

# Colby



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## Periscope

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Gleaned from Earl Smith's newsletter, FYI

### Colby Goes Hollywood

As a result of economics professors **Randy Nelson** and **Michael Donihue** 79's article "What's An Oscar Worth," which appeared in the January 2001 *Economic Inquiry* journal, Colby has been making other Academy Award appearances. The February 15 edition of *USA Today* had a story on the Oscars, picked up by Chicago and Denver papers, with the following lead: "Hollywood is scrambling to make the most from this week's Oscar nominations—make the most money. Late-year releases up for best picture can bring in more than \$30 million after nominations, according to a Colby College study."

### We Remember Michael

When **Michael Daisey** graduated in 1996, we might have predicted he would enjoy at least 15 minutes of fame. He got that much in February when Scott Simon, host of National Public Radio's *Weekend Edition*, interviewed him. Mike, a performer as a student here, now has a one-man show, "21 Dog Years: Doing Time @ Amazon.com." Watch Daisey's show at [www.mikedaisey.com](http://www.mikedaisey.com).

### Long Arm of the Web

In 1996 **Raffael Scheck** (history) posted lecture notes for his course Germany and Europe 1871-1945 on the Web as an online text for the class. Since then the text has drawn responses from scholars and students in South Korea, Romania, Chile and Finland,

### Moosecellaneous

The well-remembered "Colby Corner" sign that once hung in the rear of the Levines' store in downtown Waterville can now be found in Colby's Seaverns Bookstore . . . **Pacy** and **Ludy** would be pleased. . . . See the March issue of *Down East* magazine and read the piece on the huge sugar camps on the Quebec border of Somerset County, by **Michael Burke** (English). . . . **Bruce Barnard** reports that bookstore sales have more than doubled in the year since catalogue items have been available on the Web.



### A Muddied Report

**Cal Mackenzie** (government) was the first person NPR called for reaction to GW's inaugural speech January 20. Mackenzie, who had front-row seats, spoke by cell phone with NPR's Scott Simon, and Colby was mentioned several times. It "was like reporting from a war zone," Mackenzie told our Office of Communications. The weather was "horrid" and a military band blared in the background while what he called "a very Republican crowd" celebrated noisily. "I kneeled down in the mud and had Sally surround me with her coat while I talked on the cell phone," Cal said.

and professors around the world have built it into their syllabi, **Scheck** reports. Now WebPath Express, a service developed to help students find online resources, has tapped into the site, and the Scottish Executive School Committee will include material from [www.colby.edu/personal/r/rmscheck](http://www.colby.edu/personal/r/rmscheck) in a CD-ROM going to high schools in Scotland to improve teaching with the Internet.

### All for Tenure

Most everybody already knows, but now that the Board of Trustees has affirmed this year's

tenure class, let's tip the mortarboards to **Jeffrey Anderson** (anthropology), **Elizabeth DeSombre** (environmental studies and government), **Leo Livshits** (mathematics), **Véronique Plesch** (art) and **Tarja Raag** (psychology). All have also been promoted to the rank of associate professor, effective in the fall.

### Soccer Stimulation

In early December Bowdoin students taking a computer science course on artificial intelligence challenged Colby to a "simulated soccer" tournament, where participants were required to build computer programs that would intelligently control teams of soccer-playing agents. Assistant Professor of Computer Science **Randy Jones**, together with students **Ray Mazza '01** and **Eric Fleischman '02**, built four different teams and pitted them against 14 teams from Bowdoin.

In a double-elimination tournament, the best Colby team went undefeated and beat its five Bowdoin opponents by a combined score of 55-7.

### For Want of a "C"

A typographical error in December's faculty meeting agenda proposed allowing committee nominees to post informal statements on "the Dean of Faulty Web page." The Dean of Faulty Web Pages would be right next door to the Ministry of Silly Walks, according to one Eustis wag.

### The Mule before Jakarta

As if our political scientists haven't been busy on the home front, **Sandy Maisel** did a live videocast to Jakarta, Indonesia, on election night. Speaking from Augusta, Sandy provided commentary while the Indonesian Ambassador to the U.S. joined from Washington and a GOP consultant chimed in from Denver. The audience was about 500 people organized by the Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta, where **Bob Gelbard '64** (and P'03) is our ambassador. Research assistant **Alexandra Gelbard '03** was clearly visible in the video feed.

### Fast Company

The autumn 2000 *Politique Internationale*, the French equivalent of our *Foreign Affairs* magazine, lists 19 contributors, including two presidents (Tunisia and Croatia), two prime ministers (Ukraine and Hungary), France's foreign minister, German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, Dick Cheney and Joseph Lieberman. And among the heavyweights there's **Guilain Deneoux** (government). Guilain has a 25-page article titled "La Face Cachée du Miracle Tunisien"—The Hidden Face of the Tunisian Miracle.