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From the Hill

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From the Hill

Authors
Stephen Collins, Gerry Boyle, William D. Adams, Raffael Scheck, Susan Sterling, and Travis Lazarczyk

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An Uncommon Philanthropist with the Common Touch

The life of benefactor Harold Alfond will be celebrated at Colby in June

When Harold Alfond graduated from high school in Massachusetts, during the depth of the Great Depression, he could have gone to Dartmouth on an athletic scholarship. Instead he followed his father and became a factory worker in the shoe shops. Over the next 70 years, Alfond built two shoe companies, and became a part-owner of the Boston Red Sox and a major shareholder in Berkshire Hathaway. He built a world-class golf course in Belgrade, Maine, and was called “the world’s most unpretentious millionaire” by Golf magazine.

And he made sure that Maine benefited from his good fortune.

Alfond died Nov. 16, 2007, in Maine, at 93. A major benefactor at Colby and at a host of other institutions in and out of Maine, he will long be remembered as one of Maine’s preeminent philanthropists.

In early June, Colby will be the site for a celebration of his life. Fittingly, the tribute will take place in the Harold Alfond Athletic Center.

Donna Dionne, a custodian in the athletic center, remembers Alfond fondly. “What a nice man,” she said, recalling how sad she was to learn he had died. “He always wanted to see us when he was here, to say thank you for keeping the building so clean.” He also insisted that the custodial staff be included in ceremonial events, such as the dinner when the athletic center was dedicated to him in the mid-1990s.

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The Alfond name will forever be linked with Mayflower Hill because of his long affiliation with the College, his enduring loyalty to athletic teams, and because, thanks to substantial gifts, his name adorns facilities including the athletic center, the Harold and Bibby Alfond Residence Complex (senior apartments), the Alfond Rink, the Alfond Track, the Alfond-Wales Tennis Courts, and numerous other spaces and initiatives. He and his wife, Dorothy “Bibby” Alfond, also quietly paid tuition for many children of employees and friends.

Bibby Alfond, who passed away in 2005, was a member of Colby’s Class of 1938. The Alfonds’ son Bill Alfond ’72 is a trustee of the College, and his granddaughter Jennifer Alfond Seeman graduated in 1992. Harold Alfond received an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from Colby in 1980, one of five honorary degrees he received during his life.

Bill Alfond said his father’s affection for Colby “goes back to his friendships with Galen Eustis ’23, Bill Millett ’25, and, in particular, President Bixler.” In those friends Alfond saw Colby administrators who were kindred spirits—pragmatic Mainers with a firm grasp of what had to be done and who were helping to run the College. Harold Alfond also couldn’t help being infected with the passionate loyalty to Colby embodied in Bibby’s brothers, Ludy ’21 and Pacy Levine ’27. “Dad often talked about all the smart and passionate people at Colby,” Bill Alfond said.

“He had a pretty close personal relationship with four Colby presidents,” said current President William Adams. “We spent time together on the golf course, time at his camp. He would periodically come by my camp on Great Pond. ... The first time I ever played golf with him was at the Belgrade Lakes course. You could tell he was sizing me up. He parred the first hole and I bogeyed it, and when he went to pick up his ball he looked at me and said, ‘You want to play for money?’”

Alfond used to tell friends and family that he would not retire “until at least 10 years after I’m dead,” according to his obituary. And, having committed nearly all of his fortune to the Harold Alfond Foundation to fund charitable causes in Maine, his good works will continue a lot longer than that.

Born in Swampscott, Mass., in 1914, Alfond was a shoe-shop worker en route to the Skowhegan Fair in 1939 when a hitchhiker he picked up told him a factory was for sale in Nor-
A year later, using proceeds from the sale of his car, Alfond and his father bought the plant for $1,000 and launched Norwswick Shoe Company. In four years Norwswick had more than $4 million in sales. Sensing the market was ripe, and eager to provide for his father’s retirement, Alfond sold Norwswick for $1.1 million in 1944 but remained as president until 1969.

In 1958 Alfond purchased a vacant mill in Dexter, Maine, and started Dexter Shoe Company. In 1959 his nephew Peter Lunder ’56, D.F.A. ’98, joined him, and, together with Alfond’s three sons, they built a company that, at its peak, manufactured more than 7.5 million pairs of shoes a year.

According to a New York Times obituary, Alfond pioneered the factory outlet store at the Skowhegan factory in 1971. By the 1990s factory outlets were the rage, and Dexter had more than 80 stores nationwide. Warren Buffet bought the company for Berkshire Hathaway Inc. in 1993, and Alfond stayed involved until 2001, when Dexter merged with HH Brown Shoe Company.

Alfond is survived by a daughter, Susan, and three sons, Ted, Bill ’72, and Peter. He also is survived by a brother, David, a sister, Gladys Nathanson, 13 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. In addition to Colby, Harold and Bibby Alfond’s philanthropy supported buildings, scholarships, and/or programs at eight other colleges and universities, several prep schools, and at camps, hospitals, and other nonprofit and community organizations, including the Harold and Bibby Alfond Youth Recreation Center in Waterville.

“We need more people like him,” Dionne said, wistfully, recalling his small kindnesses. “Do you know what a thank-you will get for you?”
Long-delayed elections in Pakistan in February resulted in a clear rejection of President Pervez Musharraf and his policies. Musharraf, who came to power in a coup d'état and appointed himself president, was the target of widespread demonstrations after he fired judges and jailed lawyers who opposed him. His defeat changed the direction of Pakistani politics and has some students living abroad cautiously optimistic about their country’s future. In a conversation with Colby, two Pakistani students, Neha Zaigham ’08 and Sanval Nasim ’08, both of Lahore, reflected on the changes in their homeland. This is an excerpt of that conversation.

This was a resounding rejection of President Pervez Musharraf. Your reaction?

NZ I was very encouraged. Personally, I was very disillusioned by what was going on for the couple of months before the elections. This was a turning point, I think.

SN I was very excited about the results as well, very enthusiastic. … That was interesting to see how lawyers, students, civil servants, human rights activists—they came out on the streets and demonstrated, mainly against a step that was considered very unconstitutional and against the basic beliefs that the people had—Musharraf declaring emergency and deposing all the judges who had taken action against him. So there was this whole political gloom. And then with the elections there is this cloud of optimism around the city. People are happy, the major parties, the PPP [Pakistan People’s Party] and the PML-N [Pakistan Muslim League: Nawaz Group], have the biggest support in the country. The dynamics of the political scene in Pakistan are going to change.

Was it difficult watching all of this from afar?

NZ It was. I think it becomes so easy to detach yourself from these things, unless you’re actually a part of it there.

SN Difficult for me as well, because over the summer, when I went back home, there were a lot of demonstrations going on, especially in this one place in Lahore called the Mall, where all the government offices are. … The interesting part is that this is the first time since the Sixties that the civil society has mobilized. This time around they are very serious about which direction they are headed in: that Pakistan has to stop being a stooge of the United States and have some independence as far as its politics is concerned and independence in its institutions, such as the judiciary.

Do you think this will just be cyclical? Civil government, then the military again?

NZ Historically speaking, it has been [cyclical]. But the current chief of army staff, I think, is trying pretty hard to distance the army and the military from civil institutions and organizations. I think that’s a positive step and something I hope people in Pakistan hold onto for longer than maybe they had in the past.

SN Musharraf took off his uniform to run for a second term, so his influence on the military is decreasing steadily. This has serious implications for Musharraf because, now that his party has lost and the new people are not willing to deal with him, he is just being sidelined. If he sticks around there will obviously be confrontation between him and the opposition.

Hasn’t he reacted to the election more cooperatively than some people expected?

NZ I think it is in his best interest to have done so, but at the same time people see he has hung on so far and he may continue to do so. Sanval is right. There’s definitely going to be confrontation [if he lingers], because the election has shown his unpopularity among the educated masses.

Political confrontation? Back to the streets?

SN The confrontation would be on issues, specifically foreign issues. The reason there has been this upsurge in militancy in the northwest province has a lot to do with the military. The ISI, the Inter-Service Intelligence agencies in Pakistan, and the military itself helped in the late Eighties to develop the Taliban and place them in Afghanistan and slowly gave rise to such elements, and [now] they seep back into Pakistan through the porous northern borders. But many political analysts are arguing for more social and economic development in the northern provinces. If you work with these militants and encourage them to have schools, for girls especially, and boys, then the newer generation will be completely different from the old one.
Do you think the United States stuck with Musharraf too long?

NZ It still is to a certain extent. It’s pushing the majority to work in tandem with him. But people are saying that is something the PPP needs to distance itself from if it actually wants to work for the people’s will, what they want. I think that’s something that is still there and needs to be addressed. I don’t know how well it will be.

So what is the feeling about the United States and its influence in Pakistan?

SN Even among the most liberal classes, it’s a very negative perception about America’s role, because they always felt, especially after 9/11, the U.S. encouraged Musharraf to stay in power, which is very hypocritical of the United States, to let a military person meddle in our civilian affairs. If the U.S. wants to continue to fight the militancy in the northwest or help Afghanistan fight the Taliban, they have to do it through this new parliament.

Neha, you said you were glad we were to have this conversation. Is that because there are misconceptions about Pakistan’s political situation you’d like to clear up?

NZ I think that it’s more of a general unawareness of what is taking place in other parts of the world, part of the world that’s very important to me. I’m sure there are misconceptions as well. But there are so many other nuances that people tend to overlook. I hope that this will help enlighten people in a way.

Does the election make it likely that you would go back to Pakistan and take part in some way?

NZ I think so. It’s funny you ask, because last week, just after the elections, we were talking and Sanval asked me the same thing. I said, “If you had asked me this question two or three months ago, I probably would have given a very different answer.” I definitely feel more strongly about going back and being part of this, in any way. There is so much to be done in that country.

SN After my graduate studies I will probably go back and teach. It’s human capital that the country needs right now—young people who have studied abroad. At home there are very good schools, and now people are inclined towards staying there because there are so many new opportunities that are coming. About five years ago, when economic progress was at a halt, there was not much to do in the country, so people would just leave, pack up their bags and go make a living somewhere else. Now things have changed completely.

Read the full transcript of the interview. www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: Pakistan
Anthropologists question new use of their discipline by U.S. military in Iraq

Critics and supporters of the Iraq War agree that, early on, the coalition effort was hampered by a profound lack of knowledge of Iraqi culture on the part of the U.S. military. Four years after the U.S. invasion, military planners decided to “embed” anthropologists in combat units to help American soldiers in Iraq better understand the place and culture.

Good move?
No, according to Catherine Besteman, Colby professor of anthropology and a founding member of the Network of Concerned Anthropologists, which has led vehement opposition to the U.S. military’s $40-million Human Terrain System program.

“What they’re asking,” Besteman said, “is for us to be embedded in military units in the front lines of war where they will be gathering information to be used against civilian populations. That’s not ending the war. That’s not using our knowledge in a way that saves lives.”

That is one side in a debate that has spread like wildfire in the anthropology community. It has led the American Anthropological Association to come out strongly against the embedded-anthropologist program and its practice of using uniformed and sometimes armed anthropologists to gather intelligence in a war zone.

The association’s executive board concluded that the Human Terrain System program is likely to lead anthropologists to violate their own code of ethics, which stipulates that anthropologists may not harm the persons they study. The pro-
“Many anthropologists say, ‘We have no problem working with the military, consulting with the military. We have no problem teaching the military, we have no problem having soldiers in our classes. We have no problem presenting cultural orientation briefings for soldiers who are about to embark to foreign areas. Let us do that. We would be happy to do that. That’s different than gathering information covertly about people that’s going to be used to dominate them. That we cannot do.’”

Professor of Anthropology Catherine Besteman

gram also may endanger anthropologists and their subjects in other parts of the world by linking them to military objectives.

“Many anthropologists say, ‘We have no problem working with the military, consulting with the military,’” Besteman said. “We have no problem teaching the military, we have no problem having soldiers in our classes. We have no problem presenting cultural orientation briefings for soldiers who are about to embark to foreign areas. Let us do that. We would be happy to do that. That’s different than gathering information covertly about people that’s going to be used to dominate them. That we cannot do.’”

Proponents of the program have a different take.

They say use of the five-member anthropologist teams is essential to understanding the motivation of insurgents and noncombatants alike.

“The current insurgencies in the Middle East are manifestations of the unmet expectations and desires of large segments of the populations,” wrote Jacob Kipp, Ph.D., and retired U.S. Army officers Lester Grau and Karl Prinslow, in the journal *Military Review*. “Such conclusions logically demand that past experience guide our understanding of how best to meet, in a manner that supports our own military objectives, the expectations and desires of the people at the heart of such struggles.”

Some embedded anthropologists are more plain spoken. Marcus Griffin, an anthropologist from Christopher Newport University in Virginia, has written in his Web log about trash and sewage problems in Iraq and about a near miss with a firefight.

“This past Saturday, I was helping a platoon improve its means of collecting census data,” Griffin wrote recently. “In particular I was interested in improving our understanding of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). We need to know to what extent they are food insecure and how families are coping with the burden of taking on six or more family members. There are tens of thousands of families moving about the city and that presents challenges to ensuring their security and well-being. IDPs are quite vulnerable.”

As are American soldiers, some say.

The issue has prompted lively discussion in Besteman’s classes and in those of her Colby colleagues, Professor Mary Beth Mills and Assistant Professor Maple Razsa. “The students were just enthralled by this question,” Besteman said. “They were trying to work through their understanding of the ethics involved and where they stood on this question.”

Eitan Green ’09 called a teach-in on the subject, organized by anthropology professors in November, “one of the most educational extra-curricular activities I have engaged in at Colby.”

Green said he has serious concerns regarding the military program, and he pointed to anthropologists’ ethical obligation to not threaten the safety of their subjects. Anthropologists working in the Human Terrain System program have no assurance that the information they gather will not be used to control and kill the people studied, he said. He also questioned whether information gathered by uniformed and even armed anthropologists in a war zone has validity.

“Any interaction between HTS people and local populations would be so politically and socially laden that reliable information would be impossible to gather,” Green wrote in an e-mail.

Another anthropology major, Sujit Shrestha ’08, said he sides with critics of the program. But in an indication of how far-reaching the discussion can be, Shrestha, who is from Nepal, warned of Western academic disciplines, including anthropological associations in the United States and United Kingdom, imposing their standards on the rest of the world. “What is anthropology and what isn’t?” he wondered. “And who decides?”

“I would defend anthropology,” he said, “but not without understanding its weaknesses.”
Open-Door Policy

Trading loans for grants ensures access to a Colby education for more students.
The entire Colby community should take enormous pride in the trustees’ recent decision to enhance Colby’s financial aid packages by replacing student loans with grants, which don’t have to be repaid. The response—in the media, from alumni, and particularly from students and their parents—is an almost universal outpouring of support and appreciation for the initiative.

The increasing cost of a Colby education has long been an intense concern of mine. I talked about it when we kicked off the Reaching the World campaign, it is a frequent discussion topic among colleagues and trustees, and I worry about it every year as I write the letter telling students and parents what next year’s comprehensive fee will be.

While this change in our aid policy is not a panacea for a trend that is of national concern, it is a big step for Colby. This decision puts us among a select few institutions that are leading by example, dedicating some of their growing endowments to making college more affordable.

The new policy will cost $1.5 million each year in addition to the $21 million we spent on grant aid this year. It will ensure that we continue to compete for the best students, and it will help Colby retain its place among the nation’s very top colleges and universities. Some of these schools have endowments reaching into the stratosphere, but most, even some of our peers in NESCAC, simply do not have the resources to eliminate loans.

The decision was not made primarily for competitive reasons, though. The most important rationale for eliminating student debt from our financial aid program is that it offers access to opportunity more equitably. It is a deep and historic commitment that Colby wants to enroll the very best students, regardless of their ability to pay, and this initiative to expand grant aid will make Colby affordable to more students from low- and middle-income families.

Why is this important? Because education is one of the greatest engines of opportunity in America and in the world. A Colby education in particular, I believe, has the power to transform lives, and it is our obligation to make sure it is available and affordable to those who can most benefit.

Though the decision was made too late to affect the overall admission pool this year, there is evidence that prospective students and families are getting the message that we will work to make Colby affordable to all. After the same offer was made to Maine students last fall, we saw a 49-percent increase in applications from within the state.

It is important to distinguish what this aid program is not. It is not merit aid—scholarships awarded for good grades or high test scores that, like athletic scholarships, are given without regard to financial need. Merit aid, increasingly practiced at other institutions, is used to enroll attractive candidates by offering a discount, even though their families could afford full fees. At Colby all financial aid is need based.

Colby families may still choose to take out federal loans to cover the calculated family contribution, books, or other expenses. But, based on current aid packages, students with financial need can expect to graduate with $14,400 less debt because of the loans-to-grants decision by our Board of Trustees. Add the interest they will avoid and the total is more than $18,300 that our students won’t have to pay off as a result.

But there are even more important consequences for our alumni and for Colby. Without the burden of this college-loan debt, Colby graduates will have more freedom to pursue careers about which they are passionate. They will be freer to choose work where they can make a difference, to lead lives of consequence, and even to change the world. For Colby as an institution, this new aid policy is a visible manifestation of some very deeply held values—opportunity, competitiveness, and integrity.

By President William D. Adams
The Whole Truth

HUBERT KUETER ILLUMINATES THE LIFE OF A “MISCHLING” IN NAZI GERMANY

RAFFAEL SCHECK (HISTORY) REVIEW

For many years Hubert Kueter taught German at Colby. Most people knew he was from Germany. Sometimes he spoke about Breslau, his hometown during the last stage of the Second World War. With the Russian army advancing, Hitler had declared Breslau (now Wrocław in Poland) a fortress city to be defended to the last person. Occasionally Kueter talked about scrambling for bits of food as Russian shells rained on his city, which was full of starving civilians.

Colleagues and students did not know that many years he fought another fight of a different though no less dangerous nature: Kueter’s mother was Jewish. She asked him not ever to say that he was half-Jewish, and he kept his silence until recently, until after she passed away at age 95.

The situation of Kueter and his mother became more precarious when his father, a violist, passed away when Hubert was 4. Just at this time, the infamous Nuremberg Laws (1935) decreed that marriages like that of Kueter’s parents were forbidden and that no Jew could have German citizenship. The Nazi state therefore no longer considered Kueter’s mother and her extended family as Germans, and all the discriminating legislation against Jews applied to them. And there was no shortage of that: Nazi Germany passed no fewer than 2,000 anti-Jewish laws, ranging from humiliating but banal regulations, such as the prohibition to sit down on certain public benches, to laws excluding Jews from entire professions and from state benefits. Kueter, as a mixed-race child, a mischling in Nazi parlance, lived in a legal space, but had the Nazi regime outlasted his youth, he might sooner or later have been deported and killed. Unlike many relatives, however, Kueter and his mother survived, and he tells their story with humor, wit, and elegance in My Tainted Blood.

One hopeful aspect was immediately visible to his mother when she contemplated the difficulties of surviving in Nazi Germany: Hubert was blond. He had blond hair—something that not a single top-ranking Nazi had, notwithstanding their rhetoric about the superiority of the alleged Nordic, blond, and blue-eyed race. Being blond probably mattered very much. Kueter was able to attend school with non-Jews, and his mother was never ordered on one of the deportation trains to Auschwitz, which was not far from Breslau.

Kueter tells the tale of his childhood in Nazi Germany with such lightness and wit that it is easy to forget how dangerous the situation was. Not even his blond hair would have protected them if his behavior had antagonized some die-hard Nazi schoolmate or neighbor. There was enough opportunity to get in trouble; on one occasion, young Kueter stole a giant Christmas goose from the balcony of a Nazi family nearby, but he covered his tracks well, and the smell of the roasting goose provided a protective screen for his evasive answers to his relatives’ questions about the origins of the goose.

Surviving the Nazis and the war is not the entire story. Kueter recounts a fantastic escape from Soviet-occupied Breslau to Bavaria with the help of a Russian officer eager to defect to the Americans and a treasure he discovered buried in the garden of an SS general. The account is riveting and hard to put down. While telling his story, Kueter never hides his passion for culinary delights (for many years he ran Johann Sebastian B, a restaurant in Oakland, Maine, that served German specialties, including a quite passable Linzertorte). He revels in his schemes to procure food for his mother and himself and to outwit Nazis before and after the end of the war. This book provides a fascinating tale of resilience, survival, and, despite all, joie de vivre.

Hear Hubert Kueter read an excerpt from his book.
www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: Kueter
GHOST STORY

At a dinner party in Waterville in the 1990s, English Professor Jenny Boylan told a story about her peripatetic Uncle Sean, who traveled around the country by freight train. The family knew that he would be arriving soon because he always sent ahead his trunk of books. In those years, Boylan was traveling through her own life as Professor James Boylan, the author of several comic novels and a collection of short stories, and an entertaining teacher in Colby’s Creative Writing Program. Hidden behind her jokester and storyteller, though, was a profoundly female sensibility.

Boylan is transgendered, and her first memoir, the bestselling She’s Not There: A Life in Two Genders, explored the transformation she undertook while in her 40s. In her second memoir, I’m Looking Through You: Growing up Haunted: A Memoir; she relates the funny, tragic history of this dichotomy, when she was growing up as a boy outside of Philadelphia, going to an all-boys’ school and then to Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

Like Uncle Sean’s trunk, I’m Looking Through You is full of eclectic stories—ghost stories, coming-of-age stories, family stories, zany adventures and escapes, snatches of lyrics—with a large cast of eccentric and sympathetic characters. They include a fortune-telling, turbaned grandmother; a reserved, piano-playing banker father; a team of inept but sincere ghost-busters; various prankster friends; a loyal wife, mother, and sons; a dog named “Sausage” and the cat “baBOING!”

Boylan tells her readers to expect a story that contains invention. Characters are not composite, but time has been shifted, some incidents made up, and dialogue created where memory failed. Such works appear (to this reader anyway) to be best read not for historical accuracy but as a variant of autobiographical fiction. Where fiction takes the material of the writer’s life and disguises it to get at deeper truths, here, in fictionalized memoir, the lived life gives the book its structure, rather like the branches of a tree on which the writer hangs real and imagined events to enhance the story and to reveal its truths.

For her, to grow up transgendered was to feel translucent, lacking solidity, rather like the ghosts who haunt her family’s appropriately named “Coffin House.” She asks this question: If we’re not seen as who we are, how can we be loved and desired? And even the longed-for transformation, giving her a body in which she feels content and “against all odds” solid, leaves troubling questions: How can she reconcile the woman she’s become with the boy she was? How can she become whole?

Toward the end of the book, her spouse suggests that people heal themselves by weaving “the narrative of their lives backwards and forwards.” It occurs to Jenny that the sense of humor for which “Jim” was so well known was “what I needed to survive,” and that she might yet be saved by “the transformative powers of blarney.”

In I’m Looking Through You she draws on that same zany humor and talent for invention to relate a haunting tale of a woman’s struggle to become herself.

—Susan Sterling

I’m Looking Through You: Growing Up Haunted
Jennifer Finney Boylan
Broadway Books (2008)

RECENT RELEASES

A Healing Touch: True Stories of Life, Death, and Hospice
Richard Russo, Wesley McNair, Monica Wood, Susan Sterling, Bill Roorbach, Gerry Boyle ’78
Down East Books (2008)

Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Richard Russo and five other Maine authors (all of whom are present or former Colby faculty or staff) here prove that the close of life need not be filled with darkness when hospice help is at hand. These writers contributed intensely personal and profoundly moving end-of-life accounts that cover a wide spectrum of human experience. All six authors are donating their royalties to Waterville Hospice; Down East will also give a portion of the proceeds to the same cause.

Be Happy Without Being Perfect: How to Break Free from the Perfection Deception
Alice Domar ’80 and Alice Lesch Kelly
Crown (2008)

Psychologist and Harvard Medical School Assistant Professor Domar knows the way for women not to achieve happiness—spend your life chasing an ever-elusive paradigm of perfection. With co-author and journalist Kelly, Domar explains that, much as they try, overachieving women will never attain perfection. This book is intended to help readers develop more realistic expectations—and to find contentment as they reach those goals. It includes the insights of more than 50 women and offers a process to help readers see that perfectionism often is the source of discontent.

Stranger in Paradise
Robert B. Parker ’54
Putnam (2008)

The seventh novel in Parker’s Jesse Stone series, Stranger in Paradise has the small-town police chief grappling with a fugitive criminal’s return. The dilemma: the criminal has been hired to kill a mobster’s ex-wife and kidnap his 14-year-old daughter. Stone ends up helping the daughter—and becoming an unlikely ally of his former adversary.

The Legacy of German Jewry
Hermann Levin Goldschmidt, translated by David Suchoff (English)
Fordham University Press (2007)

This comprehensive rethinking of the German-Jewish experience was first published in 1957. Suchoff is the first scholar to translate Goldschmidt’s work into English. Ahead of his time and biblical in his perspective, Goldschmidt, who died in 1998, describes the ways that German-Jewish writers and thinkers anticipated what we now call multiculturalism. Rather than destined to destruction, the German-Jewish experience is reconceived here as a past whose unfulfilled project remains urgent and contemporary—a dream yet to be realized in practice, hence a task that still awaits its completion.

Hear a recent Colby interview with Jenny Boylan.
www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: Boylan
If you’re a college ice hockey coach, you hope you have at least one player every couple of recruiting classes who can get you 100 points during a four-year career. If you get two in a class, you are blessed.

If you get three? Well then, you had better enjoy every second.

Colby men’s head coach Jim Tortorella had just that embarrassment of riches this season. Senior forwards Josh Reber and TJ Kelley and senior defenseman Arthur Fritch each passed the 100-point mark this year. All three were first-team All-NESCAC, making up half of that all-star squad.

“All three of them are different. Rebes is an assist guy, TJ is a goal scorer, Arthur is a little bit of both,” Tortorella said.

The potent offensive trio, backed by freshman goalie Cody McKinney, who posted NESCAC’s best save percentage, helped power the Mules (15-9-1) to end the regular season in first place in NESCAC. Colby fell 2-1 to eventual champion Trinity in the conference tournament semifinals at Colby March 9.

Kelley was named NESCAC Player of the Year, ending his Colby career with 56 goals and 70 assists for 126 points and as the conference’s leading scorer this year. Reber, despite missing five games to an injury this season, finished with 34 goals and 99 assists for 133 points. Fritch had 32 goals and 84 assists for 116 points.

“If you think of it, and you look at the history of the program and the amount of hundred-point guys we’ve had ... to have three in the same class is a tribute to those guys,” said Tortorella, who was NESCAC Coach of the Year. “They were special players coming in, and they’ve really done well in trying to develop their skills.”

The last time Colby had two players in the same class reach the 100-point mark was when Dan Lavergne ’97 and Nick Lamia ’97 did it. “Up until last year, when it became a realistic goal, it never really crossed my mind,” said Reber, who became the first to hit the 100-point mark, with a goal in a 5-2 win Nov. 30 against Skidmore.
WOMEN’S HOCKEY WORKS HARD, DISPLAYS WILL TO WIN

A dramatic overtime win over top-seeded Middlebury sent fourth-seeded women’s hockey to its first NESCAC final. The Mules (15-9-3) couldn’t manage consecutive upsets and fell to second-seed Amherst 7-1 in the tournament final, March 10 at Middlebury.

The semifinal win March 9 was one of the biggest victories in the program’s recent history. Lacey Brown ’09 made 46 saves, allowing just two goals in more than three and a half periods of hockey. Middlebury (19-3-3) outshot the Mules 48-17, but Brown frustrated the Panthers until Liz Osgood ’11 pounced on a rebound 13:16 into overtime and drove the puck home.

Laura Anning ’09 tallied the fastest goal ever recorded in a NESCAC tournament, scoring for Colby just 15 seconds into the game. Just over a minute later, the Mules scored again on a shot by Dana Yerigan ’10.

The Panthers tied the game in the second period. Neither team would score for the next 28:39, when Osgood scored the game-winner. Rebecca Julian ’09’s original shot was saved before Osgood snagged a rebound in the crease and buried it to send Colby to the finals.

Women’s hockey coach David Venditti called the victory “a willed win.”

“They never got nervous,” Venditti said. “They just kept working hard.”

Kelley hit the century mark with an assist in Colby’s 4-2 win against Curry Jan. 8, and Fritch joined his teammates with a goal in a 3-2 loss to New England College Jan. 12.

“After our first year, we each had a pretty decent number of points, and it just kind of went from there,” said Fritch, who was a first-team All-America selection last season. “After last season, you kind of had it in your mind that [100 points] was reachable.”

“I don’t think each of us would have been able to do it all by ourselves. It’s all about the guys you play with,” Kelley said.

Kelley and Reber were on the same team at the Taft School but didn’t play on the same line until their freshman season at Colby.

“When TJ and Rebes came, it was kind of an instant connection,” Tortorella said. “I have to separate them in practice sometimes. It’s like, ‘You can make other guys better by playing with them and developing their skills,’ but they always want to be together. They just kind of know where the other is.”

Added Kelley: “We feed off each other. (Reber) loves to pass the puck. I like to shoot the puck.”

Five of Fritch’s nine goals this season came on the power play, where the 6-foot-3, 215-pound blue liner could unleash his strong slap-shot from the point.

“I basically take feeds from my defensive partner, and hopefully it hits the net,” Fritch said. “If not, these guys [Reber and Kelley] will hit in for a rebound. These guys are pretty impressive to play with, and we just try to have a lot of fun out there.”

A version of this story first appeared in the Waterville Morning Sentinel. It is printed here with permission.
Success Out West for Nordic and Alpine Skiers

Vincent Lebrun-Fortin ’11 earned All-America honors in slalom and giant slalom at the NCAA Division I Skiing Championships in Bozeman, Mont., in early March. He placed fifth in the slalom event, good for first-team All-America honors, and seventh in GS for second-team laurels.

The men’s Nordic team placed sixth in the nation in the 10K freestyle, best among eastern schools at the national meet. They had already won the Eastern Intercollegiate Ski Association championship in the freestyle event.

Lebrun-Fortin, a first-year skier from Montreal, and Josh Kernan ’10, from Shelburne, N.H., who took 14th, gave Colby fifth in the nation in slalom despite having only two skiers competing against teams of three from other schools.

In women’s alpine skiing, Colby’s Dana Breakstone ’10 placed 29th in the women’s slalom.

The Nordic men’s team had three skiers in the top 21 in the 10K freestyle race, a discipline that they dominated in Eastern competition. Colby skiers took sixth place in the team results for that race, despite competing against many skiers from western schools who come from Europe and may be members of their national teams.

It was the first year that Colby sent a full Nordic team to nationals. Silas Gill ’09 finished 18th, Nick Kline ’08 19th, and Wyatt Fereday ’11 21st. “It’s very rare you can get a freshman who not only can score but also qualify for the NCAAs,” Colby Nordic coach Tracey Cote told the Morning Sentinel in a story about the success of the young squad. Cote was named Eastern Coach of the Year for the second straight year. Gill finished in 24th place in the 20-kilometer classical event, helping Colby to a 12th-place team finish in that event.

The Colby ski program (Nordic and alpine, men and women) placed 13th in the country in NCAA Division I despite having just six of the possible 12 skiers that would make up a full team.

All four members of the WOMEN’S SWIMMING team who went to NCAA Div. III nationals in March returned from Ohio as All-Americans. KELLY NORSWORTHY ’08 made it four years straight as an All-American in the 100-yard breaststroke, with a 1:04.82 time, good for fourth place. Norsworthy, KELSEY POTDEVIN ’09, MADIE GIVENS ’08, and CHELSEA HENEGHAN ’11 earned All-America honors for an eighth-place finish in the 400-yard medley relay. Norsworthy won the 50 and 100 breaststroke at the NESCAC championships and came in second in the 200 breaststroke. She won all three events as a junior. ... Meanwhile, at the national WOMEN’S INDOOR TRACK championships elsewhere in Ohio that same weekend, the distance medley relay team of LIZ PETIT ’08, LAURA POMPONI ’08, EMMA LINHARD ’11, and ANNA KING ’08 earned All-America honors by placing seventh with a time of 12:10.60. ... WOMEN’S BASKETBALL fell to top-seeded Amherst in the NESCAC quarterfinals, ending the season at 9-16. KATIE MCCABE ’08 capped her career with milestones: fifth all-time in scoring with 1,241 points; tied for second in NESCAC in scoring, averaging 15.3 points per game; and second in NESCAC in rebounding. McCabe was named to the All-NESCAC second team, a first for the three-time All-NESCAC soccer player. ... MEN’S BASKETBALL also lost to top-seeded Amherst in the NESCAC quarterfinals, going 13-12 for the season. ADAM CHOICE ’10 was named to the All-NESCAC second team. Choice averaged 18 points and 7.8 rebounds—second in the conference in scoring. Choice was the only sophomore to earn all-conference honors and there were no freshmen.