

# Colby



## Colby Magazine

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# WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPEAKING WITH YOU



The fall calling season is the first chance for many of us to speak with alumni. We can tell you about life and learning at Colby today as we check your contact and professional information and ask you to support the College.

The Colby Fund provides direct support for current students, including academics, student life, and athletics. It also provides funding for scholarships, faculty support, and facilities improvements. If you have already made a gift during the 2008-09 fiscal year, thank you. If you have not had the opportunity to make a gift this year, we hope you will take a minute to speak with one of our students and consider doing so.

Colby Fund   
*Every Gift Counts*

**FEATURES****16/The Gender Gap**

Increasingly, selective colleges are seeing applicant pools with more and better-qualified women than men. This raises questions for admissions offices—and for experts who study why male students as a group aren't performing as well in high schools.

**20/The Navigator**

When the government of China decided to explore reintroducing the South China tiger to the wild, Assistant Professor Philip Nyhus (environmental studies) got the call. Now Nyhus and Colby students use state-of-the-art Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to evaluate potential tiger habitat.

**26/Breaking Through**

Wait to be “discovered?” Not today's singer-songwriters. Jason Spooner '95 and Carolyn Altshuler Currie '85 are part of a generation that is using technology to reach a far-flung fan base.

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**ON THE COVER**

In this photo by Fred Field, Philip J. Nyhus, assistant professor of environmental studies, is shown in the Geographic Information System laboratory at Colby. On the screen in the background is a portion of one of the GIS maps Nyhus and students have developed to help government officials in China consider possible sites for reintroduction of the South China tiger. See “The Navigator,” P. 20.

**Colby Online** ([www.colby.edu/mag](http://www.colby.edu/mag))

- » Hear new music from Jason Spooner '95 and Carolyn Currie '85.
- » See more of Philip Nyhus's charting of tiger territory in China.
- » Watch a panel discussion about President John F. Kennedy, with professors (and authors of *The Liberal Hour*) G. Calvin Mackenzie and Robert Weisbrot.
- » Read an update on Qiamuddin Amiry '09 and his scholarship program for students from Afghanistan.