a distance? It is moral when you’re out of the country, safe, and you go to the borderline and say, ‘What happened inside? Who’s killed? Who’s raped?’"

The co-founder and executive director of the Centre for Protection of Women and Children in Prishtina, Ahmeti, 56, is at Colby for the fall semester as the 2001 Oak Human Rights Fellow. Her work, conducted single-handedly through the worst years of the Kosovo ethnic cleansing, focuses on protection and documentation of ethnic Albanian victims of war crimes.

And there were many.

Ahmeti and her colleagues estimate that 13,000 ethnic Albanian women were raped in Kosovo before the conflict ended with the NATO intervention in 1999. Ahmeti’s involvement in human rights work in the country had started almost a decade before, after she and other ethnic Albanians were dismissed from their jobs by Serb officials. She began writing political commentary for magazines, an effort that resulted in her arrest and the arrest of the editor of the magazine that published her work. Ahmeti continued to write and to publish her commentary on the Internet and to send reports to world leaders. But when war broke out in 1998, Ahmeti went to the war zones.

"In March 1998 until March 1999, until two days after the air strikes started," she said, "I would write every day what was happening in Kosovo. I would visit women and children. I would see them living out in the open, no food. No shelter. No hygienic supplies, nothing. For weeks and months in the cold and in the rain. So I would go into interview. I would publish different interviews on Internet.”

Already a public figure, her reporting brought Serb soldiers to her door. Her husband, Sebahudin, former minister of health for Kosovo, was tipped off by neighbors and ran home to warn his wife.

“He said, ‘Run. Run out the back side,’” Ahmeti said. "We opened the window, I jumped. I hear them break the door of the house. I jump the wall. Desire. Desire to live.”

The soldiers took her papers, her computer, her photos and notes. They threatened that they would kill her husband if they came back and found Ahmeti, and then they would kill her, too. For the next three months, Ahmeti was in hiding, slipping from house to house, hidden in attics and cellars, sleeping in barns.

“ ‘How can I describe these three months. They were all terror. One minute of terror was as long as twenty-four hours. You can imagine how long a day was. Are they coming to kill you? To rape you? To butcher you? To order you deported?’”

Eventually Ahmeti was caught, and she and her relatives were beaten and tortured by Serb paramilitaries. "Fortunately it was those who were after money, after gold," she said. They did not know who they had in their clutches.

By the time the war ended in 1999, eight members of Ahmeti’s family had been killed. In her birthplace, the city of Gjakova west of Prishtina, 1,658 people were missing, 673 killed, more than 400 detained. Kosovo Liberation Army forces found a group of raped women in the mountains and brought them to Ahmeti for treatment and to have their stories recorded. These and other reports by Ahmeti and her colleagues have been used as evidence by the International Criminal Tribunal of Former Yugoslavia in The Hague.

But conviction of former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic and others accused in the Kosovo massacres will not mean an end to Ahmeti’s work. She and others who work in the nine branches of the Centre of the Protection of Women and Children know the victims of rape and other abuse have long-term needs.

“Did you ever see any raped woman who has taken to the streets and protested?” No, she said, because they are too ashamed, and the hurt they feel remains with them.

“It’s a degradation that is there,” Ahmeti said. “It’s a bullet that can never go off.” —Gerry Boyle ’78
Tom and Pat Gish, recipients of the 2001 Lovejoy Award, have walked in Elijah Parish Lovejoy’s footsteps. It was 1974 and the Gishes’ newspaper, the weekly Mountain Eagle in Whitesburg, Ky., was closely covering a bitter battle to limit the weight of the coal trucks that traversed the mountain roads in eastern Kentucky coal country. At one meeting of area coal-mine operators someone warned that a plan to derail the coal-truck regulation would fail if Tom Gish got hold of it and put it in his paper. “One of the other people there said, ‘If Tom Gish writes anything about this, we’ll just burn him down,’” Tom Gish said. “We did and they did.”

Just as pro-slavery mobs repeatedly destroyed Lovejoy’s press in Illinois, ruffians destroyed the Mountain Eagle press and offices. The fire eventually resulted in the conviction of a local policeman for arson, but it didn’t prevent the Gishes from publishing even a single issue. “We just moved up to our house,” said Pat Gish, a former reporter for the Lexington Leader. “We did it with typewriters.”

And for 44 years, the husband and wife team has done it with linotype and a variety of other presses—and hard work, high standards and firm convictions.

The fire was only one of the roadblocks that have been thrown up in front of the Gishes as they’ve endeavored to maintain the Mountain Eagle (front page motto: “It Screams”) as the voice of the rank and file in Letcher County. On one occasion, the newspaper’s scrutiny of the local school system roused the ire of the school board chairman, a local political boss. He urged the school system and its employees to boycott the Eagle. The immediate result was a 700-copy increase in circulation.

On another occasion, the Gishes supported a system of medical clinics established by the United Mineworkers Union. When the Kentucky Medical Association and others tried to get a law enacted to prohibit such “socialized medicine,” it was Tom Gish, a former state house reporter for United Press International, who showed proponents of the clinics how to get their side of the issue heard in Louisville. The Kentucky Legislature listened and refused to shut the clinics down.

That had repercussions at the Eagle. One of the key supporters in the effort to shut down the clinics—a big automobile dealer—was one of the Eagle’s biggest advertisers over the years. “He stopped his Eagle advertising and never spent another penny in the next thirty or forty years,” Tom Gish said. “Huge in Eagle terms. Probably cost me a thousand dollars a month or more. For twenty-five or thirty years.”

But that was a small price to pay, and one of many exacted over the decades. When the newspaper started covering county government, officials stopped going to the Eagle printing operation with county business (the Gishes sold that side of the operation). The Gishes have been called communists, a serious charge in the 1950s. The Gish children, literally raised at the newspaper, were never picked for parts in the local school plays. At times the Gishes found themselves shunned by much of the community as they refused to buckle before local powerbrokers. “The Whitesburg merchandising class generally was unwilling to make the courthouse crowd unhappy so they generally were never on our side,” Tom Gish said. “If they were, they were very quiet about it.”

That was and is the way of eastern Kentucky, he said. In a poor rural region with power in the hands of very few, the working class learned to bite its tongue rather than speak out. “It’s a little bit more open now than in previous years but it hasn’t changed all that much,” Tom Gish said. “You don’t dare publicly criticize the county judge or the sheriff or the governor or whatever. If you do, there’s always going to be payback.”

There has been positive payback for the Gishes and the Eagle. Circulation went from 2,000 when the couple bought the paper in 1957 to 7,500, sliding in recent years to the present 6,200 as the county’s population.
At one meeting of area coal-mine operators someone warned that a plan to derail the coal-truck regulation would fail if Tom Gish got hold of it and put it in his paper. . . "If Tom Gish writes anything about this, we'll just burn him down," Tom Gish said. "We did and they did."

has declined. The Gishes have always felt the working people of Letcher County were with them, and today an anonymous comment section is the most popular in the newspaper, "after the television section," Pat Gish said.

The couple are nothing if not self-effacing. They've received national awards for their writing about poverty. In 1974 they received the John Peter Zenger Award, a national honor bestowed by the University of Arizona for exemplary work supporting freedom of the press. The winner in 1973 was Katharine Graham of The Washington Post. The year after the Gishes it was Seymour Hersh of The New York Times.

"We were sandwiched between Watergate and the Pentagon Papers," Tom Gish said, chuckling. Then he remembered an award given the couple last year by New York University.

Tom: "We were declared to be, what's the phrase, Pat?"
Pat: "I don't remember, Tom. I could look it up. I think it was 'Treasures of American Journalism.'"
Tom: "Yeah, 'Treasures of American Journalism.'"

A Formula for Fun

It was nearly eight o'clock in the evening and the Alfond Athletic Center gym was empty but for two teenagers immersed in a workout. One, grimacing like an Olympic weight lifter, was doing bench presses. The other was frantically pedaling away on the bike, a stationary Lance Armstrong.

But the bench press bar was completely bare. The controls on the bike were set near the minimum. And there was another hint that these were not your typical sports campers: a white booklet of sample SAT math questions spread wide open in front of the sweating bike rider—a Pythagoras, not Armstrong, wannabe.

The teenagers were from Canada/USA Mathcamp, a different application of the summer camp formula with math lectures, workshops and other activities with a mathematical slant. This year the program was hosted by Colby and ran from July 8 through August 12.

To reserve their spot, the participants, some of the sharpest math whizzes from American, Canadian and other high schools, had to pass a tough qualifying quiz. They solved and asked questions like "If G is a p-group, \( |G| = p^n \), is \( \text{Aut}(G) \) necessarily isomorphic to some subgroup of \( \text{Aut}(C_p)^n \) (which is isomorphic to \( \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{F}_p) \))?"

"Thought-provoking lectures given on such topics as number theory, topology, artificial intelligence, probability by the best-known authorities in their fields," said Chintan Hossain of Wilmington, Del. "During the camp I was at a constant state of stimulation."

Led by top-notch faculty and graduate student mentors from institutions including Colby, Harvard, Princeton, Dartmouth and Stanford, the students engaged in cognitive gymnastics. In fact, it wasn't the hike in the Maine outdoors that was the favorite event, but the challenge of doing 30 proofs in 30 minutes. Said Hwang Shinyoung, a South Korean teenager studying in Massachusetts: "We studied and played in an equally divided standard."

At $3,000, the camp wasn't cheap (Hossain said his parents noted that it cost the same as taking his entire family to Bangladesh). But the camp's value may prove incalculable to the teenagers who gathered on Mayflower Hill. "Some of the ideas the campers encounter here are not taught until graduate school," said Colby's Fernando Gouvêa (mathematics), who taught one of the Mathcamp courses. "They are so far ahead of their high school classmates, it's amazing. They want to eat, drink and breathe math."

—Milan Babik '01

Text of the Gishes' Lovejoy address is posted online at www.colby.edu/communications/lovejoy/recipients/gish_xml.html.
"They're smart. 'Smart in what way?' is my question."

CATHY BRUCE, fielding a question about her and President Bro. Adams' pet, Pedro the pig.

"Everybody I talked to said, 'The suffering we have now is so much better than the suffering we had before.' . . . Even if they didn't have something to eat, they had their freedom."

ELICIA CARMICHAEL '01, quoted in a July 8 Boston Sunday Globe story about her research on the recently liberated Kamuya laborers in Western Nepal.

"I thought it would be great to tell you about my wonderful boyhood in South Dakota."

MARGARET MCFADDEN (American studies), recounting lecture themes she had considered, when she received the senior class's Charles Basset Teaching Award in May.

"Cleaning rooms that have been occupied for nine months by young people can be very challenging."

ARTHUR "BUD" SAWTELLE, supervisor of custodial services, in a campus announcement about getting residence hall rooms ready for reunion.

"With the right mix of geography, hubris and uranium, we can be energy self-sufficient and forget about conservation entirely."

Associate Professor of History PAUL JOSEPHSON, in a May 17 op-ed titled "A Swiftian Solution to the Energy Crisis," in the Los Angeles Times.

"The surname Colby itself originates from a place name that is English in origin. It is a hybrid Anglo-Norse form derived from Caldbyr, meaning 'cold settlement.' This is just a coincidence, but perhaps a cosmic one for those who believe in such things."

Associate Professor JEFFREY ANDERSON (anthropology), whose Web page www.colby.edu/~personal/jandlers/COLBY.htm explores unusual connections involving the name "Colby."

Professional Life After Death

It is perhaps one of the few conferences where the schedule includes lectures on subjects like bloodstain-pattern analysis and bite-mark identification—with breaks for "refreshments and conversation."

The New England Seminar in Forensic Science, in its 28th year at Colby (the only undergraduate college in the U.S. accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education credit to physicians), offers death investigators the opportunity to learn from some of the most renowned forensic experts in the country. Medical examiners, coroners, attorneys and detectives gather on Mayflower Hill each August to receive instruction in subjects some might think ghoulis.

"They're going to study everything from how do you approach people killed in a fire, people who die in jail or institutional custody, sharp versus blunt-force injuries," said Gregory J. Davis, associate chief medical examiner for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a professor of pathology at the University of Kentucky School of Medicine and co-director of the Colby conference. "What about gunshot wounds? What about blood spatter at the scene? What does it mean? How can a dentist be used to help identify people burned up or decomposed?"

While the prospect might leave some laymen cold, if not clammy, these are the questions that face medical examiners and other investigators day in and day out. And not only do they warm to the topics at Colby, but burnout-risking professionals say the week in Waterville can be like a balm. "It not only allows you a chance to exchange information and get out of your rut, but it also rejuvenates you," said conference co-director Fred B. Jordan, chief medical examiner for Oklahoma, who endured firsthand the horrors of the Oklahoma City bombing.

The emotional toll associated with forensic investigation doesn't get much media play, though the field itself has become the stuff of novels, TV and movies. Davis said the media exposure can be a double-edged sword that gives the public an exaggerated sense of what coroners and medical examiners can determine. "On the other hand, a little publicity doesn't hurt," he said. "And to be known as something other than the ghouls who reside in the basement is a blessing."

In fact, time spent in the midst of this forensic family last summer showed them to be anything but ghoulish. Cases are related matter-of-factly, albeit with an occasional tinge of emergency-room humor. Marcella Sorg, a forensic anthropologist for Maine's medical examiner's office, professor at the University of Maine, Colby conference faculty member and author of two definitive books on the study of postmortem remains, has seen some of the most horrific things imaginable in her 25 years in the field. But Sorg said levity is just one way that forensic professionals cope—and continue to do their jobs.

Davis, who specializes in deaths from drugs and gunshot, said he welcomes the public into the world of forensic science. "I want the public to know what we do, and our limitations," he said. "What I do not want to do is entertain them. I do not think that what we do is entertaining in the least. What has to be retained . . . is that every time I talk about a case with a student or a fellow physician or a member of the press, as clichéd as this sounds, the basic truth of what we do is that that [person] is somebody's loved one. That is not just a hunk of biological material on a table. It's the body of somebody's loved one and it needs to be treated with that respect and that dignity."—Gerry Boyle '78
So, you've been here a while, I understand.
Twenty-eight years. I did do a few years in Foss, and then they brought me back over here.

How has it changed in twenty-eight years, Fran?
First of all, I think with the new dining room—it's only been here three years—it's nice, more modern.

Do people like different kinds of food?
Oh, yes. I make vegan pizzas and things. They just have to come up and request it. If I have the stuff on hand, there's no problem.

What about Colby Eights and other traditional stuff?
We still had that up until this past year.

Is it going to be back this year?
I'm not real sure. I do know there's a lot of changes. We're still going to be on kind of the fast-food type of thing, but there's going to be a lot of changes. Our cycles have been four weeks. It may be a three-week cycle.

So every three weeks the menu changes?
Yeah. We do a lot of specials. Wednesday nights last year we were doing baked potato bar, nacho bar. Fruit bar—the kids love it. We find every type of fruit that we possibly can and we put it out here.

Do you find types of fruit you never knew existed?
Stuff that I had never tried, yeah. Even being here. Papaya. Mangos. The little star fruits.

Are most of the changes aimed at providing healthier food?
They try. They try to say, give kids what they like, like your basic pizza, hamburger-type thing. But also stay on the health side.

But are there items that are mainstays that have been here forever?
That would be like a meatloaf.

They still have meatloaf?
Oh, yes. They still do meatloaf. And they do the roast beeps. Lots of chicken. And kids like it. Even though we're not considered the vegetarian hall, they do make a dish if we do have vegetarians who want to come over and sit with their friends. They have that, too.

So the vegetarian hall is Foss?
Yes.

What is Roberts?
I don't know. Just a home-cooked meal. At lunchtime, we're based on the fast food. At night we give them a home-cooked meal.

So have you gotten to know many students?
Most of my time has been spent back in the kitchen. It's just in the last couple of years that I've actually got out into the front and been able to be one on one with them. There are a few who will introduce themselves and you remember that one and you get in conversations. And they'll say, 'Oh, you don't look happy today. You look tired. Do you want to talk about it?' It's neat that a kid would want to do that for you.

Do you ever have students ask for something really strange?
Oh, yes. I had a young lady who asked for no-cheese pizza. She wanted onions and mushrooms and pineapples. No cheese. There were a couple of guys, I remember what they liked. One was a basic mushroom, onion and olive. He loved that. I would try to do that a couple of days a week for him. I had another young man, he liked the cheeseless with just a bunch of vegetables on it. Any kind of vegetables.

What's the number-one pizza?
Number one is your pepperoni.

What's the pizza for tomorrow?
Pepperoni. A sausage. And a cheese. Always a cheese. And I was thinking of doing a tomato, basil and feta. If they don't want the cheese on it, it takes five minutes if they come up and ask for something special.

Are there some students who just love to chow down?
Oh, yes. Especially the freshmen. They're here for breakfast, lunch and dinner, no matter what.

What are you working on now, today?
Right now I'm getting ready for the pizza deli. I cut the vegetables to put on my pizza, made my sauce. This morning I made tuna fish. I made egg salad. That's for the deli.

For seven hundred people?
Yup.

What kind of quantities are we talking here?
Okay, let me think. Tuna fish. I will open twelve cans of tuna fish on a normal Monday. That's big cans. I have to have ten pans of turkey, which will probably be three to four turkey breasts. I'm going to say eight to ten pounds each. I do about four of those. And then I do one ham, which is approximately fifteen pounds. Cheeses, I would do probably forty pounds of cheese, four different kinds. Pickles, two different kinds. And all kinds of different breads.

That's every day?
Every day that's what I do.
Sowing wild oats is all in a day’s work for Assistant Professor of Biology Russell Johnson. Literally, not metaphorically. The botanist studies plant physiology and the molecular biology of seeds as they germinate and while they are dormant, and he grows *Avena fatua*, a strain of wild oats from Montana, in the Olin Science Center research greenhouse. When he’s not on the job you might find him sowing lettuce, carrots, peas and beans near what generations of students knew as “Colby Corner,” next to the Pleasant Street Methodist Church downtown. Johnson is one of several Colby faculty and staff members who help raise produce at the church’s stewardship garden for the local homeless shelter, food bank and soup kitchen.

The soft-spoken Johnson grows animated explaining minute details of how plants work—why, for example, sweet corn is sweet. “Sweet corn is a mutant strain of corn that doesn’t make starch properly,” he said. While regular corn converts sugars into starch polymers, sweet corn was developed to prevent that from happening. “It has a defective enzyme so that all of the sugars just pile up in the kernel.”

Johnson’s research is focused on the minutest details of plant physiology, including how and why, at the biochemical level, seeds germinate and how stable plant mRNA is. He attributes those interests to good professors who got him interested in plant biology, and he says that, combined with a concern for human impact on the environment, led him to agricultural research, since agriculture is arguably the biggest impact mankind has on the planet.

Practical applications of his research are increased understanding and control of germination and dormancy. “When you plant, you want the seeds to germinate synchronously and quickly,” he said. When growing oats or wheat, it’s critical that there’s enough dormancy to prevent pre-harvest sprouting while the grain is still on the stalk but not so much that germination would be impaired when the seed grain is planted a year or more later.
Nine o’clock on a Wednesday morning in September. Twenty-one first-year students assembled in Miller 14, a classroom at the Roberts end of Miller Library. Bare feet in sandals. A couple of baseball hats on backwards. Nervous chuckles and expectant glances. Professor Cedric Bryant enters the room. For these Colby students, college has begun.

Bryant introduces himself. He asks if the students have read The Great Gatsby. Many raise their hands. He says they must recall the second-to-last sentence. He recites it with care, the words held up to the class like a string of precious stones: “So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past.”

The class is 30 seconds old.

Bryant is serious to the point of gravity. The question, he says, is what did Fitzgerald mean to teach us about language with this single sentence. “How does this sentence do what it does?”

He refers to rhetoric, in its classical sense, then asks what it means today as a pejorative term. The question hangs in the air. Bryant waits. The silence grows palpable; the first-year, first-day reticence bends but doesn’t break. Bryant waits longer and then he says, “What did you think we were going to begin class by doing? Sitting around talking about what you did on your summer vacation?”

There’s an awkward silence, but it’s brief. And then they’re off. A student answers, “manipulation.” There’s discussion of the word “equivocate” and a reference to irony in the Fitzgerald sentence. Bryant quotes Toni Morrison on the craft of writing: “The seams can’t show. . . . The language can’t sweat.” He recites Emily Dickinson: “The world is not conclusion. . . .” “It is not just the words that are important,” he says. “It’s the spaces in between them.”

Alliteration. Syntax. Metaphor or trope. The meanings and implications of borne and born, the sailing imagery in the sentence, the weight of the word “beat.” It is 9:28.

And what the students have experienced, and we have witnessed, is a launching, to hold to the nautical (with apologies to Fitzgerald), in that classroom and in many others on the Colby campus that morning, professors strode to the front of the ramp, swung the bottles towards the bow and gave their assembled students a shove. Down the ways they went and into the current, heading out of the harbor with assignments in hand, reading due by Friday.

After Bryant’s class, they were a bit blown away. “I was really surprised at how intense it was today,” said Aspen Foreman ’05 of Delta, Colo.

Said Stanislav Presolski ’05 of Bulgaria, “I have to say it was great. I was enchanted by the professor, the way he spoke.”

So that’s what we do here, to borrow from Charlie Bassett, who himself has enchanted legions of Colby students over the decades. This snapshot is just a reminder, as another school year begins, that teaching and learning are noble endeavors, really. Because when these students leave as very different people four years from now, “the seams can’t show.” —Gerry Boyle ’78

Left, Botanist Russell Johnson (biology) tends to the Pleasant Street Methodist Church garden and above checks for ripened tomatoes, which will be delivered to the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter.

At the Methodist Church’s stewardship garden Johnson is coordinator of a corps of volunteers (including several Colby families) that keeps the 25- by 50-foot plot immaculate and incredibly productive. The garden was begun in 1998. Susan Mackenzie ’80, who teaches a Jan Plan course titled “The Greening of Faith,” said she proposed the project, where a parsonage had been razed, “to reclaim the earth, take care of it and provide this really healthy produce to people in the area who are hungry.” She, her husband, Michael Donihue ’79 (economics), Debbie and Jim Thurston (theater and dance) and a couple of other Colby families worked on aspects of the project before Johnson took over as coordinator.

The project attracts a mixture of green thumbs and greenhorns, some who come to work and teach and some who want to learn as they work. Johnson gets the same satisfaction explaining the importance of planting lettuce seeds in cool soil or pruning tomato sprouts to increase yield that he does teaching botany, plant physiology and plant development to talented biochemistry students in Arey. “It’s a great way to teach my daughter [5-year-old Ursula] about botany,” he said.

In addition, Johnson gets enormous satisfaction from seeing a bounty of fresh, healthful food—hundreds of grocery bags full every summer—go to people who really need it. “This is the first place I’ve lived where I haven’t had my own garden,” said Johnson, who traces his love of gardening to his childhood in Pullman, Wash. It’s also the first place where he can pick a backpack full of fresh produce, hop on his bicycle and deliver it to the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter on his way home. —Stephen Collins ’74
Joanne Moy '03 had it figured out. An art major, she made sure that when the doors to the Crawford Art Studios opened last September, she'd be at the head of the line. "I planned so I could take Sculpture I in the first class in here," she said, shaping a rectangular chunk of plaster with mallet and chisel at a workbench in the cavernous first-floor sculpture studio. "It's fantastic. I'm in love with this place."

In past years, student artists at Colby have felt that they worked in the shadow—sometimes literally—of the sciences and the expanding science facilities. But the new studio building and the resulting expansion of space for print making, photography and painting have put the spotlight on studio artists, even in the new darkrooms.

The construction of the Crawford Art Studios caused a domino effect throughout Bixler Art and Music Center. As explained by Lisa McDonald '02, during an informal tour, the former painting studio is now the foundation studio. The former foundation studio is now part of an expanded print-making studio. The drawing studio has better storage. The darkrooms are entirely new and spacious. "Look at these drying racks," McDonald said. "This is gorgeous."

Only a photographer would describe a drying rack as gorgeous, but art majors like McDonald aren't lost in the details. Living in a society that often views artists as working on the fringe, they see Colby's investment in the Crawford Art Studios as a sign that their work is valued by society—or at least the College. "I don't know that this means society values art more, but Colby does," McDonald said. "It's encouraging, in a way. I feel Colby is behind its art majors."

Word can't help but spread, said Professor Harriett Matthews (art), who has taught sculpture at the College since 1966 and no longer has to turn students away from her introductory sculpture course. "It makes us more visible. The more visible you are, the more other students see something they might want to do. The students are excited about it. They're talking about what they're doing."

And where they're doing it. "The atmosphere in the class has shifted," Matthews said. "They've got space and ceiling height and space to move around in and space to work."

Asked Associate Professor Scott Reed, who no longer has to share print-making studio space with three sections of classes of Foundations of Art, "It's just a great relief and joy, and I'm not even used to it yet."

Neither are the student artists who, when asked their opinion of their new studios, tend to gush. "Fantastic," said Kate Russo '04. "The painting studio is great," said Loryn Traversi '02. "It's open and light and there are so many windows and natural light."

In the past, painters like Traversi literally have had to chase the light across a studio as fall days shorten and the sun sets earlier. Now the light is even and student painters no longer crowd the windows in the afternoon, said Assistant Professor Bevin Engman. Teaching is easier, too, Engman said, when her lessons do not include the caveat, "if the light were better."

"It's emotionally an uplifting space to be in," she said. "I love my job, but coming to work now is just, 'holy mackerel.'"

And the artists' lives have improved in ways that are less technical or ethereal. Traversi pointed out another much loved feature in the new painting studio. "We have a bathroom up there," she said. "You have to change into your painting clothes. We used to have to come all the way down."—Gerry Boyle '78
This is the place to get in touch with your Colby classmates before you arrive on campus. It is a public forum, and as such the contents may be viewed by a variety of members of the Colby community. Use the form at the bottom of this page to post a new message.

Hey, my name is Chuck. Colby Rules. If anyone wants to talk, IM me on AOL.

Well, it's official, high school is over! I am a graduate...now what to do with the rest of my life??? As sad as I am to leave my school, I think that my excitement for Colby outweighs any remorse that I have. I love talking to you guys - anyone else who hasn't already, please IM me - I am a ball to chat with.

Ahh, finally liberated from the shackles of the College Board and the Acorn Logo staring me in the face for 3.5 hrs...That's right, AP's are done. Anyone from Central MA or even MetroWest area feel like celebrating with a gathering? Chance to meet some fellow future Maine-iacs...Email me and the like and we'll find a swank venue sometime convenient for a bunch of kids. S'long.

Hey everyone, this is Lisa from NYC and a reminder for all those people out there who live near by that Chase is organizing a dinner downtown this Saturday!! So I want EVERYONE to come! if you didn't know about it and want more information email either me or Chase--better if you email Chase though, but either way. Hope to see ALL of you soon!!

Hey folks! Is anyone else worried about frostbite? I went there in April and was frozen- I'm thinking about the winter and numbness...AAAK! I'm really excited though and I hope that all of you guys are too. I'm really into the outdoors and nature and I love music- listening to it and playing the piano among other instruments. Hope to hear from you guys!

Hi everyone!!! My name is Saw Sunshine from Thailand. I am a new student of Colby and am really excited to get into Colby. I have never been there before. I would like to have a contact my new first year classmate of Colby. Please Email me

Hey Guys!! This is my second message and I LOVE COLBY, if anyone's going to SALAMANCA for their first semester, PLEASE email me IMMEDIATELY, and ALL you people out there that are as excited as I am about Colby email me too!!-Lisa

Hey if you NYC people haven't done your dinner thing yet, can I come? I'm always up for dinner in New York and I want to meet you guys... I just got back from Colby a few minutes ago and it was in the mid-seventies and gorgeous! No snow!

Hi guys, this is my second message...I can't wait to get to Colby next year...I am going to be majoring in gov't and possibly doing a double major...definitely also studying German because germany is one of the most incredible places i've ever been. anybody who lives nearby, mail me, anyone who doesn't live nearby and wants to get in touch, mail me too. well, talk to you all soon.

Hey Colby peeps! Wuz up! This is Donte from B-more! I'm making the long venture to Colby in August like everyone else! I can't wait! I've been to Maine several times and I love the atmosphere, the people, and Colby! I'm a big jazz fan and like talkin' politics and anything else! Anyone from B-more and the surrounding area wanna talk or hang out just IM or e-mail me

Hey everyone, my name is Jen and I'm from Minnesota (near the twin cities). You might recognize me at school because the way I talk might sound different to everyone out east. If there is anyone who is going out for crew or from MN, email me. Also I seriously think I'm going to be all alone on my COOT trip. Is anyone else doing the Jackson station canoe trip? I'm a hard core camper, so I'm so excited for COOT, and to meet everyone. See you on campus.

Hey, I'm Jake, I'm from Massachusetts but have been ski racing for the past five years at Carrabassett Valley Academy in Sugarloaf, Maine. So I'll be on the ski team, and probably will be playing a ton of pickup B-Ball. So if you like to ski, go to Sugarloaf a bunch, or want to shoot hoops this fall let me know. I guess I'm on Mahoosuc for COOT; I'm not too into hiking but it should be an alright time altogether. Take it easy...

Hey, anyone has any idea about how to create a page with full of our photos? Or did it already exist? I'm new to this internet thing. Anyway, I just want to make a page where we can paste our photos to introduce ourselves. How's that? Any buddy in that? Warning! When you phone me, please be patient! 'Cos I'm a little bit strange to English. haha. Kyawswar

Hey all! First off, congrats! My name is Hillary, and I'm going to be a senior at Colby next year. I'm spending my summer working at admissions here, and stumbled upon this page. So, I wanted to add my greeting and say that if any of y'all have questions about Colby, don't hesitate to ask!

Hey Guys! Only 20 days until school. I can't believe it's finally here! Is anyone on Sugarloaf B for their COOT? I can't wait to meet everyone in Maine. Please IM me or e-mail me!

am i the first from canada to post anything? and is no one else in mahoosuc notch for COOT? if you're canadian or in mahoosuc notch, email me. see you in colby. Yan

Hey, There are so many of you from MA! It is crazy how you all are waiting for COOT. In fact, I am looking forward to it as well. I am from REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN, don't ask me now what and where it is, I will tell you on campus. Currently I am in Paris, FRANCE so if anybody else is in Paris, I would be more than glad to meet! I am transfer student and hopefully I will be junior in Colby. Take it easy, See you all in late August!
On the Bison Track
Matthew Testa documents the controversy surrounding Yellowstone's roving herds

Every winter, bison from America's last free-roaming herd leave the protection of Yellowstone National Park in search of grazing land. Since 1985 more than 3,000 bison that tested positive for the disease brucellosis have been killed by Montana's Department of Livestock, which maintains it is protecting local cattle herds. During the winter of 1996-97 1,000 bison were killed. The controversial practice has caused a clash involving government officials, ranchers, conservationists and Native Americans.

"Something wasn't right," said Matthew Testa '91, a former Jackson Hole, Wyo., newspaper reporter. "People were very concerned." While regional and national media covered the issue in 1997, it would be three years before Testa would examine the controversy on film as producer, director and cinematographer of The Buffalo War, an award-winning hour-long documentary of the conflict.

"I didn't want to do a news piece," said Testa, who made his first short documentary, Bill Briggs: Teton Pioneer, in 1995 and moved to New York City from Wyoming in 1996 to study film. Instead he sought characters for his film who had things at stake in the buffalo issue. They included the Lakota Sioux, who are culturally connected to the buffalo, environmental activists who oppose the government's slaughter and government officials and local ranchers who depend on public lands and healthy herds of cows for their livelihood.

I highlighted in The Buffalo War is a 500-mile Lakota Sioux spiritual march, from South Dakota to the park's north entrance, led by Lakota elder Rosalie Little Thunder. Testa asked if he could join the 1999 walk with his camera, but a week before it began he still didn't have permission. "I was just an independent with a friend to take sound," said Testa. Nine production companies wanted access, but the Native Americans didn't want their sacred journey to become a publicity stunt.

So Testa bought a ticket from New York to South Dakota on faith and called ahead to say, "I hope this is okay." When he arrived, the marchers told him, "We knew it was you when you said you bought a ticket on faith."

"It was a remarkable privilege," said Testa of being the sole cameraman to chronicle the winter journey.

The Lakota's solemn pacifism stands in contrast to the civil disobedience of the Buffalo Field Campaign, a group of environmental activists who use video cameras, elaborate road blockades and extreme tactics to keep buffalo out of state-run capture facilities. Even as the state baits facilities with fresh hay, the activists try to steer the one-ton animals back towards the park's sanctuary with noise, tree branches and snowballs. Sometimes it works. Sometimes it doesn't.

Testa's film also documents the struggles and concerns of a traditional ranching family. As bison threaten the local ranching lifestyle and livelihood, ranchers like Keith Munns must try to coexist with the buffalo and ward off encroaching development. "I think environmentalism comes in a lot of shades," said Testa of the issue's complexities. "At Colby I had high-minded ideas. I've come to see things aren't always clear-cut. I've become more realistic about what's at stake for people."

Prior to The Buffalo War, Testa worked on documentary productions for National Geographic, The Discovery Channel, PBS and many independents.

The Buffalo War has played at numerous film festivals across the country and earned The Golden Gate Award for environmental documentary at the San Francisco International Film Festival, a merit award at the International Wildlife Film Festival and the jury prize for best documentary at the Newport International Film Festival. In
November it will appear at the Margaret Mead Film Festival at New York’s American Museum of Natural History.

Testa appreciates reaching new viewers and connecting with other filmmakers at festivals. “The film takes on a whole new identity every time you show it to an audience,” he said. In November, Native American Heritage month, those audiences will expand further when PBS broadcasts The Buffalo War (check local listings or pbs.org for more information).

“Documentaries are ways to be creative and have imagination, but to expose yourself to new people and situations,” Testa said. “There’s so much in life that’s dramatic and the stakes are so high in an average person’s day. It presents an opportunity to make art that’s moving.”

—Alicia Nemiccolo MacLeay ’97

**Ghostliness and Grief**

Debra Spark, associate professor of creative writing, tackles the tense relations between the black Jews, white Jews and native community of Barbados in her second novel, The Ghost of Bridgetown. Main character Charlotte Lewin is sent from Boston to the island on a seemingly straightforward mission by her ailing lawyer grandfather. Her task: determine who should rightfully own a long-forgotten ornamental menorah rumored to be crafted by a local Barbados slave—the local synagogue or a museum devoted to island culture—then return the artifact and enjoy a much-needed vacation.

Charlotte, wrought with liberal guilt and confusion and suffering from her sister’s untimely death, becomes emotionally involved with the locals in her pursuit of truth. The involved plot quickly takes on aspects of a ghost story and adds elements of mystery after a fatal parachuting accident and charges of anti-Semitism. And always, Charlotte is trying to find answers. Is the island’s alleged ghost (whom she meets drinking beers and playing cards) really supernatural? Was someone plotting murder with a malfunctioning parachute? Was a local ex-con deliberately framed? And will she ever settle the question of the menorah’s ownership?

“It’s hard to know what to do,” Charlotte tells a set of grieving parents. She might as well be speaking to herself. “There was something Charlotte still needed to learn. What? She didn’t know, but she’d know it when she saw it. And then she’d do, she hoped, the right thing. The honest and loving thing.” While Charlotte longs to be finished with the overwhelming responsibility for the menorah, her search for its rightful place on the island becomes her own search for identity.

**The Ghost of Bridgetown**

Debra Spark (English)
Graywolf Press (2001)

**recent releases**

**Plan B**

*After 8*
Ha-B’Day Records (2000)

Fear not, a cappella aficionados, there is life after the Colby Eight— it’s called After 8. Since its 1994 inception for founder Mark Longsjo ‘92’s wedding, the group of Boston-area alumni from the Classes of 1992-99 has sung the national anthem at Fenway, the Fleet Center and the Davis Cup and won two Audience Favorite Awards at the New England Harmony Sweepstakes. Now they’ve recorded a CD of arrangements, from classic barbershop to contemporary songs to spirituals.

**Colby College Chorale in Concert, 1998-2001**

*Paul Machlin (music), director (2001)*

If you think chorales are only about hymns and other churchly music, check out the Colby College Chorale’s debut CD. Amidst traditional fare (“Ceremony of Carols”) and African-American spirituals (“Ride the Chariot”) you’ll discover popular songs like “Your Feet Too Big” and première performances of works by Jonathan Hallstrom (music) and Peter Ré (music, emeritus). Selections include music from America, England and France, performed in English, French and Latin, and composed in the 19th and 20th centuries.

**Weathering the Storm: Sverre Petterssen, the D-Day Forecast, and the Rise of Modern Meteorology**

*James Fleming (science, technology, and society), editor*

American Meteorological Society (2001)

International meteorologist Sverre Petterssen’s autobiography, originally written in English and published in 1974 in Norwegian, gains a new audience with this edition. A leader in his field, Petterssen (1898-1974) recounts his childhood in Norway, the development of the renowned Bergen school of meteorology and how controversial forecasts for World War II bombing raids and special operations, including D-Day, were made when he worked in the U.S. War Department. Petterssen’s research included weather analysis and forecasting and the discovery of what we now call “jet streams.”

**Footstools and Vanity Benches**

*Gae [Zimmerman] Savannah ’82*

Art Resources Transfer, December 2001

210 11th Avenue, Chelsea, New York

Savannah’s sculpture employs fabric and other “trifles” in creating works that draw from cultural myths and fairy tales in representing a variety of personalities. Through her art-making process, idiosyncratic female character becomes visible. “Each sculpture has a story,” says Savannah.
Lending a Steady Hand

Peter Forman keeps administration of Massachusetts Governor Jane Swift on course

Jane Swift has had her share of personal controversy during her few months as acting governor of Massachusetts. But whether it was Swift giving birth to twins or lying on her marriage certificate about the number of times her husband was previously married, criticism has usually been limited to her personal life. “In fact, you often hear that Swift has put together a good staff,” said Scot Lehigh ’80, a political columnist at The Boston Globe. “Peter Forman is always one of the three or four put forth as evidence.”

On a scorching hot August afternoon, Forman ’80, Governor Swift’s acting chief of staff, was calmly ensconced in his unpretentious State House office. Wearing a blue shirt and red-striped tie, he seemed totally at ease as he reflected on recent upheavals. “Many people view her as an easy target. She is young, she is a Republican, she is a woman,” he said. “Having twins in office put her, rather unfairly, at the center of a cultural debate on the balance between work and family.” Nearly two months after Swift gave birth, she has returned to the affairs of state with Forman at her side. A chief of staff’s job is complicated. It is part policy, politics, personnel and management of the boss’s state of mind. It requires pleasing many constituencies and enforcing the governor’s will.

Forman, who is more hail-fellow-well-met than domineering, has proved over the past 20 years that he has the right stuff to get things done without alienating people. “He has been so effective in politics because he can disagree without being disagreeable,” said Lehigh.

Even long-time opponents agree. Massachusetts State Representative David Linsky ’79, a self-described liberal Democrat, has been friends with Forman since their days at Colby. “He’s very easy to get along with and very easy to talk to,” said Linsky. “He does not force a conservative Republican agenda down your throat. He always tries to seek consensus. I wish he were a Democrat.”

Although Forman lost his first election when he ran for vice president of the student government at Colby, he turned himself into the comeback kid. His senior year, Professor Sandy Maisel (government) and Forman structured a four-credit course around running a campaign for the Massachusetts state legislature. “I had fundraisers, coffees and knocked on every door in the Plymouth and Kingston areas,” he said. “Then I got lucky and won.”

In choosing to run as a Republican, Forman was less motivated by ideology and more by the imbalance of Democrats and Republicans in the Massachusetts legislature. “Being so young, I could do things in the minority party that I could not in the majority party,” he said.

Forman, who was the youngest state legislator elected in the country in the last century, held onto his seat for seven two-year terms. By 1990 his 37 Republican colleagues in the House selected him as their leader.

Yet Forman did have his share of disappointments. In 1994, Forman ran for secretary of state. He lost the primary by 700 votes but later...
discovered that tens of thousands of pieces of his campaign mail never made it to voters. "I was out of a job, but I did get a major refund from the Post Office," he said. "Not enough to pay for the campaign though."

In 1995, the sheriff in Plymouth County resigned and Governor William Weld appointed Forman to the post, which put him in charge of a new 1,300-bed prison. Forman was elected sheriff on his own in 1996 and 1998.

In 1998, Governor Paul Cellucci tapped Forman to be his undersecretary of administration and finance. Forman excelled in that job, too. When his boss, the secretary of administration and finance, resigned, even Democrats wanted Forman promoted. Forman said he expected to get the cabinet-level job but he was passed over. He spoke with Gov. Cellucci about his decision and said that no hard feelings linger. "It would have been nice, but part of the business is someone is always disappointed," he said. "I would not be Jane Swift's chief of staff if I had gotten that promotion."

Forman has learned to be philosophical about such disappointments. "It's like baseball, if I do one of three or four things right, that's good," he said. "Lots of things fail. Then again, good things happen because you just happen to get the right pitch."

In 21 years, Forman has worked on a wide range of issues. He has helped pass laws to control the cost of credit insurance, instituted a professionalism and ethics program to support law enforcement and developed programs to help convicts make the transition from prison to society. He also has opposed universal health care adamantly, arguing that its cost hurts businesses.

Governor Swift acknowledged that she could not meet all of her responsibilities without Forman's "calm advice and able assistance."

But Forman's time as chief of staff has taken its toll. "This is a burnout position," he said. "If Governor Swift wins a four-year term, she'll want new energy at the top."

If Forman does leave his job after the November 2002 election, moving to Washington, D.C., may be an option. Newspaper accounts have mentioned Forman's close relationship with President George W. Bush's chief of staff, Andrew Card, a fellow veteran of Massachusetts' politics. "If I had the opportunity to work on the White House staff," Forman said, "I would take it in a heartbeat. It's a chance to see history."

—Jonathan Kaplan '94

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**The Life of the Party**

John Brockelman '92 is a Massachusetts Republican who, less than a decade out of college, has kept the state's party machinery humming by doing anything from orchestrating legislative campaigns to playing Democratic U.S. Senator John Kerry in a mock debate against then incumbent Governor William Weld. He is gregarious, articulate and blessed with political savvy. "I enjoy being a political operative even if the title gets a bad rap," he said.

It was a career choice off the track of his pre-Colby plan, which was to major in math and science. That choice was derailed when Brockelman took a course on the American presidency taught by Professor Anthony Corrado (government). Brockelman was hooked.

"Tony taught not just how presidents governed but how they got to be president," he said in an interview in Boston.

Like many Colby graduates working in politics, Brockelman's first political experience came during a Jan Plan—a sophomore-year internship for his local state representative.

Then in 1992 Brockelman helped a Republican candidate take on an incumbent, Democrat Robert Wetmore, a politician with 30 years experience. The race was important because Governor Weld's ability to sustain vetoes depended on holding all 16 Republican seats in the state Senate. The seat was so crucial that Brockelman met with the controversial political consultant Dick Morris, one-time advisor to Bill Clinton.

"We used one of Morris's ideas for a direct mail piece," Brockelman said. "Morris suggested calling our opponent 'Tax-more' since his last name was Wetmore and he had voted for tax increases in the 1980s." But Wetmore won.

Four years later, in 1996 when Weld decided to challenge incumbent John Kerry for the U.S. Senate seat, Brockelman was signed up as chief of opposition research. That's when he got to play Kerry in mock debates to prepare Weld for the real event.

"I love debate prep," he said. "It is the only time I spent beating up my boss with no repercussions." At one point, Brockelman said, he got so into his Kerry impersonation that Weld started to complain to the other aides and consultants. "He's lying about his record!" Governor Weld shouted, according to Brockelman.

"Sir, this is not the Harvard debating society," the aides responded. "This is national politics."

Weld lost, but Brockelman soon returned to the campaign trail. He ran Paul Cellucci's 1998 gubernatorial campaign and then took charge of the lackluster, inactive and indebted Massachusetts GOP. As party chair he erased a $250-million deficit. He also managed to get under the skin of many of the state Democrats by attacking their policies.

His run in politics ended in December 2000. "I spent a few days examining military ballots in Florida for the Bush campaign," he said. "But my wife and I were about to have a baby and there was no way I was hanging around."

Brockelman recently left his post as executive director of the Massachusetts Republican Party for a position with Fidelity Investments, but looks back good-naturedly on his experience.

"You take your lumps in the press," he said. "You can't take it personally. You have to enjoy it because it is part of the business."

Indeed, upon learning that he was leaving his job, the state house reporter for the Boston Herald couldn't resist one last zinger and described Brockelman as the "bad boy of Massachusetts politics."

Brockelman didn't take offense. "That's just his last attempt to have fun with me," he said.
On April 5, 1975, an associate dean of the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration spoke in Given Auditorium at the 24th annual Colby Institute for Management. The speaker was Paul D. Paganucci, a Waterville native, and the gist of his talk was that Maine, and northern New England as a region, needed to make strategic investments to capitalize on sure-fire opportunities to increase revenues.

Paganucci specifically criticized Independent Maine Governor James Longley, who was slashing tourism spending in the year before the U.S. bicentennial celebration and the arrival of the summer Olympic Games in nearby Montreal. Paganucci was bullish on his home state's virtues (quality of life and environment) and savvy about trends that would make Maine more attractive in years to come (increased importance of leisure time and recreation). "What," he asked, did Maine business leaders of the day, "do Quebec and Nova Scotia have to make them more appealing to tourists than Maine?"

There's no record that Longley paid any attention, but officials at Colby recognized a strategic opportunity. Before the year was out they had enlisted Paganucci as a trustee of the College, and for a quarter century Colby profited from his fiscal wisdom, his business and finance connections and his camaraderie and good humor at board meetings, commencements and other functions.

Paganucci passed away in February after a lengthy illness, three months before he was to receive an honorary doctorate at commencement in recognition of his renowned contributions to the College. President William Adams and Chair of the Board of Trustees James Crawford '64 visited his widow, Marilyn, and their son, Tom, at the family's summer home on Great Pond in July to present posthumously the degree and the academic hood that went with it.

Marilyn Paganucci recalled the 1975 Management Institute engagement as the beginning of her late husband's official relationship with the College. "Colby was very special to Paul," she said.

A year before his death Paganucci said, "I guess it was having relatives who went there, growing up on Gilman Street with professors in every fourth or fifth house and going to school with their children, who set a fast pace in the Waterville schools. It's just always been a part of my life."

When Paganucci left Waterville for Dartmouth College and extraordinary success in several arenas, he never needed to look back. But it was his modesty and his genuine concern for Colby and Waterville that friends remembered this spring. "He never really forgot his roots—he was from Waterville, Maine, and he knew it, and he was proud of it," Donald Freeman '59 told the Morning Sentinel after Paganucci's death.

Trustee Joseph Boulus '68 called him a gentleman—a very, very successful gentleman with modesty, which is hard to find these days." Paganucci showed early promise. Freeman said Paganucci's tenacious spirit, evident during their high school football days, helped propel Paganucci to such heights of accomplishment. Tom Paganucci liked a comment that someone once made, that "Paul couldn't afford to graduate from college, he was such an entrepreneur and had so many businesses going at Dartmouth."

But graduate he did, from Waterville High, Dartmouth (Phi Beta Kappa), Amos Tuck and Harvard Law School. He achieved phenomenal success in not one but four careers: in finance as president of a Wall Street brokerage firm, in business as president and later chair of the executive board of W.R. Grace & Co., in academe as vice president and treasurer of Dartmouth College and in banking as founder and chairman of Ledyard National Bank.

At Colby he is remembered as the conscience of the Board of Trustees for his insistence on fiscal prudence and his emphasis on building the endowment. He chaired the board's Investment Committee for more than 20 years. He also is revered as a sort of Wall Street godfather, having arranged access for the College to investment instruments—particularly venture capital funds and private equities—that wouldn't normally be open to an institution of Colby's size. "I think our endowment multiplied more than twelve times while Paul was on the board," Crawford said.

His generosity to Colby did not end with the time, wisdom and connections he shared freely. Last year the Paganuccis announced a $1.2-million gift to endow the Paul D. and Marilyn Paganucci Chair in Italian Language and Literature, a gift that bore fruit with the hiring of Assistant Professor Mario Moroni to fill the chair beginning this fall. Previously the couple had established scholarships for students from the Paganuccis' respective hometown areas. Perhaps more important, Paganucci's influence as the conscience of the board, in the words of former president William Cotter, lives on, as his legacy of fiscal prudence and wise investing have become inculcated as part of Colby's culture.

—Stephen Collins '74