Celebrating Hamilton Hall at 100
Mark your calendar …

FALL SEMESTER 2007

Tuesday
SEPTEMBER
4
First Day of Classes

Friday–Saturday
OCTOBER
12–13
First-Year Family Weekend

Saturday
OCTOBER
13
Homecoming vs. Penn

Saturday
OCTOBER
13
Dean's Scholarship Reception

Wednesday
OCTOBER
17
October Degrees Conferred

Thursday
OCTOBER
18
Great Teacher Awards Dinner

Thursday
NOVEMBER
1
Thanksgiving

Tuesday
NOVEMBER
6
Election Day
University Holiday

Thursday
NOVEMBER
15
Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner

Thursday–Friday
NOVEMBER
22–23
Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday
DECEMBER
10
Last Day of Classes

Friday
DECEMBER
21
Fall Term Ends

For more information, please call the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development toll-free, 1-866-CC-ALUMNI, or visit the College's alumni events website: www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events.
COLUMBIA COLLEGE: MOVING FORWARD

16 Hamilton 100
The College celebrates its flagship building’s centennial and completed renovation, thanks to the generous support of alumni and parents. By Shira Boss-Bicak ’93, ’97J, ’98 SIPA

20 The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education
An important campaign officially was launched this fall with the goal of raising $865 million by 2011, all for the undergraduate community. By Alex Sachare ’71

FEATURES

22 “Oh, Who Owns Paree?”
A letter to Alma Mater reminds her about all the things that Paris and Columbia have in common. By Dan Carlinsky ’65

28 Hip-Hop Pioneer, Baseball Historian, Filmmaker
Rap pioneer Peter Nash ’89 has built a career around his two passions, music and baseball. By Jonathan Lemire ’01

30 CCT Donors 2006–07
Thank you to the alumni, parents, friends and organizations who donated to CCT’s voluntary subscription drive in Fiscal Year 2006-07.

ALUMNI NEWS

35 Bookshelf
Featured: Eugene Drucker ’73, a member of the Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet and author of The Savior: A Novel, the WWII story of a German violinist recruited by the Kommandant of a concentration camp to partake in a lurid experiment.

38 Obituaries

42 Class Notes
Alumni Updates
64 Jerold Block ’74
71 Jeremy Fingerman ’83
82 Sara Velasquez ’02
66 Alumni Sons and Daughters

88 Alumni Corner
Columbians share many things — the Core chief among them — but the alumni association president knows there are more and discusses them here. By Brian C. Kräberger ’81

DEPARTMENTS

2 Letters to the Editor

3 Within the Family

6 Around the Quads
4 Homecoming 2007
5 Kingdon To Receive Hamilton Medal
6 Barzun To Be Named a “Great Teacher”
8 Class of 2011 Joins the Family
10 Student Spotlight: Emily Jacobson ’08
11 5 Minutes with … Michael J. Novielli ’03
12 The Delilah Behind the Hit Song
14 College Fund Sets Record in 2006–07
15 Colleagues Support Bollinger on Boycott
Letters to the Editor

Hurricane Steve

In your profile of Stephen Joel Trachtenberg ’59 [July/August], he is quoted as having been inspired to be concerned about students by his Contemporary Civilization instructor, Bernard W. Wishy ’48, ’58 GSAS: “He cared about Columbia College and about students. Of course, that’s always a disability at a university.”

Wishy was the valedictorian of his Columbia class and co-author, along with the legendary Harry J. Carman and Harold C. Syrett, of the two-volume A History of the American People. Wishy served the College in innumerable ways, most notably playing an instrumental role in the development of the Contemporary Civilization course. In my day, students would strategize to gain admission to the section he taught. Many of us have not forgotten his powerful influence on our intellectual development, and the failure of the University to award him tenure was an egregious misjudgment that cost generations of Columbia students the opportunity to study with this extraordinary teacher.

Your article describes him as “not widely published,” but he was the author of several books, including Good-Bye, Machiavelli: Government and American Life and The Child and the Republic: The Dawn of Modern American Child Nurture.

Steven M. Cahn ’63, ’66 GSAS
NEW YORK CITY

Admirable?

Funny, in the New Jersey I inhabit, James McGreevey ’78 is usually viewed as both (in marvelous old-fashioned words) a cad and a bounder who presented not one but two hapless “beards” to our state body politic. Hardly as the rather admirable sort the story [July/August] presents.

Certainly, McGreevey did not at all try his darnedest “to hold together a scandal-ridden administration.” Instead, he was at the center of that administration’s scandals and split from it rapidly when it became clear even to him that the wolves were coming nearer and nearer his office and bedroom doors.

The article’s description of McGreevey’s rushed academic career made it sound as if he completed his degree requirements (from a number of places) out of some deep desire to get to work in the “real” world before his classmates did. Others might, less charitably, view it as merely “degree shopping,” a constant rush to get ahead, to make himself look better because of where he went to school, in leapfrog bounces, as opposed to what he might actually have learned at various educational way stations.

The ex-governor’s memoir [The Confession, 2006] indicates that his basic focus has always been his own selfish interests, which, in his case, have apparently best been expressed in anonymous, quick amative contacts that recklessly ignored his marriage vows and his considerable professional responsibilities. This is a rat no sexual preference should thus be happy to claim as its own, let alone my beloved Columbia.

There is a sentence in the story that ends with “the consequences of McGreevey’s long-standing choice to prioritize a public identity over all else linger in the public sphere.” To uh, “prioritize?” Even given that is a badly-written sentence, what is the author saying? That McGreevey is a me-me-me-me first! sort of person? If so, that might be the only good observation in the story.

Richard Szathmary ’67
CLIFTON, N.J.

Familiar Art

Last night, my husband, Sam Sapin ’45, brought me his recent copy of Columbia College Today, opened it to the inside back cover, then asked, “Can you identify this artist?”

I hadn’t attended Columbia College and had never entered Butler Library, but your fractured painting had a familiar look. “It’s American,” I said slowly, “and probably 1930s.” Then the name resurfaced in a flood of memories. “It’s Eugene Savage, isn’t it?”

In 1941, when my husband and I met, he was pre-med at Columbia College. I was at Pratt getting a degree in art education. He had little knowledge of art. I intended to teach it in the public schools.

In 1955, we moved to Los Angeles, where he practiced pediatric cardiology for the next 45 years. By 1975, we were both heavily involved with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and American art in particular.

One day, Michael Quick, then-curator of American art at LACMA, showed me some watercolor studies by Savage for the Elks National Memorial. I had just

(Continued on page 86)
Forty years ago, I came to Morningside Heights as a freshman — the College was all-male then and no one ever thought of a politically correct designation such as “first-year.” I remember two things about freshman week or whatever it was called back then (it certainly was nothing like today’s elaborate orientation process): my parents helping me move into a relatively new (if non-air-conditioned) Carman Hall, and a group of Barnard girls racing up to me as I walked with friends along College Walk and swiping our freshman beanies off our heads.

So began an amazing four years, a life-changing experience I can only hope the members of the recently arrived Class of 2011 will have the good fortune to experience as well. Little could I have imagined that four decades later I’d be back on Morningside Heights, doing my little piece for alma mater and the Columbia College family.

Dean Austin Quigley likes to say that when you arrive at the College, you don’t just begin a four-year relationship that ends when you leave through the gates, but rather you begin a lifelong relationship that remains a part of you wherever you go, however long you live. And one of the benefits of Columbia’s venerable Core Curriculum is that it creates a shared experience of learning that gives alumni of all ages a common ground for discussion and debate wherever and whenever their paths cross.

As the cover story indicates, this month marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of Hamilton Hall, the College’s flagship building. Thanks to a well-planned and generously funded (60 percent by alumni and parents) renovation, Hamilton looks better than ever and serves as a showpiece for the College, one of which we can all be proud. The classrooms have been modernized, the lobby looks magnificent, undergraduate admissions has a suite with its own entrance from College Walk and a beautiful center for the Core Curriculum has been created, one befitting the College’s signature series of classroom experiences.

If I have one regret from my College years, it’s that I did not devote as much time and energy to academics as I should have and did not take fullest advantage of all that was available to me. I spent far more time in the Spectator office than I did in Butler Library, and my grades reflected it. I think David Denby ’65 had the right idea when he went back and took Lit Hum and CC some 30 years later and wrote about the experience in Great Books. I know I’d appreciate those texts so much more now than I did then. Maybe, someday, when my day job doesn’t get in the way ...

Then again, my years as sports editor of Spec and campus correspondent for The New York Times led to a career in sports journalism and management that I would never have traded for the world. I am forever indebted to my first Spec sports editors, Andrew Crane ’69 and David Rosen ’69, as well as to former sports information director Kevin DeMarrais ’69 and to Bill Steinman, who has “graduated” to historian/archivist in the sports information office — to me, they were all teachers as much as anyone with the title of professor.

So, members of the Class of 2011, when an older person like me tells you that what you learn and who you meet outside the classroom may be just as important and play just as significant a role in your life as what you learn in class, you might want to think about it.

And if by some chance a certain Barnard alumna is reading this, I’d appreciate my beanie back.

In this issue, you will read about the history of Hamilton Hall and the work that went into its renovation, as well as the launch of The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education. These articles are the start of a series we are calling Columbia College: Moving Forward.

As a group, these articles will paint a picture of a College that is vastly different from what it was as recently as the mid-1990s. Future articles, which we expect to publish during the next two years, will deal with the following general areas: academics and curricula, student services, admissions and financial aid, alumni affairs and development, and the physical plant.

We hope these articles will enhance your understanding of Columbia College, where it is today, how it got here, and most important, where it’s going.
Join alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends at Baker Field on Saturday, October 13, for Homecoming 2007, which will feature a barbecue lunch, games and amusements for the kids and Ivy League football between the improved Columbia Lions and the always-tough Penn Quakers.

The Pregame Picnic, open from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. under the Big Tent, features gourmet fare and drinks as well as sweets. Barbecue tickets are $17 for adults and $8 for children under 12 and are available in advance. There also will be limited cash-and-carry items. Each barbecue ticket includes one soft drink; beer, wine and additional soft drinks are available at an additional cost. To purchase barbecue tickets, visit www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events (scroll to Homecoming 2007).

Kids will keep busy and have fun at the Columbia Homecoming Carnival adjacent to the tent, open from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. This family-friendly activity area features games and amusements and has been a big hit in recent years.

After lunch and visiting time with friends, walk over to Wien Stadium and cheer the Lions on as they battle Penn in their fifth game of their second season under coach Norries Wilson; kickoff is at 1:30 p.m. For the 2007 season, single-game ticket prices are $20 for premium chairback seats and $10 for reserved bench seats. To purchase football tickets, call 888-LIONS-11 or visit www.gocolumbialions.com/tickets.

Columbia Athletics will provide complimentary bus transportation from Columbia’s Morningside campus to and from Baker Athletics Complex beginning at 11 a.m. and returning immediately following the game (log on to www.gocolumbialions.com prior to the game for pickup and departure locations). Fans also may use convenient mass transit. Take the MTA subway 1 train to 215th Street, walk two blocks north and cross Broadway at W. 218th Street, or take the A train to 207th Street and walk north to 218th Street. Please note that the 215th Street subway station is not handicapped-accessible.

For more information about Baker Athletics Complex game day policies and procedures, including the pre-game picnic area, visit www.gocolumbialions.com.
Kingdon To Receive 2007 Alexander Hamilton Award

Each fall, the Columbia College Alumni Association presents the Alexander Hamilton Award to an alumnus or faculty member for distinguished service and accomplishment in any field of endeavor. It is the highest honor the College bestows.

The 2007 honoree will be Mark E. Kingdon ’71, a University trustee, Columbia Campaign co-chair, College Board of Visitors emeritus member and 2005 John Jay Award recipient. He will be presented with the award at a black-tie gala on Thursday, November 15, in Low Rotunda.

Kingdon received a B.A. in economics and graduated Phi Beta Kappa, while serving as sports editor and features editor of Spectator. In 1998, he endowed the C. Lowell Harriss Professorship of Economics in honor of his undergraduate teacher and mentor. In 2006, along with several other alumni, Kingdon sponsored the Institute for Israeli and Jewish Studies and the Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi Chair in Israel and Jewish Studies.


Kingdon is on the boards of Harlem Children’s Zone, New York City Police Foundation and the Academy of Political Science. His personal interests include golf and yoga. Kingdon lives with his wife, Anla Cheng, daughter, Jessica ’09, and son, Jason, in New York City.

Mark E. Kingdon ’71
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

For more information on the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, please contact Shelley Grunfeld, alumni office manager of special events: 212-870-2743 or rg329@columbia.edu.

Lisa Palladino
Jacques Barzun, Nearing 100, To Receive Great Teacher Award

Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS will be honored as the recipient of the 59th annual Great Teacher Award, presented by the Society of Columbia Graduates, at a dinner on Thursday, October 18 in Low Rotunda, co-hosted by the society and Provost Alan Brinkley. Barzun, University Professor and Provost Emeritus, will celebrate his 100th birthday on November 30. He lives in San Antonio and will receive the award in absentia.

Born in Grenoble, France, Barzun moved to New York City in 1920, graduated as valedictorian of his College class and received his Ph.D. from Columbia. He taught as the Seth Low Professor of History and was dean of the graduate school, dean of faculties and provost before retiring in 1975 as University Professor.

Barzun founded and championed the field of cultural history. With Lionel Trilling ’25, he designed the Literature Humanities portion of the Core Curriculum and held legendary seminars. He also authored and edited more than 40 books; among them, Teacher in America (1945), The House of Intellect (1959), The Modern Researcher (with Professor Emeritus of History Henry Graff, six editions) and From Dawn to Decadence: 500 Years of Western Cultural Life 1500 to the Present (2000) have been particularly influential and received critical and public acclaim. His wide-ranging interests extended to such diverse subjects as baseball, Hector Berlioz and detective fiction.

Among the dignitaries scheduled to offer greetings, reminiscences and appreciations at the dinner will be Brinkley, Allen Nevins Professor of American History; Dean of the College Austin E. Quigley, Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor, and Brander Matthews Professor of Dramatic Literature; Graff; Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41, John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and University Provost Emeritus; and Kenneth T. Jackson, Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences.

The Society of Columbia Graduates, which was founded in 1909, established the Great Teacher Awards in 1949 to honor great teachers in the College and the SEAS. The criteria for the award are the ability to stimulate, challenge and inspire students; a demonstrated interest in students and the ability to relate positively to students outside the classroom; and a recognized standing in academic discipline.

Past recipients have included such illustrious teachers as Mark Van Doren, Moses Hadas, Brinkley, Trilling, De Bary, Graff, Jackson, James Shenton ’49, Eric Foner ’63, Hilary Ballon, Kathy Eden, David Helfand, Carol Gluck, Donald Goldfarb, Seymour Melman, Mort Freedman, Charles Hamilton, Andrew Delbanco and Shree Nayar. Each recipient has his or her name inscribed on the plaque under the Teaching Lion in Butler Library.


For further information on the dinner, contact co-chairs Anna Longobardo (914-779-2448 or longbard@optonline.net) and Michael Garrett ’66 (718-499-9408 or michaelgarrett@earthlink.net), and visit the society’s Web site (www.socg.com).
COLUMBIA FOOTBALL

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Columbia Football 2007

HOME SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 22 vs. Marist Baker Blast/Staff Family Day 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 13 vs. Penn Homecoming/Family Weekend 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 27 vs. Yale Meet the Lions Day 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 3 vs. Harvard Community Sports League Day 12:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 17 vs. Brown Fan Appreciation Day 12:30 p.m.

Purchase your Columbia Football tickets today!

Call 1-888-LIONS-11 or visit gocolumbialions.com/tickets
Class of 2011 Joins the Columbia Family

In late August, College students returned to campus, ready for a new year. Included in this group of more than 4,000 students were the newest members of the Columbia community, the Class of 2011. First-year students and their families participated in Family Orientation on August 27, which coincides with the first day of New Student Orientation. This all-day event includes workshops, a campus resource fair and Convocation, the official ceremony that welcomes the new class and their families into the Columbia community. President Lee C. Bollinger, Dean of the College Austin Quigley and SEAS Interim Dean Gerald Navratil presided over the joyous campus ceremony, now in its fourth year.

The College and SEAS first-years are among the best and brightest in the world. Of 18,081 College applicants — the highest number the College ever has received — 1,647 were admitted (with 29 wait-listed), an admit rate of 8.9 percent, the lowest ever for the College.

Early decision admits, of which there were 454, accounted for 44 percent of the first-year class, with 33 percent of early decision applicants deferred to regular decision. The number of students in the Class of 2011 is 1,017.

SEAS admitted 608 students (with 16 wait-listed) out of 3,262 applicants, an admit rate of 18.1 percent. Forty-four percent of the SEAS Class of 2011 was admitted through early decision, and 27 percent of early decision applicants were deferred to regular decision. The number of students in the SEAS Class of 2011 is 315.

Historically, the five-year average for the number of College students who were admitted from the wait list was 40. The five-year average number for the number of SEAS students who were admitted from the wait list was 30.

Of schools that provided a class rank, approximately 92 percent of accepted students were in the top 10 percent of their graduating class and 98 percent were in the top 20 percent of their class. Sixty-two percent of admitted students attended high schools that do not rank. The middle 50 percent of admitted students scored between a 1380 and a 1530 on the math and critical reading sections of the SAT (out of a maximum of 1600).
Columbia’s commitment to diversity ensures students will make friends and learn with peers from all over the world as well as their home state. Top states represented in the Class of 2011 are New York, New Jersey, California, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Florida and Maryland. Top non-U.S. countries represented are Canada, South Korea, Mexico, China, Singapore, Turkey, India and the United Kingdom, with 41 countries represented overall. The number of foreign/international students and students schooled outside the United States is 19 percent.

The Class of 2011 is 51 percent male and 49 percent female, with 50 percent of students receiving financial aid from the University.

Lisa Palladino

Geraldine Downey has been appointed vice provost for diversity initiatives, as announced in July by President Lee C. Bollinger and Provost Alan Brinkley. Downey, an award-winning psychologist, has been a member of the Columbia community since 1991. In her new role, she will focus on the question of diversity in the sciences while continuing current efforts to advance diversity generally in the professional schools and the Arts and Sciences.

Downey trained at University College-Dublin, Cornell and Michigan, and is a leading developmental psychologist recognized for her path-breaking research on identity formation and for her vigorous commitment to mentoring students. As professor and chair of the Department of Psychology, she has had extensive experience in faculty recruitment and development. Downey also is director of Columbia’s Social Relations Laboratory.

Visit www.millertheatre.com to join our mailing list and to get details on the rest of the season.

CU Students receive $7 tickets for all Miller-produced events!*

CU Faculty and Staff receive a 40% discount off single ticket prices!* *Discounted tickets must be purchased in person with valid CUID at the box office, and 2 tickets per ID. Discounted tickets are subject to availability.

MILLER THEATRE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Fall Season at a Glance

Thursday, September 27, 7:00PM
Friday, September 28, 8:00PM
Saturday, September 29, 8:00PM
Sunday, September 30, 8:00PM

New Ballet
Various Artists

Friday, October 5, 8:00PM
Composer Portraits
Esa-Pekka Salonen
Various Artists

Saturday, October 13, 8:00PM
Jazz
Cyrus Chestnut Trio
Plays the Elvis Presley Songbook
Cyrus Chestnut Trio

Thursday, October 18, 8:00PM
Composer Portraits
Wolfgang Rihm
Columbia Sinfonietta

Friday, October 26, 8:00PM
Composer Portraits
David Sanford
Pittsburgh Collective

Saturday, October 27, 8:00PM
Jazz
Matthew Shipp and the Nu-Bop Quartet

Friday, November 2, 8:00PM
Composer Portraits
Gerald Barry
Various Artists

Thursday, November 15, 8:00PM
Composer Portraits
Philippe Hurel
International Contemporary Ensemble

Saturday, November 17, 8:00PM
Church of St. Mary the Virgin (540 W 48th St.)
Early Music
Robert Parsons Revisited
Vox Vocal Ensemble

Saturday, December 1, 8:00PM
Jazz
The Christian McBride Band

Wednesday, December 5, 8:00PM
St. Thomas Church 50th Ave (at 64th St.)
Early Music
Poetry in Music for the Virgin Mary
The Tallis Scholars

Friday, December 7, 8:00PM
Saturday, December 8, 8:00PM
Sunday, December 9, 7:00PM
Tuesday, December 11, 7:00PM
Opera
Elliott Carter’s What Next?
Axiom

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Emily Jacobson ’08

Olympian Turned Lion

BY NATHALIE ALONSO ’08

For Emily Jacobson ’08, Athens, Greece, always will be a noteworthy place, and not just because of its prominent role in the Core Curriculum.

Plato’s birthplace also was the site of the 2004 Olympic Games, which were the first to include women’s sabre fencing as an individual event. Jacobson and her older sister, Sada, were members of the pioneer U.S. team that competed in Athens, where Jacobson placed 12th overall.

“It was a crazy experience,” says Jacobson, who recalls watching television next to American tennis star Andy Roddick in the Olympic village. “It was a good feeling to know everyone was watching.”

In sabre fencing, the target area involves everything above the waist, including the head, and it is possible to score with the edge of the blade. Jacobson, who hails from Atlanta, was introduced to the sport at 11 by her father, David, who fenced as a Yale student and was a member of the 1974 U.S. men’s sabre team. The sport has since become a family affair for the Jacobsons. Jacobson’s younger sister, Jackie ‘11, also is a world-class fencer and a member of Columbia’s team.

Amiable and approachable, Jacobson says that she took up fencing as a means to compel her parents to buy her contact lenses. “After the first day, I realized I could not possibly do this sport with glasses,” she recalls with a laugh. Although she quit fencing two days after receiving her coveted contacts, Jacobson returned to the fencing strip shortly after and has enjoyed much success.

One of the highlights of Jacobson’s career came at the 2004 Junior World Championships, where she won individual and team gold medals. The competition was held in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, one of many European cities Jacobson has visited during a fencing career that also has taken her to exotic locales such as Thailand and Cuba. “I want to go back to most of the places where I’ve been,” she says. “Most of the time when we were traveling, we were in the gym.”

Ultimately, Jacobson’s passion for fencing also led her to Morningside Heights, where she has been a member of Columbia’s women’s fencing team since her first year. “When I was applying to college, I decided that if I was going to continue fencing I had to do it at a place where I could continue at the same level. I chose Columbia because it’s in New York City and there’s a really good private club where our team practices,” she says, referring to the New York Fencers Club in Chelsea.

Winning the 2005 NCAA women’s sabre championship in Houston, Jacobson says, was a defining moment in her college career. “I kept getting through the rounds and all of a sudden I won,” she recalls. “Winning that really made me love our team. I realized that our team as a whole had so much potential.”

Jacobson, a psychology major, was right in her assessment. In 2007, Columbia’s women’s fencing team was undefeated during the regular season and placed third in the NCAAs. Daria Schneider ’09 won the sabre championship that season, giving Columbia two crowns in three years. Jacobson’s teammates recently showed their appreciation for her commitment to Columbia’s fencing efforts by electing her team captain.

Head Coach and Director of Fencing George Kolombatovich, who has known Jacobson since before she entered high school, was not surprised.

“He is extremely respected. She has been helping the team so much by training with them, working with them, being a role model and giving advice. She’s become quite a leader. I was most pleased when the team recognized her and her contribution,” says Kolombatovich, who also is president of the Referee’s Commission for the Fédération Internationale d’Escrime, which oversees international fencing.

These days, Jacobson’s fencing efforts revolve solely around Columbia’s team. After much deliberation, she decided not to try out for the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, which she says would have required her to take a two-year hiatus from Columbia in order to train six days a week.

“It was a hard decision, but I really wanted to stay in school. After freshman and sophomore years, I had close friends. I wanted to graduate with my class on time. That was important for me,” she says, adding, “I’m looking forward to being more involved with the team as captain.”

During the fencing season, which lasts from January through March, Jacobson practices five days a week for about two hours and competes on most weekends. Now that she is no longer competing internationally, she is enjoying a luxury that she had little access to before. “This year I’ve had a lot more time to hang out with my friends and go to movies. I’ve really enjoyed the extra free time to relax and do normal things,” she says.

Although Jacobson is considering attending law school, she has not decided what path she will take after graduation. But she knows that one way or another, fencing will never be a thing of the past. “I love fencing. It’s such a huge part of my life,” she says. “I will always be involved in the sport and keep up with what the national team is doing.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Sunnyside, Queens, is an American studies major, a freelance writer and an avid New York Yankees fan.
Michael J. Novielli ‘03, assistant director of Columbia’s Student Services Center as well as the liaison to students on Manhattanville planning, volunteers as the chair of Columbia College Young Alumni. CCT met with him during the summer to find out more about what he and CCYA were up to.

Q: Where did you grow up?
A: I was born in Astoria and lived there for five years. Then we moved to Long Island, to Massapequa.

Q: What did you want to be when you grew up?
A: I wanted to teach social studies.

Q: How did you end up at Columbia?
A: I knew I wanted to study history and East Asian studies — and for some bizarre reason I stuck to it — and I was interested in the activities as well. When I first came to campus, I saw all kinds of events. I liked the vibe. I applied early decision.

Q: Were you active on campus as a student?
A: I had the pleasure of serving as Columbia College student body president for two years, which was the defining experience of my college career. I was involved in a few other activities as well, such as serving as one of my class’ Senior Fund co-chairs and being a resident adviser in John Jay and Carman.

Q: What is CCYA’s mission?
A: Our mission is to strengthen the community of recent Columbia College graduates by hosting academic, social, athletics, community service and career networking programs. Quite simply, we want to find ways to keep young alumni connected to alma mater and each other. Young alumni are the future of our alma mater, so that is why I feel that the work we do as volunteer leaders is so important.

Q: What accomplishment are you proudest of as student body president?
A: The work we did to improve academic advising at the College — continuing the work of my predecessor, Ariel Neuman ’01, to improve the class center experience, and through the implementation of a peer-advisor pilot program.

Q: What’s new with CCYA?
A: We’re looking to expand beyond New York City.

Q: What’s the most fun event you’re working on right now?
A: An outing to see Cirque du Soleil at Madison Square Garden this winter.

Q: Where do you live?
A: On the Upper West Side, near campus, in a four-bedroom with three roommates. It’s comfortable and convenient.

Q: If you could go anywhere right now, where would it be?
A: Shanghai, in China. It’s a good combination of urban and traditional. I worked there one summer and really liked it.

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Interview: Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard

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Behind the Hit Song
Delilah DiCrescenzo ’05 Inspired “Hey There Delilah”

This summer, it was hard to go very far with the radio tuned to a pop station without hearing the sound of the Plain White T’s ballad:

Hey there Delilah
What's it like in New York City?
I'm a thousand miles away
But girl tonight you look so pretty
Yes you do
Times Square can't shine as bright
as you
I swear it's true ...

The muse for guitarist Tom Higgenson’s song is Delilah DiCrescenzo ’05, an All-American steeplechase runner and one of the stars of Columbia’s women’s cross-country team that won three consecutive Heptagonal Games championships. The Chicago native is beginning her second year as an assistant track and cross-country coach at Bryn Mawr College and is training for the Olympic Trials for the 2008 Summer Games in Beijing.

Delilah DiCrescenzo ’05 earned All-America honors running for Columbia.

PHOTO: RANDY MARTIN ’80

As for the song’s story of a long-distance relationship between the guitarist and the college student, that is fiction. “There was never anything between us,” says Higgenson. “It was kind of funny — kind of sad, actually. The story of my life.”

A friend introduced Higgenson to DiCrescenzo five years ago. “I thought she was the most beautiful girl I had ever seen,” he says. “I told her, 'I have a song about you already.' Obviously, there was no song. But I thought it was smooth.”

It didn’t work. “I wasn’t interested. I was dating somebody,” says DiCrescenzo. But the seed had been planted. It took Higgenson a year to write the song, and “Hey There Delilah” was released in 2005. Two years later, it climbed to the top of the U.S. Billboard Pop 100 chart, and from July 3–27, 2007, it was the most downloaded song on the U.S. iTunes Music Store.

“When I’m at the gym, it’s playing; when I’m at the pool, it’s playing,” DiCrescenzo told USA Today last summer. “Part of me wants to scream at the top of my lungs that it’s about me. Another part of me wants to cover and say it’s not.”

As for the non-relationship, the two kept in touch by e-mail and Higgenson brought DiCrescenzo a disk with the song when he finished it in 2004. “It was so beautifully written,” she says. “There was pressure to live up to this ideal. I didn’t know how to be polite but, you know, ditch him.”

So Higgenson didn’t get the girl, but he did come away with a hit song. Besides, he says, “If we had lived happily ever after, then what would my next song be about?”

Hey there Delilah
You be good and don’t you miss me
Two more years and you’ll be done
with school
And I’ll be making history like I do
You’ll know it’s all because of you
We can do whatever we want to
Hey there Delilah here’s to you
This one’s for you.

EXCERPTS FROM “HEY THERE DELILAH” © THOMAS HIGGENSON.
Support the Columbia College Fund this academic year. Help maintain our tradition of excellence by sending your gift today.

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THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND    OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT

Every Gift Counts.
College Fund Enjoys Record Year

Thanks to the generosity of College alumni, parents, students and friends, the Columbia College Fund raised $11.8 million in the 2006-07 academic year, compared with just more than $8 million only five years ago. This upward trend in financial support for the College is paired with a continuing increase in the number of alumni donors.

The Class of 2007 set a record with 84.5 percent of its members participating in the class gift, compared with 52 percent in 2002. The Parents Fund also exceeded its goal this year, raising $1.2 million compared with $743,000 five years ago.

The development staff, led by Executive Director of the College Fund Susan L. Birnbaum, worked with Fund Chair Mark Amsterdam '66 and Fund Development Chair Geoffrey J. Colvin '74 to achieve this result. The Alumni Association, the Board of Visitors, the Class Agents and the dedicated staff of the Alumni Affairs and Development office, under the leadership of Dean Derek Wittner '65 and Chief Administrative Officer Susan Mescher, also were instrumental in the fund's success.

Unrestricted annual giving is a vital ingredient in Columbia's success, providing current and immediately usable funds for the College's many operations. The largest such application of unrestricted annual giving is financial aid, preserving need-blind admissions and full-need financial aid. Annual giving also bolsters the student services and activities that enhance the quality of undergraduate life and fortifies and enhances the Core Curriculum.

The University officially launched a $4 billion capital campaign in fall 2006 and already has raised more than $2.2 billion in gifts and pledges. On September 8, The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education was unveiled, with a goal of $865 million to be devoted to financial aid, faculty chairs and improvements in student services. Gifts to the Columbia College Fund count toward the capital campaign.

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Transitions

- E.V.P., FINANCE: Anne Rollow Sullivan has been appointed the University’s e.v.p. of finance, effective October 1. She succeeds Al Horvath, who stepped down this summer. Sullivan joins Columbia from Penn’s Wharton School, where she was senior associate dean for finance and administration. Prior to joining Wharton, Sullivan was Columbia’s assistant v.p. for administrative planning and financial management. Prior to that, she was v.p. for strategic development and marketing for Fathom Knowledge Network; a lead consultant in the financial services and health care practice unit of Booz Allen Hamilton; and a financial analyst in the investment banking division of Kidder Peabody & Co. Sullivan has a bachelor’s degree from Virginia, a master’s in public policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

- PARENTS FUND: Linda Thifault joined the alumni office in

Remember

How remarkable people came together at Columbia?

Make it happen for future generations.

Teachers challenged you, classmates encouraged you, and chance encounters on campus were always diverse and stimulating. The Columbia community helped you grow into the person you are today.

When you create an endowed fund at Columbia, the yearly income it generates — in perpetuity — will provide vital support to this inspiring community. If you wish, you can designate your gift for a specific purpose, such as student scholarships, athletic programs, lab or library resources, or faculty teaching and research. Let us help you define your legacy at Columbia.

Create an endowed fund while you are alive or through a bequest.
Give a gift that continues to give — forever.

Office of Gift Planning Columbia University
475 Riverside Drive, MC7718 New York, NY 10115
Phone: (800) 338-3294 gift.planning@columbia.edu
Colleagues Support Bollinger’s Position Against Israeli Boycott

Nearly 300 college and university presidents around the country have endorsed a statement by President Lee C. Bollinger denouncing an effort by Britain’s primary faculty union to have professors boycott Israeli academics and cultural institutions.

Britain’s 120,000-member University and College Union had urged its members against “participation in any form of academic and cultural cooperation” with Israeli institutions for what the UCU called their complicity with the “colonial oppression of the Palestinian people, which is based on Zionist ideology.”

Bollinger was among the first in academia to denounce this effort, doing so in a June 12 statement that read: “I find this idea utterly antithetical to the fundamental values of the academy, where we will not hold the intellectual exchange hostage to the political disagreements of the moment … At Columbia, I am proud to say that we embrace Israeli scholars and universities that the UCU is now all too eager to isolate — as we embrace scholars from many countries regardless of divergent views on their governments’ policies.

“Therefore, if the British UCU is intent on pursuing its deeply misguided policy, then it should add Columbia to its boycott list, for we do not intend to draw distinctions between our mission and that of the universities you are seeking to punish. Boycott us, then, for we gladly stand together with our many colleagues in British, American and Israeli universities against such intellectually shoddy and politically biased attempts to hijack the central mission of higher education.”

Since then, 51 Nobel laureates, led by author Elie Wiesel, denounced the UCU’s position, and the presidents and chancellors of eight schools circulated a letter authored by Bollinger along with a petition sponsored by the American Jewish Committee headlined “Boycott Israeli Universities? Boycott Ours, Too!” The petition, signed by 286 presidents of American colleges and universities who were listed in a full-page advertisement in the August 8 edition of The New York Times, read in part, “In seeking to quarantine Israeli universities and scholars, this vote threatens every university committed to fostering scholarly and cultural exchanges that lead to enlightenment, empathy, and a much-needed international marketplace of ideas.”

IN MEMORIAM

SHULMAN: Marshall D. Shulman ’48 SIPA, ’59 GSAS, one of the nation’s best-known scholars of Soviet studies and founding director of the W. Averell Harriman Institute for Advanced Study of the Soviet Union, died on June 21 at his home in Sherman, Conn. He was 91.

Shulman was instrumental in obtaining an $11.5 million endowment in 1982 from Pamela and W. Averell Harriman to establish the Institute known until 1982 as the Russian Institute. He was the Harriman Institute’s longest-serving director and retired in 1986.

A 1937 graduate of the University of Michigan, Shulman was a reporter for The Detroit News for two years before entering Harvard, where he received a graduate degree in English literature. He served five years in the U.S. Army Air Forces as a glider pilot during WWII, receiving a Bronze Star. Shulman then enrolled in the Russian Institute, where he was a member of the first class receiving a master’s degree. He later earned a Ph.D. from GSAS.

In 1949, Shulman joined the Department of State and was an information officer for the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York and then special assistant to Secretary of State Dean Acheson from 1950-53. He also held the rank of ambassador as the principal adviser on Soviet matters to Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance in the Carter administration. Shulman later became associate director of the Russian Research Center at Harvard.

Shulman’s best known book, Stalin’s Foreign Policy Reappraised (1963), was a staple in Soviet studies for many years, and his 1966 book of lectures, Beyond the Cold War, foreshadowed the détente between the Soviet Union and the United States that occurred during the Nixon administration.

Shulman’s first wife, Elizabeth Van Anda Thomson, died in 1956. He is survived by his wife, the former Colette Schwarzenbach, and children from his first marriage, Lisa Rubenstein and Michael.
College Celebrates Centennial of Renewed Flagship Building

By SHIRA BOSS-BICAK '93, '97J, '98 SIPA

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ELISHA COOPER

(Above, left) Hamilton Hall’s cornerstone is laid on September 27, 1905. This photo appeared in the 1907 Columbian. (Above, right) The lofty College Study on the main floor of Hamilton Hall was closed when another floor was added to expand the building. (Facing page, bottom) Alumni Reunion Weekend 2007 attendees enjoy a lecture in the beautiful new Core Conference Room.

PHOTOS, PAGE 16: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES-COLUMBIANA LIBRARY;
PAGE 17: TOP, DANIELLA ZALCMAN ’09; MIDDLE, EILEEN BARROSO; BOTTOM, DAVID WENTWORTH

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007
Hamilton Hall, the physical heart of Columbia College, this fall celebrates its 100th anniversary and the completion of a renovation that restores and improves upon its original glory.

“When Hamilton Hall was built in 1907,” says Dean Austin Quigley, “the ambitious goal was to provide ‘a splendid home of the College.’ Here, in a building named for its most famous alumnus and trustee, the College would base its faculty, teach its students and locate its administrative offices. The importance of a flagship building for the College was as evident then as it is today, to symbolize the College’s aspirations, to provide a central site for its history and its traditions and to provide the continuity that always is essential in a world of change.”

The cornerstone for Hamilton Hall was laid on September 27, 1905, and construction was completed two years later, the McKim, Mead & White building being the first on the Morningside Heights campus dedicated to the undergraduate college. It still houses the Office of the Dean and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, as well as four department offices — Germanic Languages, Slavic Languages, Classics, and Italian Languages — plus the Center for Race and Ethnicity, faculty offices and 37 classrooms ranging from intimate seminar rooms to large lecture halls. An expansive Center for the Core Curriculum was opened in May 2004, when the building was rededicated. The lobby also was refurbished and features the restoration of two grand, vintage Tiffany stained-glass windows that were originally part of the midtown campus.

“The renovation of Hamilton Hall is significant as a renewal of physical space and as a symbolic milestone,” says Nicholas Dirks, v.p. of arts and sciences. “The College always has been the centerpiece of the arts and sciences at Columbia University, and Hamilton Hall represents the commitment of our faculty to providing the very best undergraduate education.”

The building and its mission will be celebrated at a Hamilton 100 cake and champagne reception on Saturday, September 8, at which The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education will be officially launched. Ronald Chernow, author of the biography Alexander Hamilton, will take part in the celebration along with top College and University officials.

The original Hamilton Hall, named for Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778), co-author of the Federalist Papers and the country’s first secretary of the treasury, opened in 1880 as part of the campus on Madison Avenue at 49th Street. The campus was relocated to Morningside Heights in 1897 and South Field, the area below 116th Street including the land on which Hamilton now stands, was acquired in October 1903.

When Hamilton Hall opened in 1907, Dean John Howard Van Amringe (Class of 1860) declared, “This is a great day for the College. Now, for the first time since Columbia was installed on these heights, our alma mater has a home of her own — a building more stately and beautiful, as of right it ought to be, more gracious and significant than any other on the grounds of the University.”

The Core Curriculum, the centerpiece of a College education, was founded in Hamilton Hall in 1919. Among the many famous teachers who have taught, and in some cases studied, in Hamilton classrooms are Jacques Barzun ’27, Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41, John Erskine (Class of 1900), Moses Hadas, Dwight Miner ’26, Lionel Trilling ’25 and Mark Van Doren.

The building also has been the center of several student protests, including an occupation in April 1968 when it was the first of five buildings taken over by students in protest of planned construction of a gym in Morningside Park as well as the Vietnam War. In 1987, black students chained themselves to the Hamilton entrance to protest a brawl outside Ferris Booth.
Hamilton Hall involving black and white students. The building was blockaded by students in 1992 to protest the University’s plans to develop the site of the Audubon Ballroom, where Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965, and again in 1996 to protest the College’s not having an ethnic studies department (the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, now offering three undergraduate majors, opened in 1999).

Hamilton’s first total renovation was started in January 2000 by R.M. Kliment & Frances Halsband Architects, with a budget of $25 million. Approximately 60 percent of the funding for the renovations came from donations from alumni and parents.

“The renovation of Hamilton Hall was a wonderful opportunity to join two centuries of creative thinking into one important campus landmark,” says Frances Halsband, the project’s lead architect. “Bringing back the vision of Nicholas Murray Butler [Class of 1882] and McKim, Mead & White meant restoring the lobby, finding and restoring the stained-glass windows and reconstructing offices as they might have been. Both centuries influenced the design of the seminar rooms, with their restored oak paneling and state-of-the-art media capacity."

The renovation included a new Center for the Core Curriculum, housed to the right of the entrance in what previously was the Admissions Office. The center is home to the Literature Humanities, Contemporary Civilization, Music Humanities, Art Humanities and Major Cultures departments and includes a historical archive with text from the Core courses.

“It’s only proper that the Center for the Core Curriculum, which my wife and I proudly support, rests in majestic Hamilton Hall,” says Richard Witten ’75, vice-chair of the University Board of Trustees and chairman emeritus of the College Board of Visitors, whose generous gift funded the Core Center. “Tens of thousands of our College graduates know just how important their Core experiences have been to their success, and clearly associate those experiences with the newly-renovated Hamilton Hall, the physical center of Columbia College.”

Providing a Center for the Core Curriculum helps integrate its various elements, “developing the Core as a set of related courses rather than juxtaposed courses,” Quigley says. “In these new quarters, the Center for the Core functions not just as an administrative unit but also as a historical archive, a teacher training unit and a research and publication center for Core-related materials.”

Hamilton Hall’s infrastructure was restored and upgraded, including extensive work on HVAC, lighting and technology that now allows wireless access throughout. The Office of the Dean was renovated, thanks to the support of Michael Bruno ’43.

The Admissions Office was moved to a renovated and expanded suite on the left side of the lobby. A new, glass pavilion entrance to the Admissions Office directly from College Walk was added.

When Quigley went searching for artifacts to use in the restoration, he discovered in University storage two large Tiffany stained-glass windows that dated to the 19th century. The windows, portraits of Sophocles and Vergil, originally were installed in the midtown campus and then in a lounge in Hartley residence hall before being crated and stored in the 1950s.

When Quigley and Derek Wittner ’65, dean of alumni affairs and development, invited A.G. Rosen ’65, an art history major, to see the windows in storage beneath the Business School, Rosen was not sure what to expect. “When they were opened up, I thought, ‘Holy mackerel, these are really good!'” he says. “I hadn’t realized how wonderful they were. I’m very proud to be involved and very humbled they asked me to fund the restoration.” The windows originally were a gift of the Classes of 1885 and 1891.

The windows were cleaned and restored by Martin Rambusch ’93 Arch. at his restoration company in Jersey City and installed at opposite ends of Hamilton’s renovated lobby, which now feature display cases showing the evolution of the Core, with a timeline, early syllabi and textbooks, fulfilling Quigley’s goal of creating “a display area for the history of the College and the Core.”

Renovation and upgrading of the building’s classrooms began in 2000 and continued through this past summer. Classrooms have been improved acoustically and wiring has been upgraded. Wood paneling encases the lower walls and windows and also frames the slate blackboards. Modern lighting is dimmable and motion-sensitive to conserve electricity. The College thanks the many alumni and parents whose support made this renovation possible.

The result is a Hamilton Hall that fulfills Quigley’s vision of a renovated building that “will serve in part to sustain the best of the original building, in part to recover some of its earlier splendor and in part to renew the resources it can provide for the changed world in which it now functions. Preservation, renovation and renewal provide the vital signs of a thriving college, never content with yesterday’s achievements nor forgetful enough of them to be dominated by the truisms of today or the trendiness of tomorrow.”

Columbia Announces Campaign for Undergraduate Education

BY ALEX SACHARE ’71

The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education will officially launch on Saturday, September 8, with an overall goal of raising $865 million to benefit the undergraduate community. This represents Columbia’s reaffirmation of the concept of placing undergraduate education, and especially the College, at the University’s core.

The undergraduate campaign, announced in conjunction with the celebration of Hamilton Hall’s 100th anniversary, is part of the $4 billion Columbia Campaign, which was formally launched in fall 2006 and is expected to conclude on December 31, 2011. Already, more than $2.2 billion has been raised.

“We have a historic opportunity to broaden and strengthen the financial base of undergraduate education at Columbia,” declares Richard Witten ’75, a co-chair of the Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Campaign as well as the larger Columbia Campaign. “It’s historic because the fundamental importance of a high-quality undergraduate program now is stage center at the University. And it hasn’t been that way at Columbia since the institution’s inception in 1754.”

Witten notes two other reasons why the timing is right for the campaign. “Never have our alumni felt so good about the institution and been in better position to help — wealthier, more important, more connected to Columbia. Also, as globalization continues, it becomes clear that only those great research institutions that have both the will and capacity to think globally will succeed.

“When you take all three of these things together, you get the perfect situation for us to engage in a monumental campaign of this sort.”

Michael B. Rothfeld ’69, chair of the College’s Board of Visitors and, like Witten, a University trustee, emphasizes the importance of building Columbia’s endowment through the campaign.

“In gross dollars, Columbia has the seventh largest university endowment in the United States, but its endowment per student is well below several Ivies and other peers,” he says. “The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education will build endowment in such critical areas as student financial aid and faculty development. For any alumna/us who cares about not only securing the College’s excellence but also making it more competitive, participation — at any level — is crucial.”

Those remarks echoed the words of Dean Austin Quigley and V.P. of Arts and Sciences Nicholas Dirks in a letter announcing the undergraduate campaign. “The campaign focuses us all on core academic needs at an auspicious moment,” they wrote. “A Columbia education has never been more highly valued than it is now, and for good reason. We have an opportunity to strengthen for the long term the foundation upon which our undergraduate mission depends.”

This campaign is an example of a significant change in philosophy at the University, which is committed to investing in the undergraduate community as never before. Five years ago, in an interview with CCT during his first week as University president, Lee C. Bollinger expressed his attitude toward undergraduate education this way: “I believe the general health of a university — and I mean by that the character of the scholarship that is being done, the nature of the interactions among faculty, staff and students, the very heart of the place — is dependent on whether there is a strong, vibrant desire, natural and instinctive, to educate and help the youngest members of the community. We know this as parents: You cannot live a healthy life, in all respects, if you ignore your children. The same is true with respect to a university and undergraduates.”

The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education is led by co-chairs Witten, Mark Kingdon ’71 and Philip Milstein ’71; committee co-chairs Rothfeld, Robert Berne ’60, Abigail Black Elbaum ’92, Jonathan Lavine ’88, Charles Santoro ’82 and George Van Amson ’74; and committee members Russell C. Horowitz ’88, Conrad Lung ’72, Phillip M. Satow ’63, Kyriakos Y. Tsakopoulos ’93 and Michael L. Winchell P’03, P’06, P’10.
"Columbia exposed me intellectually as well as socially to so many new experiences, people and ways of thinking about the world," says Lavine. "It helped me develop an intellectual openness and a curiosity that changed my life."

"Contributing directed funds to the capital campaign allows me to accomplish two goals at once: improving the quality of a Columbia education and helping to make a difference in many people's lives," states Kingdon. "Phil Millstein, Richard Witten and I have created a new institute for modern Jewish studies at Columbia, and I am supporting both research and practical work to promote religious and cultural tolerance."

The undergraduate campaign seeks to raise money for three broad areas — financial aid, student life and faculty support.

Financial aid long has been an issue for Columbia as for other schools. As the cost of a College education has risen, more students have been graduating with a significant amount of loan debt. The College announced last year that it would replace loans with grants for students with families whose income is below $50,000 a year, but to do so, and to increase the number of students eligible for grants and to extend financial aid to students from abroad, the endowment for financial aid must be significantly increased.

"Nothing characterizes Columbia more than the cumulative intellectual capacity and wide-ranging diversity of its student body," wrote Quigley and Dirks. "The single biggest goal in the campaign is to preserve that inclusive character by building endowment for student financial aid, with a campaign objective of $400 million for Columbia College alone. That is the only way to secure and strengthen the College's need-blind admissions and full-need financial aid programs."

"We compete in an Ivy League with well-endowed institutions, and to remain competitive, we have to be able to offer comparable financial aid packages;" observes Millstein. "The only way to do that is to raise endowment funds for financial aid. But there's more. Need-blind admissions and full-need financial aid are part of our culture, something that all graduates of the College believe in. We must preserve them because they are among our guiding principles."

This effort received a significant boost in April when John W. Kluge '37 announced the largest pledge ever for financial aid at any university, $400 million, of which $200 million will be directed to support College students. At the announcement, Kluge noted, "I was the beneficiary of a scholarship here and this institution made me a better person. I want other young people to benefit from this institution as I did." Kluge, who recognizes the need for others to step up as well, added, "I would like this gift to be a token of what alumni can and should do."

"He's exactly right," says Millstein. "We have not reached our goal. The need is still there. We can't just rely on the extreme generosity of one individual. Everyone should step up according to their ability."

Improving student services so as to create a positive, integrated student experience is another goal. "A successful campaign will enable us to increase substantially the number of academic advisors and career counselors, strengthen residential life staff, leadership programs, internship opportunities, study abroad options and fellowship guidance, and also improve the facilities and technological support these initiatives require," declared Quigley and Dirks. "Enhanced experiential education of every kind, coordinated closely with curricular programs, will better prepare students to be leaders, innovators and explorers in our world of social diversity, both national and international, and to deal with global opportunity and responsibility."

Building an endowment to sustain faculty, chiefly through the establishment of endowed professorships, is the third campaign objective. Goals have been set to increase the size of the professorial ranks teaching undergraduates by up to 10 percent and to create as many as 50 new professorial chairs, the latter spurred by a $37.5 million matching challenge established by Trustee Gerry Lenfest '58L at the campaign's launch. Postdoctoral lecturers will be added, and their positions endowed, to strengthen teaching in the Core Curriculum.

"We are way behind in terms of the number of endowed professorships, when you compare us to our peers," notes Millstein. "What could be a better moment to step up than the Lenfest challenge, which provides people who would like to create an endowed professorship an opportunity to do it at half the usual cost? We have more than enough outstanding professors who are worthy of recognition as endowed professors and who should be so recognized."

Campaign priorities also include endowment and ongoing support for faculty research as well as funds for construction of the new interdisciplinary science building at Broadway and 120th Street, the renovation of existing laboratories, offices and classrooms, and upgrades to student advising and the Center for Career Education.

Alex Sachare '71 is CCT's editor.
Ms. Alma Mater
Low Plaza, Columbia University
New York, NY 10027
États-Unis

Dear Alma:

I know, I know, it’s been an age. I’m really sorry — I should’ve written. You still don’t do e-mail, do you? And you don’t have a cell phone either, right? I guess that’s why I haven’t been in touch.

Anyway, I just had to write to you now — I’m visiting Paris! I know you preside over Columbia University in the City of New York, but there are so many reminders of Columbia here that I think you could almost say Paris is Columbia’s second city. The only foreign city that sees more of us is London, but people there talk sort of like us, so it doesn’t really seem all that foreign.

For decades, a summer visit to Paris has been nearly a rite of passage for College students. All the way back to the King’s College days, a lot of us have studied or worked here for a while after graduation. Right now, about 100 College alumni live in France, two-thirds of them in the capital. The numbers for the whole University are more than 10 times that; the Columbia University Alumni Club of France is only five years old, but it has almost 500 members.

I’ve been walking everywhere, and I keep seeing places with a link to Columbia College. As I’m sure you know, this city is divided into 20 arrondissements, and I think almost every one of them has some connection with the College.

Oh, I wish you could see Paris, Alma! You’d love it. You’d walk and walk and walk, and even with all the pastry you’d eat, I just know you’d lose some of those four tons. But let me describe a Columbian’s tour of Paris, specially for you. The route roughly follows the city’s spiraling arrondissements by number. I think you’ll be pleased, and surprised, at what I’ve found. Maybe you’ll even decide to come see for yourself.
Every College alum who visits Paris has to go right to the center of the city, to the Musée du Louvre, which is Art Hum come to life. In 1854, even before there was such a thing as Art Hum, architect James Renwick Jr. (Class of 1836) came to stand here and study the new additions to the Louvre for inspiration, because he was designing the first art museum in Washington, D.C., now the Smithsonian's Renwick Gallery. The buildings do have a family resemblance.

At the other end of the Jardin des Tuileries, the Louvre’s back yard, is the Musée de l’Orangerie, which reopened last year after six years of renovations. Visitors queue there to see Monet’s “Water Lilies” series and other Impressionist and post-Impressionist paintings. Below the museum, on the garden side, is a robust “Reclining Nude” by Henry Moore, the British sculptor. The lines of the piece might seem familiar to Columbians because another of his works, “Three-Way Piece: Points,” stands on Revson Plaza, the bridge over Amsterdam Avenue.

A few blocks up from the Orangerie, on the Place Vendôme, is the fabulous Hôtel Ritz, which is where the word “ritzy” comes from and which some folks think is the world’s finest place for a sleepover. The hotel scenes in Love in the Afternoon, the 1957 romantic comedy written by I.A.L. Diamond ’41 with director Billy Wilder, took place at the Ritz. Gary Cooper was the millionaire playboy (where but the Ritz would a millionaire playboy stay?), Maurice Chevalier the detective (his specialty: adultery cases) and Audrey Hepburn the detective’s naïve daughter (she fell for Cooper, big time). The picture gave new life to the old song “Fascination.” Somehow I doubt that you’ve attended a wedding in the past half-century, but if you had, you’d’ve heard it.

Just up the Rue de la Paix and around the corner at 5 Rue Daunou is Harry’s New York Bar, opened in 1911, where the Bloody Mary is supposed to have been devised. It’s a blatant tourist spot with a strongly Yankee theme: hot dogs on the menu, a 1930s-style piano lounge downstairs and a straw poll for American president every four years (you have to flash a U.S. passport to cast your vote). Harry’s walls are covered with flags and banners from colleges in the States and, yes, a faded baby blue Columbia pennant (Class of 1768). (Remember him? He penned much of our Constitution and did the final edit, including the “We the people...” part.) In 1789, he sailed to France to replace Thomas Jefferson as minister to France and arrived just in time for the French Revolution. He moved into the house at 95 Rue de Richelieu, now a chain hotel called the Malte. Later, he lived down the street at 63 Rue de Richelieu, and the house was later rebuilt into another chain hotel, the Cusset. Morris was the only diplomat to stay in town through the Reign of Terror, and he used his immunity to shelter several refugees in his rooms at No. 95. In the area around the Enfants Rouges market, in the third arrondissement, the attractive corner bar called Café Le Progrès (1 Rue de Bretagne) should look familiar to any Francophile film buff who has devoured Paris, je t’aime, a recent collection of vignettes filmed all over the city: During the segment that features Maggie Gyllenhaal ’99, her character buys a beer here.

If you do get to Paris, Alma, you’ll probably want to visit the modern art collection at the Centre Pompidou to check out what’s happened in the art world in the 100 years that you’ve been sitting above 116th Street. The museum rotates what’s on display, but you could get to see a landscape by Thomas Gilbert White (Class of 1900), some monochromatic paintings by Ad Reinhardt ’35 and, from the design collection, lamps and a coffee table by Isamu Noguchi ’26.

The Left Bank! The Latin Quarter! Of course you’d go there. At 269 Rue St. Jacques, not far from the Sorbonne, you should take a peek inside La Schola Cantorum, an English Benedictine abbey in the 17th century and now a music and ballet academy. Professor Douglas Moore, a Pulitzer-winning composer who taught in Columbia’s music department from 1926-62, studied composition and organ here. In the

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007 23
peaceful courtyard garden are three arts-themed bronze sculptures by Greg Wyatt '71, including one of a soaring Baryshnikov. (To gain entry, phone the school office at 01.43.54.15.39.)

This quarter holds some Columbia literary history, too. At 37 Rue de la Bucherie, right across the water from Notre Dame Cathedral, is Shakespeare and Company, an English-language bookstore. This isn’t the original Shakespeare shop of the 1920s, now gone. That one, several blocks away, was where Professor William York Tindall '25 bought a copy of Ulysses, which had been banned at home, launching his lifetime career in Joyce study. But at this Shakespeare, for decades now, every young, would-be writer and poet from Columbia has stopped by. Some have impressed the owner with their seriousness about literature, thus qualifying to spend the night on one of the cots in the scruffy, book-stuffed upper floor. There’s a City Lights poster of Kerouac up there, presumably for encouragement.

You’d get a kick out of what’s become of 9 Rue Git le Coeur, site of the flophouse where Allen Ginsberg ‘48 lived in the late ‘50s. (He worked on “Kaddish” there.) It’s been redone into a nice boutique hotel, the Vieux Paris, but the memory of the “Beat Hotel” days lives in vintage photos of Ginsberg and his writer pals on the reception area wall. At the corner, at 28 Rue St. André des Arts, is the former site of La Gentilhommière, which Kerouac called “the perfect bar.” Like his College hangout, The West End, the Paris bar of his day is gone; in its place is an Irish pub. Close enough.

Down at 117 Boulevard St. Germain is the building housing the Centre Américain of Sciences Po, France’s elite school of political studies. Sciences Po has close ties with Columbia, including dual master’s degree programs with SIPA. Through the years, many College junior-year-abroad students, recent graduates and faculty have been to the fourth floor of this building and to the rest of the school’s facilities, which are spread through the area.

Not far away, just off the river, is another influential Paris school, the École des Beaux Arts. Starting in the 19th century, anybody who wanted to be somebody in art or architecture did time here. That includes architect Edward Pearce Casey (Class of 1886); architect and muralist James Monroe Hewlett (Class of 1890); Charles Follen McKim, who, with William Mead and Stanford White, planned the Morningside campus; taxidermist-turned-sculptor George Grey Barnard, who did the sketches here for “The Great God Pan,” first stationed where Mudd now stands, then between Avery and Fayerweather, now in front of Lewisohn; Isaac Newton Phelps Dodge, who designed St. Paul’s Chapel; and Jacques Lipchitz, whose “Bellerophon Taming Pegasus,” his last and largest piece, is mounted over the plaza.

PARIS/COLUMBIA

To help launch the Columbia Alumni Association in Europe, CAA is hosting a forum in Paris on globalization, literature and the media from Friday, September 28–Sunday, September 30, and all alumni are invited. Confirmed speakers who will be joining President Lee C. Bollinger include former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan; Earth Institute Director Jeffrey Sachs; Nobel Laureates Joseph Stiglitz and Orhan Pamuk; Nicholas Lemann, dean of the Journalism School; Christine Ockrent, editor in chief of France Televisions; and Richard Sambrook, director of BBC Global News. For further information, please visit alumni.columbia.edu/paris2007.

CAA PARIS 2007

Across the street from the École, 17 Rue Bonaparte is where John Jay (Class of 1764) lived while he, John Adams and Ben Franklin negotiated peace with England after the revolution. Sometimes they and the Brits met up the street at No. 38, where they signed a preliminary agreement. The final peace treaty was concluded at 9 a.m. on September 3, 1783, in the chief British negotiator’s quarters around the corner at 56 Rue Jacob. If you remember your French, Alma, you could translate the plaque out front, which memorials the event.

To the west, some decades ago, 29 Rue de Verneuil was the Hôtel de Verneuil, a bare-bones residence for expat poets, writers and students from many countries. The address, much renovated, is residential now, but novelist Herbert Gold ‘46 remembers living there in the late ‘40s with James Baldwin and others. “I paid the equivalent of something like 50 cents a day,” Gold says. “There were no showers in the hotel — you had to go to the public bath — and just one Turkish toilet for the whole place.” Down the block today, there’s a much nicer Hôtel Verneuil, which some Baldwin fans (and some journalists) mis-
takenly take for the old place.

On the quai just beyond the Musée d'Orsay is France's Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, the foreign affairs ministry. Former University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) shared a Nobel Prize for his antirwar efforts culminating in the 1928 Pact of Paris (the Kellogg-Briand Pact), which was signed here.

A plaque outside 31 Avenue Bosquet reads “AUP” — that's the main building of the American University of Paris. The sign doesn’t mention the United States: 21st-century security.) The small U.S.-style institution was founded by Lloyd DeLamater '48, and these days counts among its faculty Jerome Charyn '59 in film and Roy Rosenstein '69 in English.

Deeper into the seventh arrondissement is UNESCO headquarters, at Place de Fontenoy. The Columbia connection here is inside: Noguchi’s version of a Japanese garden, with a stream, a bridge, a pond, a “Peace Fountain,” flowering cherry and plum trees, magnolias, bamboo and 80 tons of rocks imported from Japan. Anyone who can’t arrange a visit in advance has to make do by walking around to the Avenue Ségur side and peering over the stone wall to get a glimpse of the area.

More art: Everyone at Columbia knows the full-size bronze cast of Rodin’s The Thinker, who sits with his back to Philosophy Hall. I’m sure you remember when it came to campus, in 1930. Well, if you were in Paris with me, Alma, you could see the original at the Musée Rodin, 79 Rue de Varenne. It’s the centerpiece of the garden space right inside the entry, surrounded by manicured greenery and sitting on a much higher pedestal than the campus version.

Back on the Right Bank, 133 Avenue des Champs Élysées is where Dwight D. Eisenhower had his top-floor office as Supreme Commander of NATO forces, a position he held while he was still Columbia’s president. During 1951 and 1952, I think he spent more time in Paris than on campus; he traded a view of your backside, Alma, for a view of the Arc de Triomphe. In the lobby, a marble plaque identifies Ike as Supreme Commander of Expeditionary Forces during World War II and later as President of the USA — the academic job he held in between is conspicuously missing. This building is a replacement; the old one was destroyed in a spectacular fire. Its ground floor houses the new version of the '60s icon Le Drugstore, a glitzy, ultra-today purveyor of everything. I suspect Ike might have taken one look and asked, “For this I saved France?”

At the other end of the Champs is Avenue du Général Eisenhower, a short street alongside the Grand Palais. It’s a nice honor, although nearby, Franklin D. Roosevelt (a Law School dropout) has a bigger avenue entry area that’s best described as, well, grand. As a child, Oscar Hammerstein ’16 once stayed here with his theater-manager father. That was the first time he saw Paris. Later, after the Nazis occupied the city, he wrote:

The last time I saw Paris, her heart was warm and gay,
I heard the laughter of her heart in every street café.

Today, the cheapest double at the Grand goes for about $900 a night, which is nothing to laugh about.

If you stroll just above the Grand and the Opéra to the streets around the church of Notre Dame de Lorette, the general look of 21 Rue Laffitte, a huge stone-and-glass block with terraces below, might ring a bell. Originally sheltering the Paris offices of the House of Rothschild, now the home of a big pension and insurance company, the building was co-designed by Max Abramovitz, whose résumé includes the United Nations complex, Central Intelligence Agency headquarters and, on the Columbia campus, Greene Hall.

In a surprisingly quiet area just below the always-busling Place de Clichy is 36 Rue Ballu, a corner building once home to Nadia Boulanger, the legendary music teacher. The small square in front of the building is named for Nadia’s younger sister, Lili, a
composer prodigy who died at 24. A notice on the building front commemorates the "deux grandes musiciennes." For decades, in a fourth-floor apartment (fifth floor, to Americans), Nadia saw a parade of composition students, many of whom composed their way into the top ranks. Among them are some Columbia names you might remember, including Elie Siegmeister '27, Richard Franko Goldman '30 and Professor Moore.

In the 1920s, below Pigalle, the "adult entertainment" district, there was a famous jazz club at 52 Rue Jean-Baptiste Pigalle. That was Le Grand Duc, where Richard Franko Goldman '30 and Professor Moore. In the 1920s, below Pigalle, the "adult entertainment" district, there was a famous jazz club at 52 Rue Jean-Baptiste Pigalle. That was Le Grand Duc, where

**PARIS/COLUMBIA**

**Montrarnasse.** Enter the cemetery through the main entrance on Boulevard Edgar Quinet, walk straight past Sarthe and de Beauvoir, take a left at Ionesco and then the first right to the small subsection of section two, where you'll find a plain, dark, polished stone marking the grave of Susan Sontag, who taught at the College in the '60s. She was crazy about Paris, which she once called "the alternative capital of my imagination."

Just north of the cemetery, at Please, Alma, if you do get to Paris, make the effort to find Rue de Chevreuse, a short side street off the Boulevard de Montparnasse. At No. 4 is Reid Hall, Columbia's academic home in Paris since 1964. Behind an unrevealing street door (you have to go inside to see a sign with the Columbia name) is a lovely, early-18th-century compound: a cobble-stoned courtyard and garden surrounded by ghost-white buildings with offices, class-

Langston Hughes '25 did kitchen work and bused tables while he was turning himself into a poet. He was paid 15 francs a night plus breakfast. Today, the club is gone in favor of a place that advertises Chinese teas and mul- ticultural artistic gatherings. Lettering on the side of the building announces, in English: "HOT SEXY ARTISTS / ART ART ART / INSIDE VIDEO." Alma, I'm not sure this is a place for you.

Here's another Columbia-connected area of the Left Bank you should visit, Alma: Montparnasse. You could start at the final resting place of many renowned writers and artists, Cimetière Montparnasse. Enter the cemetery through the main entrance on Boulevard Edgar Quinet, walk straight past Sarthe and de Beauvoir, take a left at Ionesco and then the first right to the small subsection of section two, where you'll find a plain, dark, polished stone marking the grave of Susan Sontag, who taught at the College in the '60s. She was crazy about Paris, which she once called "the alternative capital of my imagination."

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29 Rue Delambre, is Smoke, a popular jazz-and-blues-themed neighborhood bar-restaurant named for the 1995 film written by Paul Auster '69 and starring Harvey Keitel and William Hurt. The place is papered with black-and-white photos of jazz musicians — Bird, Miles, Sonny, Trane — and plenty of atmosphere. (Although with France's new anti-smoking drive, pretty soon the bar's air may no longer match its name.) Auster, by the way, is huge in Paris, where he once lived for a few years. On my way down to Montparnasse, I saw his face in several Métro stations, on big posters advertising his latest French best-seller.

rooms, lounges and other facilities for academic programs now extended to many other American colleges and universities — a real mini-campus and cultural exchange center. The College French department advises French majors and concentrators to spend a semester or two at Reid; how could anyone say non?

Between the cemetery and the Gare Montparnasse, at 25 Rue du Commandant Mou-chotte, is AMF Bowling Montparnasse, site of the annual Columbia-Harvard Bowling Challenge, a rivalry between the Columbia University Alumni Club of France and its crimson counterpart from Cambridge.

Back to the Right Bank again, for a look at Columbia connections in the western part of town. A good place to start is the Passerelle Debilly, the footbridge over the Seine that director Brian DePalma '62 used as a key location in *Femme Fatale*, starring Antonio Banderas and Rebecca Romijn. Just east of the footbridge, a couple of centuries ago, an early alum entered transportation history. During the Jefferson administration, Robert Livingston (Class of 1764) came to the French capital, the second King's College man to serve as minister to France. While he was negotiating the Louisiana Purchase,
got together with another Yank living in Paris, Robert Fulton, and the two hatched a plan to develop a steamship. Fulton was the tech guy, Livingston the venture capitalist and the insider who arranged for exclusivity in New York State waterways. They built one model that sank, but in 1803 tested a stronger version in the Seine, along Avenue de New York. That one, a paddle wheeler that puffed along at three miles an hour as a crowd watched, was a winner.

Oh, Alma, I found a cousin of yours in Paris! He’s right in the middle of the roomy Place d’Iena, in front of the Musée Guimet, and his name is George Washington. He’s big and bronze and he was made by the sculptor Daniel Chester French, just like you and Abe Lincoln, in Washington, D.C. He’s in uniform, with his sword raised to the sky and on horseback — but French didn’t make the horse, just the general. And guess who designed his pedestal? The same group that designed his uniform, with his sword raised to the sky and on horseback — but French didn’t make the horse, just the general. And guess who designed his pedestal? The same group that made yours: McKim, Mead & Pedestal? The same group that made yours: McKim, Mead & Emery called La Boite à Films, or Studio Obligado, and it ran Phantom, which a lot of French consider an original kitsch masterpiece, for 10 years or more. Although the theater has been gone since 1987, many Parisians of a certain age remember the place and the picture well.

Another of the College’s moviemakers spent some shooting time out in the 19th arrondissement, in the far northeast corner of the city. Night on Earth (1991), written and directed by Jim Jarmusch ’75, tells of simultaneous nighttime cab rides in five cities around the world. ("Five Taxis, Five Cities, One Night," the poster said.) The Paris ride ends, after much talk about life, as the driver discharges a blind passenger by the Canal de l’Ourcq.

Close by the canal is a great place to explore: the Parc de la Villette, the largest park in Paris. It has a science and technology museum, a big music center, and sport and recreation areas. In the 1980s, it was created from a district of slaughterhouses by Bernard Tschumi, who later became Columbia’s architecture dean and designed Lerner Hall. His job in Paris was to make a new play space for Parisians. On the campus, it was to make a new student center for Columbians. Were the assignments all that different?

And if you had time to go out of town, Alma, you could travel to Marne-la-Vallée and visit Disneyland Resort Paris to see the two giant hotels designed by Robert A.M. Stern ’60, the architect who designed the Broadway residence hall at 113th Street. For Disney, he came up with the Newport Bay Club, a smashing version of the grand 19th-century New England resorts, and the Hotel Cheyenne, an entire Hollywood-style Western town. Can you imagine if Disney did Morningside?

Well, what about it, Alma? Have I convinced you to get up off your chair and go to Paris? I think I’m going to go get one of those pastries myself. I’ll write again soon. Promise.

In lumine tuo from the City of Light. And à bientôt!

Dan Carlinsky ’65

Dan Carlinsky ’65, a magazine journalist, author and literary agent, visits France as often as he can.
Peter Nash ’89 has been a basketball star, Ivy League student, hip-hop pioneer and baseball historian and now is a budding documentary filmmaker. He can rap with hip-hop legends Run-DMC as easily as he can discuss the life stories of 19th-century ballplayers, and, yes, he can see that there does not seem to be much that links the two.

Nash’s endless passion is the connection.

“It’s a little different, I guess,” says Nash. “But it’s who I am.”

Nash learned about rap while playing basketball. He researched long-dead baseball players while touring the world with his seminal rap group. He helped create a film about a legendary Red Sox fan that has now helped inspire another documentary about white artists playing “black” music.

“There was no doubt that Pete had always had something else going on in his head. He’s always looking for his next move,” says Michael Berrien, who, as MC Serch, teamed up with Nash — then known as Prime Minister Pete Nice — in the 1980s to form the successful and critically acclaimed rap duo 3rd Bass. “The guy can do anything he sets his mind to.”

Stories about basketball or hip-hop often begin in Brooklyn. So does this one; Nash, who was born in the Greenpoint section of the borough, was introduced to both while spending time with Bishop Ford H.S.’s basketball teams. Nash’s father, Raymond, was athletics director at the Brooklyn school.

“I was such a gym rat as a kid, I’d be ballboy on a number of my father’s teams and I’d just hang out with the players,” says Nash. “When the teams would travel, I’d be with them for a week at a time. These were guys from city high schools who were listening to hip-hop that I would not have had access to otherwise. We’d be at Syracuse for a tournament and there I was on the quad, at 10, being taught ‘the Batman dance.’

“Basketball, more than anything, gave me hip-hop.”

Nash, who starred in baseball and basketball at Bishop Ford, considered attending the Naval Academy or St. Bonaventure before deciding to enroll at Columbia in 1985. “I knew I wanted to go where I’d get the best education. It came down to academics, yes, and also wanting to stay in New York to pursue rap, even as a hobby.”

In high school, Nash had worked on his rhymes as much as his jump shot and slowly gained poetry and the Greek classics to his own writings.

“I was a struggling college student trying to pay the bills, and my mother wasn’t too thrilled with me pursuing music,” says Nash, an English major. “I was going to be a starving artist forever if I didn’t catch a break.”

He caught two: One of his tapes found its way into the hands of Russell Simmons, the legendary founder of Def Jam Records, and he was introduced to MC Serch, a slightly more seasoned rapper.

“Friends were telling me, ‘You two should really hook up. You’re going to be competing against each other, so why don’t you join forces?’” recalls MC Serch. “When I heard the beat, it was very different from anything I had worked on.”

The first song they recorded, “Words of Wisdom,” later became one of the newly-named 3rd Bass’ first hits. Though still unsigned to a record label, they were offered a slot to open for Run-DMC on a tour of Europe, but Nash — now known as Prime Minister Pete Nice — first had seen about breaking a prior commitment.

“I had to go to my adviser and ask if I could take a semester off in order to go on a world tour,” he says.

3rd Bass’ first single came out just days after Nash’s graduation and later that year, as they were opening for De La Soul in England, their first album, “The Cactus Album,” began catching fire in the States, selling more than 25,000 copies a week.

“For the first time, I knew we could make a living making music,” says MC Serch, who now hosts a show on VH-1 and is the acceptance of a hip-hop community that initially didn’t know what to make of a white rapper. But music clubs were not where Nash honed most of his verses — it was his Johnson (now Wien) Hall dorm room.

“I spent so much of time focusing on my demos,” he says. “I was injured a lot, and didn’t get on the court much, but my paper ankles gave me more time for music.”

Nash’s junior year began with yet another injury. Asked to redshirt a season, a choice that would have entailed shelling out another year’s worth of tuition, Nash said no, thanks.

In summer 1986, he hosted the first show to play rap music on WKCR. Though it was not renewed at summer’s end, Nash became committed to pursuing a rap career, applying lessons learned from his classes on modern
involved in several Internet music projects. Showcasing witty lyrics and clever beats, 3rd Bass picked feuds with the Beastie Boys and, most memorably, the much-derided Vanilla Ice, whom they slammed with the song that became their biggest hit, "Pop Goes the Weasel."

As his relationship with Serch grew strained in the wake of their second album, "Derelicts of Dialect," Nash began to devote himself more to his other love — baseball.

"I never lost my interest as a baseball fan. When the group toured, I planned for us to see games at places like Wrigley Field [in Chicago] and Fenway Park [in Boston]," Nash said.

"He always made sure we hit a memorabilia store. Even in Japan he'd visit old baseball players," said Serch.

The group split up in 1992 and neither artist found much success with his initial solo work. Nash turned his attention to starting a record label, but after it faltered, he devoted himself to baseball full-time. His first step was buying a house in Cooperstown, N.Y., the picturesque community that is home to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Next, he teamed with several partners to develop Cooperstown Dreams Park, a youth baseball facility that soon became home to a national tournament that drew teams from all over the country.

Nash then looked toward home for his next project.

"As a Bishop Ford freshman I took a walking tour of Green-Wood Cemetery [in Brooklyn] and I remember the teacher telling us that some old ballplayers were buried there," he said. "I dug in with my research and discovered that a couple hundred of the early baseball figures in Brooklyn, some very important people in the game's growth between 1840-70, were all buried there."

The resulting book, Baseball Legends of Brooklyn's Green-Wood Cemetery, was published by Arcadia Press in 2003 and the former Pete Nice was suddenly a respected baseball historian. Wanting to give his impressive collection of memorabilia a new home while paying tribute to an oft-overlooked part of the baseball world, Nash set about creating the Baseball Fan Hall of Fame in Cooperstown.

The first shrine dedicated to the baseball fanatic, the Hall was to be a homage to Michael McGreevy, a late 19th-century bar owner in Boston who many historians believe was the biggest baseball fan of all. Founder of the Royal Rooters, a club dedicated to the Boston Americans (now Red Sox), McGreevy owned the city's first sports bar.

And Nash couldn't help but like the bar's name. "Coincidentally, it was called the Third Base Saloon," said Nash. "It was the perfect backdrop to the museum we wanted to build."

While painstakingly recreating the ancient bar in Cooperstown, Nash turned his research into another book, Boston's Royal Rooters. Before the book was published in 2005, it caught the attention of The Dropkick Murphys, a Boston-based Irish punk band that was in the midst of recording a version of "Tessie," the Royal Rooters theme song that gained new life during the Red Sox's championship season of 2004.

"Originally, we just wanted to use some of his images for the video the Murphys were doing," says director Ian MacFarland. "But Pete showed up in my apartment with all this crazy memorabilia and it really was clear how important these [early fans] were to Boston's history."

"About halfway during the meeting I realized where I knew this guy," says MacFarland. "Prime Minister Pete Nice was in my living room talking baseball!"

The music video soon spawned ideas of a full-length documentary, which took nearly two years to assemble.

"I'd never met anyone who works as many hours as I do until I met Pete," says MacFarland, who got his start filmi ng several New England punk bands. "I'd call him at all hours, day or night, and he'd always be working on something."

The documentary, which debuted this summer on the New England Sports Network and was to be released on DVD, may also bring history to life in more ways than one.

"The Red Sox have been talking to us about relocating our replica of McGreevy's Bar to the actual Fenway Park area," Nash said. "We've had some conversations, and while I still want a Fan Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, this may be an opportunity too grand to turn down."

Charles Steinberg, executive vice president/public affairs for the Red Sox, says, "I think it would resonate beautifully in Boston. We're working on the logistics now, and we want to make it happen whether that is in a year or two. It's very easy to imagine the 3rd Base Saloon having a new home in the area around Fenway."

Steinberg had nothing but praise for Nash. "While I was among those who was not knowledgeable of his music career, many of the other folks in our office knew him and were thrilled. When I introduced them, they started rapping his lyrics back to him!"

Last year, Nash and his wife, Roxanne, welcomed their first child, William. And, as the family shuttles between upstate New York and Long Island, Nash is both putting the finishing touches on Rooters: The Birth of Red Sox Nation and starting to work on his next project: a documentary on the white appropriation of black music, told through the eyes of white MCs. Its title is The White Negro. He is also working on a biography of early baseball writer Henry Chadwick and his contributions to the sport, including many rare, vintage images from the Chadwick Collection, of which he is owner and curator.

"In strange ways, it seems that everything I do is sort of connected," says Nash. "These are all things that I've long been interested in."

Jonathan Lemire '01 is a staff writer for The New York Daily News, a frequent contributor to CCT and a loyal member of Red Sox Nation.
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1999
John A. Kellerman

2000
Joseph A. Koerner

2001
George A. Kateb

2002
Charles Londa

2003
William A. Baker

2004
John F. Patten

2005
Donald N. Scofield

2006
Takashi Kako

2007
Michael Pinto
An ice sculpture of a lion stood sentinel on Low Steps during the annual Starlight Reception on Saturday night of Alumni Reunion Weekend.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARREDO
**Bookshelf**

**Confucian Tradition & Global Education** by William Theodore de Bary ’41, John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus, Provost Emeritus and Special Service Professor in East Asian Language and Culture. De Bary’s book, which also contains contributions by Cheung Chan Fai and Kwan Tze-Wan, asserts the importance of the Chinese classics and argues for their inclusion in a global humanities curriculum (Columbia University Press, $32.50).


**A Sixty-Year Ride through the World of Education by Rudolph H. Weingartner ’50.** Weingartner’s book describes his educational experiences as student, administrator and professor on two continents and at a dozen institutions (Hamilton Books, $25).

**Galileo’s Gout: Science In An Age of Endarkenment** by Dr. Gerald Weissmann ’50. Weissmann, director of the Biotechnology Study Center at the NYU School of Medicine and an acclaimed essayist, deplores the ascendancy of creationist thinking and science illiteracy, which, he argues, could be leading our society into an age of “endarkenment” (Bellevue Literary Press, $25).

**Kuperman’s Fire** by John J. Clayton ’56. A novel of one man’s moral struggle when he discovers that his company’s merger partner is illegally selling chemical weapons abroad. As pressure grows, the Kuperman family goes into hiding, and the experience changes how they define their relationships and heritage (The Permanent Press, $26).


**The Blessed Human Race: Essays on Reconsideration** by George Jochnowitz ’58. Jochnowitz, who taught in China during the Tianamen Massacre, describes the drastic change in his political thinking after that event and his conclusion that “the human race’s virtue is found in questioning rather than obedience” (Hamilton Books, $49.95 cloth, $22.95 paperback).

**Placing for Uncertainty: Living Wills and Other Advance Directives for You and Your Family** (Second Edition) by Dr. David Dousos and Dr. William Reichel ’58. This valuable resource guides readers through the advance-directives process using a question and answer format (Johns Hopkins Press, $18.95).

**The Invention of Painting in America** by David Rosand ’59, Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History. Rosand recounts the story of American painting and its rise from obscure and provincial beginnings to international prominence (Columbia University Press, $17.95).

**The Battle of Prestonpans 1745** by Martin B. Margulies ’61. Margulies, professor emeritus of law at Quinnipiac University, takes a detailed look at the Battle of Prestonpans, the first major battle of the 1745 Jacobite Rising (Temple, distributed by Trafalgar Square, $37.95).

**Writing for the Web 3.0 by Crawford Kilian ’62.** An instructional manual on how to design new Web pages or update existing ones with graphics, animation and sound in order to capture readers; includes a CD with the basics of Web-writing and practice exercises (Self-Counsel Press, $16.95).

**Reading Material for “Oz in Perspective”**

- **Myth in the L. Frank Baum Books** by Richard Ti Eck ’63 Tuerk, a professor of literature and languages at Texas A&M, looks at the first 14 full-length books in Baum’s Wizard of Oz series (McFarland, $35).

- **Robert Ludlum’s The Bourne Betrayal** by Eric Van Lustbader ’68. In Lustbader’s continuation of Ludlum’s bestselling series, Jason Bourne tries to rescue a CIA buddy who vanished while monitoring shipments of yellowcake uranium (Warner Books, $27.99).

- **Everybody Eats There: Inside the World’s Legendary Restaurants** by William Stadiem ’69 and Mara Gibbs. In this book — part travelogue and part social commentary — the authors look at 100 glamorous and exclusive restaurants around the world, their rise to fame and the A-list personalities who frequent them (Artisan, $29.95).

- **The Clarks of Cooperstown by Nicholas Fox Weber ’69.** Weber, the author of a respected biography of the painter Balthus, tells the intriguing story of a family of larger-than-life art collectors, the wealthy Clarks (Knopf, $35).

- **Jade Rooster by R.L. Crossland 70.** This nautical novel by a retired Navy officer, set in “the hardboiled underworld of early 20th Century Japan,” features an eccentric Columbia scholar...
Eugene Drucker ’73: A Violinist Turns His Hand to Fiction

“First and foremost, I am a musician,” points out violinist Eugene Drucker ’73, a member of the Grammy Award-winning Emerson String Quartet. But the classical musician says that writing his first novel, The Savior: A Novel (Simon & Schuster, $23), gave him “the opportunity to create a story that was very compelling.”

Drucker tells the WWII story of Gottfried Keller, a German violinist recruited by the Kommandant of a concentration camp to partake in a lurid experiment involving an audience of 30 camp prisoners. The experiment’s goal, the Kommandant explains, is to “kindle in them the hope to live again” by exposing them to solo violin music—Bach, Ysaye, Paganini and Hindemith, as performed by Keller.

Involuntarily, Keller takes part in the bored Kommandant’s twisted experiment. The novel becomes a psychological portrait of the violinist as he struggles with the daunting task of moving a damned audience. As he plays, he is haunted by memories of his Jewish girlfriend, Marietta, and Jewish composer friend, Ernst, both of whom left Germany while he remained behind. As the novel progresses, the reader becomes increasingly immersed in Keller’s growth as a musician and his simultaneous struggle with morality.

Many of the events in the novel, Drucker says, are based on his father’s life in Germany in the 1930s. A member of the Jewish Kulturbund Orchestra in Frankfurt, Drucker’s father received support from Gentile musician friends during rough times before he immigrated to the United States in 1938. Another part of Drucker’s inspiration for the novel came from his experience in preparing for the Queen Elizabeth International Music Competition in 1976. “I heard that the jury members would be directly in front of the stage, which frightened me,” he says. To get ready for the competition, Drucker performed concerts in hospitals, drug rehabilitation centers and psychiatric wards in and around New York. In his book, he draws on an experience at an alcoholic ward at Juilliard in which he was soloist, and literature humanities preceptor Stephen Donadio, now on the faculty at Middlebury College.

In 1976, Drucker became a founding member of the Emerson Quartet, which has received critical acclaim worldwide and is the quartet in residence at SUNY Stony Brook. In its upcoming season, the Emerson Quartet plans to perform the chamber works of Brahms at Lincoln Center as well as record works by Bach, Martinu and Janácek on the Deutsche Grammophon label. Drucker also will be an adjunct faculty member at the Bard College Conservatory of Music.

Though music is foremost, Drucker is determining what to write next. He should be encouraged by his early reviews: The L.A Times called The Savior “tightly plotted and deeply affecting.” As Drucker sees it, the novel has helped him merge the two aspects of his life he explored while at Columbia and Juilliard. “If I hadn’t gone to Columbia, I wouldn’t have written this book; because of that, I had this strong yearning to finish [the novel], I otherwise might have had the same interest, but I don’t think it would have been written.”

Maryam Parhizkar ’09

Columbia College Authors! Please send us your latest book to be included in an upcoming issue. We welcome new or recently published books by College alumni, faculty and students, as well as books about the College and its people. Please send early-stage copies as promptly as possible to:

Bookshelf Editor
Columbia College Today
475 Riverside Dr., Ste 917
New York, NY 10115-0998
named Stuyvesant Draper (Broadsides Press, $17.95).

Global Climate Change and U.S. Law edited by Michael B. Gerrard '72. The editor, a partner at Arnold & Porter, has assembled a comprehensive resource that looks at U.S. law as it relates to global climate change (American Bar Association, $59.95).

Classical Japanese Reader and Essential Dictionary by Haruo Shirane '74, Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature: A textbook that contains easy as well as difficult readings and addresses an array of grammatical concerns. Each piece is accompanied by an English introduction, a vocabulary list and grammatical notes (Columbia University Press, $49.50).


The Visible World by Mark Slouka ’80. The author’s second novel follows the life of the son of post-WWII Czech immigrants as he struggles to learn his mother’s tragic past (Houghton Mifflin, $24).

Why Kerouac Matters: The Lessons of On The Road (They’re Not What You Think) by John Leland ’81. Leland, author of Hip: The History, takes a long, insightful look at Kerouac and his classic novel On the Road, where he finds “lessons about how to grow up” (Penguin, $23.95).

We Band of Mothers: Autism, My Son and The Specific Carbohydrate Diet by Judith (Gorman) Chinitz ’86 with commentary by Sidney M. Baker. Chinitz’s autistic son, Alex, had difficulty sleeping and keeping down nutrients, but the Specific Carbohydrate Diet brought about remarkable changes (Autism Research Institute, $20).

Coltrane: The Story of A Sound by Ben Ratliff ’90. New York Times jazz critic Ratliff tells the story of the legendary musician’s development, influence and legacy (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, $23.00).

The Dry Eye Remedy: The Complete Guide to Restoring the Health and Beauty of Your Eyes by Dr. Robert Latkany ’93. The author offers practical, non-surgical methods to restore eye health, such as a Home Eye Spa Program, environmental adjustments, lifestyle changes and information on which medical prescriptions and procedures to seek or avoid (Hatherleigh Press, $15.95).

Singing for Freedom: The Hutchinson Family Singers and the Nineteenth-Century Culture of Antebellum Reform by Scott Gac ’95. America’s most famous 19th-century singing group, the Hutchinson Family Singers, sang on behalf of the reform issues of their day: temperance and anti-slavery reform. Gac’s book is the first full portrait of these early protest singers (Yale University Press, $45).


Last One In by Nicholas Kulish ’97. This first novel by Kulish, an editorial writer for The New York Times, describes the alternately hard and hilarious times of a New York gossip columnist who ends up embedded with a group of Marines in Iraq (Harper Perennial/Ecco, $13.95).

For All White-Collar Workers: The Possibilities of Radicalism in New York City’s Department Store Unions, 1934-1953 by Daniel J. Opler ’97. Opler, an assistant professor at the College of Mount Saint Vincent, studies the early attempts to unionize department-store and retail-store workers (Ohio State University Press, $49.95).

Witness in Palestine: Journal of a Jewish American Woman in the Occupied Territories by Anna Baltzer ’02. The author recounts her travels in the Middle East and Palestinian territories to discover the impact of the conflict on the people living in those regions (Paradigm Publishers, $62).

Zoology by Ben Dolnick ’04. A debut novel about Henry, a college flunkout who spends a summer living in New York City with his older brother and gets a job at the Central Park Zoo. The joys of a good job and an exciting city, however, quickly unravel due to love and family problems (Vintage Books, $12.95).

Nakba: Palestine, 1948, and the Claims of Memory edited by Ahmad H. Sa’id and Lila Abu-Lughod, professor of anthropology. A study of the ways in which Palestinians have remembered the “Nakba,” the traumatic 1948 event in which hundreds of thousands were displaced in order to create the state of Israel (Columbia University Press, $27.50 paper, $72.50 cloth).

Iran: A People Interrupted by Hamid Dabashi, Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature. This book traces the political and cultural history of Iran during the past 200 years while filling the gaps in our understanding of a country often portrayed in the United States as antagonistic (New Press, $26.95).

Public Passions: The Trial of Shi Jianqiao and the Rise of Popular Sympathy in Republican China by Eugenia Leman, assistant professor of history. In a chronicle of the 1935 murder trial of Shi Jianqiao, who killed warlord Sun Chuanfeng as he prayed in a Buddhist temple, the author shows how the act was planned to attract media attention and galvanize the new rise of “public sympathy” (University of California Press, $45).


Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard
Benjamin E. Greenberg '29

Benjamin E. Greenberg, retired radiologist, Evanston, Ill., on May 20, 2007. Born in New York City on August 22, 1907, Greenberg earned his M.D. in 1932 from New York State University Medical School, Downstate, in Brooklyn. After a period of private practice, he joined the military in 1942 and served in the medical corps until 1946, reaching the rank of major. Having completed a course of self-study in radiology during his military service, Greenberg became a board-certified radiologist in 1947 when he entered VA service in Memphis. He was the chief, radiology service, VAH Memphis, from 1947-74, and in 1965 was appointed the medical corps until 1946. During his 32-year career as a commercial pilot, Rucker flew for the old Pennsylvania Central Airlines, Capital Airlines and then United Airlines until his 1977 retirement. After his military service and airline career, Rucker became a real estate agent with Barcroft Properties in Falls Church, Va., and volunteered with Travelers Aid at Dulles International Airport for more than 10 years. He enjoyed ballroom dancing and was a member of the Washington Cotillion. Rucker’s wife of 46 years, June Stones Rucker, died in 1991. Survivors include his daughters, Suzanne Horstman, Karen Vincent and Janice DeHaven; six grandchildren; and three great-granddaughters.

Robert C. Toussaint, retired actuary, Bernardsville, N.J., on August 19, 2006. Toussaint was born and raised in Jersey City. He joined the Army in 1941 and was a first lieutenant in the South Pacific and Germany. Toussaint earned a master’s in statistics from CSAS in 1950. A former actuary in New York City, he enjoyed boating at his summer home on Long Beach Island and was an accomplished harmonica player. Toussaint and his late wife, Evelyn, were active members of the First Presbyterian Church in Bernardsville. He is survived by his children, Joan Olsen and her husband, George, Lynne Ingraham and her husband, Paul, Gail Cuerke and her husband, Larry, and Robert Jr., and his wife, Claudia; nine grandchildren; two great-grandsons; sister, Adele W. Rolly; niece; nephew; and cousin. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 800-342-2383, ext. 8130.

Burton C. Rush '38

Burton C. Rush, retired graphic and design studio owner, Gaithersburg, Md., on March 22, 2007. Born on May 17, 1917, Rush grew up in Brooklyn. He graduated from Erasmus Hall H.S. in 1935 and from Teachers College in 1939. In 1944, Rush co-founded Graphics Institute and in 1955 he started Visual Services, both graphics and design studios. Visual Services provided the artwork, layout, charts and photo research for several major high school social studies texts in the 1950s and 1960s. Rush married Betsy Pifer in 1945, and in 1958 they moved to Briarcliff, N.Y., where they raised four children. The family moved to Ossining, N.Y., in 1990. In retirement, the Rushes traveled to more than 30 countries on five continents. Rush’s passion for photography and history led him to develop more than 50 “Magic Carpet” travel slide shows, which he presented at senior citizen centers throughout Westchester. His other passion was tennis, and he won a number of local tournaments. Rush and his wife moved to Gaithersburg in 2004. He is survived by her; sons, Peter, Timothy and Barney; daughter, Lucy; and six grandchildren.
was credited with helping to defuse the tension between students and administration in the second half of the 1964–65 academic year. He left Berkeley in 1966 to become president at what is now the University at Buffalo, leaving in 1969. Meyerson was University of Pennsylvania’s president from 1970-81. After retiring from Penn, he served on boards and in advisory positions. Meyerson was principal author of five books, notably Politics, Planning and the Public Interest. He received a JohnJay Award in 1982. Meyerson is survived by his wife of 61 years, Margy; sons, Adam and Matthew; and seven grandchildren. A daughter, Laura, predeceased him.

1943

H. George Greim, retired naval commander and retired v.p., Madison, Conn., on March 27, 2006. Greim served in WW II in the Lighter Than Air Corps. He earned an M.S. from the Business School in 1950 and was a retired v.p. of manufacturing of Newton in New Haven. Greim was an elected Board member of the town of Fanwood, N.J., and had been the New Jersey state chairman of AAU Swimming. In Madison, he was on the Planning and Zoning Commission, was a past president of the Republican Town Committee, a board member of the Madison Foundation and an officer of the Madison Property Owners’ Association. Greim is survived by his wife, Marion Tolles Greim; daughters, Joanne Fox, and Margaret Hannigan and her husband, Lorie Dixson; four grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Margaret DeVore. Memorial contributions may be made to the Madison Foundation c/o Richard Benson, 20 Milo Dr., Madison, CT 06443.

Stephen F. Krantz, producer and writer, Bel Air, Calif., on January 4, 2007. Krantz was born in Brooklyn on May 20, 1923, attended Manual Training H.S. and graduated magna cum laude in 1943 for helping his shipmates in the Pacific during WWII as a second lieutenant. He was a producer and writer for WNEW radio in New York before moving to NBC by his wife, Gloria, in 1999, after 49 years of marriage, and a daughter, Marilyn, in 1988. Survivors include sons Kenneth and Roger.

1949

Albert L.E. Gastmann, professor of political science emeritus, Hartford, Conn., on February 1, 2007. Gastmann was born in Arnheim, Netherlands, on October 28, 1919, and spent his childhood living where his father, a Dutch ambassador, was posted, including Indonesia, Iran, Canada, Germany and many of the United States. He served in the Netherlands Armed Services during WWII and then at the Netherlands Embassy in Chungking, China. Gastmann taught in Lima and earned an M.A. in international relations in 1953 from GSAS. He started his teaching career at Trinity College as an instructor of modern languages; he was fluent in Dutch, German, French, Spanish and English. Gastmann earned his Ph.D. from GSAS in 1964 and became a full professor of political science at Trinity in 1975, a position he held until his 1990 retirement. He spent four years teaching in Curacao in the 1970s and a number of seminars teaching at Trinity’s Rome campus. Gastmann is the author or co-author of many articles and books. He is survived by relatives in Paris. Memorial contributions may be made to Trustees of Trini- tity College, Trinity College, 300 Summit St., Hartford, CT 06106, for the benefit of The Gastmann Fund for the Rome Campus.

1950

John P. Loth, artist, Freeport, Maine, on January 1, 2007. Loth was born on August 12, 1922, in Brooklyn. He left the College to enter the Navy during WWII and participated in several major actions while deployed in the Pacific, including Iwo Jima and Saipan. Following the war, Loth enrolled in the Art Students League in New York and pursued a career in graphic arts. In 1959, he married Anne Louise Dorsey of Portland, Maine, and several years later they moved to a cottage on the shore of the Har- rasecket River in Freeport. Their home and its surroundings inspired much of Loth’s art; he created paintings and illustrations in a variety of media and won many awards and titles. He was president of the Freeport Art Club for many years and an amateu- r horticulturist. Loth took courses at the School of Landscape Architecture at the University of Southern Maine and graduated magna cum laude in 1995 with a history degree. Surviving are his wife; sister, Mary; her brother and sister-in-law, Donald and Lorraine Dorsey; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Community Health and Nursing Services, the Coastal Humane Society or to a charity of the donor’s choice.

1952

Stanley Garrett, attorney, New York City, on May 29, 2007. Garret- t earned a degree from the Law School in 1954. He is survived by his wife, Sonja; son, Michael, and his wife, Cavarly; daughter, Jennifer ‘91, and her husband, Per; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America.

1955

Edward P. McSweeney ’52

Edward P. McSweeney, retired Spanish teacher and historian, Midlothian, Va., on April 9, 2007. McSweeney was born on March 31, 1929, and brought up in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. He attended Brooklyn Prep, graduating a year early. McSweeney joined the Army
Lee W. Plein, art college executive, Southbury, Conn., on December 27, 2006. Plein was born in Pitts- burgh and was a graduate of the Landon School for Boys. After receiving a degree in art history from the College, he served in the Naval Reserve as a lieutenant commander aboard a cruiser, the USS Galveston, during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Plein began his career as director of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Art Museum and then went to the Silvermine College of Art in 1967. Pursuing her interest in photography, he established a retail photographic supply store, The Camera Gallery, in Greenwich in 1968. During the 1980s, he was sales manager of The Fine Tool Co. of Danbury. Plein is survived by his wife of 37 years, Sue Laeri Plein; daughter, Kellee Plein Simmons; sons, Lee and Kevin; stepsons, James and Todd Alder; step-daughter, Julie Alder; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be sent to the American Cancer Society, 75 David’s Dr., Hauppauge, NY 11788.

Frederick W. Kramer ’54

Frederick W. Kramer, retired nuclear engineer, Pittsburgh, on May 12, 2007. Born in Germany in 1933, Kramer’s family immigrated to the United States in 1936, settling in the Bronx, where he attended Bronx H.S. of Science. He earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering from SEAS in 1955. In 1956, Kramer moved to Pittsburgh to conduct pioneering work in nuclear fuel processing and earned a master’s in business management from the University of Pittsburgh in 1960. In a 40-year career at Westinghouse that included extensive international travel and numerous awards for technical contributions, he became engineering manager of its Nuclear Fuel Division. Under Kramer’s leadership, NFD received the first Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the country’s highest for excellence in business performance. Kramer’s interests included classical music, travel, gardening and Jewish studies. He was a lifelong contributor to Columbia and for several decades conducted student interviews for the College in Pittsburgh. Kramer was survived by his wife of 50 years, Madeline; children, Valerie, Martin and Richard ’87; and seven grandchildren. In 2003, his son endowed a scholarship at Columbia in honor of his 70th birthday.

1958

Earl L. McFarland Jr., professor of economics emeritus, Gaborone, Botswana, on July 9, 2006. Born on June 23, 1935, in Vineyard, N.J., McFarland was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at the College and won awards for outstanding work in the humanities and for attaining the highest grade point average among varsity athletes. On a Fulbright Scholarship, he taught English in Quito, Ecuador, in 1958-59. McFarland served in El Salvador as a liaison between university students and the U.S. Embassy and taught economics for a year at the Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City. He served in the Army and then earned an M.Phil. and Ph.D. from GSAS, both in economics, in 1973 and 1974, respectively. McFarland taught at Williams College from 1968-2001. He applied his knowledge of development economics overseas, particularly in Botswana, where he led the Ministry of Finance’s Development’s units on macroeconomic planning and employment policy. McFarland was an avid tennis player, runner and marksman and was distinguished by the crew cut hairstyle he maintained throughout his life. He is survived by his wife, Dith- sapelo; and former wife, Sarah.

1962

Douglas E. Ferguson ’62

Douglas E. Ferguson, retired investment manager, Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., on April 11, 2007. Ferguson was a Sleepy Hollow resident for almost 40 years and spent much time as possible at his beloved summer home on Lake George. He was a member of Tarrytown Rotary, Sleepy Hollow Chamber of Commerce, Bolton Landing Chamber of Commerce, Westchester ARC, Warren-Washington ARC and Estate Planning Council of Westchester. He also served as an officer and on the boards of local organizations throughout many years. Ferguson will be remembered for his dedication to his family, sense of humor, commitment to the community and being an all-around good person who touched a lot of people with his concern for others. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia (Kords), whom he married on January 29, 1966; daughter, Elisabeth Anne; sons, Keith Edward and his wife, Amy, and Jonathan Andrew and his wife, Kimberly; and two grandchildren. Ferguson Investment Consultants, moving the office to NYC.

1962

Daniel L. Schweitzer, physician, Scarsdale, N.Y., on March 14, 2007. Schweitzer served in Vietnam and Scarsdale and graduated with honors from the Bronx H.S. of Science. He earned a degree in mathematics from the College. After receiving his M.D. from New York Medical College, Schweitzer completed his internal medicine residency at the Brookdale Hospital Center, Brooklyn, and went on to do a residency in cardiology at Albert Einstein Hospital in the Bronx. Afterward, he was inducted into the Army as a cardiologist and served as a major in Okinawa at Camp Kue Hospital. After his tour of duty, Schweitzer returned to New York, completed a surgery residency at Montefiore Hospital and opened his private practice on the Grand Concourse in the Bronx. He was passionate about his work and loved math, music, opera, chess, racquetball and ballroom dancing. Schweitzer is survived by his daughter, Dina Schweitzer Leitch, and son-in-law, William; son, David, and his companion, Daisy Luna; two grandchildren; partner, Susan Rowley, and her
daughters, Elizabeth and Christina Rowley; brother, Richard, and sister-in-law, Nancy; a niece and a nephew; and former wife, Carole Wiley Henry. His brother, Leonard, predeceased him. Memorial contributions may be made to Jansen Hospice, 69 Main St., Tuckahoe, NY 10707.

Allan L. Eller, retired professor and university administrator, Greene, N.Y., on December 9, 2006. Eller earned a B.A. in English, an M.A. in English from the University of Toledo in 1967 and a Ph.D. from Binghamton University in 1978. He taught at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, from 1967–1971. From 1984–86, Eller was associate dean of the college at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla.; he was an administrator and adjunct faculty member in English at Binghamton University from 1979–84, and from 1986 until his retirement in 2001. He is survived by his wife of 20 years, Nancy; parents, Louis and Irene; sister and brother-in-law, Ethel and William Masica; brother, Steve; son and daughter-in-law, Brian and Virginia; daughter and son-in-law, Dierdre and Guy Smith; and a granddaughter. Expressions of remembrance may be made to Craig Hospital, 3425 S. Clarkson St., Englewood, CO 80113 or Zion Episcopal Church, 10 N. Chenango St., Greene, NY 13778.

Morris A. Lebovitz, physician, Germantown, Tenn., on June 29, 2007. Lebovitz graduated from Christian Brothers H.S. and the University of Memphis Medical School; he was an ob/gyn in Memphis for 30 years. Lebovitz was a member of the Tennessee Medical Association, the Memphis Ob/Gyn Society and the Memphis & Shelby County Medical Society, was chief resident at Baptist Memorial Hospital during his last year of residency, and was past president of the Racquet Club of Memphis. In addition to being a tennis player, he was a triathlete and a marathon runner. Lebovitz is survived by his wife, Kerry; daughters, Sarah Grace, Krista, Lynn Gbtert and Jan Brackett; three grandchildren; sister, Susan Feinberg; and brother, Phil ’62. Memorial contributions may be made to Flying Colors at the Mid South Cancer Center, Alive Hospice at St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville or WKNO public radio in Memphis.

Christian S. Ward, writer, New York City, on November 22, 2006. A native of Boise, Ward was an NYC resident since attending the College. He earned an M.A. and an M.Phil. from GSAS, both in English and comparative literature, in 1975 and 1977, respectively. Ward is survived by his wife, Francine Russo; children by Virginia Marcellino Ward, his late wife, Justin, Lindsey and Brennan; and stepchildren, Sara Russo Dogan and Joanna Russo.

Scott K. Ferraiolo ’73

Scott K. Ferraiolo, screenwriter, Marin County, Calif., on May 12, 2007. Born in Oak Park, Ill., on May 14, 1951, Ferraiolo attended Maine West H.S. in Des Plaines. He earned a B.A. in English literature and an M.F.A. in screenwriting from the UCLA Film School. Ferraiolo began a successful career as an advertising copywriter and creative director in Chicago in the late 1970s, which culminated in winning the Clio award for a classic television commercial in which an animated nose runs, sniffs and jumps into a soft tissue box, eliciting contented moans. During this period, he also studied acting and improvisational comedy, creating and performing with a comedy group, Standard Deviation. Ferraiolo changed careers, becoming a screenwriter, and in 1997 received the Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. His script, The Palace of Versailles, was sold to DreamWorks but never was put into production. Ferraiolo, a member of the Screenwriters Guild, wrote 14 original screenplay plays and three novels, and was hired to rewrite four movie scripts. He also wrote five theatrical plays, which included eight staged readings. Ferraiolo is survived by his sisters, Robin Lenna and Joanna Russo; brother, Richard, and stepmother, Nancy; a niece and a nephew. Expressions of remembrance may be made to Flying Colors at the YWCA in Missoula.

Lisa Palladino

Other Deaths Reported

Columbia College Today has learned of the deaths of the following alumni (full obituaries will be published if information becomes available):

1932 Peter Lopiparo, Jamaica N.Y., on April 14, 2007.
1955 Sheldon O. Smith, East Meadow, N.Y., on October 11, 2006. Smith earned a B.S. in chemical engineering in 1956 from SEAS.

Davis, Calif., before moving to Massachusetts in the '90s. Bodnarenko was an associate professor at Smith College in Northampton, Mass., having joined the psychology department as a biophysicist/neuroscientist in 1994. He taught courses in neuron-anatomy and biopsychology, conducted research involving the complexity and precision of the connections that are made among the brain's billions of neurons and was the author of numerous articles and papers on this topic. Bodnarenko is survived by his parents, Paul and Ewdokia; sister, Maria Borkowsky, and her husband, Taras; nieces and nephews; aunt, Helen Kurywczak; and fiancée, Kim Urban.

Alexander W. Langston, research scientist, San Diego, on June 16, 2007. Born in Brooklyn and educated in Piedmont schools, Langston earned a Ph.D. in cellular and developmental biology from Harvard. He was a research scientist at NYU, UC San Diego and UC San Francisco. Langston is survived by his parents, William ’55 and Adair; brother, Christopher; sister, Anne; three nephews; and a niece.

1990

Maile Pendleton Myers (née Leslie M. Pendleton), poet and volunteer, Missoula, Mont., on April 15, 2007. Myers was born in St. Louis on September 18, 1966, and moved to Pass Christian, Miss., in 1971, and then to Taylor Lake Village, Texas, in 1976. At Clear Lake H.S., she was a member of the honor society, the advanced choir and the diving team. Myers was an All-American high school diver, a nationally ranked tower diver, a member for five consecutive years of the Texas Age Group Division championship team and Texas High School Class 5A state champion. At the College, Myers was a record-setting member of the diving team. Through most of college, she worked full time. After graduating with a degree in English and comparative literature, Myers held several jobs, including office administrator of the Columbia astrophysics laboratory and veterinary assistant. In 1991, she moved to Austin, Texas, and worked at the IRS. In Austin, she was a member of several writers groups, but never sought publication of her poetry. In December 1995, she married Eric Duane Myers and they moved to Missoula in 1996. The couple divorced after nearly 10 years of marriage. In Missoula, Myers volunteered with the YWCA and later was an employee. She is survived by her parents, Thomas J. and Ellen; sister, Hibi Anne Pendleton Witherspoon; brothers, Thomas III, Tobias and Ian; a niece; four nephews; and a granddaughter. A brother, Nicholas, predeceased her in 1975. Memorial contributions may be made to the YWCA of Missoula.

Lisa Palladino
Class Notes

Seymour Jacobson ’39 writes: “Greetings to my classmates of ’39! I don’t know which is more amazing: that it is almost three score and ten years since graduation or that I am still around! After 10 years of practice in a surgical sub-specialty, I chucked it for a residency in psychiatry and practiced in that field for almost 50 years, primarily with the elderly. My other interest was in continuing medical education, serving on CME committees of the local and state medical societies and as the chairman of the Committee on Psychiatry and the Committee on Geriatric Medicine of the New York Academy of Medicine. Since retiring seven years ago, I keep informed about new developments in medicine, audit courses at Hunter College, take advantage of the city’s many cultural opportunities, maintain a fairly satisfying social life, and, of course, keep my doctors’ appointments! “On the 70th reunion!”

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Recovering from a freak accident, and with no notes from classmates, I was about to submit a “Send notes!” appeal as the sole September entry for our class. Then — out of the blue — an e-mail arrived from Ed White, one of our Class Notes’ most faithful readers and contributors over many years. Ed and I were part of the small group from our class who took the College/Engineering School five-year “professional option,” with many shared memories resulting. He majored in chemical engineering. A lightly edited copy of Ed’s message follows.

“It’s been a while since I reported on developments here in the Silver Spring, Md., outpost [the e-mail subject was ‘Report to C ’40 HQ’], because very little has happened. Most of what I have to report involves medical matters and aging, neither very interesting, except to the person involved.” (His mentioned medical items were successfully resolved.)

“On the aging matter, I know I am aging when my eldest son and his wife had a reaffirmation of vows to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary. I also know I am aging by my more hesitant walking and by the fact that I hit the 87-year marker. As the old saying goes, aging is for the birds, but the alternative is worse.”

“With my poor balance, I have not curled either in the 2005-06 or in the 2006-07 seasons. (Not familiar with curling? A quick Google check on your computer is well worth the visit.) However, I did get to the Potomac Curling Club several times to watch the play. The first was for the Scots Tour; the second, for a youth bonspiel.

“The Scots Tour has been going on for many years. An American group visits Scotland (where the sport originated) and tours its clubs playing against their rinks, and five years later, a group from Scotland visits the United States and does the same. The winner of the tour is the group making the most points, not the ones winning the most games. The winner holds the trophy, a Trafalgar Cup, for the ensuing five years. So far, the U.S. and Scotland are roughly equal in the length of time they’ve held the cup. The cup is one of about 15 that were awarded to some members of Nelson’s fleet for bravery in the Battle of Trafalgar during the Napoleonic Wars. The Potomac Curling Club had the honor of entertaining the Scottish rinks near the end of their tour. I was asked to prepare and present a poem for the occasion.

“The youth curling bonspiel was of particular interest because the White Family Trophy was being presented for the first time. My daughter-in-law had a great idea two Christmases ago and started a fund at the club for youth curling, since my son, Bill, and I are so interested in curling. The family has contributed small amounts from time to time since then, and the club established a trophy named after us for use in youth curling. Bill and I jointly presented the trophy to the winner of this year’s bonspiel.

“On more mundane matters, I remain somewhat active in ASTM’s Committee D02 on Petroleum Products & Lubricants, primarily on the standardization of terms but sticking my fingers into a few other matters as well. The ASTM Committee made me an honorary member, so I know my efforts (including chairing it from 1988-93) are appreciated.

“And, that, Seth, is about all the news I have at this time. I do enjoy your columns in CCT, but wish more of our classmates would feed you news about themselves.”

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Arthur Weinstock writes: “June 16, 2007, is a date that will live in our memories for Fanny and Ted de Bary, their family and their countless friends and admirers, for it was this day precisely 65 years earlier when Ted and Fanny were joined in holy matrimony.

“This special 65th anniversary was celebrated with a mass in St. Paul’s Chapel on the Columbia campus, followed by a luncheon in the adjacent Philosophy Hall.

“The eventful day provided a most welcome opportunity for some ‘young at heart’ alumni from the Class of 1941 to honor their uniquely distinguished classmate and his lovely wife, Judy and Harry Mellins, Suzanne and Bob Dettmer, Lucille and Charles Plotz and Arthur Weinstock were proud to attend, together with wives of deceased classmates. Mary Louise Barber, Helen Abdoo and Irene Leiwant. These ladies are part of an integral group that is permanently bonded to our class.

“While we needed no refresher as to how the celebrants looked when we were undergraduates, a beautiful description by Helen Abdoo of the time Fanny arrived at Barnard as a first-year and was assigned to a dormitory floor occupied by ‘veterans’ (sophomores and juniors). Almost immediately, Fanny’s charm and personality were welcomed by the older girls, who warmly made her a favorite in their group.

“It was a delight to see another guest, Professor Emeritus of Economics C. Lowell Harris, who had several of our class in his course. As an epilogue to the day’s program, we were able to review it with Harris on our ride to his home in Bronxville.

“At the de Bary luncheon, Mrs. Barber gave me a copy of the Lenox Hill Hospital brochure that commemorates its 150 years of service. It is in the report of the appointment in 1963 of Hugh R.K. Barber, the world’s first ob/gyn oncologist and a pioneer in ovarian cancer research, as chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Then, two days later, Mary Louise Barber telephoned me to call my attention to The New York Times that morning, in which a doctor in New Rochelle had sent a letter to the editor, giving credit to the Hugh for having recognized 20-25 years ago that heartburn and indigestion could be early symptoms of ovarian cancer, signs only considered new signals today. This doctor, Paul M. Parker, quoted a statement Hugh made in a lecture. ‘The road to the graveyard in ovarian cancer is paved with Gelusil tablets.’ Sounds just like Hugh!”

“After Mary Louise called, Bob Dettmer checked in. I explained to both that I had only seen the sports section and the obituaries and would not have reached the op-ed pages until the end of the day. Thanks to both for a prompt alert.

“We are happy to report that Stan Goliff is making progress in his recovery from spinal meningitis. His wife, Ruth, reported some setbacks along the way but current signs of rehab are favorable.

“On a sad note, we learned that Robert C. Toussaint passed away on August 19, 2006. Bob was living in Bernardsville, N.J., having retired from his work as an attorney. He earned a master’s of arts degree in statistics in 1964 from CSAS.” [See Obituaries.]
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The Providence Journal reported the death on May 5, at 90, of Herbert Maack ’42 TC. Herb was a star tackle on the 1939, 1940 and 1941 football teams and was elected captain of the 1941 team. After Navy service on PT boats in the Pacific and Philippine campaigns, he earned a master’s in physical education in 1947 and began his long coaching career as an offensive line coach at Bucknell. In 1953, Herb became line coach at the University of Rhode Island and was head coach there from 1956-61. He remained on the URI faculty for 30 years before his retirement. Herb is survived by his sons, Roger and Peter; daughter, Jean; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

I was pleased to have an e-mail message from Arthur Smith on May 13. Art sent regrets about missing our 65th reunion luncheon on June 2, but was present on campus on May 16 for the graduation of his grandson, Jeff Smith ’06 Tufts, from SIPA. Art’s son, Arthur Jr. ’71, also is a CC alumnus, so Art represents a three-generation legacy at Columbia. Art’s granddaughter, No. 1 in her class of ’07 at University of New Hampshire, was elected class marshal, thus adding to the accomplishments of Art’s family.

Bob Kaufman, our intrepid and encyclopedic crew historian, and coxswain of the 1940 and 1941 crews, on which Art was stroke oar, keeps in touch with Art and recently reported that it was the 1941 crew, rather than the 1940 crew, that was voted best Columbia crew in 50 years (see May/June Class Notes). Bob added that if John Grunow, former crew captain, had not left school early to enlist in the Air Force, the 1942 crew might have been even better. Away all boats!

Arthur Albohn’s wife, Jeanne, sent me a very nice note on May 24 reporting on Art’s many medical problems, which prevented them from attending our 65th reunion luncheon. Art has had several recent hospitalizations, but his devotion to Columbia has remained undiminished, and he sent warm greetings to classmates who were at the luncheon. Art and Jeanne, and Art’s son, Daniel ’81, have been loyal supporters at our Homecoming football games in recent years, and Art and Jeanne were among the earliest donors to the Herbert Mark Memorial Scholarship Fund. Art was a consulting engineer and a well-known member of the New Jersey State Legislature for many years before his retirement.

Eleven classmates came to our reunion luncheon on the campus of Sierra Hall. It was a beautiful day, the campus looked great and our alma mater staff were uniformly helpful in every way. We thank CCT Managing Editor Lisa Palladino, CCT Assistant Editor Rose Kornblum ’82 Barnard, Alumni Affairs Assistant Director Christine Liu and Columbia College Fund Executive Director Susan Levin Birnbaum for their interest and devotion. Attendees were Sarah and Leonard Garth, Morris Grossman and Janet Jurist, Bob and Paula Hauck, Leslie and Melvin Herschkowitz, Mark Kahn, Susan and Bob Kaufman, Judy and Gerald Klingon, Immanuel Lichtenstein, Dagney and William Robbins, Sheila and Bernard Small, and Dorothy and James Sondheimer. I had a note from Arthur Graham, sending regrets at his absence because of emergency surgery for Mrs. Graham. Art sent good wishes to classmates, and we hope for his wife’s speedy recovery. We had comfortable tables in a private room on the fifth floor of Lerner Hall, the service was attentive, and the food was excellent. Compliments to Columbia Catering!

We were pleased to have visits from Dean of Alumni Affairs Derek Wittner ’65 and Dean of the College Austin Quigley during the pre-lunch cocktail hour. I introduced Quigley to each classmate, and he took the time to chat individually with us before making an emotional and inspiring speech to the group. He talked about the impact of WWD on our class and the world at large, and how our “greatest generation” made so many sacrifices before resuming our post-war lives and careers. Quigley’s father was in a British Airborne Glider unit in the attack on Arnhem when his glider was shot down and burned. Quigley’s father was injured but fortunately not killed. This reminded us that at least six members of our class were killed in WWII, and many others wounded and taken prisoners of war. Quigley thanked us for our loyalty and devotion to Columbia in the years that followed, and predicted a bright future for our beloved alma mater.

We paid tribute to recently deceased members of our class, including Jack Arbollon, Don Herbert Mark, Gerald Green, Don Dickinson, John Grunow, James Dougherty, Dr. Marshall Hanley, Dr. Seymour Halpern, Ed Jeffers, Leon Davidson and Edwin Ross. A reunion photographer took pictures of our assembled group [see photo], and another with wives and companions. I took several pictures of all classmates and hoped to publish them in a special issue of our unique Class of 1942 Newsletter, with the editorial help of our invaluable alumni affairs assistant director, Christina Liu. Morris Grossman, older brother of Larry Grossman ’52, already is looking forward to our 70th reunion. Taking one step at a time, let us get together again at Homecoming on October 13, when our football team will face Penn.

On a much sadder note, I regret to report that on the day of our 65th Reunion Luncheon, one of our most distinguished classmates, Martin Meyerson, died in Philadelphia. The New York Times printed a picture of Martin with a prominent obituary notice, reviewing his career as former president of Penn and his work on the Free Speech Movement.

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Hope everyone had a wonderful and safe summer. Look forward to hearing from all of you this coming year with news and notes.

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This spring, Maurice Spanbock, as well as your class correspondent, attended a breakfast reunion of old-timers (which, obviously, we both are) of Townsend Harris, the academic New York City high school that Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia abruptly shut down in 1942 (the school was resurrected in the ‘70s). Also at our table was David Brinian ’48, who had followed us from Harris to Columbia, and also to Spectator. Maury still is lawyering, occasionally lunches with Jay Topkin and takes advantage of intellectual stimulation offered by the Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia. And Maury has three grandchildren to dote on.
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As the only one of four honorees to return the CCT questionnaire, Burton L. Wise of 465 Throckmorton Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941 gets top billing. A College high point for Burton was a year on the fencing team and a trip to Cornell for an elegant New Year's Eve dance and party. Because of WWII, Burton had to complete the minimum requirements for medical school by July 1943, when he was inducted into the Army at age 18. After basic training in Illinois, he entered New York Medical College as a private first class in the Army Specialized Training Program in January 1944 and earned an M.D. in June 1947.

Then came three years of internship and assistant resident training at Kings Hospital in Brooklyn. A four-year residency program in neurological surgery at UC San Francisco began in June 1950. With two years out for service in the Army Medical Corps, Burton taught at California until 1968 and also engaged in private practice. Research work that included studies of intracranial pressure, neuroendocrinology and fluid and electrolyte balance in relation to the brain resulted in the publication of three books and more than 80 articles in medical journals. Burton's major accomplishment was the discovery of a substance named Manitol to decrease brain mass during surgery, lower increased pressure in the head and treat brain swelling due to traumatic brain injury and other causes. In 1968, Burton joined other surgeons in private practice in San Francisco. He retired from brain surgery in 1992 and retired in 2005.

Burton's marriage to Myra Joseph in 1959 produced three daughters: an archaeologist/museum curator, a plant biologist, and a writer and physician. A Radcliffe graduate with a degree in government, Myra studied for a Ph.D. in psychology and had a successful career as a psychotherapist. Living in Mill Valley, Burton and Myra are constructing a house in the Dry Creek Valley of Sonoma County's wine country, from which they visit their children and grandchildren. Burton's recreational activities are gardening and country house senior education courses. His hobby is audio books.

Grover C. Smith expressed thanks for a previous interview and asked about his teaching experience, ending at Wake Forest as an instructor and associate professor. Grover informs us that he became a full professor and served as such for 27 years before becoming professor emeritus.

Dr. Walter R. Holland has come up with some interesting interpretations: youth is starry-eyed enthusiasm, middle age is sophistication combined with experience, and elderly are matured simplicity. Reminds me of former New Jersey Governor Robert Meyner's stages of aging: youth, middle age and "my, you look good!"

Do you know about our phenomenal 400-meter runner Erison Flattura? After being the six-time 400-meter indoor and outdoor Ivy League Heptagonal Champion, he finished third in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championship with a time of just over 45 seconds. Incredible! Did you read about the Vatican's Ten Commandments for driving? Most are just good driving procedures. With the New Ten Commandments I have formulated for a more moral society acceptable to the religious and non-religious, I regard myself in good commandment-writing company.

I encountered David Cataquet '83, '87 P&S at the emergency room of the Hackettstown Community Hospital where my wife, Jean, went for medical care for a broken rib caused by the sudden lurch of a subway train when visiting NYC for the fifth-grade graduation (graduations come at all levels these days) of our grandson, Michal Sickles. Jean discovered David's educational background, and that led to a pleasant discussion about our alma mater.

Honorees this time, chosen at random and to whom a class column questionnaire will be sent, are Harry Boardman of Marlboro, Vt.; Ben Cather of Barnard; and Thomas T. Senom of Pompton Plains, N.J. May we hear from or about these honorees?

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Marcel Silberman and his wife, Reggie, flew to New York in May to attend the graduation of their granddaughter, Deborah, from Barnard. Marcel's business career in oil well production has kept him in Oklahoma City for 35 years. Most of his wells are dug in Oklahoma. If you drive in Oklahoma, stay alert. You may find more than pot holes in the road.

Last year, we wrote about Jim Gell's volunteer work in two medical clinics. He sent an update: Jim continues at the clinics and now also is coordinator for the Michigan Maternal Mortality Study. The objective is to identify areas of preventability and make recommendations that can reduce the number of these deaths.

Howard Cohen practices law in New York with a specialty in corporate and private international law. He is an elected member of the International Institute of Space Law (a volunteer organization), which deals with developing law of outer space and advising the United Nations and others on legal issues relating to outer space. Howard travels abroad frequently but I do not know if he has as yet booked his flight on the space shuttle.

Stanley Harwich is an active member of Community Board 9 (Brooklyn) and a member of the Borough President's Transit Advisory Committee. Does this mean there will be a seat for every rider during rush hours?

The men of '46C are truly impressive, and I have been reporting on the fine volunteer and community work of many of our classmates. We clearly demonstrate by practice our caring natures and sense of commitment to our communities.

Stanley Kogut (Marina del Rey, Calif.) is emeritus professor of clinical medicine at USC College of Medicine but is active in academia as a teaching consultant at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, Calif. Stan also is associated with the PLATO Society, an acronym for Perpetual Learning and Teaching Organization. The Columbia connection continues with his son, Bruce, a professor of economics, and a granddaughter at Barnard. Stanley has managed some rather exotic travel, which included sailboating in Tahiti, the Artic and around the Caribbean.

Martin Siltbersweig (Tennyf.N.J.) exchanged his M.D. shingle for a "Gone Fishing" sign. It is today one of his pleasures, along with sailing and travel. Although retired, Martin attends medical seminars.

Reviewing our current class list, I was struck by the large number of medical doctors — 62, or 31 percent.

Robert DeSesa filled us in from Gainesville, Ga. Bob's career has been in protective coatings and paint technology. He engaged in this field as a businessman and also wrote on this subject and lectured at the University of Missouri. In WWII, Bob was an infantryman with the 104th Timbermen Division in Normandy, Belgium and Holland, and was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He proudly notes having eight grandchildren.

Your recent travel adventures are of interest and can inspire a classmate's next travel plan. Drop me a note and your "story" will run in this column.

I have successfully located "lost" classmates in response to inquiries. Continue sending your requests for contact information.

With sadness we note the passing of Jay Vogelbaum and William McGuinness. At Columbia, Bill was president of the Pre-Medical Society and was an earman on crew.

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The 60th anniversary class reunion took place on Memorial Day weekend with just more than a dozen class members present, in addition to assorted family members (wives, children, grandchildren). If this reporter can vouch for the others, we all had plenty of grand time at the Doral Arrowwood in Westchester. Frank Iaquinta took the best observed photo of the attending class members — it appears to be the only one that correctly includes Al Burstein in the group (copy available from Frank, online). All present look forward to attending the 65th, health and all other factors permitting, albeit a vote of those present proposed shortening the hiatus by two years to reunite in 2010. (See photo.)

Meanwhile, some communications from class members: Ed Gold has been reappointed to Community Board Two in Greenwich Village by the Manhattan borough president (Ed's been on the board for 40 years). Ed was a speaker at the 50th anniversary of the Village Independent Democrats and reported about that occasion for The Villager, a newspaper for which he's been a writer for seven years. Ed Cramer advises that the last 25 years was "most memorable" — he visited Sonoma County, Calif., to see newly-born great-grandchildren (twins, boy and girl) and, while there, attended grandson No. 2's wedding, returning home just in time for his 82nd birthday.

Joe Rumage could not attend the reunion for a good, if unfortunate, reason: He was then still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina, which damaged one of his offices downtown and made his home unlivable for a while.

On a more pleasant note, the aforementioned Al Burstein reports that, last October, he received the 2006 Daniel J. O'Hearn Award of the New Jersey Commission on Professionalism in the Law at the
laborating. Dr. Ruth Westheimer kept me busy for seven years, a challenging client. From the ’50s on, I did book reviewing for the Times. “Since 1953, Jean and I have lived in the center of Nyack with a fine view of the lordly Hudson, best when the trees are bare. We have been married 60 years and have three children and five grandparents, all a head taller than ourselves. My oldest son graduated from Columbia in the tumultuous Class of ’70. He was a soccer MVP in his junior year and his younger son and a daughter were 76 and ’80 at that funny place in New Haven. No one is perfect, but where did I go wrong?”

“I served on the Nyack Housing Authority for many years, and longer, and most recently acted in and directed plays at the Elmwood Playhouse, a short walk from our house that used to seem shorter, for some reason.”

Thanks, Harvey and Jean. If I could make contact with a couple of other wives as willing and as persistent as Jean, with husbands whose careers have been as intriguing as Harvey’s, I’d have my next column already written.

As it turns out, I also received a big boost from the Rev. Charles C. Currie, a February ‘48 grad and a former Army chaplain. Charles, who retired as a lieutenant colonel, lives in Clarksville, Tenn., on the doorstep of Fort Campbell, Ky., home of the 101st Airmobile Division. He has observed with concern the “significant marital stresses” on military families “reconnecting” after the division’s recent return from service in Iraq.

Charles wrote a letter to the editor of the Clarksville paper, The Leaf-Chronicle, with the aim of providing practical help in the give and take of marriage. The paper saw it as more than a letter and printed it as a guest column under the headline, “Lean on God to help mend marriage woes,” with the subhead, “Marital love must include forgiveness, consideration of the aging process.”

As credentials, the former chaplain points to his 58 years of married life. “When a marriage is under stress,” he writes, “prayer to God for his help is an important positive resource to keep going. I attribute our long years of marriage as principally a consequence of God’s help through the tough times.”

Some other quotes:

“Marriage is not a 50-50 proposition. It is a 100-100 relationship.”

“Another important resource for the marital partners have got to be able to forgive one another continually when motions clash.”

“The greatest menace to marriage, in my opinion, is not an adulterous predator. It is the tongue. The hardest thing to do in marriage is to keep control of one’s tongue during charged emotional exchanges. For this, one needs supernatural assistance...

“(A) divorce usually results in the financial degradation of the woman and the children. A marital breakup also leaves possibly imperceptible but very real emotional scars upon the children.”

“(K)eep praying for God’s help, and take of marriage. The paper is still connected, but he says most of his contacts have retired. Eric majored in English at Columbia, took “some math” at the School of General Studies and graduated on the RCA Institute, a background that served him well in writing about missile guidance systems and radar. He is writing a book on thermomaneuvers before moving to California in 1964. As a freelance writer, he specialized in writing manuals for computers and electronic equipment.

In his retirement, Eric is involved in checking out computer games, reading, working around the house and yard, and diminishing amount of babysitting as grandchildren grow older. He and Lillian have been married for 62 years.

Perry Hudson retired more than 20 years ago after 35 years in various management positions with New England Telephone, one of Verizon’s predecessors. The last five of those years were as general manager of the company’s Maine operations. Afraid he might be bored in retirement, Perry recalls, “I volunteered for everything and committee in town. After 10 years, I said, ‘That’s enough.’ It was a good transition.”
Perry divides his time between a retirement village in Falmouth, Maine, and Amelia Island, Fla., and plays “a lot of golf.”

Though formally affiliated with the Class of ’48, Perry “went winter and summer” after wartime service in the Army Air Forces and completed his degree work in September 1947. During the war, he piloted Eighth Air Force B-17 Flying Fortresses out of England on bombing runs over France, Belgium and Germany. He remembers how, as a 21-year-old, he greeted the German anti-aircraft fire with the thought, “It’s either today or not today. You had to be fatalistic.”

Perry landed his B-17 in the United States on July 4, 1945, “and I’ve never piloted a plane since.”

Incestuous relationship? Bob McClellan, chairman of the Valley Press Club scholarship committee, recruited your humble correspondent to be chief speaker at the Springfield, Mass., ceremony honoring the five winners of this year’s scholarships. I gave the aspiring journalists “three rules for success”: 1) the editor is always right, 2) assume that every microphone is live and 3) given the level of remuneration in the industry, never pass up a free meal.

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Summer is almost over, and I can report that our tomatoes, peaches and blueberries provided a bumper harvest this year. We had given up on our six apple trees and I quit annual pruning three years ago after six years of no fruit. Well, much to say for benign neglect ... lots of apples this year! We only hope you enjoyed as bounteous a summer.

Once more it is a pleasure to speak of Gene Strubbe. I have been copy on e-mails that attest to his conscientious efforts on behalf of raising funds for alma mater. I don’t have all the names but the e-mail trail includes Fred DeVries. Their efforts for College and Engineering will assuredly have consequence of a most positive nature! Everyone’s contributions in this ongoing and purposeful campaign are to be lauded.

Haven’t heard from many of you as we approached the deadline for this column. Please rectify this! Yours truly can report enjoying my brother’s (Bert Sussman ’47) visit for his class reunion. My wife, Karen, and I continue to work on the tanker Mary Wydall of which I wrote in an earlier column. Hopefully, you will be reading this in time for a special event. For two weekends in September, 7-9 and 14-16, Port Side New York will present a performance of Puccini’s Il Tabarro.

The time will be the setting for this outdoor performance as the audience is seated on the pier in Red Hook. Details can be found at www.por_side new_york.org.

I close this column with a special note of pride: Our son, Jon Alf ’05, completed his two-year obligation to the Teaching Fellows program at Brandeis H.S. and achieved his master’s in education. He has been recruited by Stuyvesant H.S. and has begun teaching AP computer science classes. His achievement is yet another page in the book of testimony to Columbia College’s meaning for our world.

Just as I was writing this column, an e-mail arrived with this sad note: Frederick Lindley Klenger, 83, a geologist with the U.S. Bureau of Mines, died on May 26 of a blood disorder at his home in Bethesda, Md. Fred had a long career and was awarded a meritorious service medal from the Interior Department in 1986. His naval service in WWII saw him receive the Bronze Star for his efforts on behalf of fellow crew members while under attack in the Pacific.

Fred was one of the first class-mates from whom I had correspondence when I began writing this column. We had an enjoyable exchange of letters as I tried to examine whether his Klengers and my Klinger cousins might be connected. We exchanged laughs over the disparity ... he had ancestors fighting for our side in the War of Independence that created the country to which my Klingers emigrated from Eastern Europe in the 1890s! [See Obituaries.]

To Durand Harootunian, his experience at this year’s Dean’s Low Library, alongside Kent Hall, brought a smile as he clearly remembered the time when, making the same descent as a student, he suddenly saw “Ike” Eisenhow- er, newly appointed University president, rounding the corner on his way to Low. “I greeted him with ‘Welcome aboard, sir,’” says Dee (one of Durand’s nicknames) “and as we passed, his engaging smile was matched with ‘Navy, huh?’” It was a good call on Ike’s part, for Dee had indeed served in the Navy in WWII. He passed up the opportunity of being tapped to join the Naval Academy Preparatory School in order to return to Columbia.

RudolphWeingartner, having spent six decades in the academic world in positions from elementary school student to university provost, authored and published a book on what he calls “the complex world from which I have now retired.” Rudy’s book is titled A Sixty-Year Ride through the World of Education. I have spent 61 years in school, from 1933, when I began elementary school in Germany, the same year Hitler came to power, until 1994, when I retired. I served my time as a student through a Columbia doctorate in philosophy. I taught CC and then taught philosophy at San Francisco State and Vassar, where I also chaired my departments. I served 14 years as dean of arts and sciences at North-western, had a brief stint as provost of the University of Pittsburgh, then chairing that philosophy department as well. In telling that tale, I shine a light into most corners of the world of education and treat a variety of things when writing A Sixty-Year Ride through the World of Education.

Rudy explains his reasons for undertaking this project: “I was conscious of wanting to do three things when writing A Sixty-Year Ride through the World of Education. I have spent 61 years in school, from 1933, when I began elementary school in Germany, the same year Hitler came to power, until 1994, when I retired. I served my time as a student through a Columbia doctorate in philosophy. I taught CC and then taught philosophy at San Francisco State and Vassar, where I also chaired my departments. I served 14 years as dean of arts and sciences at Northwestern, had a brief stint as provost of the University of Pittsburgh, then chairing that philosophy department as well. In telling that tale, I shine a light into most corners of the world of education and treat a variety of things when writing A Sixty-Year Ride through the World of Education.”

“My second goal was to convey — but not abstractly — my attitude toward these myriad educational issues. My cousin, a scien-tist, who read the book, called to tell me I am a dinosaur: ‘And I mean that in the good sense.’ I agree with both parts of that.

“Finally, I confess that vanity also played a role. I’m 80 and wanted to show off some of what I have accomplished in life.”

Sadly, we have been informed of two deaths: Robert Di Giacomo of Spruce Pine, N.C., died in September 2006. John Iorio of Tampa, Fla., died on February 7.
Great in Potsdam, called, of all things, Sans Souci? Maybe!

What a nice surprise when Stan Schachter, our roving class reporter from Florida, stopped by to visit us at Columbia and catch up on family activities. If you are passing through our area, please give us a call at 802-425-3257. The welcome mat is always out!

While I am mentioning Vermont, here is a bit of trivia. Who was the only true "Vermontor" to run for President of the United States? The question is trickier than one might imagine. The two most obvious possibilities are Chester A. Arthur and Calvin Coolidge, but Arthur, a v.p. who assumed the presidency when James Garfield died, never ran for the top post. Coolidge, although born in Plymouth, Vt., lived in Massachusetts for 30 years before ascending to the presidency upon the death of Warren Harding. The answer to the question, then, is John Wolcott Phelps. He was born in Guilford, Vt., in 1813, graduated from West Point, resigned his commission in 1859 in protest of using Federal troops to crush John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, and later became president of the Vermont State Teachers' Association. In 1880, Phelps accepted the nomination of the Anti-Masonic American Party. He received only 631 votes nationwide (courtesy of the Bubble-Free Party).

Al Byra completed his move to Florida. His new address is 12837 Spinnaker Ln., Wellington, FL 33414. You can reach him by phone at 561-335-6079. E-mail address is unknown at this time.

Harvey M. Krueger, graduating from the Law School in 1953, has had a distinguished career. He is vice chairman emeritus of Lehman Brothers and has been involved with that firm and Kuhn Loeb & Co., one of its constituent firms, since 1959. Harvey is a director of Delta Galil Industries, Chasus, and Hansard Global, and also is chairman of Stockton Partners. He also is the former chairman of The Peres Center for Peace, former chairman of the Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum of the Smithsonian Institution, honorary chairman of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, a member of the board of directors of Beth Israel Medical Center in New York and Continuum Health Partners, and a director of Duff and Phelps Corp., a financial advisory firm.

Reminder: Columbia's athletics office sent out the football schedule and ticket order form for the fall season, and '51C always has a group of enthusiastic fans who turn out for Homecoming (this year is versus Penn on October 13). You can meet the Lions by attending the Yale game on October 27. Phone 888-LIONS-11 or visit www.gocolumbialions.com for more information about games at Wien Stadium.

Expand your horizons! Write or e-mail with information about new accomplishments (or old ones). Tell us about your travels this past summer, about children and grandchildren, or anything else. This column is about you!

Arthur Ingerman
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CCT is sorry to report that Arthur Ingerman passed away on August 3, 2007, shortly after he filed this Class Notes column. We extend our condolences to his family and friends. We are grateful for his five years of service as a class correspondent and request that, until a successor is named, classmates send news to Rose Kornochan, Class Notes Editor, Columbia College Today, 475 Riverside Dr., Ste 917, New York NY 10115-0898 or to rak2118@columbia.edu. An obituary will be published in a future issue.

Jim McDowell was kind enough to report from the reunion: "The 55th reunion of the Class of '52 began with an on-campus cocktail party on the 15th and tour of SIPA. It was raining and some came with umbrellas, such as Jack Ripperger and Jim McDowell. Many others, including Alan Bomser, Herb Halberg, Aldo Ippolito, Bob Kandel, Almen Mesrop, Bob Reiss, Sholom Shafner, Frank Walver, and in most cases their wives, made up a splendid gathering. Jerry Kahn read a list of several dozen classmates who have died in the past five years. Among them was Stan Garrett, our class gift chair, who passed on just a few days before this event. Bob Adelman, our reunion chair, then gave a spirited talk on getting on with the show and enjoying life. There was plenty of exuberance at the cocktail party, especially over the hors d'oeuvres, which were delicious and more than ample for an evening meal."

"Breakfast got under way at 8:15 the next morning, the first day of June, and this next occasion included Phil Bloom, George Lipkin and most of those from the previous opening event. Following that, Dick Wald, a Columbia journalism professor, led a discussion on Presidential politics by our guests, Richard Edsel, also a journalism professor at Columbia, and Henry Graff, retired professor of American history whom some of us had as a teacher. The event was well attended by class members, including Arnold Schussheim, and people from other classes, but Dick was firm in restricting questions for the panel to the Class of '52. This is 'our reunion!' he declared, and many of our class did speak out.

Lunch at the beautiful former law school library in Kent Hall, with wood-paneled alcoves and stained glass windows, was a majestic event, with many of our class seated at a long, solid wood table that ran almost the length of the hall. After a fine salmon meal, Dean Austin Quigley spoke about the College's future, a theme that included athletics, as enthusiastically described by other guests. M. Dianne Murphy, athletics director, told how the football team finished strong and described this sport's future at Columbia. Bob Reiss gave a rousing introduction to women's soccer coach Kevin McCarthy '85, who led the team to an Ivy League championship, and, like Murphy, emphasized the importance of the players' commitment and loyalty to Columbia.

"In the afternoon, there was a panel discussion on the continuing theme of the College's future. The entire program was organized and moderated by Larry Grossman, who provided topics of discussion ranging from the Core Curriculum to globalization for panelists Andrew Delbanco, Alan Brinko and Nicholas Dirks, Christia Mercer and Quigley. The session was well-attended and included Jack Rosenbluth, who had attended the 'Back on Campus' class in modern orchestral music the day before with Jim McDowell. The excellent speakers at our forum integrated the subjects of such classes, thanks to the well-conceived questions posed by Larry, into the greater context of a college that helps define a university.

"Our class dinner that evening in Lerner Hall included most of our number along with their wives from the previous events as well as Alvin Feder and Joe DiPalma. Also present was Christina Liu, alumni affairs assistant director, who, along with able assistants, helped from beginning to end to plan our events including the delicious steak dinner provided by Columbia Catering (which also served morning coffee at our Carman Hall dorm). At the dinner, Marty Finkel rose to the occasion and gave thanks for our gathering. The new class gift chair, Jack Ripperger, then announced our contributions of more than $200,000 to the College. And Bob Adelman, the force behind our reunion, proclaimed its success and delivered his farewell until we meet again in the 2012. For those who stayed over until Sunday, there was a brunch, generously hosted by Columbia Athletics.

"A reunion directory, consisting

PHOTO: DIANE BONDAREFF
Word has been received of the death of Ed McSweeney of Midlothian, Va., in April. [See Obituaries.]

Dave Braun missed his first reunion as a result of his confinement for back surgery, from which he is recovering nicely. Dave, in the good hands of his wife, Merna, expected to be back on the golf course by August.

Yours truly also found himself in the hospital during the Alumni Reunion Weekend, but they don’t keep a good ‘52er down, and I am at least back at my desk, spreading all the news and the good words. Besides, Sholom Shafner has arranged for a personal blessing to be said at the grave of the esteemed Lubavitcher Rebbe on the anniversary of his death, for my recovery and good health, so we are covering all of our bases.

Grandson Sam, from Sacramento, starts at Columbia in September, as Ingerman Family West makes its first inroads to the Columbia environment. I’m talking him into writing a column for CC’11 alumni (omigod!).

Keep them cards and letters (even e-mails) comin’ in, folks. We love to hear from you.

**REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1**

**ALUMNI OFFICE**

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There is wonderful news! On May 6, Nick Wolfsong married Anne Staffin at Shadowbrook in Shrewsbury, N.J. Nick and Anne had long and fruitful years in prior marriages with dear spouses and his friend, Harriet ‘58 Barnard, are happily ensconced in Houston and enjoy spending time with their two children and (so far) four grandchildren.

Bob Kandel, my worthy predecessor at this desk, vacationed in Scotland, where his wife, Ev, has relatives. Pete Notaro and his charming wife, Ellen, returned from their winter hibernation in Florida and opened up their summer place in Fire Island.

Joe Di Palma, lately among my most prolific communicants, writes glowingly of his experiences at the 55th reunion. Joe described the class dinner as one that could not be surpassed by Cipriani or Le Cirque.

Said news of the untimely passing of Stanley Garret, only days before the reunion. Stan was a stalwart of our executive committee and served admirably as Gifts Chairman. His loss was a shock to us all.
practicing medicine in Albuquerque for a long while. Representing Colorado are Herb Vore, a retired expatriate manager for a portion of Africa (Chevron) and a valuable member of the Colorado Springs community, and Richard Waissar, who resides in Golden, Colo., and is a mining engineer consultant.

Henry Bedrossian, who used to be a pilot for Northwest Airlines, is catching up on a lot of relaxing projects in Gig Harbor, Wash.

Down south is Walter Croll, retired from IBM and making his home now in Sun City Center, Fla.; Dan Culhane, who used to be a "major player" at IBM, is in St. Augustine; and ex-cossowan John LaRosa makes his home in Tallahassee. Moving up the Atlantic coastline is Jerry Plasse, practicing plastic reconstructive hand surgery in Owings Mills, Md. Living close by in Baltimore is Harris Epstein, while our favorite correspondent for the Wall Street Journal or any other publication for that matter, is Henry Hubbard, who makes his home in Washington, D.C.

Pennsylvania is represented by a couple of our high-powered classmates — Max Robbins is a retired research chemist for Exxon Mobil. Max and his family live in Hellertown. Al Monjhan has been practicing law in Philadelphia for a couple of years, commuting from his Hunterdon Valley abode.

Herb Cohen let us know that while he continues as a professor of pediatrics and rehabilitation medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, he is starting to phase down his professional activities. He and his wife spent a couple of weeks in Asia this summer on vacation, with Herb finding time to give speeches/lectures in Singapore and Hong Kong. Our former All-New York City basketball star, Barry Sullivan, is now part of the K Road Power organization, which is involved in energy management. He makes the daily trip to Manhattan from Brooklyn, a little bit north in Westchester. Another roundball stalwart, John Naley, tells us that he is looking forward to the forthcoming basketball season, for which expectations are high. (I wonder whether John still shoots hoops in his backyard.) Another New Jerseyite, Mort Weitzman, is doing what lawyers do, in Linden.

Getting into college nowadays is very different from what we applied to Columbia. Ralph Wagner is making the rounds with his grandson to various schools — Columbia is primary on the list. Where is Bernie Ireland ’31 when we need him? Further north in New England is Boston University Professor Emeritus of Physics Bernie Chasan. Dr. C. lives in Scotch Plains, Mass. Out on Long Island is William Benjamin, professor of physiology and biophysics at SONY Stony Brook and Bernie Schwartz, living in Southampton and practicing in Merrick, Jay Joseph’s hometown.

We heard from Gordon Silverman, who recently was appointed interim dean of the School of Engineering at Manhattan College. Big congratulations! (By the way, there’s an opening at Columbia, Gordon.)

Esteemed standard bearer of the wondrous Class of 1955. We continue to get better year after year (and maybe a little wiser). As said and written before, the glass is more than half-full. Let’s give a toast to longevity.

Love to all! Everywhere!

### Alan A. Miller

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I’m writing this with summer upon us. In July’s second half, I will have been on a beach in Maine with my family in a rented house. I will finally see my four grandchildren together, including my 1-year-old granddaughter from California; wish I could see her growing up more often. Your president must admit he is regressing and greatly enjoys listening to two or three of The Mamas and the Papas. They were something in the early ’60s — remember “California Dreamin’” and “Monday, Monday,” among many others? Highly recommended.

We had monthly class outing. In winter it was just lunch, but during warm weather it was at various classmates’ country clubs — on June 14 at Maurice Klein’s Pine Hollow CC on LI. In addition to Maurice were Lou Hemmeter, Steven Graff, Dan Link and Mark Novick, who played golf, and Jerry Fine and myself, who hit the tennis balls. Our next outing was on July 12 at Dan Link’s Bonnie Briar CC in Westchester. We rotate this, and all are invited. Lou sends e-mails inviting classmates to join for golf, tennis, lunch and just schmoozing. Ronnie Kapon could not make this one, as it was his 72nd birthday and he was celebrating with family — happy birthday, Ron.

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### Herman Levy

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From the opening reception on Wednesday, May 30, at the President’s House to the farewell brunch on Sunday, the 50th reunion of our class was an exhilarating experience for the 121 attendees plus their wives, partners and guests. At the reception, Provost Alan Brinkley, son of the late TV newsman David Brinkley, spoke of the Columbia faculty of the mid-1950s as having some of the greatest minds in the United States, something to which our class members personally could attest. He especially mentioned Richard Hofstadter.

At Thursday’s breakfast, History Professor Emeritus Henry Graff spoke about presidents of the United States. Reunion co-chair Al Kaplowitz said that both he and his daughter [Sarah Kass ’87] had taken classes with Professor Graff. His daughter took Professor Graff’s class on diplomatic history, which Brent Scowcroft and other luminaries also took. Professor Graff reminisced about his class on diplomatic history, which Brent Scowcroft and other luminaries also took.

### Dr. Robert Siroty ’56

(left) was one of 10 Columbians who received Alumni Medals at Commencement for outstanding work on behalf of alma mater. Joining Siroty are George Van Amson ’59, trustee emeritus, and Donna Rosenthal ’67, SW, chair of the Columbia Alumni Honors & Prizes Committee.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROS

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

CLASS NOTES
Islamic World” and an exhibit of French Impressionists. That evening, Bob Alter, professor of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, and Ed Weinstein hosted a fine reception in the Kaplan Penthouse at Lincoln Center. After that, an energetic group of us walked well over a mile to see Inherit the Wind, a play quite appropriate for the panel discussion on “What’s God Got to Do with It?” held Friday morning, Brian Denny ‘60, who played Matthew Harrison Brady (William Jennings Bryan) in the play, spoke to our group after the performance. Christopher Plummer co-starred as Henry Drummond (Clarence Darrow).

The Friday morning panel included Bob Alter, Gary Angleberger, Erich Gruen, Alvin Kass, and Bob Lipsyte as moderator. Bob Alter, professor of Hebrew and comparative literature at UC Berkeley, discussed monotheism: man created in God’s image with religion, Erich Gruen, noted a change in religious attitudes since our Columbia days. Then, he said, generally Jewish students wanted to “blend in.” A decade or so later came the black revolution and “Black is beautiful!”; that and Israel’s stunning victory in the 1967 war gave rise to “Jewish is beautiful.” Now he is pleased to hear that many classmates attend minyanim. In any event, Alvin said, one might think that if one cannot resolve matters of faith and religion, one ought not to be a religious leader; nevertheless, a state of tension is the essence of a vital religious faith.

After a buffet luncheon at the Dodge Physical Fitness Center, I attended an admissions presentation with Peter Johnson, associate director of undergraduate admissions. The odds for admission are quite daunting; this year 21,343 applicants for 1,000 places in the Class of 2011 — the lowest selectivity rate in the Ivy League. This is a huge turnaround from the mid-90s. He noted the recent $400 million gift from John Kluge ’37, half of which will be used for College student aid. Quigley also referred to the Manhattanville initiative, which not only will expand available space but will bring several callings together in the same building — an important consideration in this period of four to five career changes in a lifetime. He then stressed globalization — not just destroying differences but getting them to work together and encouraging students to travel.

Next was a panel spanning ’57C to ’07C. Carlos Muñoz, who described himself as “a New York kid” fortunate to have attended Stuyvesant H.S., fondly recalled his economics studies at the College and at Columbia graduate school, his subsequent entry into banking and its opportunities for travel. Michael Gerrard ’72, environmental lawyer and father of two College alumni, recalled Mark Rudd ’69 and the student uprisings of that period. David Filosa ’82 noted changes to coeducation and in the buildings on campus. He saw President Lee C. Bollinger and Quigley as keys to recent changes. Kyra Tirana Barry ’87 said that a major factor in her choice of Columbia was the opportunity to be part of the first fully coeducational class at the College. She noted the great advantages in being in NYC.

Lynne Wilkins ’07 was a Latin American studies major who became a corporate litigator then turned stay-at-home mom. Courtney Quigley ’97 was one of 100 Kluge scholars in her class; she spoke of the opportunities presented by that program. During the question and answer period, Carlos spoke of the significance of the Core Curriculum to him; Lou Rothman and John Norton recalled the Core Curriculum and their relationship with their alumnae children regarding it. Asked about the greatest changes since they attended Columbia, Carlos


PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO


PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
cered coeducation and Kym men-
tioned support services for stu-
dent life, particularly in the dor-
mitories and in advice for choice of major.

The class luncheon was at the palatial Casa Italiana. Erich Gruen spoke on Cleopatra’s sojourn in Rome, a matter more in fantasy than in fact. He noted the Shake-
speare and Shaw versions but observed that the version with the greatest impact was that of Joseph Mankiewicz ’28 in the Elizabeth Taylor film; Cleopatra’s entry into Rome there was all imaginary. Serious scholarship on Cleopatra, however, has been lacking. In any event, her alleged 18-month sojourn in Rome is a phantom. Although she may have had a romantic relationship with Caesar, he soon proceeded to Spain.

The final ’57C panel was “Four Years of Columbia College THEN and NOW.” Bill Reed ’62 served as moderator and Ted Dwyer, Ron Kushner, Art Meyerson, Emma Judkins ’07, David Chait ’07 and Nishant Dixit ’07.

Ted, a retired cardiologist and former varsity basketball player, discussed changes in sports through the years. One important value of participating in sports, he said, is working with others regardless of background. Ted discussed the impact that changes in the rules have had on sports. He also observed that civil rights laws significantly changed sports; affirmative action followed in college recruiting. Teams would not be beaten for lack of black players. Title IX, affecting women’s participation in sports, she said, fostered leadership, equality in friendship and camaraderie.

Ron, a retired psychotherapist, talked about the differences in the ethical climate between that of our college days and now. He noted that general discourse seems to be much more vulgar than in the past. He also observed that casual right-to-life rights laws significantly changed sports; affirmative action followed in college recruiting. Teams would not be beaten for lack of black players. Title IX, affecting women’s participation in sports, she said, fostered leadership, equality in friendship and camaraderie.

Emma then told of her experi-
ence on Columbia’s Ivy champion soccer team, which got her involved in the surrounding community, where she coached children. Participation in sports, she said, fosters leadership, equality in friendship and camaraderie.

Sandy Mevorah that Bill died of a stroke in fall 2006. After college, Bill served in the Navy and gradu-
dated from Yale Law School. He practiced in several places, including California, and finally in Sarasota, Fla. He is survived by his sons, Bill Jr. and Scott.

Sandy also is a lawyer who has had a varied career. He practiced federal criminal law and served with the State Department in Africa and Asia, including Viet-

SEPT Embarrassed First Amendment

lows. صلّب Despite the fact that he has been a prominent voice in the civil rights movement, he has not been afraid to speak out against the government and the criminal justice system. He has been a vocal critic of the war in Iraq and has called for an end to the war. His views have been controversial, but he has remained committed to his principles. His influence has been felt throughout the country, and he has been a strong voice for change.

On May 4, at the College of Dental Medicine’s class reunion day, Ralph Kaslick ’56, ’59 Dental, ’62 Dental received CDM’s Distin-
guished Alumni Award. From left to right, Herbert Frommer ’54, ’57 Dental, Bernard Biron ’59 Dental, Kaslick, Ted West, clinical professor in periodontics, and Ira Lamster, CDM dean.

PHOTO: DOUG MCAIN

Joel Schwartz “entered the New York State Senior Games (Olympics) and on June 7 swam the 500-yard race. There were two entries in my age group, 70-74, and I came in first for a gold medal (time was 9:49:23).”

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Imaging Center. This spring, he received the Frank L. Bobbitt Award from the Alumni Association of the SUNY Downstate Medical Center. The award is given annually to Medical College alumni in recognition of distinguished service to the medical profession and the community. Among his many other accomplishments, Stan was editor-in-chief of the Journal of Nuclear Medicine for five years and has written two textbooks on nuclear medicine.

One more repeat appearance on the same "Best Doctors" list was by Bob Waldbaum, who practices urology at North Shore-Manhasset Medical Center although he retired as department head.

Another doctor-author classmate (even though he received his degree in October 1957) is William Reichel. Bill is a geriatrician who participated in the Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown's School of Medicine as an affiliate scholar. He is a past president of the American Geriatrics Society and recently was named by the American Medical Directors Association as one of five "Pioneers in Geriatric Medicine." The text, now known as Reichel's Care of the Elderly: Clinical Aspects of Aging, is going into its sixth edition; Bill has become editor emeritus.

Bill and Dr. David Doukas also are co-authors of Planning for Uncertainty: Living Wills and Other Advance Directives for You and Your Family. After the Terry Schiavo case, Johns Hopkins University Press asked the authors to update the book for a second edition. Bill and his wife, Linda, have a daughter and five grandchildren.

Save the date: The planning committee is work on our 50th reunion, which will take place on and around campus the weekend of May 29–June 1, 2008. More details to come. If you'd like to get involved, contact the alumni office staff members listed at the top of the column.

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month at the Grill Room of the Princeton/Columbia Club, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). E-mail Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com

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Bill Greenburg wrote, "There's not too much to tell. I've been to the South Pole. As a CC graduate with great descriptive powers, I can say it's a very cold place. After our graduation, I hitchhiked through Europe, Turkey and Israel for nine months.Shortly after I returned, I was drafted. After the Army, I lived in NYC and worked for Fairchild Publications for a couple of years and played rugby for Old Blue (The Columbia Old Boys).

"I worked for the Nashville Tennessean for eight years and met my Tennessee wife in Nashville. I started as a general assignment reporter and then covered the Apollo program, developed the economics and politics of health care and was on the ground floor of coverage of the environment and spent nearly two years investigating coal strip mining."

"I was a Professional Journalism Fellow (now the Knight Ridenhour) at Stanford in 1972–73. I joined The San Bernardino Sun and covered the science, politics and economics of air pollution and then did an investigation of land fraud."

"I had some magazine articles published a long time ago, most notably MIT's Technology Review, Sierra Club Bulletin (now Sierra) and California Journal (unfortunately no longer around). Even I did a piece for CCT (I think in 1980) on Jay Neugeboren. I went into business doing public affairs consulting and running political campaigns, small stuff. I am sort of retired, whatever that means."

"I’ve been supportive of Columbia: the College Fund, Columbia/Barnard Hillel, football and I was a member of the Alumni Representative Committee (affectionately known as ARCs), interviewing applicants for CC and SEAS. I belong to the Columbia Alumni Association of Southern California and attend as many L.A.-area events as I can."

"My wife died in summer '02, cancer. Miriam, my oldest daughter, graduated from Brandeis and is a social worker in Boston. My younger daughter, Esther, graduated from UC Santa Cruz and stayed in that area and married a UC Santa Cruz alum."

"I’ve kept in touch with and visited with Linda and Gene Appel through the years as well as with my CC roommate and close friend. Larry Marks (you might have read the CCT article [in May/June issue] about his brother, Paul '46). I have also kept in touch with Jay off and on and got together with him, Larry and Eddy Mendryczky when I was in NYC a couple of years ago."

"When I visit my daughter and grandson in the Santa Cruz area, I get together with Dave McNutt and his wife, Kristin. Dave and I rowed together on the lightweight crew and rowed as the county attorney to Santa Cruz County. He followed Ira Lubell '57 in that position. Ira was student manager of the Columbia Crew."

"Fairly succinctly, that's about it."

And quite a lot it is. Thanks for bringing us up-to-date."

John Erlich's youngest daughter, following a family human services tradition, recently accepted a position with Child Protective Services in Arizona. The seventh edition of co-authored Strategies of Community Intervention, a widely-used social work text in press since 1970, will be published by Bowers in the fall. Recently, John was honored to have been selected as board president for the newly-established Sacramento Social Services, an organization committed to providing supportive employment for people with mental health challenges (especially those who were previously homeless) so that they might progress to successful independence. He teaches for the Division of Social Work, California State University, Sacramento, and always enjoys hearing from classmates (erlichj@csus.edu).

Michael D. Bromberg is chair¬man of Capital Health Group (CHG), a full-service government affairs consultancy focusing exclusively on health care legislation, policy and regulation. He also is vice-chairman of the Federation of American Health Systems, which he represented for 25 years as executive director. In addition, Mike holds membership and a past presidential position with the National Health Lawyers Association. Prior to CHG's organization, Mike was counsel to Steelman Health Strategies and was chair of the Health Policy Group for the 1996 Dole for President Campaign. He also was a member of the National Advisory Commission on Catastrophic Illness. His experience also includes being campaign manager with subsequent legislative and administrative assistant to former U.S. Representative Herbert Tenzer (D-N.Y.).

An attorney, Mike practiced as New York and Washington counsel for the New York law firm of Tenzer, Greenblatt, Fallon and Kaplan. He received his LL.B. from NYU Law School in 1962 and is a member of three bar associations: the State of New York, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Richard Engelman is a cardiac surgeon at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass., and primarily functions as an administrator for clinical and experimental research and directs the cardiac surgical research activities. He is married to Jane Godwin Engelman '61, Barnard. They have three children, clearly no longer children, and seven grandchildren — the two oldest are 13. "Our son, Daniel, is a cardiac surgeon working at the Bayside MC, and our older daughter, Margo Grodusky, lives nearby with three children. Our younger daughter, Andrea Berner, is in Brooklyn with two children and is an attorney. There is no way I can conceive of having 13-year-old grandchildren, as I feel like Columbia could not be nearly 50 years ago. Time goes by much too quickly, as all of us well know."

Matt Sobel writes: "I have a busy professional life, based at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, but resigned as department chair after 35 years of being a chair and dean of other universities as well as at Case). I heard the biological clock ticking and wanted to spend more time doing research and teaching. They remain exciting activities. My wife, Susan Sotnick, and I traveled in June to Hong Kong and Beijing to give lectures and attend conferences. My children are thriving, and the grandchildren are delights! My principal recreations remain road bicycling (1,000 miles January through May) and cross-country skiing."

Jay Neugeboren: "Happy to report the following: My new novel (and 17th book), 1940, will be published early next year. A novella, You Are My Heart, in the winter/spring issue of Notre Dame Review, and, in progress: a new novel, a three-act play for stage, a new (fourth) collection of short stories, and (in collaboration with my son, Eli), a graphic novel. In October, I’m most pleased to report, Kathleen Reilly and I will be married. We live a few blocks..."
from campus, on West 111th and Broadway.”

From Bruce Schlein we hear, “I recently returned from a trip to California and am now fully time-adjusted. For the last several years, I have been doing a number of photographic projects for The History Museum of Upcountry South Carolina. These include images for the permanent exhibit, the oral history project, and most recently, the Religious Diversity Video. I teach photography at Furman University in the Life Long Learning and Learning in Retirement programs. “I am on the Board of Trustees of the International Chamber Music Society as a past president and am on the board of the Upstate Visual Arts Association. I have been on the Board of Directors of the Temple of Israel and am involved in maintaining a Jewish Community Music Series, which I started. My wife, Alice, and I have been married since 1961 and have two boys, Willy and Erik. Willy is an architect with a wife and a little boy and a little girl. Erik is a graduate student. My passion is photography, and my hobbies include fishing, hifan and traveling. I fully retired last July to spend more time playing.”

From Eric Jakobsson we hear, “I am busier than I have ever been. My active areas of interest are now that I have retired: computational science as applied to membranes and the use of computation to enhance teaching, especially with respect to the use of computation and math to integrate biology with physical science. My wife is seeing the light of day that the present disciplinary structure of American universities, at least with respect to science and engineering, is on the way to breaking down and giving way to a much more organic model for how we organize scientific knowledge. The disciplinary silos will be more organic model for how we organize scientific knowledge. The disciplinary silos will be more organic model for how we organize scientific knowledge. The disciplinary silos will be more organic model for how we organize scientific knowledge.

“I have started speaking and writing about this, as well as about many areas of research. I am active in the Public Affairs Committee of the Biophysical Society. Our committee’s goal is to encourage more support for scientific research and to promote interdisciplinary science through the ‘Bridging the Sciences’ initiative, a joint effort of many scientific societies. "With respect to citizenship, my major activity is in our local chapter of the Interfaith Alliance, and our major issue this year is to press for repeal or repair of the Military Commissions Act, which has eroded the foundations of our system of justice and is against principles of justice that are shared by people of all faiths as well as humanists. At least that is my opinion — like any good Columbiaian, I am happy to argue with anybody who sees it differently.”

“My wife, Naomi, is in the Illinois House of Representatives and is wrestling with big budget and revenue issues as I write this. (It is Memorial Day, but the legislature is in session today anyway, pushing against an end-of-the-month deadline for passing a budget.) Naomi has gotten busier as well, as she has assumed chairmanship of the Human Services Committee. She also has become a master landscape gardener and has made our property (a century-old home on a large lot in walking distance of the university) beautiful. In addition, she has populated our yard with songbird feeders, so that it is always full of songbirds and squirrels. We do a bit of feeding up the food chain as well, via a neighbor’s aggressive cat and the occasional hawk, just enough carnage to keep the back yard from being too Disneyland.

“We have two children by birth and six adopted children. All are doing well (although none went to Columbia), and we have 11 grandchildren. It is not clear whether that process is complete, but it may be, since our youngest children (twins) are 31 yesterday. I am still the same weight as I was when an undergraduate, but gravity has taken its toll, and my waist size is two inches greater. And of course I do not have the physical energy or strength that I had, nor nearly as much hair. (Actually, I may have as much, but that is because I am wearing it longer — in any case the effect is not quite the same).”

Robin Mattz wonders “if someone could organize a monthly Wednesday lunch at the Columbia Club. Now that I’ve moved back into the city, I’m more interested in local events.”

Any volunteers?

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Terrence McNally’s most recent play, Deuce, opened in April at the Music Box Theater on Broadway. Starring Angela Lansbury and Marian Seldes, the piece portrays two retired tennis players, once a championship doubles team, who are reunited to be honored at the U.S. Open. Although it did not receive the acclaim with which the critics have greeted Terrence’s many other presentations, it did provide Lansbury, a four-time Tony Award winner, a vehicle for another Tony Award nomination. And what do the critics know? Wasn’t it no less a literary luminary than Mark Twain who wrote, “The trade of critic, in literature, music, and the drama, is the most degraded of all trades.”

Thirty years ago, while practicing law in New York, Martin Pincofs built a home in Middlesex, Vt., a Montpelier bedroom community in the northcentral part of the state. Martin gave up his law practice 20 years ago and six years ago he was certified as a yoga teacher, for which he became certified some dozen or so years ago, and a volunteer on various local boards. The remembrance of Bill Goodstein in the May/June issue sparked Martin’s recollection of his and “Goody’s” incessant late-night arguments in the dorms — ear-splitting harangues, long-winded debates — while Stephen B. Brown tossed fitfully in bed praying for an end to the boisterous orations and longing for Shakespeare’s “honey-heavy dew of slumber.” The statute of limitations and the doctrine of laches having long barred any claim in law or equity for the infliction of emotional distress, Martin now allows that those overwrought wrangles were not intended to refine a cogency of reasoning or hone the oratorical skills of two prospective attorneys, but simply to deftly Stephen B.’s efforts to get some sleep.

Colorado has 54 peaks that rise above 14,000 feet. “Climbing a fourteenner” is a badge of honor among Coloradans. The degree of difficulty ascending the peaks varies, but the conquest of each is an accomplishment and the vistas presented at their summits are physically and spiritually breathtaking. Bill Tanenbaum can attest to that, as he had climbed two, Mt. Evans and Quandary Peak, prior to July, at which time he was about to set out on the ascent of two more, Grays Peak at 14,270 feet, and Torreys Peak at 14,267 feet. A record was set in 1995 when two men climbed all 54 peaks in 15 days, nine hours and 55 minutes. Bill is not on track to break the record but he has time and many years to tackle the remaining 50, and as you know the old story about the impetuous young bull and the wise old bull who spent their days as neighbors, who upon reaching the crest of a hill will be a herd of cows below . . . but that’s not a story for CCT.”

Bill mentioned that Ernie Kaiman, who lives in Sarasota, traveled to Israel in April with his wife, Faye, to spend a month as “goodwill ambassadors” on an Israel Defense Forces Base. It was their first trip to Israel, but one that they intend to repeat.

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Arthur Wisot and his wife, Phyllis, recently celebrated their 40th anniversary, which coincided with the birth of their first grandchild, America Ann, courtesy of their

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

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Unfortunately, I was unable to attend our 45th reunion. I'm planning for the 50th and hope to see you then! Fortunately, our esteemed Class Correspondent emeritus, Ed Pressman, not only attended but also prepared the following report, which I quote in full:

"The weekend kicked off with a charming cocktail party at Joanne and Paul Alter's beautiful apartment in Manhattan, and there were at least 25 classmates present. Some who had not been to recent reunions were Bruce Penney, Jim Stark, Armand Bartos and Peter Berman. Dean Austin Quigley addressed the gathering and presented a brief resume of the College's development through the years. It is a real success story. After the party, a number of us went to the theater district to attend shows that the reunion committee had arranged, either 'The Color Purple,' 'Inherit the Wind' or 'Jersey Boys.'

"The main event on Friday was a delightful cocktail party at Jerry Speyer's spectacular Rockefeller Center office. The food and drink were delicious, and the company was wonderful. President Lee C. Bollinger and Jerry spoke. Again, some classmates who had not previously attended a reunion were there, including Larry Loewinger, Herb Gerstein, Jim Spingarn, Sandy Greenberg, Harvey Chertoff, Paul Asofsky, Franz Stoppenbach and Harvey Wayne.

"We spent Saturday on campus beginning with breakfast and continuing with a Coney Island-style lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, sausage, lobster, clams and mus-sels. Throughout the day, we attended a variety of panel discussions. It was an extraordinarily relaxing day and gave us a wonderful chance to reminisce and to talk about our present experiences.

"The highlight of the weekend was a Saturday night class dinner in Low Library's Faculty Room. It was a pleasure to see some classmates whom we haven't seen in many years. Among them were Stephen Boris, Michael Charney, Joe Nozzolio, Mike Waters and Jerry Hirsch. Paul Alter addressed the group and congratulated the class for its generous donations to the Columbia College Fund. Bill Campbell, Board of Trustees chair, visited all the tables and greeted all those present. It was a delightful evening.

"Speaking for myself, returning to campus always is a special treat. It was particularly so to be a part of a very special class at Columbia and to share with my classmates those years on campus together."

Some biographical notes: Mike Charney practices medicine in the Bay area. His wife, also a physician, could not make the reunion so Mike brought his sons, Darius and Konos, who live and work in New York. So, for Mike, it was a special treat.

Bob Umans teaches at Boston University but is studying cooking in order to become a chef. The best of luck in your new career, Bob.

Vickie and Fred Modell are involved in the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, which deals with primary immunodeficiency. They started the foundation in memory of their son, and it has grown to a point where there are now 18 diagnostic centers at 115 teaching hospitals worldwide. For more information, visit www.info4pi.org.

Kathie and Tom Vasell are enjoying a wonderful retirement. Recently, through Columbia, they experienced an educational journey following the path of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1803-05). They saw countryside that is still rural and extraordinarily beautiful. At each stop, a professor provided historical background.

Although Russ Warren is not practicing medicine, he still is the team doctor for the New York Giants and is involved with his institute for sports medicine in New York City.

Michael Hofkin's son, Benjamin, graduated from the College in May.

May 30 was a big day for Jerry Speyer. His real estate firm, Tishman Speyer, joined forces with Lehman Brothers to purchase the apartment behemoth Archstone-Smith for $22.2 billion. And the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Modern Art announced his election as chairman of its board of trustees. Retiring chairman Robert B. Menschel saluted Jerry with the following words: 'Jerry is an outstanding example of a highly intelligent, extremely successful individual who uses his significant abilities to give back. More importantly, Jerry is steadfastly committed to the museum's mission. He is an enthusiastic collector of contemporary and modern art and will continue to share his special knowledge and enthusiasm with MoMA as it moves forward.'

Jerry has been a MoMA Board of Trustees member for 25 years. He becomes chairman after serv-
ing as vice-chairman since 1996. As chair of the museum’s Fund for the 21st Century and its Development Committee, Jerry played a central role in its recent expansion as well as the sale of its West End properties. Since 2004, ARTnews has listed Jerry as one of its top 200 collectors. He regularly displays world-class art in public spaces, including Rockefeller Center.

In addition to his affiliation with MoMA, Jerry serves on the boards of Carnegie Hall, New-YorkPresbyterian Hospital, The Partnership for New York City, RAND Corporation, Urban Land Institute, Columbia, The New York City Investment Fund, and Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. Please take a moment to tell us what you are thinking and doing by sending an e-mail to me at the address at the top of the column.

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1
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No one joined me for the Parade of the Classes on Class Day this year. You missed the good company and an excellent continental breakfast and mimosas. I shared holding the Class of ‘63 flag with an assistant from the alumni office. What can Columbia do to make this a more attractive event for alumni? Class Day was beautiful this year. I hope next year we have a decent turnout.

Three of our classmates’ sons graduated from the College with the Class of 2007 that day; Harvey Cantor’s son, Andrew; Michael DiLorenzo’s son, James; and Mark Mandelkern’s son, Benjamin. Congratulations to all.

Joe Applebaum sent me an e-mail he was still telling me that he would make the lunch and telling me of a book about James Yorke’s work in chaos theory (he coined the term). Joe wrote, “Jim Yorke has had an exceedingly distinguished career as a mathematician as one of the discoverers of chaos theory. I saw a review in the Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society of a book that was published in honor of Jim’s 60th birthday, which gives some details of his accomplishments.” Joe brought the article to the lunch and we talked about James and the many

fine mathematicians in our class (Joe, also a math major, is the chief actuary for the Government Accountability Office). You’ll find a copy of the review on the Class of ’63 Web site, www.63ers.com.

By happy coincidence, I then received an e-mail from James asking to be added to our e-mail list. James writes, “I graduated from Columbia College on June 4, 1963, two days after getting married to Ellen Davis ’62 Barnard. In 1963, Ellen received an M.S. in physics from Columbia. We went to grad school at the University of Maryland, where we got our Ph.D.s. She in physics and me in math.”

“I am still at Maryland, and on July 1 I began a five-year term as chairman of the math department. My colleagues cannot figure out why I put my name in the hat for this job, but I think it will be fun.” My Web page, http://yorke.umd.edu, contains other details about James and the many events that followed with ‘No kid of mine is ever coming here!’

“One of the things good accountants learn is never to say ‘never.’ Steve obviously learned that and a great many other things along the way. I will remember him, and I will miss him.”

You can reach Steve at langfelder@aol.com.

Peter Landecker writes, “I work on NASA space instrument programs with lots of hobbies, as noted in www.lafn.org/~bf684/index.htm. I am in excellent health and enjoy life.”

Michael Hassan sent me the latest report on his travels, “So sorry for being unpredictable with my responses. I had to leave two of them but I have been spending all my time living them rather than relating them.”

“I decided my investments were too narrow and took half my money out of the stock market and am investing in international property. So far, so good, though this is not work for the faint of heart. More on the do’s and don’ts of buying internationally later, as I now have a relatively inexpensive, yet hard-won, education.”

Larry Lift writes, “[Does] anyone in our class have a copy of our yearbook with which they would be willing to part? I moved many times in the first few decades after
graduating — to Harvard for a physics Ph.D., to Switzerland for a post-doc position, to Michigan for a faculty position, to Miami for medical school and finally, to San Francisco for my academic thesis career. My copy of the yearbook vanished somewhere within those moves. Perhaps a discreet inquiry at your lunches might be possible and sufficient. Otherwise, would it be possible to put a line in the news that a classmate seeks a replacement copy of the yearbook? If someone has a copy that can be surrendered, they should please write to me (larry.litt@ucsf.edu) to discuss the terms.

LARRY, I hope someone has a spare copy. I’ll keep my eyes open on eBay, and also ask around Columbia.

Lee Lowenfish writes, “Here are a couple of quotes about my book, Branch Rickey: Baseball’s Ferocious Gentleman. It’s in its second printing from University of Nebraska Press and I am pleased at the reaction so far. ‘A summer 2007 Hot Read’ from AARP The Magazine; ‘A fascinating glimpse of the game’s roots . . . detailed and nuanced,’ David Ulin, L.A. Times; ‘Chock full of revelations and great anecdotes on Rickey’s life,’ Bill Madden, New York Daily News. Enough of me tooting my own horn, but who else is to do it?”

I noted an interesting article in the June 30 New York Times about the impact of wealth, in this case on Harry Saal and his wife, Carol. In 1986, Harry’s company, Network General, went public, and he and his wife were suddenly rich. “Let’s not spoil our lives,” he explained, “There was a pending divorce and we lost a lot of money, but money did make one thing easier. The two lives, the Saals say, but money did not think carefully about our lifestyle.” The article continues, “In January, I began a judicial trial in Superior Court in Oakland in a kidnapping case that lasted for two months to end with a hung jury. After the trial ended, we moved to France and are currently practicing law in New York. We have two children who graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo in the early 1970s. In 1986, he founded Network General, based in Menlo Park, Calif. Carol Saal worked in the company’s marketing department. Their two children were 16 and 19 when the family’s wealth suddenly soared. In some of their earliest discussions, Mr. Saal recalled, they talked about the future: “Let’s not spoil our lives.” He explained, “There was a pending possibility of doom if we let the genie out of the bottle, if we didn’t think carefully about our lifestyle.” The article continues, “It has taken constant thought and effort to stay grounded in their financial and emotional lives, the Saals say, but money did make one thing easier. The two had always leaned toward the philanthropic; now they could give money in such quantities, the grants and gifts we make are transformational,” Mr. Saal said. Among Harry and Carol’s causes was helping to establish a Center for Clinical Immunology at the Stanford University School of Medicine.

Our 45th reunion is less than a year away. The class reunion committee has started to plan and discuss our programs. If you would like to help, please let me know, or contact the alumni office (see box at the top of the column), I look forward to a great turnout next June.

Keep in touch and let us know what you’re up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

64
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Mike Wallace has become a CUNY poster boy. When I looked up from my newspaper while riding the subway in Manhattan, there was a CUNY ad prominently featuring a picture of Mike, who teaches at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. While the ad carelessly omits the fact that Mike is a member of the Class of ’64, it does mention that he received the Pulitzer Prize in History for Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898.

Steve Rosenfeld, widowed last year, has married Joan Rappaport (now Rosenfeld), a v.p. in corporate relations at Merrill Lynch. “Joan,” Steve writes, “has given me not only abundant happiness, but also four instant grandsons!” Steve is a partner in the firm of Wharton & Garrison in Manhattan and chair of the New York City_Conflicts of Interest Board, to which he was appointed in 2002 by Mayor Michael Bloomberg. Steve also serves on the Board of the New York Theater Workshop and is chair of the Board of Visitors at CUNY Law School.

Steve Rock writes from Stanford, “I am drifting into retirement after a career in high energy physics. While my body still lasts, I am trying to keep active, hiking, biking and traveling to as many places as I can. I am very much in love with my wife (who also does the above with me) and have two children and two grandchildren. I live in the endless suburbs south of San Francisco, where there is an ample supply of opera, ballet, blues, rock and roll.”

Steve spends more and more time with the Peninsula Peace and Justice Center (“due to the horrors of the U.S. political situation”) and he has several “hero of the revolution” awards for exemplary dishwashing after fundraising events. “I think I had a great education at CUNY, but somehow missed a lot of the political action that was taking place, e.g., the civil rights movement.”

Peter Robrish writes, “I am alive, well and living in San Francisco with my wife, Susan Chandler.” He can be contacted at robrish@abubai.agilent.com.

You can read online September, a new novel by Jerry Oster about a middle-aged man who helps out a young woman in trouble. A new chapter will be posted each week at www.handmadewords.wordpress.com.

Bob Liss was in New York from California to visit his parents and joined us at the informal class lunch, held the second Thursday of each month at the Columbia Club in Manhattan. Bob graduated from Yale Law School but he never practiced law or took a bar printing. He now practices as a psychologist in San Francisco.

Larry Kessler has driven into Manhattan from Long Island for a few class lunches. He is professor of law at Hofstra Law School.

Keep the notes coming. Your classmates want to hear from you.

65
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Josh Fendel sent a note prompted by his reading in CCT about Art Sederbaum’s death. I’ll let Josh speak for himself, “Art was president of the Glee Club in our senior year and in 1970 was the club’s business manager. Although we were not close, I remember him fondly, and news of his death comes as a disturbing reminder that we are all aging. “I got my M.S. from the School of Social Work, where I also met my wife, Barbara. After additional training and experience, I ended up practicing psychotherapy in Huntington, N.Y., where I remain in full-time practice, although I contemplate cutting back over the next few years. Barbara and I have two children, Miam lives in Portland, Ore., with her husband and three children, and David ’95 lives in the Bay Area with his wife and 10-month-old son. It is hard having my family so far away, and we make frequent trips to the west coast in order to have relationships with our progeny. "Although I live less than 100 miles from Morningside Heights, I have maintained little or no connection to either the school or classmates. I have fond memories of my years at Columbia, and have followed, mostly through CCT, the remarkable achievements of so many.”

Richard Haber died on June 11 after a long and heroic battle with multiple myeloma. A full obituary will appear in a forthcoming issue of CCT. Rick was a distinguished faculty member of the Department of Medicine at UC San Francisco and is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, and son, Laurence.

Among his many interests, Rick was an accomplished musician and enjoyed playing piano and guitar with his family and friends. I caught his music-loving side the weekend of our 35th reunion, when there was a free concert on South Field by avant-garde pianist Cecil Taylor accompanied by master jazz drummer Max Roach. This was uncompromising, difficult music, but there were Rick and Jackie, beaming with pleasure and enjoying the experience.

Three of our classmates have children who graduated from the College in May with the Class of 2007: Michael Maller’s daughter, Abigail; Richard Rappaport’s daughter, Michelle; and Derek Wittner’s stepson, Christian Balmer. Congratulations to all!

Dr. Morris Lebovitz, of Germantown, Tenn., my fraternity brother, died from complications of bone cancer on June 30. I’ll have more information in the next issue.

John McDougall sent this report on his interesting life and legal practice: “In January, I began a jury trial in Superior Court in Oakland in a kidnapping case that lasted for two months to end with a hung jury. After the trial ended, we moved to France and are currently practicing law in New York City.”

My name-branding, we were joined in the club’s business manager. Although we were not close, I remember him fondly, and news of his death comes as a disturbing remainder that we are all aging. “I got my M.S. from the School of Social Work, where I also met my wife, Barbara. After additional training and experience, I ended up practicing psychotherapy in Huntington, N.Y., where I remain in full-time practice, although I contemplate cutting back over the next few years. Barbara and I have two children, Miam lives in Portland, Ore., with her husband and three children, and David ’95 lives in the Bay Area with his wife and 10-month-old son. It is hard having my family so far away, and we make frequent trips to the west coast in order to have relationships with our progeny. "Although I live less than 100 miles from Morningside Heights, I have maintained little or no connection to either the school or classmates. I have fond memories of my years at Columbia, and have followed, mostly through CCT, the remarkable achievements of so many.”

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Sox handle the Cleveland Indians.

“In June, I spent a week volunteering at a Boy Scout camp, Camp Wolfeboro, in the Sierra Nevada. My two sons attended this camp as teenagers, and I find returning to help with the program there rewarding. I plan to continue a tradition of vacationing in Yosemite National Park every summer. That’s about all the time off the presiding judge will probably allow me until I have tried several of the cases that I have continued up to now.”

Bob Yunich attended and reported on a posthumous award to Art Sederbaum by the UJA-Federation of New York Trust and Estates Group of the Lawyers Division. In being presented the award, Art was singled out for his devotion to his family, loyalty to his friends, his professional accomplishments as a distinguished member of the Trusts and Estates Group, and his outstanding philanthropy, notably to the UJA-Federation of New York and the New York Philharmonic.

 Writes Bob, “More than 400 attended the event — almost a record. Arthur was the life of this party, even though his body was not there, I know, in spirit. It was a bittersweet moment without him, but one he would have enjoyed immeasurably.”

66
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From Glen Rock, N.J., we received news from Rich Forzanì: “By the time you read this, I and my wife, Kathy, will have spent another August weekend with Harvey Kurzweil and his lovely wife, Barbara, at their amazing house in Nantucket. I am forbidden by these annual visits to recite one of my favorite poems concerning this particular island, but must content myself with cigars and the simple pleasures of youth. “Thanks to Martin Goldstein ’67’s story in the May/June issue about ’67’s undefeated frosh crew and Gerry Botha ’67’s detective work, as well as a heads-up from Rich Beggs, I was able to track down my old friend and fraternity roommate, Paul Vaughn ’72, living in the wilds of Washington State. Paul and I misspent many a long night playing cards and doing social research at The Gold Rail, and I was happy to hear that life has turned out well for him after all these years.

“...immeasurably.”


PHOTO: DIANE BONDAREFF
pEDIATRICIAN at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune, N.J. He is program director for a sports medicine fellowship, training two primary care doctors each year to become sports medicine specialists.

The reunion began with a welcome party at Jeremy Epstein's Brooklyn home on Thursday evening. Friday night's cocktail reception at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery in Schermerhorn Hall was lively and well-attended.

David Blanchard and David Hillis, who came to Columbia in 1963 from Tyler, Texas, got updated on the latest news. David Blanchard is head of special education in Hinesburg, Vt., and appears as physically fit as when he was a member of the undefeated lightweight crew (featured in a wonderful article in the May/June CCT). David Hillis is vice-chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University of Texas in Dallas. When my conversation with Dave drifted back inevitably to Columbia athletics, we spoke of Archie Roberts '65, a retired cardiovascular surgeon who is under-taking a project to fight heart disease among retired NFL players.

Les Schwartz was “pleased to see old friends at the 40th reunion, including Steve Stern, Brad Fishallow, Don Shapiro, Bob Kalter, Dave Shaw, and Steve Rice.” He recently celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with Peggy, and I’m pleased to have a new grandson. My two daughters live on the East Coast and my son made aliyah to Israel, where he teaches at a private high school. My older daughter, the new lawyer, is employed by the Law School in the development office, and my younger daughter recently received her master’s in counseling and will be an elementary school guidance counselor in suburban Maryland. After working as a private practice psychiatrist in South Jersey for 25 years, I moved to sunny Palm Beach County shortly after 9-11 to take a position with the West Palm Beach, Fla., VA Hospital. Among the many positive memories from my years at Columbia were broadcasting an open show with Dave Rubin on WKCR-FM, the start of a lifetime love affair with opera. I hope to see everyone at the 50th reunion, if not sooner.”

Steve Stern is a psychiatrist in San Antonio. Brad Fishallow is an orthopedist in St. Petersburg, Fla. Don Shapiro is retired from his medical practice in the Philadelphia area. He splits his time between Aspen, Colo. and Cherry Hill, N.J./Philadelphia. His son, Adam ’03, is completing his Ph.D. in economics in Boston; his married daughter, Stacey, blessed Don and his wife, Karyn, with a grandson (prospective CC Class of ’27). Bob Kalter is chairman of pathology and laboratory medicine at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn.

After the cocktail party, around 15 classmates headed to V&T to savor nostalgia, good food and great conversation. Gordon Klein, a professor of pediatrics and preventive medicine at UT Medical School in Galveston, Texas, shared his exciting research and insights into calcium and bone metabolism in children (at least highly interesting to me as a pediatrics sports medicine physician). John Gregor, a lawyer for the State of Hawaii, looked dapper in his bow tie. Everett Lautin, a Manhattan radiologist, amused everyone (as usual) with his keen wit and great sense of humor; he is a constant story-teller.

On Saturday afternoon, the class gathered in Hamilton Hall to hear Professor James Shapiro ’77 give an entertaining lecture on Shakespeare and for Ray Burghardt and Mark Minton to share their stories and insights of serving the State Department as ambassadors. Ray was U.S. ambassador to Vietnam; Mark is a State Department expert on Korean affairs, including negotiating with the North Koreans to constrain and eliminate their nuclear weapons program, as well as U.S. ambassador to Mongolia.

The Saturday evening class dinner offered another opportunity for socialization and camaraderie. When our faculty guest speaker, Professor David Rosand ’59, was unable to attend due to illness in his family earlier in the week, the Cleverest Class was forced to provide its own entertainment. Fortunately, Richard Jupa, editor of Joker, our esteemed humor magazine, was able to provide amusement with a stand-up routine that would have made Jerry Seinfeld proud.

Arnold Bodner, an anesthesiologist in Millburn, N.J., was energized by the reunion, saying, “Had a great time. It had been too long. I had seen Tom Greene and even longer with Jeremy Epstein. I will not let such a long time lapse in the future. Thanks to the organizers.” Tony does real estate analysis and valuation for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Mel Brender, a technical analyst for TIAA, lives in Brooklyn. Andrew Kolstad is a technical adviser for the National Center for Education Statistics in Washington, D.C. Paul Brooke, a Manhattanite, is chairman and CEO of Ithaka Acquisition Co. Alan Candiotti is a professor of mathematics at Drew University in Madison, N.J., and Kenneth Kramer is a mathematics professor at Queens College.

Carlton Carl, active with the American Association for Justice (formerly the Association of Trial Lawyers of America) as v.p. for policy and strategy, has relocated to Texas. He owns most of Mar-tindale, a town of about 1,000. “My four acres on the banks of the beautiful San Marcos River includes 38,000 square feet of buildings, 16 seed silos, three sales and one house. Helping make this little town viable again with restaurants, art galleries, music and artists' lofts is my next huge project.”

Stan Adelman, heavily involved in the band as an undergraduate, teaches at the University of Arkansas Law School and also consults. Bill Ringel specializes in First Amendment law at Cahill Gordon & Reindel in New York. Alan Sachs is a partner at HAAR & Woods law firm in St. Louis. Mayer Freed is a law professor and associate dean of Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago. As a diligent reporter for this column, I checked out our class freshman directory and yearbook. The young Mayer of 1967 bears an uncanny resemblance to Al Franken. Joel Klaperman is a New York City attorney and partner with Shearman & Sterling. Jeffrey Newman is a Manhattan attorney and partner with Dolgenos, Newman & Cronin. Robert Rosenberg, a partner at Latham & Watkins, is also president of the New Group, a nonprofit theater company in New York City. Richard Tomar is an attorney at Karp Frosh in Rockville, Md.

No Class of 1967 reunion would be complete without its core cast of regulars. Robert Costa and his wife, Joanne, always are involved. Bob is managing director for JP Morgan Chase in New York. Jonathan Kranz always is involved with a variety of interesting ventures and hobbies; he teaches part-time at John Jay College. Jeffrey Newman, an international lawyer, graced us with his presence at dinner Saturday night.

Douglas Good, a Long Island attorney, is president of the Nassau County Bar Assn. His hobby is attending European jazz festivals. Bill Costanzo teaches English and film courses at Westchester Community College. His most recent book, The Writer’s Eye, was published in the spring. He enjoys swimming, cross-country skiing and international travel. Donald Krim is president of Kino International Corp., a theatrical distribu-
tion company specializing in classical and foreign art films, in New York City; in 2006, Donald received the William K. Everson Filmmakers Award from the National Board of Review. Richard Lorber is CEO/president of Lorber Media/Koch Lorber Films in Manhattan. Martin Andrucki chairs the Department of Theater and Rhetoric at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine.

Bill Heinbach is enjoying his retirement after teaching science for many years in the New York City school system. Jeff Schneider is a New York City high school teacher at Midwood High in Brooklyn. Paul Raso teaches at Poly Prep in Brooklyn. Valdis Basens is a teacher in his hometown of Vineland, N.J., in the rural, southern part of the state.

Richard Strassberg, who teaches mathematics at FIT, enjoys traveling (Paris, Berlin, Munich, Rome Europe) with his artist wife, Jami-la. Jeff Herrmann, who was a physics major, indicates that he is making use of his science background in the litigation work he is doing at McGuireWoods, where he is a partner.

Physicians from the Class of 1967 returned to campus in significant numbers, making the cocktail party reception in Schermerhorn Hall Friday night seem all the more relevant, since the pre-med biology class met in the building. Stephen Victor, a research physician with Wyeth-Ayer in Philadelphia, came to the Saturday night dinner wearing his 1966 Columbia College blazer! Bob Klein, professor of medicine and epidemiology and population health at Columbia Medical Center and Albert Einstein in New York, shared memories with New York ophthalmologist Jeff Nightingale, who reports that one of his sons (I think it is Andrew ’05) will start medical school this fall. Jeffrey Kluger is the director of heart rhythm management at Hartford Hospital in Connecticut. James Schwartz is an orthopedic surgeon in Virginia. Daniel Schwartzberg is a radiologist in Arizona.

with Fimat USA in Manhattan. While 40 years have passed since graduation, the creativity and talent of the Class of 1967 still is going strong. Collectively, we are very accomplished professionally and have produced wonderful families. The class camaraderie during the reunion was energizing among those of us reconnecting with old friends and equally enjoyable when meeting classmates we never encountered or did not remember from our undergraduate years.

As a class agent for the Columbia College Fund, I can say that the Class of 1967 can be proud that we reached our ambitious fundraising goals during this reunion year, which ended June 30. Our goals were $300,000 and 35 percent participation rate and we raised $302,700, with 36 percent participation.

For those who attended the reunion, we look forward to generating a bigger turnout in 2012 to spread the fun and joy among even more classmates. To those classmates who missed the reunion and didn't send in Class Notes for this issue, let’s hear from you. Our class has outgrown from a long slumber. Join in the sharing and caring.

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I seemingly have been remiss in my outreach program though I do have a few good things to report. And I would like to note again that our 40th reunion is coming soon. I believe that we will have an extraordinary turnout, even better than our last one, which was record-breaking. So if I could begin with some good news... Two of our classmates have graduated in 2007: Ed Costa Yordan (daughter Maria Yordan) and David Shapiro (son Daniel). Congratulations.

David has a new book—New and Selected Poems (1965–2006). I have seen some sensational reviews and I am reading the book, a gift from David. [Editor's note: See Bookshelf, May/June]. David has been kind enough to give me some advice on art for my home, so I have now assembled some works that have brought me good feelings, and my home is much improved. Thanks, David, so much.

David, a professor, art critic and historian, has taken me to many galleries, shopping and advising and providing insight for me. I have some purchases to go, so I am lucky to have David as a friend. (By the way, he is a Columbia basketball fan, too. He and his wife, Lindsay, look forward to this upcoming season.) If you will forgive me, there is much to the story of my searching for good art. I called one of the places that we didn’t get to, to see if it had a Gottlieb, and the person answers, “Arthur, is this some kind of joke?” It surely wasn’t, so I asked who it was. Clearly, the person had seen my name on Caller ID. Well, it was the wonderful Henry Welt — the director of the gallery and a longtime collector — married a year now and quite happy and gracious. I visited him in Chelsea, where he was surrounded by an array of great art. DJT Fine Art自己, with the art of Calder, Haring, Katz, Lichtenstein, Picasso, Miro, Johns, Warhol and much more. It was great to talk to him. Henry has been a collector since he was 18 and while he seems to say this is a passion for him. Of course, I left with two pieces.

I was at the Metropolitan Opera House for the ABT’s performance of Susan Lake with a friend. I arrived a bit early and before my friend arrived, I saw Paul de Bary. He and his wife, Debbie, live in the city and were moving, I think to near where Henry’s gallery is. Alan has been a developer for many years, he reported to me, and has a big project under way in Chelsea. I hadn’t seen him since 1968 and I am pleased to report he looks the same. He was a classmate of President Lee C. Bollinger’s at the Law School.

I called Paul de Bary recently. He and his wife, Vicki, were on Block Island, enjoying great weather and good sun. Paul was in great humor (he should have been). I want to add something regarding David Shapiro’s new book — I thought what Jim Jarmusch 75 (the great film director) wrote about it was worth repeating: “David Shapiro is one of our greatest poets. Finally, we have a perfect volume of new and selected work — pages filled with his indelible music, imagined landscapes and unsettling exquisite dreams.”

From Sun Prairie, Wis., I heard from Roy Thilly, CEO of Wisconsin Public Power. He is a past president of the American Public Power Assn, and co-chair of the Governor’s Task Force on Global Warming and has served the governor on the Task Force on Energy Efficiency and Renewables. He also is on the Board of the Energy Center of Wisconsin, a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to developing solutions to energy challenges through innovation and education.

Ron wrote that it had been “a long journey from Milton, Shakespeare, ‘68 turmoil and The Gold Rail. I have had little contact with Columbia friends over the years. I do remember you vaguely from … New Hall. Went on to three years in the Peace Corps in the Philippines, law school at the University of Wisconsin, a brief stint at Cleary Gottlieb and back to private practice in Madison, focused on electric matters, litigation and public power, and am having fun running a relatively small, but vocal utility owned by 48 communities.”

Ron, as you know, since I have been doing public finance for 32 years, I appreciate public utilities a good deal. As to “vaguely” remembering me … I will forgive you. Thanks for the note. Ron is a big fan of the Core and the education he had that began in 1964. Ron, see you at our reunion.

Joseph Wihryk ’70 wrote, “I consider myself a member of the Class of 1968, even though I didn’t finish my B.A. until February 1969 — I lost a semester’s credit due to the uprising — and I didn’t receive my diploma until 1970 (the hold-up being $300 in library fines I had to pay off first). I live in Northern California, having retired from a career of writing documentation for IBM, HP and other computer firms. During the past few years, I have had half a dozen articles published in a variety of venues, the subject matter being classical mythology, art and history.”

Joseph has been able to travel a good deal and hopes to do more. “Thanks to my invaluable liberal arts education at Columbia, I am able to pursue my fields of interest now. Those two years of Humanities and Contemporary Civilization have paid off for me in the realization of a lifelong dream — to be able to add some of my insights and new information to a growing database of human life in ancient times.”

Thanks, Joseph, for the note; see you at reunion. Send us some of your papers.

I was at my country place in Saratoga for the July 4th week, and Pete Jannovsky planned to visit with his family at the end of August.

Well, that’s my brief column for this time. Hope you had a grand summer. I hope to get David Shapiro and Henry Welt together along with Henry’s new neighbor, Alan Ballinger, for our reunion. We ought to have a party in Chelsea for those who want to visit all the galleries there. Paul de Bary and Bill McDavid will have to pick out the wines for the event.

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On Location: As reported in July/August CCT, one of the Class Day traditions is the alumni participation in the academic procession. After the graduating seniors march from Butler Library down the pathways of Butler Gulch, alumni from the most recent 50 classes follow, carrying the banners for each class year. For the third consecutive year, I participated and held the left end of the Class of 1969 banner. Jenny Nadler, whose son, Michael, is a member of the Class of 2007, was the other representative for our class and held up the right end of the banner. (I, therefore, am in the unusual position of being able to say that for a short time I was to the left of Jenny Nadler.) The alumni office seeks at least two members from each of these 50 classes to come to this event (it requires attendance from 9 a.m.–10:30 a.m. on a work day); I encourage others to take a turn. The event provides ample opportunity to visit with a classmate who has been absent from campus for many years and members of the alumni office. The campus looks great when dressed up for Commencement, and the Harkness House for the ABT’s performance of Swan Lake — I thought what Jim Jarmusch wrote about it was worth repeating: “David Shapiro is one of our greatest poets. Finally, we have a perfect volume of new and selected work — pages filled with his indelible music, imagined landscapes and unsettling exquisite dreams.”

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ment, and it feels quite special to literally be part of the Columbia community as it assembles and marches with the newest alumni — indeed, the graduates even applauded for the alumni procession. The July/August issue had a photo on page 5 of the graduates cheering the alumni and a photo of the Parade of Classes: Very observant classmates with great eyesight and/or a magnifying glass can see Jerry and me in the top right corner of photo.

I learned from Jerry that he succeeded in renaming the Subcommittee of the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee that he chairs — it is now called the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee. When the Republicans were in the majority, the name was limited to the Constitution Subcommittee. The addition of "Civil Rights and Civil Liberties" to the subcommittee’s name reflects Jerry’s view of the issues to be addressed. Jerry said he had moved to the news in June, as his subcommittee held hearings about the government’s environmental response to the 9-11 terrorist attack.

In the News: It always helps me in writing the column when news of classmates shows up in the media. I begin with another prominent Jerry in our class. By chance, I saw Jerry Avorn being interviewed by Brian Williams on the May 21 broadcast of NBC Nightly News. The lead story that night was a report that Avandia, a prescription drug for diabetes, could increase the risk of heart attacks. Jerry commented that risks would continue as long as it is a better system for approval of drugs and surveillance of drugs after their approval. The Associated Press questioned and provoked Jerry’s comments, which were then included in many newspapers. As previously reported in CCT, Jerry is a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of the Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmaceutical Economics at Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Jerry’s research centers on medication use, reflected in his terrific book, Powerful Medicines: The Benefits, Risks and Costs of Prescription Drugs (Knopf, 2004).

Items about Paul Auster appear in the print media with considerable frequency, resulting in frequent mentions of him in this column; Paul probably is the classmate with the most appearances in the column. I saw a story about Paul in New York Resident reporting on a film he directed. The Inner Life of Martin Frost premiered at the New Directors/New Films festival at the Museum of Modern Art. Paul described the film to the Resident: "It’s a very literary film, in many ways ... I would define the film as the story of a man who writes a story about a man who writes a story. So there are all these different levels." I called Paul to see if he had read my column and first reminded about our freshman year in Carman Hall, with Paul in Room 814B and me in 815B. Paul told me that his film would be shown at the IFC Center in Manhattan and would open in Europe at the San Sebastian Film Festival. He also told me that he had been awarded 2006 Prince of Asturias Award for Letters by the Prince of Asturias Foundation (which was established by the Heir to the throne of Spain in 1980) to acknowledge, among other work — achievements in arts and letters. [Editor’s note: See “Columbia Forum.”]

Nicholas Fox Weber’s 13th book, The Clarks of Cooperstown, received an "A-" in the May 18 issue of Entertainment Weekly (certainly not to purchase a copy) and a prominent review in the May 20 New York Times Book Review: The book is a history of the Clark family, which derived great wealth from an ownership interest in the Singer sewing machine company at its creation. In particular, the book focuses on the art acquired and donated by Stephen Clark and Sterling Clark and on the longstanding feud between them. The book is being sold this spring by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in connection with its special exhibit, “The Clark Brothers Collect.” Nick is the director of the Josel and Anni Albers Foundation and has curated retrospectives of the work of painter Josef Albers and of textile designer Anni Albers. Nick also has news of his work on behalf of American Friends of Le Kinkeldea, which supports medical care in Senegal; CCT is preparing a story on Nick’s role for an upcoming issue. Nick lives in Bethany, Conn., and Paris.

I called Nick to discuss all of his accomplishments, and he told me how his years at Columbia have had an enduring influence; at my request, he sent me this e-mail: “I feel that the essence of our education at Columbia was a sense of excitement and also of irreverence. We never thought in clichés; we were encouraged to think and see for ourselves. I continue to feel nourished by that excitement and by the support that I received from great professors. And a lot of the work I did at Columbia had an immeasurable effect on what I have done ever since. For E.W. Dupee, in a Shakespeare course, I wrote a term paper on the relationship between King Lear’s language, powerful and monosyllabic, at the end of his life, and Minimal Art; this was the first time I wrote about the art of Josef Albers, the artist I subsequently met and whose foundation I have come to run. For Michael Rosenthal’s marvelous course on the Bloomsbury circle, I wrote about the connection between Virginia Woolf’s fiction — specifically the book Jacob’s Room and Bonnard’s painting The Breakfast Room; when I was writing my book about the Clark brothers, some 38 years later, I dug out the paper, because I discovered that Stephen Clark, anonymously, had given the Bonnard to the Modern; I cribbed from my own paper for my discussion about the painting in the book. And Meyer Schapiro [24] had us write about a single art work about which we were to do no research and no background reading; the objective was simply to look. I wrote about a Matisse tapestry, and I am writing about Matisse still, with the passion and energy, and, I hope, the use of my eyes, and of the associative powers of my brain, that Professor Schapiro encouraged. I am immeasurably grateful to these and other of my teachers, and I feel they represent the mentality of the University. After Columbia, I went to Yale Graduate School in art history; there the emphasis was on the tedious acquisition of unnecessary information about art works. Many of my classmates — although fortunately not all — insisted on a turgid approach to art history, one in which academic minutiae was deemed more important than passion. No wonder my institutional loyalty has always remained on the Upper West Side rather than in New Haven.”

E-mails: As usual, news for the column comes in response to e-mails that I sent to a random group of classmates. From Jim Weddel: “I’ve lived in the Palouse region of eastern Washington/northern Idaho since my wife, Bertie Josephson, and I left NYC in 1973. I work for a nonprofit that helps other nonprofits develop low-income housing. Our two kids identify as Westerners despite my Georgia roots and my wife’s Greenwich Village home, so there'll be no Columbia legacy there, so there will be no contact from any of my Columbia friends.”

Jon Rosenfeld writes: “I practice psychiatry in Manhattan. I presented at a conference here that was published in The Anatolian Journal of Cardiology. My contribution was ‘Emotional and Psychiatric Issues in Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy.’ I am ending my 27-year marriage, moving on, and I am impressed with how remarkably ably we diversify over time.” The Usual Request: Unfortunately, no one sent me unsolicited news for this issue, and most of my e-mail solicitations for news this time went unanswered. The result: I spent more time than usual on this column, with less to show for it. Isn’t it time that you sent in some news?

Dick Alexander, co-captain of the football team in our senior year, continues to support the football program and recently graced the cover of the promotional brochure for the 2007 annual Columbia Football Team golf outing. Dick played in that event with Jim Wascura and Dennis Graham. Reports from that event were that it was lots of fun, well-attended and another sign of the revival of the football program. Dick practices dentistry in the Boston area, Jim is a Macy’s executive in the New York area and Dennis is a banker in New York City. Concerned note, our other captain, Ken Alexander, moved to Las Vegas, where he enjoys retirement along with his single-digit golf handicap.

Four of our classmates had the distinct pleasure of returning to campus for the 2007 commencement to celebrate the graduation of their respective offspring from the College. Jonathan Weisgall’s son, Andrew, joined Mark Puzansky’s daughter, Julie; Stephen Ross’ daughter, Yael, and Victor Hertz’s daughter, Jessica, at All. Please drop me a note and let us know your latest news — almost anything will qualify. And don’t forget the College and, of course, each other.

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The class eNewsletter continues to generate good response and positive feedback. If you are not receiving the eNewsletter, please send me your e-mail address.

Carlyle Miller: “So much has happened that I hardly know where to begin. First of all, I was able to get back in contact with John Mazzotta, with whom I used to study organic chemistry. He, too, went to medical school where to begin. First of all, I was able to get back in contact with John Mazzotta, with whom I used to study organic chemistry. He, too, went to medical school.
nell Medical College) in 1975 and
did my internship and residency at
The New York Hospital (now
New York-Presbyterian Hospital).
From 1975-80, I was on the staff at
Cancer Prevention Research Institute
in New York. It was a great job but lasted
for about three months, as we
were spending the entire semester in
London and South Africa.

In the late spring, I wrote, to Pacific College of
Oriental Medicine. I eventually taught,
became the bio sciences chair and
then the academic dean of the
institution. It was a great job, and I
learned a lot about the danger of
alternative medicine. I offered the
job of associate dean for student
affairs and equal opportunity pro-
grams in June 2005 and started
working at Cornell in July 2006.

This is one of the most incredible
experiences that I've had and I'm
happy that I am in the position to
help so many students.

"Columbia prepared me for all
of the responsibility that I now
shoulder. I was a recipient of a
full academic scholarship from
1967-71. Columbia was very
generous and encouraging. Not one
day goes by that I do not thank
Columbia for doing what it did
for me and I will honor it, in the
future, in return. They had faith in
this child from the ghetto, just as
they had faith in so many in
disadvantaged students.

Columbia should be commended
for its services to those who do
not normally receive such
luck.

"As the associate dean for
student affairs and equal opportunity
programs, I am in a position to
effect change in the lives of many
students from many diverse back-
grounds. And as the chair-elect for
the Northeast Group on Student
Affairs/Minority Affairs Section,
I will continue to support students
of all backgrounds. I do not have
faith in many disadvantaged students.

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"Jane is an associate general
counsel at MetLife (hence the move
to New Jersey), and I recently
joined Merrill Lynch's Global
Private Client Group at 200 Park
Ave. in Manhattan. That move
follows more than 20 years as an
investment banker in the power sector
at Smith Barney, NatWest and my
own shop, which followed five
years at the New York County
DA's office as an assistant district
attorney. An M.B.A. at Columbia's
B-School enabled that change.

"I hope all is well with you
and our classmate."
at our 30th five years ago. And as for the lurking question, “Do I really look as old he does?” the answer was obvious. “Nah, of course not.”

In other news, Steve Bellovin, professor of computer sciences at Columbia and a pioneer researcher on network security, received the 2007 National Computer Systems Security Award from the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Security Agency. The award was given in Miami Beach last December, not a bad place to be at that time of year. Congrats, Steve!

Alexander Waugh has been named presiding judge of the General Equity Division of the Middlesex (N.J.) Vicinage Superior Court. Appointed to the bench in 1998, he has served in the Family and Civil Division of Superior Court. After graduating from Columbia, Alexander went to Rutgers Law School then worked in private practice, as an assistant to Gov. Brendan Byrne (D-N.J.) and as an executive assistant attorney general in New Jersey. His father, Alexander Waugh Sr., ’29, served on the New Jersey bench for 24 years.

Andy Kaslow is on the move, having recently been appointed s.v.p. and chief human resources officer for American International Group, the huge insurer. He was formerly a managing director of the Carlyle Group, and before that spent 23 years as an analyst at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. Andy married Dr. Amy Susan Hayes, “an ex-surgeon.” After moving to New Jersey, they moved to Fort Collins, Colo., where Fred continues the firm’s water practice, the “insane” running and fly-fishing at every opportunity.

Finally, congratulations to Brian Berman and Jerry Groopman, fathers of this year’s two ’72 legacy graduates from the College in 2007, Aaron Berman and Michael Groopman.


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As “children of the ’60s,” we grew up with the belief that we could make a difference in our nation’s politics. We saw the civil rights battles on the nightly news, and many of us came of age fighting for a litany of causes. As the ’60s spilled over to the 70s, and we gathered on Morningside Heights, it was a time of near-constant debate over “the war,” feminism, race, abortion and the environment (among other issues). Ideological confrontation was central to our daily lives. We were part of the process of our nation grappling with important issues.

Over the intervening third of a century, many of us have gradually shifted our focus. Career and family life has moved to the forefront, perhaps because we felt content that we had made an enduring contribution to the political decisions of our nation. I bet few in the class are aware that, in one year, the Supreme Court issued a series of decisions that largely reverses three decades of change. As The New York Times wrote, “…the court upheld a federal anti-abortion law, cut back on the free-speech rights of public school students … and limited school districts’ ability to use racially conscious measures to achieve or preserve integration.” Those are three of the 65 decisions the court issued in the past term.

The point being made is not on the merit of the decisions. Rather, it is disturbing that decisions seem to have been made in a stealthy manner — no debate, no demonstrations, no publicity. Just a series of split decisions where the same five justices outvoted the same four justices. Somehow, it feels like we were not part of the process this time.

The first order of business must be the overdue welcome of the seven “children” of six of our classmates to the bosom of alma mater. Graduating from the College in 2006 was Zachary Leiwant (son of Charles Leiwant), and in father’s experiences in Germany in the ’30s, before he immigrated to the United States. Eugene is a member of the Emerson String Quartet and recently completed an eight-concert Perspectives Series at Carnegie Hall, celebrating the group’s 30th anniversary; the quartet won its eighth Grammy Award this year. [See Bookshelf.]

Salud, amigos, pesetas y amores — y tiempo para disfrutar. …

CONGRATS, STEVE!

Brendan Byrne (D-N.J.) and as an employee benefits for 25 years and cementing himself there when he criminal lawyer.
the Church of England, Chris tells partner. Long an active member of recently had married his long-time back — in every way that I can."

Hansen, he was living near Lon¬


Billingsley; and Abraham Weiss, son of Dan Weiss. It's hard for me to remember which was more important to me and my family — the more intimate Class Day or the spectacular Commencement on the Lawn Library steps. The Class of '75 had a special "passing of the flag" at Class Day 2007. Bob Schneider, Gene Davis and Ira Malin carried the 1975 class banner in the Parade of Classes procession. Bob and Gene are fathers of graduates, and Ira's daughter, Beth '11, lives on 6 Day. In the days following Class Day and Commencement, class mates sent comments such as, "Yesterday was perfect!" and "We will never forget the sheer joy of the Class of '75." Gene Davis's son, Jordan, recently married the former Pamela Bier, who started as a close friend of his in middle school and whose parents I have known since they were in high school. She is a Michigan graduate and a nurse in the neo-natal unit at Lenox Hill Hospital, and Jordan is finishing his second year as an investment banker in the creditors' rights group at FTI Consulting in NYC. Gene's nephew, Jarod '08, spent the summer with the M&A group at Rothschild. While I was writing these notes, Gene and I were e-mailing back on forth early on a Friday morn ing. I commented that he was up early. He let me know that he and Stacey were in Paris while attending the air show. We've known that Gene is the chairman and CEO of PRINATE Consulting, but during these e-mails, we learned that he also is chairman of one airline (Atlas Air) and on Delta's Board of Directors. (I fondly remember sitting with the Davis clan and friends at the 2005 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner honoring Richard Witten.)

Ed Kutler recently was named president of his firm, Clark & Weinstein, a Washington, D.C., lobby firm. Richard Mattiacci is a partner with Squire Sanders & Dempsey in its New York office, where he will specialize in B-to-B contract and intellectual property litigation, international and commercial arbitration, and service as an AAA arbitrator. He credits his ability to write a brief to the Columbia English department. After graduation from the Law School in 1976, Richard clerked in D.C. for Chief Judge Daniel M. Friedman '37, '40L of the U.S. Court of Claims during Friedman's first year on the bench. In later positions, his Italian, began in childhood and nur tured at Columbia's Italian department, got a workout nearly every day as he dealt with fashion, banking and consumer products com panies based in Milan, Rome, Turin and the Venice and Bologna regions. Richard's wife of 20 years, Kate McKenna, is a special education teacher and interpreter for the deaf. Son Michael lives with them in Pleasantville, N.Y. Richard regrets not having been better at staying in touch with classmates because when paths do cross, as they recently did when he saw Barry Berger after many years, the years did not seem to matter at all.

Sarah Sher, daughter of Debor rah and Joel Sher, is in her senior year in the joint program between Columbia and the Jewish Theologi...
Jerold Block ’74 Lives and Breathes Politics

Jerold Block ’74, 77L remembers the day in the late 1980s that his alter-ego, Jack Clark, was born. The Los Angeles activist had just come home after an afternoon passing out pamphlets criticizing U.S. foreign policy in Latin America when he discovered that someone painted a red hammer-and-sickle on his front door. Block, whose address was unlisted, had reason to be alarmed. Only a few weeks before and a few miles away, one of his fellow activists, a Salvadoran woman, had been kidnapped and tortured by unknown assailants.

“I said to myself, ‘I’m not going to unnecessarily put myself in physical danger,’” recalls Block. “I bought a baseball bat and decided to start using an alias.”

Two decades later, Block uses the alias to deliver one of the most popular grassroots progressive podcasts on the internet. That’s according to Podcast Alley, podcasting’s equivalent of the Billboard charts. Though not yet two years old, Block’s weekly screed recently reached the No. 4 slot among its 31,000 competitors. Every Thursday, “Blast The Right” attacks right-wing figureheads such as Dick Cheney or Fox News’ Bill O’Reilly with such power, one wonders if Block ever needed that baseball bat.

In any case, Block has another weapon at his disposal: a firsthand knowledge of politics that stretches back to his days as a high school student in Massapequa, Long Island, where he helped organize his school’s first Vietnam War protest. Block says his political activities and wild, curly hair earned him membership in what his classmates called the “Greenwich Village clique” — named after the liberal NYC neighborhood — as well as the enmity of the football team. Against his parents’ wishes, Block chose Columbia, then known as a hotbed of activism. Block says that after his high school experience, he found it ironic when he moved into his first-year residence hall room in Catman and saw a football team jersey hanging in his roommate’s closet.

“I was elated when I discovered my roommate and his team weren’t right wing idiots, though,” he says with a laugh. Any lingering doubts Block had vanished entirely when his roommate supplied the chain that secured the door of the campus building that Block and his fellow Vietnam War protesters had decided to occupy.

At Columbia, Block majored in political science and gravitated to campus political groups, which included some students whose names were soon to become famous. He founded a group, the Riverside Democrats, and joined the West Side Kids, a group founded by Jerrold Nadler ’69. Along the way, Block was recruited to former senator George McGovern’s presidential campaign and to Howard Samuels’ bid for New York state governor, where he worked closely as canvasser with former Clinton campaign manager-turned-Fox News commentator Dick Morris ’67. While neither candidate prevailed, Block says the experience taught him that behind every successful campaign are countless man-hours of often thankless labor.

“That was when volunteers meant something,” says Block. “It wasn’t so much about the TV back then, or even the radio. It was shoe leather that got people elected.”

Block says he was so busy in those years that his coursework often seemed like an afterthought. Nevertheless, one of his influences was anthropology professor Betty Denige, who was so impressed with Block’s writing that she encouraged him to switch from political science to anthropology. Block politely declined. “I don’t have any particular grasp of anthropology,” Block told her. “I’m just using ‘facts plus logic.’”

Decades before his podcast began, Block had already coined its slogan.

“The motto sums up Block’s preference for figures over rhetoric. “He’s really great at breaking down economic issues,” says Portland, Ore., podcast fan Matt Bors, who draws political cartoons for the Los Angeles Times and The Nation, “whereas Democrats and liberals usually talk about issues broadly and don’t get into the economics of wealth distribution.”

After Columbia, Block entered the Law School, whose rigorous curriculum kept him from politics for several years. After a few years as a corporate lawyer in Washington, D.C., he moved to Los Angeles and became an entertainment attorney for a firm that represented clients such as The Rolling Stones. But soon Block found himself longing to return to his activist roots.

“When I turned 30 in 1982, I decided I didn’t want to be getting an ulcer over whether The Rolling Stones get another penny on every record,” he explains.

Block turned to what he considered more important matters. In the early ’80s, while researching a screenplay on World Hunger, he took a reality tour of South America that changed his life. “Once you’ve been to a Third World slum, if you have any heart at all, you’re changed forever,” he explains.

Block has pursued his activism almost continually since, except for a period in the late 1980s when he developed Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, a respiratory condition that now keeps him housebound. “When I go out, I get what feels like a brain fog,” he says of his condition, considered a disability by the government.

Locked inside, Block despairs that his activist career was over. But then the Internet came along, and with it podcasts. Despite his isolation — Block lives alone and seldom hosts guests on his program — his voice is one of the most popular on the left in the podcast world. Still, podcasting isn’t profitable yet, and Block wants to get his voice out to as broad an audience as possible. He is looking for a spot on a terrestrial radio show. His only problem, he says, is his voice. While contagiously passionate, it is a bit “Long Island nasal-ish,” he says.

“Some people write in to my program to say they really like my voice,” he says with a laugh. “But they’re almost always from New York.”

human health conditions on both
cators Task Force under the U.S./
Earth Observation System of Sys¬
ronmental Protection Agency. His
Steve Young is with the U.S. Envi¬
increase in participation, which is
namese fine paintings.
was published last year
is being launched in Bei¬
When she is not writing poet¬
neck pressed to his skull. A
physics professor at Oberlin spe¬
izes in the physics of music.
What a great match for Sam! My
dughter, Sarah, is in high school
and enjoys choir and drama
when she is not reading manga.

David Gorman
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Before reporting on the class
reunion, I congratulate Jay Mullen
and Jack Rahmey, who had legacy
graduates (Jay Mullen and Walter
Rahmey) in the Class of 2007.
Since this was my first Alumni
Reunion Weekend, I felt generally
prepared for new experiences, but
not much, so when new scenarios
turned out to be what I
spent three days on campus at the
debug and Walter
the rest of Carnegie seems
least altered thing on campus,
if you ignore the computer
hookups and air conditioning.
When I began to look around the
University in earnest, taking
tours, comparing notes with other
alumni and so on. I began to find
changes go way beyond cos¬
metic things such as wood panel¬
ing and restored stained glass.
One example: Butler Library, which
you may remember as a hot,
dusty pile of stone and paper,
is now environmentally con¬
trolled, top to bottom. Those of us
on the library tour wondered,

“How’d they do that?” It’s not
like you can just put in a few win¬
dow units to cool a structure that
size. Well, we were told, South
Field was dug up and an air-condi¬
tioning system was built under¬
neath it. Wow! And I kept hearing
about similar things throughout
the weekend.
One of the pleasures of
reunion, I found, were encounters
with alumni from other classes.
I met people who graduated in
gave me some idea of how the school and the neighborhood
have evolved since the time when
Allen Ginsberg ’48 haunted
The West End (now a Cuban-themed
restaurant). I popped over to the
Barnard ’77 reunion where, in
addition to various classmates of
my wife, Jackie, I saw McIntosh
Tall, which is scheduled to be
replaced by a new student center.
A highlight of reunion was
Dean Austin Quigley’s “State of
the College” address, following a
breakfast where, along with peo¬
plesalumni; I sat with
Lou DeStefano. The dean’s
address was followed by an alum¬
ni panel, giving those of us in the
audience a vivid sense of the dra¬
matic differences between the
College today and the College of
1977, but also an awareness that,
seen in a long perspective, this
kind of change is the rule and not
the exception with Columbia.
We came out with a feeling that these
new developments are well under
control. (All this took place, inci¬
dentally, in Lerner Hall; the
daunting replacement of the
unlovely Ferris Booth Hall.)

Another highlight was the
class dinner, in and around
Hamilton lobby, where I talked
with Michael Aroney, Craig
Brod, Tom Gal, Jon Lukomnik,
Daniel Sang and David Stanton,
and missed chances with maybe
two dozen other classmates (but
see the reunion photo taken just
prior to dinner). It was a pleasure
to sit with our dean, and the
evening speaker, Robert Belknap,
and his wife, Cynthia Whittaker.
Though emeritus, Belknap
remains immersed in academic
affairs, for example, directing the
University Seminars. At the time,
Belknap and Whittaker were
preparing for a research expedi¬
tion to Peters burg.
Another thing I learned is that
much happens during Alumni
Reunion Weekend. I would like to
hear from attendees, particularly
those who have different impres¬
sions from mine or who made it to
tings that I couldn’t, such as the
cocktail reception, the MOA tour
or the Morningside Heights tour.

PHOTO: DAVID WENTWORTH

1977: Class members who registered for reunion include Jesus
Amadeo, Michael Aroney, Barry Bergdoll, Craig Brod, Thomas
Dames, Louis DeStefano, Marshall Donat, Thomas Gale, Jay Gold¬
berg, Mark Goldberg, David Gorman, William Gray Jr., Kim Hahn,
Gairy Hall, Spence Halperin, Harold Henry Jr., John Hession, Timothy
Kayworth, Charles Knapp, Jon Lukomnik, Arthur Markwalter, Jeffrey
McFarland, James Mullin, Charles Myers, Peter Nagykery, Michael
O’Brien, Richard O’Regan, Dom Petito, Jim Reiman, Jeff Rejan, Peter
Rose, Brent Rosenthal, Andrew Sama, Daniel Sang, Walter Simson,
David Stanton, Jerry Strauss, Thomas Wagner, Craig Weaver, William
Weaver, Isaac Weisfuse, George Whipple and Kimball Woodward.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

77

CLASS NOTES

Clyde Moneyhun
Program in Writing and Rhetoric
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Stanford, CA 94305
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Steve Young is with the U.S. Envi¬
ronmental Protection Agency. His
work focuses mainly on the Global
Earth Observation System of Sys¬
tem (Google “GEOSS”), which is,
modestly, about saving the planet.
He also co-chairs the Border Indi¬
cators Task Force under the U.S./
Mexico Border 2012 Environmental
Program, the aim of which is to
improve environmental and
human health conditions on both
sides of the border. He spends a lot
of volunteer time working on non¬
native, invasive plants in his local
park in Arlington, Va., and blogs
about it at http://plantwhacker.
blogger.com.

John Sesek was delighted to see
Hasan Bazi mentioned in
Class Notes, and congratulates
his daughter, Anissa ’11, on her
acceptance to Columbia. Hasan
was a good friend during College
days but they lost touch. Says
John, “My son, Samuel, applied
to Columbia and was wait-listed;
however, he is happy that he was
accepted at Oberlin. Sam intends
to major in physics while contin¬
uing his passion for playing jazz
double bass. Sam is nearly deaf
in one ear; perhaps that is what
attracted him to the double bass
over other instruments. He tunes
the bass partly by feel, with its
neck pressed to his skull. A

people from other classes, I sat with
the weekend.

David Mennon
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New Haven, CT 06511
mnemerson@snet.net

As we start the countdown to the
30th reunion in May 2008, I invit-
ed everyone to share thoughts about what they are looking forward to as we reach (approximately) the halfway point in our post-Columbia journey. I am delighted that so many responded, and I look forward to hearing from more of you in the months ahead. David Friedman shared a common reaction to our location on the great timeline of alumni classes (that is the hub of the wheel of life, no?). “It can’t be 30 years since graduation because I didn’t graduate at 5. Oh, I’m not 35 anymore. What happened?” “This aging thing has caused me to work harder than ever. Not because I need to but because I enjoy it and it keeps me feeling young. I am petrified about the thought of retiring—the images of condo life and early dinners spending increasingly more time. “In the end (although hopefully we’re all far from it), my wife and kids are what matter most to me, and I suspect to most others.”

Three incoming transfer student members of the College Class of 2010 are sons or daughters of College alumni.

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<td>Benjamin Horowitz ’88</td>
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* Member of the SEAS Class of 2011
down to the Pub in the bottom of John Jay to have a beer and dance to disco music. Disco music?! It must have been that long ago, in that place.

"A lot has happened to me since our last big anniversary. I got married, left Playboy Entertainment Group for Disney Channel, had my first child, Arianna, in 2005, and recently had another child, a son, Jordan, in 2007. I finally had to trade in my Mustang Convertible (my fifth one in 17 years) for an SUV. Since I started having a family a lot later, I have a feeling that my next 30 years (G-d willing) will involve a lot more child-rearing than most of you, whose kids are probably graduating from high school or college. I’ll be saving money for those college funds, although I’m hoping that Jordan plays basketball as well as his basketball name suggests (either Michael Jordan or Jordan Farmar of the Lakers).

"Long-term aspirations? Going back to Greece with my wife sounds nice — we honeymooned there — although you have to watch out for those reefs off the coast. I’m thinking of personal Zen, can we convince Philip Jackson (the Zen master of hoops) to return to the Knicks and bring them back to some semblance of their former glory? I still can’t get used to a former Piston running the team (into the ground). I guess I miss the Big Apple more than I realize!"

Our farthest note comes from one of our most active alums, as Marc Matsis updates us from the Great North: "I left the scenic climes of New York City and the Great North: "I left the scenic climes of New York City and my youngest at sleep-away camp, was the first time; I got married in September 1983 that my wife, Kim, and I had the house to ourselves.

"That I still look forward to going home to her, and more miraculously that she has yet to change the locks on me, is pretty good and most of what I need going forward. As I get older, my wants and needs get progressively simpler. I want my wife and I to have the time to enjoy each other’s company. As a pediatrician, I want to be able to watch my kids, seeing kids as long as I want, and because that’s what I like to do — not because I need to pay the mortgage, save for college and so forth — but just because I like to work with the kids. Of course, the occasional escape for a little skiing or hiking is nice, too."

Bill Harty nicely links his Columbia experiences to what he is doing and what he hopes to do. "My fondest memories of Columbia revolve around the core courses — I had a great contemporary Civilization teacher, the late Mary Payer, who pushed us to think originally, not just do the reading and hand in the requisite assignments. As for electives, Seymour Melman’s course on the ‘Permanant War Economy of the United States’ spurred me to engage in a career in foreign policy analysis at think tanks that have included the Council on Economic Priorities, the World Policy Institute and now the New America Foundation."

"In terms of skills development, I learned a great deal from my non-classroom work, engaging in campaigns for human rights in Chile and for divestment of University stockholdings from doing business in South Africa. We were a motley crew, about 37 of us representing 36 separate organizations, but most of us have continued our social commitments in one form or another. And this is where I learned to give a speech, help steer a meeting, write short, persuasive essays and otherwise build communications skills that have since served me well."

"Thirty years from now I’d like to be a healthy world traveler and a full-time standup comedian. I have been doing standup comedy as a hobby for about seven years, performing at receptions of sympathetic organizations and the occasional appearance at clubs such as Stand-Up NY, the Underground and the Comedy Store.”

Joseph Schachter writes, “Thirty years ago, I had recently received my B.A. from the College and I still had one more year to go in the five-year combined plan with the Engineering School. That plan meant most of my classmates never take the kind of courses that are College requirements.

"This year, my younger daughter completed her first year at Barnard. Although she noted that there is a lack of boys, she liked it and is looking forward to living in a suite next year with people who chose to be with each other. It will be much nicer than sharing a triple that clearly should only have been a double during freshman year. She is a member of one of the newest a capella groups on campus, Smadar, an all girls group. I posted one song they do on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=RVm$31Xz. They have compressed the video too much but it sounds good.

"My older daughter finished Yale College last year and is in a graduate research program in cognitive science at Harvard. "As I think back over the last 30 years, I can’t help feeling that all of Columbia allowed me to demonstrate to my children how valuable it was and therefore set an expectation that they should strive to receive a similar education. The contents of classes I took in the Engineering School are at least mostly out of date now, but Columbia prepared me to keep learning. I wouldn’t have the career I have, clearly, and I wonder if my children would have taken their studies seriously enough to get into the schools they are going to, if I had not been at Columbia 30 years ago.”

Henry Morris, Jr. asks, “So, what have I been doing for the past 30 years?

"Most importantly, I’ve been a husband and father. My wife and I celebrated our 26th wedding anniversary and we have three delightful children (21), (18) and (7). Yes, I said 7. When we visit his school, other parents often mistake us for his grandparents.

"My oldest is a sophomore year roommate; Steve Louis ’80, is godfather to our oldest child, who was ring-bearer at Steve’s wedding. So, the Columbia connection runs strong in our family.

"After graduation, I worked for the College as an admissions officer. It was a terrific job, but after two years, I decided to enroll in law school: Columbia, of course. Now, I practice management-side employment and labor law at a Washington, D.C., law firm. I started my own practice as a summer associate. I returned after law school. And I have remained ever since, 24 years. The work is stimulating, and I like my colleagues and clients.

"My memories of Columbia are quite fond. I met some of my closest friends there — Steve and my other sophomore year roommates are like brothers to me. I received a terrific education. And I got to live in New York, my favorite city after Washington, D.C. I look forward to seeing many classmates at our 30th reunion. I’ll be the grandfatherly type with an 8-year-old in tow.

Michael Forlenza has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Houston Geological Society for 2007–08. HGS is the world’s
largest local geological society and was established in 1923. Michael also will be editor for the HGS Bulletin.

It has been 29 years since I began at the old Royal upright, pounding away at the keys in the service to the class and mother Columbia (OK, I switched to a word processor in 1980, albeit a mainframe), and it is such a pleasure when you guys actually write something? I had too much material this column, so we will run the others later this fall along with whatever else you send in. Keep it coming!

Robert Klapper
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Rocky Schoen is a professor of medicine (gastroenterology) and epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh, doing clinical research in early detection and prevention of colorectal cancer. He encourages all classmates, now turning 50, to get properly screened. Rocky is married going on 20 years to Nancy Bernstein ’81 Barnard, with two children, ages 14 and 11. He says, “Those Columbia connections came in quite handy recently, when our class correspondent (Dr. Klapper) replaced Rocky’s dad’s knee. Kudos to Bob … Recovery has been excellent.”

After eight years of running Delbarton School in Morristown, N.J., Leo Travers, aka Fr. Luke (OK, I switched to a mainframe), and it is such a pleasure when you guys actually write something? I had too much material this column, so we will run the others later this fall along with whatever else you send in. Keep it coming!

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Columbia Business Connections
Inviting alumni to advertise their businesses in or near their Class Notes
Contact: Taren Cowan at 212-870-2767, tc2306@columbia.edu

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

68
carry strong photos, graphics, and design in order to provide readers a vibrant, thorough and clear presentation. In addition, he will work with Boston.com editors to find the best way to tell these stories online.

“Before joining the Globe, Mr. Solomon, 48, worked in Brussels as assistant managing editor of The Wall Street Journal Europe. In that post, he planned, conceived and edited its major enterprise stories and frequently oversaw coverage of the top daily news story. He spent almost four years as editor of The Wall Street Journal/New England, a weekly section devoted to breaking regional news. He previously had overseen The Wall Street Journal's regional section in Texas, after serving as a reporter there for eight years.”

I look forward to hearing from you.

Jeff Pundyk
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My desk is neat as a pin. My bills are paid. The dishes are done. The garbage has been taken out. I’ve made every phone call I can reasonably make. I’ve organized the broom closet, a couple of times. Every paper that I can shuffle has been sufficiently shuffled; I can procrastinate no longer. There is every paper that I can shuffle has been sufficiently shuffled; I can procrastinate no longer. There is no sense in what I’m doing except for that bit about golfing. Since graduation, the multi-talented David Glass got his M.D. and went to work as a scientist, first doing a couple of post-doctoral fellowships at the medical school, and then working at a biotech company in Westchester, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, where he became a v.p., directing his muscle program. While David was doing his post-doctoral fellowships, he wrote five plays, which were produced off-off Broadway. You can find One Minute Plays online: www.davidj glass.com. He now is heading muscle diseases research for a large pharmaceutical company at the Novartis Institute for Biomedical Research, which includes travel between the company’s headquarters in Basel, Switzerland, and the research headquarters in Cambridge, Mass. David wrote a book on experimental design and teaches the subject at Harvard Medical School. Drop him a line at gcgccc@ yahoo.com. (I guess the molecular biology reference in that e-mail address is better than a Lord of the Rings or Star Wars reference.)

Steve Masiar and his wife, Patricia, recently attended their 30th high school reunion. Steve and Patricia have been married for 26 years. Their son, Michael, completed his junior year at the University of Pittsburgh (he’s studying physics), and their other son, Chris, completed his freshman year at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. Travel this year included Nassau and Ireland. Steve’s summer trip was to Slovakia to visit his father’s birthplace.

A.J. Bosco reports: “In May, while in London on business, I had dinner with John Geanuracos, who has lived in London since 1988 and works at British Telecom. John recently became reacquainted with Bruce Golden, who hosted a London Columbia alumni dinner at his house that was attended by Dean Austin Quigley.”

Dave Cook left his job as editor at CFO magazine to pursue his interests in food, and food writing, full-time. Dave’s informative efforts can be seen at his blog, www.eatingintranslation.com.

Also in transition is Eric Inman Daum, who writes: “After eight years at the Classic Group in Lexington, the last two as design director, I will be joining a longtime colleague, Greg Colling (a Penn alum, and a surprise capable designer), to a new practice, Merrimack Design Associates, in Amesbury, Mass. We have extensive experience working together in New York and around Boston in traditional residential architecture and are excited about the breadth of our joint practice.”

In his role as president of the New England chapter of The Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America, Eric spoke in New York this summer on the influence of Modernism on the urban design of Boston’s ‘Big Dig,’ reprising a talk given in Boston in November 2006.

Eric continues: “Having recently driven to Saint Louis for my wife Beth’s 25th college reunion from Washington University, I was all the more remorseful for having missed my own last year. Our son, Karl, is nearly 15 and is beginning ninth grade at the Cambridge School of Weston, outside Boston, where he is hoping to refine his abilities in fine art and history. Though he shares my interests, for his sake I hope he demonstrates more academic ambition than I did while at Columbia. On a recent visit to campus, Karl’s eyes lit up upon seeing the Low Steps. I didn’t dare to inform him that I had spent most of my College years planted on them.”

My consistent pen pal, Jay Lee, became the CEO and president of his own catheter group (Wellspring Radiology, PC-Columbia Circle Imaging Center, a Columbia affiliate). The Lee family recently moved to Alpine, N.J., downsizing as his twin boys prepared to enter Columbia as first-years. Jay writes: “Our baby, Courtney, graduated from middle school and will be competing in tennis (for the school and USTA) like her brothers. The twins, Alex and Ben, finished their last high school tennis season (playing first and second singles), bringing together H.S. A. New Jersey State championship and becoming High School Hall of Famers.”

John Luisi, a recovering politician, is back in midtown Manhattan and is a lawyer managing a lawfirm that was started by Dean Austin Quigley.

Dave Cook left his job as editor at CFO magazine to pursue his interests in food, and food writing, full-time. Dave’s informative efforts can be seen at his blog, www.eatingintranslation.com.

When, but this time we’re going in guns blazing. If you don’t have tremendous fundraisers by your side, you need to rely on your wits and Ivy League education to keep ’em guessing....”

Jack Koenig continues to walk the boards of Broadway, filling in as Schar in The Lion King throughout the summer. Jack also could be spotted in the soap opera All My Children.

Vernon Outlaw and Douglas Lederman have children who graduated the Class of 2007 — Lauren Outlaw and Peter Lederman. And rounding out this round-up, Steve Gerst reports that there’s “nothing to report as yet.” Send further reports of nothing or something to gpundyky@yahoo.com.

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Greetings. It was great to see so many of you at our 25th reunion. I was lucky enough to chat with many of you, including the gracious Wally Wentink, Charlie Shugart (successful architect and track coach), Greg Fry (looked really relaxed and happy for a guy with six children, well done!), Andrew Danzig (safeguarding the economy at the Federal Reserve) and Max Dietsche (along with his Class of ’49 father; very cool). The dinner at Casa Italiana was a memorable experience. Joe Cabrera was the consummate master of ceremonies. A heartfelt speech from Dean Austin Quigley reminded one and all of the College’s commitment to providing an educational experience of lifelong relevance. Frank Lopez-Balboa and Victor Lopez-Balboa, who gave so generously of their time (as well as a remarkable financial gift) acknowledged what we all secretly fear; it’s unclear if we’d get into the College today. The coup de grace was the speech by Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig; the sincerity of his call to continue the educational process, support the arts and read to your children deeply resonated with all in attendance.

According to the alumni office, our class set a record for most gifts and pledges by a 25th reunion class, a whopping $5.1 million, with more than $500,000 devoted to the unrestricted Columbia College Fund. Congratulations to all who participated!

Mike Tubridy wrote: “I was at the Reuters event, the Friday night barbecue and the Saturday night event. I met different classmates on different nights. Most included a number of old Spectator hands —
Stu Karle, Pete Brown, Rob Polner, Evan Charkes, Steve Irolla and Mike Radigan — with whom I had worked during my days as arts editor.

"Stuart Karle is general counsel at Dow Jones. His appearance at the Friday night barbecue came within days of the news of Rupert Murdoch's attempted takeover of the arts editor. I had worked during my days as editor on the national affairs desk at the Friday night barbecue. I also am an entrepreneur and have started a few companies. Check out www.sothebysoules.net and www.craftytotter.com if you are interested." Jon’s bio on craftytotter.com states, "Jon has been a production manager for TV commercials for 10 years and has logged many hours at the craft service table. He does not have a food background per se, but has dined in the best and the worst restaurants around the world. From the Injera huts of Ethiopia to the Spagos of Beverly Hills, Jon knows good food from bad. As head coach of a track club, Jon also knows a lot about nutrition and health. Jon graduated from Columbia University in New York and made his way to California in 1986. He has worked in all aspects of production from PA to grip to producer. Jon brings to the Crafty Otter an understanding of what the crew wants and needs in terms of craft service, as well as an understanding of the limits and constraints of production."

Jon and I are trying to collaborate on some new pet products he has invented.

Michael Gelber: "Over the last two years, I have been interviewing applicants to the College — a very impressive group of young men and women. I am fairly certain that I would not get accepted if I applied these days."

Michael, you and me both!

Roger Miller: "I did graduate work in geography at the University of Kentucky and moved to San Francisco about 15 years ago. I worked for a long time as a manager at the California Conservation Corps and then moved to the City of Berkeley as a project director doing lots of capital projects for the Parks and Waterfront Department (parks, soccer fields, marina docks, wildlife habitats)."

Louise, is a hot-shot director for the Babyking/Petking Marina and also produces TV commercials. (I recently was back east, filming a Pathmark spot with Produce Pete.)

If anyone else has news or just wants to follow up anything from the reunion, please feel free to drop me a line.

Cheers, Andy.
Jeremy Fingerman '83: King of Matzo and Gefilte Fish

By Shira Boss-Bicak '93, '97J, '98 SIPA

Jeremy Fingerman '83 calls himself "the king of matzo and gefilte fish." As president and CEO of R.A.B. Food Group in Secaucus, N.J., he heads one of the largest specialty food companies in the country, one that grew out of (and still includes) the kosher brand Manischewitz.

Fingerman, a Cincinnati native, always has kept kosher but worked many years in the mainstream food industry. After graduating from Harvard Business School in 1988, he worked in a marketing position at General Mills in Minneapolis, focusing on breakfast cereals. After meeting his wife, Gail, in Minneapolis (the couple have two children, Zalman, 8, and Esther, 6), he was recruited to Campbell's in Camden, N.J., where he spent 12 years in the soup business.

From 1997-2000, Fingerman headed Campbell's soup operation in Australia and traveled throughout Australasia and four others. The venture turned around the company's Australian business unit. And, as Kriegel recalled, "At the end of six weeks we calculated our earnings and each of us had earned $1." So it was shuttered.

Despite all his success in the mainstream food industry, Fingerman jokes, "I haven't made it to the front page of USA Today since graduating from business school in 1988."

PHOTO: DANIEL VALENTIN

Fingerman, an English literature major, was involved with Columbia Student Enterprises. He briefly ran Columbia Bagel Boys as a junior with Kriegel and four others. The venture delivered H&H bagels on campus, but, as Kriegel recalled, "At the end of six weeks we calculated our earnings and each of us had earned $1." So it was shuttered.

Senior year brought a more profitable venture: Fingerman, Kriegel and Andy Spitzer '83 sold mugs and t-shirts proclaiming the Class of 1983, the last class before the College went coed, "100% Male." While selling the items on the Low Library steps in the spring of senior year, Fingerman and Kriegel were photographed by a USA Today photographer and the shot landed on the front page. (Spitzer, who Kriegel describes as the hardest worker of the three, was making a run for more mugs when the photographer came by, so missed being in the shot.)

In 2005, Fingerman joined R.A.B. Food Group as president and CEO. The company's marquee brand, Manischewitz, was started 120 years ago in Cincinnati. "When I got the call from the recruiter, I said, 'Wow, that's a perfect fit! Kosher, Cincinnati... .'" Fingerman says. He now works from an office overlooking midtown Manhattan.

The company is focusing on updating product flavors and expanding offerings to appeal to mainstream as well as kosher customers. On Fingerman's watch, the company has developed three kinds of chocolate Tam Tam Crackers, for example. He engineered the acquisition of one of R.A.B.'s largest competitors, Rokeach, and initiated the first national kosher cooking competition. The company is planning the first new matzo bakery in the United States in 75 years.

Despite all his success in the 24 years since graduation, Fingerman jests, "I haven't made it to the front page of USA Today again."

PHOTO: CAROL HALEBIAN

A photo similar to this one appeared on the cover of USA Today on April 22, 1983, with the caption, "AT COLUMBIA: David Kriegel (left) and Jeremy Fingerman sell mugs, t-shirts at Springfest."

PHOTO: SHIRABOSS.COM

brother's wedding at St. Paul's Chapel and that had a wonderful time. There is something truly great and timeless about Morningside Heights. I'm in touch with Marc Capelle '86, Chris Wood, David Hershey-Webb '88, and Robin, David Bromstein '82 and others. I still love jazz and remember those hip urban times at the West End, and I've gotten into ocean swimming, of all things, to Alcatraz Island and the Golden Gate Bridge (which is a bit easier on the knees than soccer). Regards to all and hope to see everyone at the 25th.

Arty "Al" Ajzenman: "I recently got off the phone with your assistant, Lottie, who confirmed that you are the same Roy Pomerantz with whom I was in the Marching Band at Columbia, way back then. In the process of investigating new account potential for the Queens area, I came up with Babyking/Petkting, and your name. I almost always ask when I hear a name I remember and sometimes I'm right. Still juggling? I have this memory of you telling me that if you dropped one of your juggling props, to just kick it forward so you could pick it up (I was in the front — a trombone player, sometimes known as 'Al'). It would be nice to hear how some of the old band members are doing — Harlan Simon '81, Scott Plotkin '81, Herbie Reich '84, Mike Ackerman '84, Steve Holtje, Gil Aramow, Mark Licht, and Frank Capalbo — that's about where my memory stops. Do you ever hear from any of them? I ran into Dennis Klainberg '84 at Jones Beach or Long Beach, at least five years ago, maybe even 10. He seemed to be doing quite well. Hopefully we can get together to catch up on Columbia people."

Arty works for Color Toolbox. He has an excellent memory when it comes to former CC Marching Band members, but is extremely forgetful about certain details. I never dropped my juggling props during football games.

Wayne Allyn Root has competition now on the independent ticket. Newswire reports, "New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg quit the GOP, becoming a registered independent; political analysts suggest Bloomberg's move could sanction his intention to enter the Presidential run, a possibility that would make the 2008 Presidential election the most crowded and unpredictable in history. With Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama fighting for the Democratic nomination, Rudolf Giuliani undisputed frontrunner for the Republican Party and Wayne Allyn Root frontrunner for the Libertarian party, Bloomberg's [Presidential] run could easily open the doors for an unpredictable result. Both Democrats and Republicans seem to lean on playing the card of the first-ever candidate of African-American origin or Italian origin, all choices that could play in favor of 'all-American' candidates like Michael Bloomberg or Wayne Allyn Root."

I recently signed licensing deals with Mattel to use its Fisher Price brand on our feeding accessories and with Disney to use its Pooh and Mickey characters on our soft goods, hard goods and juvenile items.

Tom Melzer '84 writes in Columbia Connection: "I arrived on Manhattan's Morningside Heights 27 years ago, a Baltimore suburbanite with little experience of urban living. I immediately fell in love with the place, embracing its grunginess with much enthusiasm. The first time I went to a restaurant in 109th and Amsterdam got hot water maybe two hours a day; sometimes there was no running water at all. In fact, 27 years later, the grunge is gone. There are now two Starbucks between 110th and 116th Street on Broadway. Fancy grocery stores and drug emporiums are ubiquitous, as are surprisingly upscale restaurants. Gone is the Mill Luncheonette, where Rene served up breakfast 24/7 and threatened to charge you extra for 'crunchy eggs' if you complained about the bits of shell in your food; University Market, home of the greatest hero in creation and sole vendors of Canadian Ace, a beer that came in a gallon jug, cost less than $1 and gave you a headache the minute you opened the bottle Marlin Bar, where a local alcoholic cleared bottles from tables for an occasional drink and where I first heard the immortal dictum 'You don't have to go home, but you can't stay here'; Ben and Jerry's was closed, and come out looking like no one's been there. And so La Rosita is no more. La Rosita closed with a series of new rent would be 18,000 per month. You have to sell a lot of rice and beans to pay a bill like that."

You may want to call me Gordo..."

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Hope you enjoyed the summer. Spotlight once again on Mark Simon. As a leader of the Democratic Party on campus during the '80s, Mark wowed us with his ability to bring Presidential candidate and California senator Alan Cranston to a meet with student leaders and other interested parties in his dorm room! When asked if he would ever sport a wig for his prominent bald head, his response: "... and they would ask what else he was hiding!" (Ominous words, indeed, if you recall what happened some years later.) Since June 2006, Mark has been v.s.p., business development, for Amicus Therapeutics, a pharmaceutical company that develops drugs to treat rare genetic diseases, and since October 2005 has been an industry consultant to multiple biopharmaceutical companies. From 2002-05, Mark was managing director and head of life sciences investment banking for Citigroup Global Markets. From 1999-2002, he was a junior research analyst and later a managing director, investment banking, for Robertson Stephens.

One of the highlights for the Klainberg family is attending the Columbia Alumni Association's barbecue (inaugurated last year) on South Field. Always, I'm writing this a few weeks before the event (and you are reading it several months afterward), I was informed by my dear friend and fellow Sachem Adalgar Garcia '95 (one of the CAA organizers), that this year's event is to be twice as big as last year's and was to include raffles and games for the children in addition to great caterer and lots of Columbia gifts. CAA also is organizing its first international forum, taking place this year in Paris from September 28-30 at Reid Hall and throughout the City of Lights. Luminaries slated to attend include former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, President Lee C. Bollinger and outstanding faculty such as Joseph Stiglitz, Jeffrey Sachs and David

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007 72
Helfand. Yours truly will be in attendance, so you should expect musings in the next issue.

Known quite well for tooting his own horn (lead trumpet and manager of the CU Marching Band, and current-day bugler for the Plandome, N.Y., Fire Department), Dennis Kleinberg is happy to report that his shipping boutique continues to find success with both art and motorcycles. His family business, Berklay Cargo, has developed three new divisions: www.shipmytradeshow.com, www.shipmybike.com and www.shipmyart.com. As international freight forwarder for art fairs such as SCOPE, AAF, ART Santa Fe, photo MIAMI, photo L.A. and many others, we hope that classmates will visit us at these venues and use Art Hump to their advantage! For anyone interested in the "Art of the Motorcycle" (yes, he also handled the famous Guggenheim Exhibit three years ago), his friends at Orange County Chopper stand ready to build your dream (and Dennis will make sure to get it to you without a scratch). And don’t get him started on his other division, www.hawaiianshipping.com ... here’s hoping the CAA holds an event in Maui.

Please keep us updated on your career! Contact me: dennis@berklay.com, dennis@shipmybike.com or dennis@shipmyart.com. Mahalo!

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Jeffrey Chambers lives in Houston and practices with Ware Jackson Lee Chambers, a 16-lawyer trial firm. He has three sons, ages 12, 11, and 10 (not a typo).

This spring, he writes, "Verdict-Search, a division of American Lawyer Publishing, announced that my partner and I had the second largest verdict in the United States for 2006. The verdict was for $699,000,000 in a dispute over a gas processing plant in Louisiana. We tried the case in Houston. I am in two programs on E Television concerning our firm’s role in defending the Marshall Estate against the claims of Anna Nicole Smith (now her estate). Certainly, reminds me of a Bleak House."

Naftali Bendavid, a journalist with the Chicago Tribune, recently published a book about the Democratic victory in the 2006 elections, The Thumpin': How Rahm Emanuel and the Democrats Learned to Be Ruthless and Endless the Republican Revolution.

After Columbia, Ben DiLullo started a career at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals working mainly in its contracting area. He received an M.B.A. from NYU’s Stern School of Business in 1998; for punishment, he is pursuing an organizational change management degree at Milano, the New School of Management. "I am excited to transition to the organizational development arena and leverage my experience and skills to helping organizations manage change. I live in Mahopac, Putnam County, N.Y., with my wife, Stacey, and terrific children, Gabriella and Michael. I get a real kick out of helping Columbia College shirts as nightshirts."

John Phelan sent a great update on his new company, Zweena, which he started last year. Zweena is a Princeton, N.J.-based consumer health services organization whose objective is to place pertinent, actionable health information within the reach of every American. Its vision is to change the way people know and use their healthcare information. Clients create a Zweena Health Record (ZHR). Once Zweena assembles the record in its unique and secure digital environment, clients are assisted by consumer-friendly healthcare personnel, such as nurses, physician assistants and/or nurse practitioners, who will help with healthcare questions and issues. The ZHR provides a single, detailed and comprehensive profile of clients’ health status and healthcare activity. Owned by the clients, they assume access based on their circumstances. Available 24/7 over an SSL-encrypted Web site, the ZHR facilitates informed decisions about patient care. More info is available at www.zweena.com.

On the Columbia side, John is "going into my third year of being the ARC chair for the Princeton region. I have 16 great ARC team members who have transformed our region. With a goal of 100 percent interviewed, we have finished with 95 percent-plus interviewed (top five in the country versus other ARC regions). The work is rewarding, and spending time with these high school seniors is humbling. There is no way I would get into Columbia today, seeing the caliber of students that I interviewed and that we turn away ... " John is in touch with Phil Donahue '84 and Tom Scotti (Boston).

One last thing ... Andrew Hayes left Boies Schiller & Flexner last year to develop the Civic Exchange, a non-profit that seeks to create a market for investments in public goods by changing the way we pay taxes. This year, he founded Fasttransit to commercial- ize a new "magnetic levitation" transportation system that offers more efficient, faster travel on urban subway systems as well as high-speed inter-city travel, and can be used on existing railroad tracks and roads. His new e-mail handle is ahayes@magleval.net.

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It’s been more than 11 years since we heard from Scott Smith, who was last seen piloting jets at Travis AFB in California. His latest missive arrived from an imposing military e-mail address under the title UNCLASSIFIED. Col. Smith can be counted on for some more interesting and funny class updates. I wouldn’t dream of paraphrasing, so I’ll let Scott tell you in his own words.

"In January, I passed the 20-year mark in the Air Force, which is almost as hard to believe as the fact that we’ve all been out of Colum¬bia for 21 years. I do long-range strategic analysis at the Pentagon now, after spending last year as a National Security Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford Uni¬versity. Before that I was fortunate to command a flying squadron, which included a ‘visit’ to the Mid¬dle East. With luck, I’ll return flying next year. Of course, my biggest assignment is as a relatively new dad — my wife, Amber, and I had twin girls, Mazie and Marisha, in October ’05. Despite the leadership training and practice in the Air Force, I’m still unable to control 2-year-olds! This is one life challenge that all the great Western Civ classes at CU did not help me with either ... never mind Aristotle, give me notes from Nancy 911!"

"Maybe I could get some lessons from another ’86er in the Air Force, Mark Milam, who I believe has four girls. I ran into him not long ago, and despite the fact that he is a lawyer, he remains a phenomenal human being — nicest guy I’ve ever known. He’s instructing at the Air Force’s main educational base in Montgomery, Ala. And, of other good guys from ’86, John Murphy directs major renovation/construction projects and lives in Irvine, Calif., with his tal¬ented wife, Cindy (who has a fan¬tastic children’s boutique), and their children (Elizabeth and Ian). Murphy is the godfather to one of my girls, and proved the talent Cindy said he had as ‘the Baby Whisperer.’ He truly can calm babies in seconds — it’s almost freakish. Others in the L.A. scene include the ever-imaginative Jack Langston, who has been controlled but not tamed by his super wife, Margot, and two energetic chil¬dren. Recently, Jack was featured on the L.A. news scene (video and print) for his latest crazy (like a fox) birthday scheme — a weekend party-a-thon that began with a scavenger hunt. Jack invited many to join him for this prevent¬ive procedure/celebration, and I know that several Columbians were there, including Matt Loera ’88. Look it up at http://scope fest.org for the news stories and Jack’s next project. Every so often, I exchange e-mails with yet another L.A.-dweller, Pat “the Captain” McGarrigle, who is doing great after starting his own law firm a couple of years ago. So, if you ever need a colonos¬copy, nothing more than legal advice in the L.A. area, you’ve got class connections!

‘I’ve been tremendously impressed with CU football coach Norries Wilson — he maintains an e-mail list with news and updates year-round. I encourage any of my classmates with interest in Lions football to contact coach Wilson and get added to, as he calls it, ‘the list.’ I’m going to try hard to get to a game or two this fall — why don’t we all?! And while you’re at it — send Everett an update!"

The scopefest.org Web page is hilarious — be sure to click the video of the NBC piece that aired. You can see Jack and how little he’s aged. As Scott put it: "It is pretty amazing about Merrick ... I mean, we all are probably pretty much the same, and likely look largely the same as at CU — but he IS the same!"

Mark Berman, a partner at the law firm of Genser & Shire in Manhattan, practices commercial litigation and has a column in the New York Law Journal addressing electronic discovery issues. We were saddened to learn that Alexander W. Langston has passed away. After Columbia, Alex received a Ph.D. from Har¬vard in cellular and developmen¬tal biology. He was a creative and imaginative scientist at NYU, UCSD and UCSF. Alex lost his long battle with depression on June 30th, 1999. A native of the lives of his parents, Adair and William Langston ’55 of Piedmont; broth¬er, Christopher; and sister Anne, both of New York City. He was the uncle of Aidan, Patrick, Skyler and Kathleen.
in attendance at the ‘Barry Bash’ on Thursday evening in Hoboken, N.J., found out a full view of the city skyline, 14 stories high, opposite the Empire State Building with 180 degree views of the Hudson set the tone as 83 members of our class (and guests) reunited and rehashed highlights of our experiences within and outside of the ‘gates.’ Dave Barry and Kyra Tirana Barry’s magnificent residence was a delightful and gracious setting for our reunion. This was not your ordinary Beta House backroom third-floor party. Our hosts generously held a first-class event with taste, service and atmosphere that would rival any top-notch professional venue. A mere thank you to Dave and Kyra would hardly scratch the surface of the gratitude we all offer. This was the event of the weekend that most closely resembled the social activities of our past. And for this, we are most appreciative.

“The old Beta House had a strong showing. So did Fiji and Sigma Chi. Dozens of others in attendance shared stories, some accurate, of classmates in a setting so similar to the ones many of us remember. I would have to say that the behavior observed was, for the most part, slightly more refined than I remember from 20 years back. I use the word ‘refined’ loosely here.

“Beta brothers Chris Kane, Dave Walker, Ken Veneziano, Robert ‘Ingy’ Ingram ‘87E and of course, Randal ‘Flash’ Flaherty, Greg Fondran, Jason Pitkin, Ron Suber, and Dan Hutson ‘87E, with wife, Kerry Russell Hutson ‘87E, were still trying to figure out how we made it this far. Dean Anderson missed the Barry party but was in town from Friday afternoon on. Peter Von Schoenemarck overcame the Long Island Expressway, the Queens Midtown Tunnel and the Lincoln Tunnel at rush hour to join the crowd in Hoboken. That commute nearly equaled the travel time of Jason flying in from San Francisco! Great to see you, Peter!”

“Steve Amitay also missed the Barry party but deserves recognition here for his subsequent generosity and overall party commitments. Steve (with his lovely and most tolerant wife) and his portable vodka shot tour made the rounds on the steps after the Saturday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Saturday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Friday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Saturday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Saturday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Friday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Saturday night reception outside the rounds on the steps after the Friday night reception outside. Steve provided shots glasses stacked in a sack, attached to his hip and available for immediate salutes. Way to go, Amitay, you always added the right element to any function and it appears that you still know how to get it done.

“How about former free safety (football) Larry Allietto? Your generosity, Larry, is hidden under the modest and humble ways we remember you. Your commitment to our class deserves mention and your leadership, long recognized...
at Bear Stearns, is greatly appreciated here. Moreover, your friendship is deeply valued.

At this point, it is important to recognize adversity striking our lives in a sobering reminder to value what it is that we have with us today. Sadly, Dr. John Pennywell, football teammate and friend, passed away this spring in his hometown of Indianapolis. We will all remember John’s sense of humor, commitment to his classmates and strong academic achievement. (See below.)

Also, we offer condolences to the family of Tom Johnson, Sigma Chi brother and football teammate, on the sudden and tragic passing of his beloved wife, Jane. We all miss you and have you in our thoughts, TJ.

“The levels of friendships revisited extends to Bob Albery, trekking in from hometown Denver (where he practices law) and adding his salt to the Foss’ presence. Living with Foss at the Marriott Marquis for the weekend could not keep him away; if this is not the exemplary model of class commitment, I do not know what it is.

“Other football teammates in attendance: Gary Rempe (with wife Susan Beasim Rempe) and Kyle Kietrys ’89 (with wife Kate). Another successful and dedicated athlete, Howie Endelman, attended the Barry Bash and remains a vital supporter to our class endeavors. Ron Burton, former sportswriter with Spectator, was present and maintains close contact with activities taking place at Baker Field, as was Jonathan Wald, former floormate from the 14th of John Pennywell and developer of NYC radio sports announcer, Doug Thompson (Doug could not make the reunion, but Waldo used to teach Doug the finer points of announcing sports by verbalizing play-by-play while we would ask for it in the 14th floor lounge with the sound turned off).

“Others in attendance, although not mentioned here, contributed to an outstanding and memorable evening on 14th Street in Hoboken.

“I could not have asked for, nor expected, any greater turnout than the one held at Dave and Kyra’s. Looking forward to seeing all of you at Homecoming Weekend this fall!”

Thank you so much, Joe. We appreciate your efforts in recording this for posterity!

For the recap of the Friday night bash at Dave Perlman’s fabulous restaurant, Essex, on the Lower East Side, we turn to our beloved Judy Kim: “The ninth floor of Carman turned out in full force to make merry at David Perlman’s Essex. My long-lost suitemate, Miguela Rodrigues, and I were finally reunited after 20 years! Other former ninth floor Carman residents: Rob Wolf, Don Hutson ’87; Dean Anderson ’87; Sandy Asirvatham, with her husband; Luciano Siracuso; Suzanne Walzman, with her husband and two daughters; Peter Ross; Joe DeGaeto ’85; George Stoner and, of course, the proprietor of the establishment, David Perlman. Even the dapper and dashing Brian Kirsberg ’81, our Carman head resident, was there to remind us of our College days. Others who attended Essex included Doug Cifu, accompanied by Ed Ho ’87; Farah Chandu; Rob Flaherty; William Flick; Mark Foss; Amy Fowler; Esther Chung; Kyra Barry; Dave Barry; Kyle Kietrys ’89 with his wife, Kate; Jill Niemczyn Murphy, with her fiance, Kevin; Jennifer H. Gold; Nancy Rabinowitz; Laurie Gershon; Gerri Gold; Lee Ilan, with her fiancé, Peter Engel; Joseph Feuer; Jason Pichkin; Juaniita Panwanyee; Anthony Salvado; Divya Singh; Andrea Solomon; Ronald Suber, with his wife, Jonathan Wald; David Walker, with his wife; Joe Policastro; Christopher Crovatto; Ellen Crovatto; Cathy Webster and her husband, Bill Dycus; Junghyun Youn; Teresa Saputo-Creron; and Stavros Zomopoulos.

“The music was loud, the drinks robust and much fun was had by all.”

Thank you so much, Judy! Cathy Webster, Kyra Barry and Lee Ilan also have greatly contributed toward our reunion and other tidbits from the weekend. But in the interest of not leaving out a word, we will all have to wait until the next issue of (cue dramatic organ music) . . . Class Notes.

In the meantime, we do need to turn to sadder news. As reported in the last issue and noted above, John Pennywell was passed away in April after a 13-year battle with pulmonary disease, incontinence and other ailments.

At the Marriott Marquis for the weekend could not keep him away; if this is not the exemplary model of class commitment, I do not know what it is.

“This is just one of the events that went public in May, and is a managing director at Warburg Pincus, where he has worked since 1993. He also is a director of Coventry Health Care, Medical Staffing Network, and of several other privately held companies. CCS Medical specializes in mail-order delivery of medical supplies to treat diabetes, pulmonary disease, incontinence and respiratory illnesses.

Jesse Greenberg sent an update, with some really cool news. In his note he refers to his “sideline,” but I think it deserves a more exalted description than that. While he holds down a conventional job, Jesse also is a successful sculptor. He is working on a series called LARGER Than Life, and the first piece, Lover’s Embrace, is on display at the Jersey Shore in the Shore Institute of Contemporary Art outdoor sculpture exhibit, “Sculpture.” The exhibit opened on May 5 and will run through October 19 at Pier Village in Long Branch, N.J. As the press release explains, “Jesse Greenberg is an emerging New Jersey artist whose work has been featured in juried art exhibits such as the annual Monmouth County Arts Council show (2001). His work is also part of the private collections of Mr. and Mrs. James Iverson and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hirsch. Mr. Greenberg has been sculpting primarily in stone since the early ’80s. His work can be viewed at www.jessegreenberg.net.”

I checked it out, and it’s really impressive. Give it a look.

Jesse writes: ‘I’ve decided to come out of alumni hiding! It’s hard for me (and I’m sure many of American history at Penn State and has been working for 13 years at The Second Mile, a statewide nonprofit in State College, Pa., that provides programming for kids via nine prevention, education and community-based programs. Marc and his wife, Denise, have three boys: Connor (13), Alex (10) and Aidan (5). Marc writes that “along with frustrations” End teammates Rob Daniel, Mike Zegers ’88E, Doug Wolf and Ravi Singhal, I was eagerly anticipating this August, when we planned to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of our team’s intramural basketball championship. Activities were to include a party at the Daniel house in Westfield, N.J., as well as a fantasy football draft (now in the 21st year).”

Sounds great. Say, how come we don’t hear more about fantasy basketball leagues?

I heard some good news about Joel Gold '85: He is on the Board of Directors of CCS Medical Holdings, which went public in May, and is managing director at Warburg Pincus, where he has worked since 1993. He also is a director at Coventry Health Care, Medical Staffing Network, and of several other privately held companies. CCS Medical specializes in mail-order delivery of medical supplies to treat diabetes, pulmonary disease, incontinence and respiratory illnesses.

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Jesse writes: "I've decided to come out of alumni hiding! It's hard for me (and I'm sure many of
us) to believe that our 20th year reunion will be upon us soon; tem-
pus fugit — where have all the years gone? ... I am happy to
pusfugit reunion will be upon us soon; us) to believe that our 20th year
CLASS NOTES
This year I've been married 17 years for our IBM Business Solutions.
share that I recently celebrated 10
as business management leader and Sophie (10), who are keeping
Shore, for eight years. I keep in
you've changed since your year¬
see everyone who's written dur¬
lished before May 2008. And if you miss that deadline, you'll just
have to come to reunion and give
89
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Greetings, classmates — hope you
restful and enjoyable sum¬
In July, my husband, Dave Terry '90, and I, our kids, Julia (9), Henry (7) and Miles (8 months) headed to the White Mountains in New Hampshire to celebrate Greg Watt's 40th birth¬
Greg has been working for years and climbed up
sheer face of a mountain to mark the arrival of his big birthday
(proving that 40 is the "new 30"). For the weekend, Greg's wife, Melissa McDonald, gathered a
group of Greg's close friends and children at her family's lodge and served us delicious meals (including
our son Henry's favorite, "chii-mores"). Plenty of rugrats rained the lodge, including our kids and Greg and Melissa's sons, Elijah (3) and Charlie (14 months).
The weather cooperated, and we swam in a nearby river and played a good deal of Wiffle Ball.
I'd love to hear how the rest of you are ringing in your new
decade. Frank Seminar wrote in about a bit of a weekend last spring; "I had the privi-
lege of playing in a Columbia football golf outing with my
freshman roommate, Ben Sey-
bold, and fellow Brooklynite, Chris Delia Pietra. We spent
most of the afternoon recalling stories from Carman Hall and catching up on current events. Ben has not changed a bit and I have pictures to prove it. The
day, we hit the old West Campus and the room I was in. It was a great
two days spent trying to recapa-
tour our misspent youth. My
head still hurts from laughing."
Paul Franklin, residing in
Paris, described his busy and
ealible life in France. Since leav-
ing his job as managing editor and director of research for Next
Magazine in late 2004, Paul has been doing freelance writing and
editing. In the last year, he has
ted the books Maria Pergay: Between Ideas and Design and
Rooms: Photographs by Deryn
Moore. He wrote, "I continue my work as editor-in-chief of Étant
donné Marcel Duchamp, an annual, bilingual scholarly journal devoted
to the life and work of the French artist. Last February, I was
interviewed on French radio about Duchamp and in April par-
ticipated in a roundtable discus-
sion on the same subject at the
Centre Georges Pompidou (Paris' museum of modern art). I also
have become a regular contribu-
tor to Art in America and Paris Notes. Since January, I have been
the director and a professor for the new undergraduate art histo-
ry study abroad program founded by the University of Michigan here in
Paris. It is a pleasure to be back in the classroom. My part-
ner, Jean-Paul, and I divide our
time between the City of Light and Céret, a small village in the
Pyrenees near to the Spanish bor-
der and the Mediterranean Sea."
Jason Carter recently was select-
ed to the Department of Justice Attaché (for criminal matters) at the United
States Embassy in London. As of
last summer, he is responsible for
fugitive matters and transnational
evidence gathering between the
United States and the United King-
dom. Jason writes, "I'll work close-
ly with Scotland Yard and British
customs officers, as well as with
American law enforcement officials such as the FBI, DEA and other a-
genies. My wife, Dorothy, a Colum-
bian; sons, Jordan (9) and
Janet (6); and I relocated from
Arlington, Va., to London in August. See you
in jolly ole London."
In the financial world, Robert
Michael Spingarn, an aerospace and defense analyst for Credit Suisse, was named in The Wall
Street Journal’s “Best on the Street” 2007 Analysts Survey, which
tops the three analysts for
each industry and sector.
Finally, I share the wonderful
news that Amy Weinreich Rin-
zer and husband, Brad, wel-
comed Sophie Faye on May 3. Amy and her family live in New
York City. Congratulations Amy, Brad and Sophie!
90
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Wow, what a two months it has
been since submitting my previ-
ous column. In a crazy, you-
won't-believe-the-story kind of
way, let me simply say that Libby and
German Gomez and my hus-
band, Mike, and I announce the
May 4 birth of our daughters,
Lola Elizabeth Gomez and Isabel Norris Jacobs. Although they
were not born at the same hospi-
tal, we are sure they are destined
to become best friends and maybe even (Columbia?) college room-
mates. Lola and Isabel have
already had a few play dates and
got along famously.
Dan and Katerina (Antos)
Hulme are proud to announce the
April arrival of their third daugh-
ter, Christina Elizabeth. Sisters
Anne and Alexa are also thrilled with the addition.
It was a real treat to hear from some first-time writers, and here I
quote Jay Myers directly: "My
wife, Kelly, and I recently
returned recently from attending Ted Acworth's 1990E's wedding to
Mattie Reiss. In classic Ted fash-
tion, they got married in New
Orleans on the first weekend of the Jazz Fest. It was a fantastic
time. The wedding was held at
10:30 a.m. on April 28, followed by
brunch. Then, starting at 1:30 p.m.
there was a several requisite
Bloody Marys, the Rebirth Brass
Band showed up, and we went out
to the Jazz Fest for the rest of the
day. It was just great."
"In attendance were Gabe Kra,
Craig Nobert, Lisa Dabney, Mari-
an Wright, Susan Higgins and
Chuck Boyle '91, together with
respective spouses and so forth.
There also were a few other Colum-
bia folks from other years who
were in Ted's fraternity (Beta), such as Dave Acworth '90, Jason Wright, Susan Higgins and
Chick Blessing '91; and Alameda County, offici-
ed. Jennifer is a graduate stu-
dent in education at UC Berkeley. Luis is in charge of product licens-
ing in the South San Francisco, Calif., office of Acronis, a software
company in Burlington, Mass.
10
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Hope that you enjoyed the won-
derful summer weather and some
well-deserved “R&O.” As the new school year starts, it is amazing to me that my son, Liam, will be starting fourth grade; my daughter, Mariah, will be in second grade; my son, Matthew, will be in pre-K; and my baby, Catherine, has cut her first teeth. Life can be so full of “busy” activities that I have to quote Billy Joel: “These are the days to remember . . . these are the times to hold on to.”

Congratulations to Justin S. Kerber, who was ordained a rabbi at Cincinnati’s historic Plum Street Temple on June 2. After graduation, Justin went to Boston College Law School, traveled in Israel, went back to law school, practiced law at the Boston firm Peabody & Arnold, married Hope (’92 Tufts) and was a legal editor for Lexis-Nexis. Justin spent the last five years studying at the Hebrew Union College — Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, with a one-year tour of duty to Israel for studies at HUC’s Jerusalem campus. “Rabbinical school was intensive and exhausting. But it was also exciting — I was the student-rabbi of northwest Arkansas, a community that features on the front page of The New York Times, and of Greenville, Miss., as well as serving as a chaplain at Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston.”

Justin, Hope, their 2-year-old son, Elijah, and dog, Daisy, will move to Athens, Ga., where Justin will be the executive director of the University of Georgia Hillel. Justin would like to hear from fellow ‘91 Georgians Mark Ellingson and Charlie Weiss, and can be found on www.facebook.com.

It was heartwarming to see the love and support from Columbia friends that poured out to Evans Kissi, whose mother, Comfort Kissi, whose mother, Comfort Kissi, was being made, and it was an emotional moment for those who met her at the Kluge Scholars Program celebration. Evans Kissi’s interest in community service and how she has combined her passion for fashion (remember those Caribbean Students Association annual fashion shows?) to benefit women who are making a transition from unemployment into the workplace, to children in her hometown of Winneba, Ghana, to bringing people from different cultural backgrounds together to share their experiences through culinary and artistic activities. If you want to volunteer your services, donate some items/gift-in-kind (books and toys, school supplies, computers and software, professional women’s attire and footwear to name a few), or know someone whom BTSO can benefit from,” Faustina says, “please send an e-mail to faustinahaynes@yahoo.com or bridge to success organization@yahoo.com.

In addition to working full-time, keeping up with academic discourse, being a wife and mother, I am dedicating some of my time to making a difference in the world. In his address to Kluge Scholars at the celebration of the Kluge Scholars Program and his 90th birthday in the Low Rotunda, John W. Kluge ’37 said, “If it hadn’t been for Columbia, my path in life would have been completely different.” Without a Kluge Scholarship and a Harvard Fellowship, my life would, without question, have been different. These two prestigious institutions have opened doors for me that I never imagined existed. Consequently, I am constantly finding creative ways to give back.”

Good luck in your endeavors, Evans.

John is in touch with “Matt Baldwin” (’94); Corey Wallach, a doctor in Boston; Daryl Colden, a doctor in Boston; and Joel Barron, a doctor in Los Angeles.”

Keep sending your news!

NYC: Noah Elkin, a business executive in NYC and new dad (!); and Joel Barron, a doctor in Los Angeles.”

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With a big thanks and congratulations to the alumni office staff and members of the planning committee (chaired by Beth Dwyer), all of whom did a great job, I am proud to report that we had an excellent 90th Alumni Reunion Weekend. To recap, for those who were not able to make it, we started with a cocktail reception in the historic neighborhood on the roof of The Heights (some of you may remember it as “Nacho Mama’s Burritos”). The next night, we had a private screening of Flight of the Conchords at HBO Studios, courtesy of Lucinda Martínez-Desir. As the centerpiece of the weekend, we had a cocktail reception and dinner in the Kellogg Center at SIPA. At the dinner, Jim McMenamin, who was admissions director of the College when we applied and who now is director of principal gifts and senior adviser to Dean Austin Quigley, gave our keynote address, discussing current Columbia events and significant moments in the school’s history.

If I had one complaint, it was that there wasn’t enough time to talk to everyone. Occupational hazard of a class correspondent, I suppose. That in mind, I’ll do my best to provide as much news as I can — but if I miss you, call me on it (or at least e-mail me about SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007 77

PHOTO: DAVID WENTWORTH

only because of the 270-degree view of Manhattan, but also because of the air conditioning! Accommodations aside, we had a good time and saw Randa Zakhary, Sarah Wolman Levine, Patricia Ireland, Negar Ahkami, Karl Cole-Frieman (and his wife, Wanda Cole-Frieman) and Lawrence Kahn. Lawrence is a lawyer at the New York law firm of Freihill Hogan & Mahar, where he specializes in admiralty law.

If you can believe it, however, I even got a lot of news outside the context of reunion. And for that, I thank Jennifer MikoLevine (nee Levine) who was kind enough to get news (and permission to use it) from several classmates. Jennifer recently completed her maternity leave from Bingham McCutchen, where she is an environmental litigator. Her daughter, Micah Bantiing MikoLevine, was born at home — "yes, a planned homebirth" — on December 14, 2006. Brother Max (3) is adjusting well — more or less. Jennifer and her family live in Silver Lake, north of downtown L.A., "although we now own a duplex and have a tenant (how times change)."

Jennifer reported that Daniel Herman lives in the Mt. Washington area of Los Angeles, where he and his wife are architects. Daniel and his wife have two children, Otto (4) and Ingrid (16 months). Jennifer next told me about Susanne Schindler, with whom she had breakfast when she was last on the East Coast to visit with family and friends. Jennifer indicated that, after attending architecture school in Berlin and working there as an editor for an architectural journal, Susanne shifted back to architectural practice. She now does residential work at Utile, in Boston, where she lives with her partner, Axel Kilians. She co-authored a book with Bill Morris and Katie Svensson that is due out at the end of the year titled Growing Urban Habitats about affordable, compact and sustainable housing.

Jennifer told me that Jasmine Benyamin lives in Oakland, Calif. She is on leave from teaching at the California College of the Arts while she finishes her dissertation for her Ph.D. in architecture from Princeton.

Thank you Jennifer, for making this part of the job all that much easier. And, to the rest of you, there are only four years till we start planning for reunion No. 20. But let's not be strangers until then, OK?

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1
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With school back in session, we have officially entered our reunion year. While I continue to think of us as a young class, I can't help but feel like the mind is wandering because these five-year increments seem to be approaching increasingly quickly.

The most prolific author I know, Melissa de La Cruz, was visiting NYC from L.A. in early June on a book tour for Girls Who Like Boys Who Like Boys: True Tales of Love, Lust and Friendship Between Straight Women and Gay Men, which she edited with Tom Dooley and includes essays from Michael Musto '76, Andrew Solomon, Karen Robinovitz and Anna David. Springtime must be publishing time because she also published another book, The Au Pairs: Crazy Hot and Masquerade: A Blue Bloods Novel. Melissa and her husband, Mike, are the proud parents of Mattea Katharine Johnston ("Matte"), who is nearly 1.

While in New York, Melissa was spotted dining at Del Posto with Jennie Kim, who was celebrating her new job at NYSE Euronext as assistant general counsel. She lives in Union Square and can often be found trying to avoid the Greenmarket crush with her dog, Jennie is an avid and thorough reader of every CFT column and has made it her mission to provide updates in each and every column from now on.

Thanks, Jennie! You're the best.

In her first report, she ran into Justin Evans, who recently had his first book published, A Good and Happy Child, described by Publishers Weekly as follows: "This stunning novel marks the debut of a serious talent. Evans manages to take a familiar plot and make the young child haunted by a demon invisible to others — and infuse it with psychological depth and riveting suspense." Read more about the novel and its creation at www.justinevans.com. Justin lives in Tudor City with his wife and 5-year-old son.

Some news from the e-mail inbox: David Kwok and his wife, Vanessa '93 Barnard, live in Arizona with their twin boys, Gabriel and Lawrence (2). Vanessa is an internist in Scottsdale. After attending the Business School and working at Angelo, Gordon, David is a managing partner of Kokopelli Capital, a private investment partnership.

From our favorite Sunday reading in the Times wedding pages, I learned that Tracy Palmer married Gerald Whelan Jr. on June 16 at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Brooklyn. She is a senior manager for Deloitte & Touche, and they live in Forest Hills.

News from across the street:
After founding a nonprofit organization in New York City, the Harmony Program, to teach instrumental music to underprivileged children, Anna Fitzgibbon '93 Barnard accepted a Fulbright Fellowship to Venezuela, where she works with its National System of Youth and Children's Orchestras. Venezuela's system has become an international model for teaching music, and Anne hopes to return to the States in the fall to apply her experiences to similar efforts at home.

Also, Liz Hale '93 Barnard teaches full-time in the education department at Emmanuel College, a small liberal arts college in Boston. For the last seven years, she has been involved with the Boston public schools, first as a teacher then as a literacy staff developer. She has given workshops around the district and state on different aspects of literacy instruction. Last fall, Liz got a contract from Stenhouse Publishers for a book on the teaching of writing. The book is due to be published in December.

Greg Lare lives with his wife, Maureen, and their children, Lauren and Sean, in Jermantown, Pa. Greg recently left the law firm of Duane Morris to go in-house at Aramark as assistant general counsel.

Molly Holshouser received her M.P.H. in 2005 from Boston College School of Public Health and recently returned from a year-long assignment in Zambia with the International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs (out of the Mailman School of Public Health). She spent the year rolling out pediatric antiretrovirals and HIV care in the state teaching hospital in Zambia. Molly was set to start a nursing program at Johns Hopkins University in June. “I miss Africa terribly and hope to return as soon as I am done with school to re dedicate myself to HIV/AIDS efforts there,” she writes. “But I have to survive just a few more years of school first.”

Tiffany Ngeo, one of my first-year suitemates (ah, Carman Hall memories!) dropped me a lovely note with the fun news that she’s pictured on the cover of the AIG 2006 Annual Report. Check it out — she looks terrific (www.ezonlinedocuments.com/aig/2007/annual/HTML2/default.htm). Tiffany has worked at AIG for four years and was honored to be on the report cover.

Joseph Biello sent in a first-time update: In summer 2005, he and his fiancée, Connie Saint, moved from New York City to Davis, Calif. They were married on June 3, 2006, and welcomed daughter Adelia on April 18. Congratulations!

Also in April, Joseph learned he had been promoted to tenure in the Mathematics Department at UC Davis. Congratulations again!

In May, Joseph went to Juneau to attend the wedding of Michelle Arab '94 Barnard and Bobby McCollough. They live in Seattle, where she is a landscape architect and he is the head gardener at the Olympic Sculpture Park.

Joseph also planned to travel to St. Louis in June to attend the wedding of Chris Strnad '95 and Trina Vithayathil. Chris is director of evaluation and research at New Alternatives For Children in New York City.

Thanks to all who wrote in! Everyone else — please share your news. We can’t wait to hear what you’re up to!

Janet Lorin
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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer.

Congratulations to Jason Fisher, who married Marissa Simpson this spring, according to an announcement in The New York Times. Jason is an actor and performed in Leony Bruce: In His Own Words, a one-man Off-Broadway play, last year. Jason appears in television commercials and received an M.F.A. in acting from the American Repertory Theater’s Institute for Advanced Theater Training at Harvard. His wife is a freelance documentary television and film editor. The couple lives in Brooklyn.

Alex Goor is co-president and CIO of Instinet, a global agency broker and independent subsidiary of Nomura Holdings. He previously was president of Inst ATS and worked at Datek Online and Target Technologies.

Thanks for the updates, and please keep the news coming this fall.

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Greetings, classmates. As sad as it was to have an empty column a couple of issues ago, I am happy to report that it triggered the flow of news from quite a number of you. Alexis Zavaleta is the proud owner of a women’s and girls’ clothing boutique at 2120 Union St. in San Francisco, called Alice for You. San Francisco-based CC96ers, especially those on seemingly unending maternity leave (read: Barbara Antonucci), go check it out and support Alexis!

Aun Koh, who lives in Singapore, recently went on a one-month around-the-world trip. He caught up with Alisa Tang last fall while he was in Bangkok for the Four Seasons Hotel World Gourmet Festival. Alisa is a journalist for Associated Press. After Bangkok, Aun went to Tokyo, then to Los Angeles, then to Orange County to attend Michelle Kim’s wedding. Michelle lives in Baltimore and studied at Johns Hopkins University. The wedding was held at the Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel and, Aun reports, was “utterly gorgeous.” In attendance were Chela Boddlen and David Gray. David is finishing his Ph.D. and teaches at Harvard. Chela is now married to Boddlen (she received her Ph.D. from Columbia) and teaching at CUNY.

After Los Angeles, Aun and his wife visited New York, Washington, D.C., Paris and Dubai but did not meet up with anyone from our class. He further reports that Michael Clauson ’97 is in Singapore and is a diplomat working within the U.S. Embassy there, and Stephane Guuffat, who lives in London, is the proud father of a baby boy. Congratulations, Stephane!

As for Aun, he left government service (he was working at the National Arts Council) in June 2006 and started, with his wife, a lifestyle and media consulting company, reporting that it has been a lot of fun. Some things they have been doing include conceiving and setting up restaurants for hotel companies, creating and running luxury corporate retreats, custom publishing, and brand-building and marketing consultancy. One of their most enjoyable projects is acting as the Asia representative for Mr. & Mrs. Smith, a U.K.-based company that specializes in high-end boutique hotels. Aun is building their Asian portfolio and thus is traveling two weeks of each month, meeting with hoteliers and inspecting some of the coolest hotels in the region. A book Aun helped write also came out recently: French Classics Modern Kitchen, and it is the first cookbook by Julian Bompard, a respected French chef with a restaurant in Singapore. Aun’s blog, Chubby Hubby (www.chubbyhubby.net), has turned from a little after-work hobby into a small business. He gets more than 120,000 hits a month on his food blog and has been able to attract a fair bit of advertising, as well as some international media attention. The blog has been mentioned in The New York Times, The Guardian, The South China Morning Post and the UK edition of Delicious magazine.

Congratulations on all of your projects, Aun — they sound terrific! Stephanie Thankappan (née Morris) was running Extra Vertical Climbing Center, an indoor climbing wall in New York City that she helped start in 1997. They recently closed after 10 years, as Lincoln Center took back the space for its use. Stephanie also has been directing Yogabhanan NYC (www.yogabhanan.com), a yoga center she opened in Brooklyn in 1999 and moved to Manhattan in 2004. Stephanie met and married her husband in South India in 1998. Her husband is from a family of yoga teachers, monks and bishops. The couple was living in India for a few years, and now frequently travel to different countries to present at yoga workshops and conferences. More recently, Stephanie and her husband were in Egypt and Israel in March for the Egypt Yoga Festival and Israel Peace Tour, and in Copenhegen in

In June 2006, Grady Brumblow ‘91 Barnard and Sara Strang ‘95 Barnard, who met in college, were married at Murthy Castle in Scotland. In attendance were Jamie Chanin ’03, Richard Ciacopplo ‘03, Todd Gilmore ’95, Luis Garzon ’95, and Sarah Strang ‘95 Barnard, who recently married the UC Davis. Congratulations again!
mid-May for EuroYoga2007. The couple recently closed on a house in Brewster, N.Y. Also at the wedding were Karen (Brock) Noonan and her husband, Joshua Nelson Tieng and his wife, Amy; David Lefkowitz '97E and his wife, Kathy; and her freshman roommate, Shauna Quill, who was one of the four fabulous bridesmaids. Other alumni included Sameer Ahuja '96 and his wife, Sima '96 Barnard; and Marc Leibert '00L. There also was a slew of alums from the Columbia University Dance Team, including Karen's maid of honor, aka the little sister I never had, Bernadine Goldberg '96E and her husband, Carly Hugo '06, Emily Berkman '06 Barnard, Jessica Bobula '06 and Erica DiMarco '05 Barnard.

Victor Chin and his wife, Alice, announce the April 4 birth of Matthew. He joins Rachel (2). Victor was sad to say that he had to miss the 10-year reunion.

Meredith Deutsch-Levy '96 is home in Montreal on maternity leave after the birth, in March, of her third son, Ezra. His brothers, Judah and Elisha, are 6 and 4, respectively. When she returns to work as a physician in family medicine and palliative care at the Jewish General Hospital, Meredith will be the new undergraduate director in charge of medical students doing their family medicine rotation at the in April, at a McGill University teaching hospital. Meredith loves being able to combine academic, clinical and administrative work in a field that allows the flexibility necessary to be a "hands-on" mother.

Leslie (Engelberg) Kendall lives in New York and acts and dances. Her current film, Body/Antibody, won the Audience Award at The Brooklyn International Film Festival this year and screened in The Montreal International Film Festival earlier this year, among many other festivals. I enjoyed catching up with Joshua Meyers at reunion — he has been back in the city for, "gasp," seven years now, after spending the three years after graduation variously in China and Taiwan studying Chinese and later starting on a yet (widsly) unfinished L.L.B. Josh has settled into a finance job and is working on the Asian sales desk at the Australian bank Macquarie, advising institutional managers on greater China investments. He writes, "The job is get to catch up with everyone — so please continue to send in news and notes of your own as well as your friends'.

Karen Lee and Jean-Marc Grollier were married the week after reunion (June 9th) at the Castle on the Hudson in Tarrytown. The couple recently closed on a house in Brewster, N.Y. Also at the wedding were Karen (Brock) Noonan and her husband, Joshua Nelson Tieng and his wife, Amy; David Lefkowitz '97E and his wife, Kathy; and her freshman roommate, Shauna Quill, who was one of the four fabulous bridesmaids. Other alumni included Sameer Ahuja '96 and his wife, Sima '96 Barnard; and Marc Leibert '00L. There also was a slew of alums from the Columbia University Dance Team, including Karen's maid of honor, aka the little sister I never had, Bernadine Goldberg '96E and her husband, Carly Hugo '06, Emily Berkman '06 Barnard, Jessica Bobula '06 and Erica DiMarco '05 Barnard.

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On May 19, Arthur Ruffin ’98 married Luccia Vaughters at the Westin Governor in Morristown, N.J. Here he poses with his wife and seven groomsmen — many of them former College athletes. Top row, left to right: Toma Acholonu ’98, C.J. Thompson ’97, the groom, James Lambright and Robert Rogers ’98. Bottom row, left to right: Donald Scott ’98, Michael Prete ’98, the bride, Blair Jamal Shaw ’98 and Arkee Allen ’98.

PHOTO: JOSE MEDINA

On May 29–June 1, Columbia College Today published an article titled “Incredibly and unexpectedly,” by Syreeta Acholonu ’96, which included the following text: “Incredibly and unexpectedly, I found myself in China frequently — I get to interact with some of the best in the world on a regular basis. And even more incredible is the fact that I get to do this while living in New York City. This is truly a dream come true. I am very happy to report that I have been able to make the move out to Brooklyn, where I now live. I have found myself surrounded by Chinese friends all the time. I never thought I’d make the move out to Brooklyn, but I now find myself in Cobble Hill, a cute brownstone with a garden and a cat. So in a nutshell, life is good.”

I also spent quality time at reunion with Syreeta McFadden, Matthew Morningstar, Elbert Garcia, Steven Clarke, Hannah (Trooboff) McCollum and Cristina Rumbatlal’s Rio. Syreeta recently graduated with an M.F.A. in writing from Sarah Lawrence. Elbee and Steve work in politics — Elbee for Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) and Steve for Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick (D). Cristina is back in Morningside Heights working on a Ph.D.

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Beth Miranda bab2111@columbia.edu 212-870-2777 DEVELOPMENT Richard von Bargen rv2179@columbia.edu 212-870-2793

Sandra P. Angulo Chen 8201 16th St., Apt. 809 Silver Spring, MD 20910 sp@76@yahoo.com

There’s only one update to share for this issue, but it’s a happy one. Congratulations to Sarah Walters and Tim Bae, who had a girl, Cailyn, on April 22. Sarah writes: “Incredibly and unexpectedly, my freshman RA, Uchenna Acholonu ’96, was one of the doctors who checked on me that day! We’re all doing well and living not too far from Columbia.” Tim works at Lehman Brothers and Sarah is a high school English teacher in Hastings-on-Hudson.

I hope that as we gear up for our 10th reunion next year you’ll take the time to send in some news on what you’ve been up to, especially if you’ve never submitted an update.

Happy fall, Class of ’98!

Elizabeth Robilotti 80 Park Ave., Apt. 7N New York, NY 10016 evr34@columbia.edu

I hope everyone had a great summer. I am very happy to report that at the close of the fiscal year, on June 30, our class had exceeded expectations in the number of CC’99ers participating in the Columbia College Fund. We had 872 donors (up from 725 in FY06) and 122 John Jay Associates (up from 103 last year). Thanks to everyone who participated, and especially to my fellow Class Agents: Alisha Nicole Alexander, Chi Wah Chen, Andrew Heath Dalton, Natasha Chante Fatherree, Lauren F. Gershell, Jacob Howard Kupetzky, Charles Syl Leykum, Giovanni Punene and Kaynaz Rohbshar.

During the course of the fund drive, it was great to catch up with a few classmates, including Martin Mraz, who posed the following query to the class: Are you still able to stay up (and stay out) into the wee hours of, are you in bed early watching reruns of Law & Order? Feel free to write to me and I will publish the results of our informal barometer of CC’99 aging in the next CCT installment.

Congratulations to Jade (Gibson) Price and her husband, Michael, who are the proud parents of Charles Albert, born June 2, 2006. Right after Charles was born, the family relocated to London, Michael is a tenure-track psychology professor at Brunel University. Jade is on maternity leave from her Ph.D. program in anthropology at UC Santa Barbara and will soon dive back into her dissertation. Jade would love to hear from other Colombians, especially those living in the United Kingdom. She can reach Jade at jade.price@gmail.com.

Sarah Holst lives in San Francisco, where she works for a real estate investment management firm. She frequently flies to New York to visit her new nephew, Benjamin, son of her sister Catherine ‘96, ’02L. What a great excuse for a transcontinental flight — congratulations!

I bumped into Wendy Liu at the opening night performance of Romeo and Juliet at Shakespeare in the Park. Luckily, Wendy hadn’t had to sit on the ground all day (like some of us) because her husband’s law firm was a corporate sponsor. Wendy and Adam have been married for four years. She works for a biotech firm. Who did you run into over the summer? Write to CCT!

Priscia Bae 1840 James Ave., Apt. 14 Miami Beach, FL 33139 pb134@columbia.edu

Tara Gangadhara completed her training in internal medicine and moved to Chicago to start a three-year fellowship in hematology and oncology at the University of Chicago. She would love to hear from anyone in the area.

Abigail Krauser married Zachary Shrier on June 3 at the Sixth and I Historic Synagogue in Washington, D.C. Abigail is a litigation associate at Irell & Manella in Los Angeles; the groom is a portfolio manager at Shrier Wealth Management, an investment firm he co-founded with his father.

Vanessa Countryman, best friend of the bride since Orientation Week, was maid of honor.

Groomsmen included Jacob Kupetzky ’99, ’00 SIPA. Also in the wedding party were the groom’s sisters, Lizabeth Shrier ’06 and Lindsay (Shrier) Bourkoff ’03, and brother-in-law Natan Bourkoff ’02. Also in attendance were Yehuda Kurtzer, Rebecca Mermelstein ’01 and Ariella Kursahan ’06.

Traci (Leiderman) Goldstein ’99 writes that Tanya Susan Bank Wright and her husband, William Wright, are proud to announce the birth of Lily Elise. She was born on June 10 in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Tanya is getting her Ph.D. in education.

And finally, it seems one of our own has been sued! A government worker at the California Public Utilities Commission has filed a claim of sexual harassment as a result of Sara Waugh’s paintings — which depict nude women and mermaids — in the building, resulting in removal of the paintings. Sara’s press release: “San Francisco-based painter Sara Waugh was informed on May 23rd by a member of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Art Committee that a claim of sexual harassment has been filed against the Art Committee as a result of her artwork, which is presently hanging in the building as a part of the ‘Art on the Walls Project.’ Five of the ten paintings on display have been taken down as a result of the claim. Waugh is planning to remove all of the artwork this week to protest its treatment by the CPUC administration.

‘Waugh speculates that the works offended an employee at CPUC because of nudity in the watercolor paintings. ‘Allowing anyone to object to the artwork is unprecedented in any other building, including the Capitol itself. When it was customary in sexual harassment cases, it was a conservative judgment made by the administration to censor the art. In addition to the paintings removed, Waugh’s promotional postcards were also taken down from the display. The postcard and two paintings depicted a female nude. The other three pieces depicted mermaids.

‘The sexual harassment claim has been filed against the Art Committee, not against the artist. The Committee invited Waugh to hang her work after she submitted an application and provided a link to her art website, www.sarahwaugh.com. The person who filed the claim is anonymous, as is customary in sexual harassment cases. CPUC had a meeting yes-
Sara Velasquez '02's Long Trip Home

The journey Sara Velasquez '02 had to make to her Alumni Reunion Weekend — about 9,000 miles, from Wellington, New Zealand, to Morningside Heights — was longer than most. Perhaps it's appropriate that her enthusiasm for Columbia is oversized, too.

A long-haired, graceful California native, Velasquez first came to the campus at 16, during a model UN conference. Though she was interested in attending an East Coast school, she had never heard of the University. But once she walked through the scrolled iron gates at 116th Street, it was love at first sight. Velasquez says, "It was like ... lights coming down, angels singing." She took a campus tour and decided, "This is where I want to go."

During her first year, she made an appointment with Dean Austin Quigley so she could thank him in person for her College experience. Velasquez majored in Hispanic studies and also took classes in photography. The Core, she found, and the New York setting complemented each other. Both were competitive environments, places where you needed to be "strong, smart, savvy"; both could produce a person who'd be "a well-rounded citizen of the world." Which was, in fact, what Velasquez turned out to be.

After graduation, she moved overseas, first with a boyfriend to London, then to New Zealand. She has been living in Wellington since June, but the trip is not over yet.

Sara Velasquez '02 in front of NZX Centre, the home of the New Zealand Exchange Limited.

PHOTO: RAELINE LORD

I hope you all had a restful summer and work in earnest.

Annie Lainer. Dina recently finished her first year of law school at Georgetown and worked at the U.S. Attorneys Office for D.C. this summer. Annie is finishing up her clerkship with Justice Barry T. Albin of the New Jersey Supreme Court and is excited to move to L.A. (I'm excited for her return as well). Nancy is a reporter for Fox News. Though she loves New York, she misses New York and was eager to come home for her reunion. As early as last fall, she e-mailed the alumni office to make sure that her first trip home in three years would coincide with her class' five-year gathering. Finally, on the night of June 2, Velasquez mingled with classmates and friends under a white tent on South Lawn at the Class of '02 dinner. The faint sounds of chatter and music drifted over the grass on a mellow summer night; it had been a long trip, but it was worth it.

Rose Kornochan '82 Barnard

Jonathan Gordin

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007

At the end of my last column, my deadline prevented me from preparing a more appropriate tribute to Artie Harris, who died on May 4. As I mentioned in my previous column, I knew Artie quite well from our days together on the 124th Managing Board of Spectator, and I know he will be deeply missed by his large group of friends from Columbia and beyond.

Artie was buried on May 6 at Riversville Cemetery in Glenville, Conn., near his father, Jonathan '63, who died in 2004. Hundreds attended the funeral services in Larchmont (Artie's hometown), including New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, for whom Artie was press secretary, and Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), for whom Artie worked previously. Artie is survived by his mother, Myra, and his brother Robbie (15).

The Columbia and Barnard communities that knew Artie gathered with his family, friends and colleagues to mourn his loss. Attendees included Nora Abramson and Dan Laidman, Meagan Ashford-Groome, Jason Bloch, Preston Berry '07, Nicolle Bode, Alice Boone '03 Barnard, Megan Bramlette '02E, Tyler Brody, Tom Buelman, Ben Casselman '03, Chad Chiverton '04E, Nayan Cho, Brie Cokos, Josh Condon '02, Michele Connolly, Kerri Constanbe, Susie Cowen, Robert Culppepper '00, Steuf Deanly, Steve Del Perno '00, Megha Desai '01 Barnard, Megan Harris '01 Barnard, Brian Horan, Matt Hughes, Ike Ikner '01E, Whitney Johnson '01 Barnard, Chen La, Adam Lesser, Sarah Lightdale, Richard Luthman, Jeremy Mangion '01E, Chris Miller, Jesse Prupas, Kat Rakowsky '00, Jon Rick, Matthew Robin '09, Fritz Scanlon, Nicholas Schifrin '02, Hannah Sellinger '02, Jaime Snie '02, Isaac Souweine, Eddie Torres '00, Brian Webster '02, Sarah Weintraub '02, Mike Weiss '02, Dan Wetmore and Ashley Wilkinson.

Plans are under way for a foundation to honor Artie's memory, but the details are still being worked out. Richard Luthmann is coordinating this project with Artie's mother. I will certainly publish specific information about the foundation (and its mission) as soon as it becomes available.

Meanwhile, I wanted to leave you with some thoughts that Nick Schifrin '02 prepared to honor Artie. Nick's words seem to capture — quite eloquently — Artie's character, personality, and rugged charm. Thank you Nick for letting me share his thoughts in
the column.

"Artie Harris — Artie, to his friends — died Friday, May 4.

"He would have wanted us to begin with the lead, to share why

"Artie was good at what he did. "Artie was many things.

"Artie was a good reporter, one of his best friends noted that a

"He was a reporter and editor for the Spectator. He was a 'rug¬

"He was a good editor, someone who could extract a reporter’s

"But as a writer, he was better than good. "Somewhere," he wrote as a

"He was a writer who did not care, but precisely the oppo¬

"He never worried about offending — not because he did¬

"I'm not sure Artie allowed him¬

"To borrow (and manipulate) a line from literature, love for Artie

"But he was a disgruntled mensch, and because of that, his choric

"Artie was bleak, to the end. But he was a disgruntled mensch,

"I'm not sure Artie allowed himself to feel what we all felt for him. But

whether you’d ever been truly embraced before. And for that, we loved him — as he loved us."

Sonia Dandona
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Columbia’s Class of 2002’s reunion was a huge success with packed events held at 230 Fifth
and on campus. Genevieve Thornton made the welcome speech to alumni at the Starlight Dinner, followed by a slideshow compiled by Will Hunter. Everyone was so excited to meet roommates, classmates and friends. Some news: Avi Fernandes is in investment banking in San Francisco but plans to move back to New York next summer. Saurabh Jain ’02E is an analyst at Bay Harbour. Saiba Banatwala and her husband recently moved into a new place in the West Village. Helena Andrews, who received her master’s in journalism from Northwestern, is a staff
writer at The Politico, covering the hilarious intersection of pop culture and politics. She lives in Washington, D.C., and regularly sees other CC’02ers such as Adrienne Moran and Adaoa Hamilton. Zecki Dossak is a Gerson Lehman Group, responsible for co-managing the Technology, Media & Communications Research Practice. Amy Kim is working at her parents’ Internet security software company, Softforum, in Westwood, Calif. PJ Moynihan has his own company, Digital Eyes Film, and is working on a 10-part documentary series, Eye on the Dream, about New York college baseball. It is airing on Sports, NY and Fox Sports New England. Lillian Davies, who has been living in London for four years, earning an M.A. at the Royal College of Art and working at the Tate Gallery, is moving to Paris in October to be with her fiancé, Guillaume. They pair will celebrate their wedding in Austin, Texas, in May 2008, but will continue to live in Paris, where Lillian plans to continue curating and writing on contemporary art.

In the last year, David Epstein has moved back from Washington, D.C., where he was an education reporter for an Internet startup. He is in Brooklyn and is a reporter at Sports Illustrated. More recently, he was upset to miss the reunion, but had to attend the American College of Sports Medicine conference in New Orleans on the same days. Lindsay Jurist-Rosner will return to the east coast to attend HBS after working in advertising in Los Angeles for the past four years. Joseph Beran will return to Columbia to attend the Business School this fall after working at the Department of Defense for two years.

Jeffrey Seth Colen is picking up his life in Shanghai and preparing to move back to the States in September to do an M.F.A. in documentary film at Stanford. After living for almost five years in China and Germany, he is looking forward to returning but will really miss the fantastic people and places of Asia and Europe. Most recently, he has been making a documentary on foreign children growing up in China and filming Internet advertisements for brands such as Neutrogena and Nike. Jeffrey is eager to hear from classmates involved in film, so get in touch at js61@columbia.edu. Paula Davis (now Davis-Hoffman) married Geoffrey Hoffman ’91 in April 2006, and they reside in Miami. She recently graduated from Teachers College and teaches fourth grade. Viviana Rodriguez married Stuart Luth (Colby, Class of 2001) in Palm Beach, Fla., on April 28. Columbians in attendance were Sara Goldfarb ’02, Ben Langmead ’03, Lisa Jacobs, Lucy Gibson ’03 Barnard, Michele Burke ’02 Barnard and Brian Pellegrini ’04E.

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Beth Miranda bab211@columbia.edu 212-870-2777 DEVELOPMENT Richard von Bargen rv217@columbia.edu 212-870-2793

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While the excitement of summer barbecues, the release of Transformers in theaters and Red Sox and Yankees games all seem like distant memories, there is plenty in the way of exciting news about our class.

In New York news, Yvette Siegert taught creative writing at Columbia this spring and is on the editorial staff of the New Yorker and working on a poetry collection. Morris Doueck is a first-year associate at Sidney Austin in the real estate department. After spending two years on Governor Eliot Spitzer’s campaign, Anna Maria Mannino is the communications manager for Empire State Development, the economic development branch of the New York State government. Adam Kushner has returned to New York to cover global politics and finance for Newsweek International.

Miri Kim was featured in the June 28 issue of the New York Sun for her work with Naked Arts City, a company she founded; she holds silent auctions for young artists in the lower Manhattan area. Mark Mann took a year off between his third and fourth year of medical school at P&S to do a Doris Duke Clinical Research Fellowship, where he presented his research at a number of national medical professional meetings. David Lewis Perez graduated from the NYU School of Medicine. He was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society and received the American Academy of Neurology Student Prize and the Herman Wortis Award for excellence in psychiatry and neurology. He has begun a residency in the combined program for neurology and psychiatry at New York Presbyterian Hospital.

In other medical school news, Celine Goetz started at the Pritzker School of Medicine at the University of Chicago this fall. Joshua Marks graduated from Jefferson Medical College, having received the Francis Torres Stewart M.D. Clinical Surgery Prize. He recently began his residency at the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia. He writes, “I plan to practice acute care surgery and surgical critical care. Since leaving Columbia and CUEMS/CAVA, I remain involved in collegiate emergency medical services as secretary of the Board of Directors of the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation and enjoy meeting and working with subsequent generations of CUEMS/CAVA members each year at our national conferences.”

Forrest Lensing graduated from the University of Texas-Southwestern in Dallas and will start his residency in radiology there. Hector Tober recently graduated from Harvard Medical School and started his residency at the Yale-New Haven Hospital. Mike Chee, who recently graduated from medical school at Penn State, is doing his residency in ENT at Yale-New Haven Hospital. In wedding news, Bryan Berkett is engaged to Tina Finkelman ’05 Barnard. Emily Combs married John Yeatts on April 14. Mary Rozenzenn, Gabe Trappe, Laurel Eisenach ’06 and Ellen Sibert ’06 joined them in North Carolina for the wedding. Colleen Cusick married Dan Endick on July 7 (7/7/07) in Lawrenceville, N.J., and spent their honeymoon in Greece. Jennifer Ashton celebrated her 25th birthday in New York to cover global politics and finance for Newsweek International.

Catherine Yee will start medical school at the University of Rochester this fall. She’s looking forward to seeing more of Todd Liu ’03, Austin Frank, Deepa Sarkar and Yung Lyou ’04E. She met with Stephanie Yee ’07 in Tuscany this summer and had hoped to see Tammy Wang ’03 and Ebony Dixon ’03 as well. Sue Altman has retired from competitive basketball, after playing two seasons, one in Ireland and the other in Germany. She will be at the Blair Academy in Blairstown, N.J., as a history teacher and head girls basketball coach. As a coach, she is eager to build a great program; as a teacher she’s excited to be shaping young minds.

Lev Kalman and Whitney Horn share, “We’re filmmakers, and this July/August we headed to Honduras to direct our first large-scale project, a 40-minute fiction film called Blondes in the Jungle. Next spring it will be released on DVD along with a CD original soundtrack, www.balldeep.tv/blondes. In addition to ourselves writing/directing/producing, Alex Orban ’04 Barnard is co-designed 12 feature film sets during the past three years. She writes, “I was fortunate to have been the production designer for Half Nelson (Oscar Nominees Pictures), which received an Academy Award nomination… I am in the Dominican Republic designing Sugar, the next film from Half Nelson director Ryan Fleck.” Beth was named Hollywood Reporter’s “Next Generation Production Designer for 2007.”

Pevrin Varan writes, “Following graduation, I traveled to England, where I received my master’s in criminal justice policy from the London School of Economics. I then began working with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, researching global human rights issues and producing reports for use by UN human rights committees for monitoring various states’ compliance with their human rights obligations. From there, I traveled to India, where I worked for the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing. My work revolved predominantly around urban poverty and housing production, as well as comprehensive human rights assessment of ongoing tsunami reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts.”

Miklos C. Vasarhegyi 118 E. 62nd St. New York, NY 10021 mcv37@columbia.edu

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2007
producers, John Martin and Trevor Hoff are acting and the core group writing the soundtrack is John Atkinson '03, Judd Schoenholtz, Ezra Keonig '06 and Rostam Batmanglij '06. The last two are from Vampire Weekend [see May/June]."

After working at the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (www.iccnow.org), Esti Tambay spent the summer in Europe before heading to cold New England, where she will attend Harvard Law School. Also in Europe, Andrew Sohn spent the summer traveling through Spain, France, Italy and England, during which time he met with Lindsay Wilner (who is taking Spanish classes in Madrid before heading to Argentina to work for a not-for-profit), Anna Fang and Jesse Scott. Andrew will then start a new job in private equity at Bear Stearns Merchant Banking as an analyst.

Congrats to Esther Kim, who was married on August 31 to Albert Chung '05E at the New York Botanical Garden. Esther recently moved from the Commercial Real Estate Investment Banking Group to the Equity Derivatives Group at Morgan Stanley. Also in the tri-state area, Emily Shin, Elizabeth Wild '06, Janine Sutton, Michael Cummings '05 and Mik Vasarhelyi completed the Long Island Gold Coast Triathlon, a sprint distance race. Randy Berkowitz and Mike Lee went to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and completed an Ironman triathlon. The race was amazing, and the two were supported by John Martin and Trevor Hoff (who is taking Spanish classes in Madrid before heading to Argentina to work for a not-for-profit), Anna Fang and Jesse Scott. Andrew will then start a new job in private equity at Bear Stearns Merchant Banking as an analyst.

On July 29, 2006, Ben Falik '04 married A.J. Rosenzweig in West Bloomfield, Mich., at Temple Israel. Many Columbians attended, including (back row, left to right): Mark Ratner '04E, Ben Widlanski '04, Jordan Heimer '04, Mark Wood '04, Brad Weinfeld '04, Neda Chiverton '04E, Scott Paul '04, Telis Demos '04 and Spencer Kaplan '04. Front row (sitting, from left to right): Irene Kopitov '04 Barnard, Megha Ratnapati '04, Amanda Mansour '04, Katrina Kaufman '04 and Ben Austin '04. The groom is lying across the front row. Also present but not shown: Lauren Kaplan '04, Ariel Schwartz '04 and Ben Welsberg '04.

PHOTO: MARTY ARKIN

Peter Kang
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I hope everyone has enjoyed an eventful summer! I have a lean edition this time around, but hopefully many of you will find the time to send in updates for the next issue.

Jihoon Jin was in Paris for a month in the summer to study French and to relax before heading back to Columbia for her two-year SIPA program.

Jessica Gresko writes: "I organized Columbia Community Outreach in South Florida this year, one of several CCOs that went out on the West Coast this year. We had 13 people and painted the kitchen at the Broward Partnership for the Homeless in Fort Lauderdale on April 28. We had a number of young alumni, including Lauren Norris '04 GS, Monica Betancourt '06 and Stephen Wang '06E. Columbia sent us T-shirts from the day and it was nice to feel connected to the campus’ day of service."

Phoebe Connell sends her greets: "I’m living in Berkeley, Calif., with my boyfriend, Jake Danziger ‘03, and recently finished a post-bac pre-med program; Jake recently got an M.F.A. in electronic music. In our quest to obtain as many degrees as possible between the two of us (just kidding), I am working on medical school applications and Jake is applying to joint J.D./M.B.A. programs. This spring, I got a Fullbright grant to Sweden, so I’ll be living in Stockholm for 10 months starting in August. I am doing research at the Center for Health Equity Studies, volunteering at the Red Cross and working on my Swedish. This summer I tried to take advantage of what is potentially my last summer on the West Coast with lots of road trips and hikes with our new dog, a medium dog/pit bull mix named Nemo, and I recently started a biochemistry class at Cal. After two years, we’ve finally come to love Berkeley and California (100 kinds of heirloom tomatoes at the Berkeley Bowl, the Golden State Warriors, the amazing dusty hills and lush plants and so forth), so I’m sad to be leaving but excited for everything coming up."

Rachel Grant Meyer writes: "I recently finished 10 years working for the Union for Reform Judaism in the College Department in New York City. I am relocating to Israel for the year to begin studying to become a rabbi at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. I will return to the NYC campus in January 2008 to finish my last four years of study."

Have you heard the song Hey There Delilah by the Plain White T’s? It’s a catchy song that found some heavy play on the radio this summer. The inspiration for the song? Delilah A. DiCrescenzo, whose impression on lead singer Tom Higgenson led him to write the song. Delilah is training as a steeplechase runner for next year in California after Bridget and Marcin move to the States. Kristian Hansen writes: "This summer I decided to expand my horizons and joined an early-stage venture capital firm, Biltmore Investments. In addition to VC work, I planned to ride my track bike at least three days a week and to finish reading every Hemingway book by Labor Day’s end. Check out my blog to see what I am up to: www.hansenreport.blogspot.com."

Well, that’s all for now. Stay healthy and happy!

Michelle Oh
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Fellow classmates, I hope all of you had a wonderful summer. At the start of the summer, I attended the Columbia College Young Alumni Casino Royale event at Nokia Theatre and had the pleasure of crossing paths with a number of classmates including Sy Cabria, Spencer Chang, Korn Chiu, Christine Chung, Gina Cucliahi, Catherine Daley, Justin Illii, Jennifer Kim, Daniel Lee, Jessica Lee, Varun Munjal and Kwan Spearsman. Since then, I also had a mini-reunion in Miami with classmates from CC and SEAS 2005 and 2006 and also enjoyed travels to London and Paris.

But enough about me — our classmates have amazing accomplishments and exciting news to share! I hope you enjoy reading about their success as much as I have.

Ted Malawer recently accepted a two-book fiction deal with Random House. His debut novel will be published in early 2009. Robert McNamme is a case assistant at Goodwin Procter in New York and lives on the Lower East Side. He is attempting to go out every weekend and pay his rent, while applying to law school. Fernando Perez ’05 is making headlines as a center fielder with the Rays’ Double-A affiliate in Montgomery, Ala. Not only is he noted for his speed...
and baseball talent, he’s been cited as “one of the smartest baseball players I’ve ever met” by his peers and featured for his writing skills, which are displayed in his online diary, accessible at www.minorleaguebaseball.com.

Tahlia Newman is working with Malcolm Lee in post-production on his newest feature, The Better Man. After spending a year in the war studies program at King’s College London, Eric Lober will pursue a Ph.D. in political science at Duke this fall. Focusing on why countries declare nuclear weapons, he writes, “I’m looking forward to hanging out with the small expat Columbia community there.” Lizabeth Shriver announces her marriage this summer to Donni Engelhart of Chicago. After a beachside wedding in Los Angeles, the couple moved to Baltimore City. In the City of Baltimore, Lizabeth will teach seventh grade (as part of Teach for America) and get her M.A. in arts and teaching at Johns Hopkins University, and Donni will work for an investment bank in Columbia, Md. Members of their wedding party included Ariella Kurshan, Rebecca Auster ’07 Barnard and Elaine Jaffe Weissman ’06 Barnard.

Eva Colen will teach 11th grade English during 2007-08 at the Philadelphia Military Academy in Philadelphia through Teach For America. She worked at Teach For America’s Philadelphia summer training institute as a school operations manager, gaining experience in school administration. Schuyler Brown writes, “Salutations from the left coast. I’ve spent a year now acclimatizing to sunlight and blue sky, well, smog-covered haze, to be precise. I am in the middle of negotiating a six-figure deal for my company, ICM, to consult for a major news network’s digital ad strategy. I had a memorable mini-reunion in June with Lars Dabney ’07 and Nathaniel Greenberg.

It seems you can always find classmates all over the world. Christina Persaud writes, “I spent July traveling across Europe.” Radha Ram recently returned from India, where she lived with Neeta Makhija. Both worked on rural and health initiatives in Hyderabad. During the year, she was happy to host Matthew Dinunso ’06E and Gauri Saxena ’06 Barnard and even attended the Columbia alumni reception in Bombay. She is looking forward to returning to India next year and living with her sister, Gita Ram ’04. Radha says, “Visitors are welcome!”

Hitesh Manglani relocated back home to Dubai in August after five years in New York City, with definite plans of returning next year for law school. Kristin Soong is relocating to Sao Paulo, Brazil, for her second year at Shearman and Sterling. James J. Stranko works for the British Foreign Office on an operation company of Carolyn Vine, Stephanie Lung ’04, Rachel Lesser and Tom De Swardt ’08, as well as amazing friends Kristin Loveland and David Singerman, who pursued master’s degrees at that “other British university…” He spent the summer in Damascus, Syria, studying Arabic for his M.Phil, and traveling around the Middle East before returning to Oxford in the fall.

Lukas McGowan is a field organizer for Dallas County in Iowa, working on Barack Obama ’08’s Presidential campaign. He is “loving every minute of it and (surprisingly perhaps) adapting pretty well from New York life to Des Moines life.” Luke adds, “Des Moines is actually a happening town and a whole lot of fun.”

Adam Graver is attending medical school at Albany Medical College. Before moving to Albany, he went on a trek in Peru to Machu Picchu with Matt Their ’08. Avi Zenilman recently moved to Washington, D.C., as a staff writer for The Politico, a D.C.-based political newspaper (www.politico.com).

Graduation was an especially nostalgic time for Marybeth Buckett and her family, including her father, Joe Buckett ’53. Marybeth’s family stayed in Carbondale for the weekend, on the same floor her father lived on in his first year. After graduation, Marybeth embarked on a three-week tour of Italy with her family as a graduation celebration. She writes, “[In the fall,] I will travel to Chile with the National Outdoor Leadership School to spend three months backpacking and sea kayaking in Patagonia. After that, I hope to find gainful employment in NYC, either at a publishing house or as a paralegal. I’ll see what happens from there, but at the moment I hope to be in law school in the next few years.”

Katarzyna Kozanecka and Il’ya Nikolov were married on June 3 in Brooklyn. Katarzyna is a paralegal for the Manhattan district attorney and Il’ya sells shiny bicycles at Roy’s Sheepshead Cycle (www.roysbikes.com). Congratulations!

Letters

(Continued from page 2)

decided to pursue a master’s in art history, and Quick suggested that Savage might make a good subject for a thesis. I must confess that at the time, I never heard of the man. That was soon to change. Research informed me that by the late 1930s, social realist critics saw Eugene Savage as a “decent manifestation of classicism.” In 1976, however, having settled on him for my thesis, I managed to see “instinctively expressive tendencies” and even the influence of “Jugendstil and Art Nouveau” in his work. One can get pretty defensive about one’s thesis subject.

When my husband showed me those rectangular fragments of painting, I hadn’t seen any of Savage’s work for almost 30 years. Call it coincidence, but to me it was far more meaningful. That issue of Columbia College Today tied two ends of my long life together in a most satisfactory way. Thank you.

Jean Sapin
Sherman Oaks, Calif.

Errata

In the profile of Stephen Joel Trachtenberg ’59 (July/August), the last name of Professor Bernard W. Wishy ’48, ’58 GSAS was misspelled and his class years were omitted. In the same story, the first name of Nobel Prize-winner Roald Hoffman ’58 was misspelled.

In “First Person,” by Jeffrey Glassman ’76, ’92 SIPA (July/August), an incorrect e-mail address was listed for the author. He may be reached at glassman@state.gov.

In Bookshelf (May/June), the writeup of Alan Tompkins [’29]—Painter by Linda Powers should have described the book as celebrating “the artist’s work and life,” not the artist’s. Also, the book’s publisher was misspelled; it should be Shear House Press.

In “Homeward Bound” (May/June), the name of Gary Ostrook, president and CPO of United Way for the Greater New York Area, was misspelled.

CCT regrets these errors.
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Columbia Jester. The Thomas Merton Center is seeking copies of the Columbia Jester, 1935-1941 containing Merton’s contributions. Please contact Paul Pearson: merton@bellarmine.edu or 2001 Newburg Road, Louisville KY. 40205.


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October 2, 2007
Choices We Made To Be Columbians

BY BRIAN C. KRISBERG ’81
PRESIDENT, COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

We make choices all the time. Where to work and what to work on. Who to associate with and how much time to spend with them. One of the more important choices we make in a lifetime is where to attend college. It says something about us and, if we are fortunate, helps to play a significant role in who we are. I think it is fair then, as Columbia College embarks on its 254th year of existence, to consider the role in who we are. I think it is fair then, as Columbia College embarks on its 254th year of existence, to consider the
cant role in who we are. I think it is fair then, as Columbia Coll
e" make choices all the time. Where to
the common threads, so to speak? There are a number that stand out for me. They are the ties that bind us as Columbians.

A rigorous education. Columbia always has struck me as a serious place where one gets a rigorous education. This is not to say one does not have the opportunity to get a very good education at Yale, Harvard or Princeton. It’s just that Columbia’s now nearly 90-year commitment to the Core Curriculum and to a series of required courses in the humanities, politics, arts and science taught in small sections (and not in huge lecture halls) is a defining feature of our school. It reflects an institutional belief that, no matter how costly or cumbersome to staff, Columbia students should go out into the world with the best common educational foundation that will prepare them to make a difference in society and be tomorrow’s leaders.

New York City. Columbia’s official name is “Columbia University in the City of New York.” People’s view of New York City and Columbia are inexorably intertwined and seem to rise and fall together. In the 1970s, the subways didn’t work, the city’s finances were out of control and crime was on people’s minds. Being in New York City or at Columbia didn’t seem like such a hot idea. Today, New York City is on a roll, the mayor rides the subway and everyone wants to spend time in New York City (and based on the sizzling admissions statistics for the Class of 2011, at Columbia). Spending four college-age years in New York City, and at Columbia, can be a life-changing experience. Be it finance, banking, real estate, journalism, theater or museums, New York City and Columbia provide access to the best in all these areas and more.

A real-world environment of critical thinkers. It is clear to me that a certain type of student tends to be attracted to Columbia and to thrive here. Our students are critical thinkers, always ready to discuss the issues of the day, to ask hard questions and to engage in intense and passionate debates. While I was not around for the late 60s conflicts, this is a legacy of active engagement that distinguishes Columbia from its peer institutions and continues. In addition, I always have felt there is something very real-world about living and studying for four years on Morningside Heights. In my case, this grittier, non-cushy side to the Columbia years became an excellent chance to learn how to adapt to my surroundings and to be resourceful and indefatigable in the pursuit and realization of my goals.

A small college in a large university. I have come to realize that one of Columbia College’s strongest attributes is the fact that it is a small college in a large research university setting. It is, in a sense, the best of both worlds. While there will certainly be pressure in upcoming years to grow the size of the College a bit, at 1,017 per class, our students are able to know many of their classmates personally, to attend small classes and to participate in a variety of extracurricular activities. This intimacy is a hallmark of Columbia that should be nurtured. At the same time, the University is a humongous place with 16 divisions and 29 faculty departments. I am amazed each May as Commencement is packed with nearly 12,000 degree recipi-

What are the central themes of the Columbia experience ... the ties that bind us as Columbians?
Lost Columbia

Alma Mater is eternal, but her campus is ever-changing. Michael Susi '85, an associate director in the Vice President's Office for Arts and Sciences, has collected vintage postcards from the early 1900s that show us how the verdant 19th-century enclave of Morningside Heights became a thriving university neighborhood. In June, the postcards were published as a book, Columbia University and Morningside Heights. Here, from the book, are glimpses of an earlier, vanished Columbia.

THE ATHLETICS FIELD
"In this view from 1910 or 1911 of the South Quadrangle from Broadway and West 114th Street, one sees Hamilton, Hartley and Livingston Halls," writes Susi. "Kent and Philosophy Halls are nearing completion on the Upper Quadrangle."

THE GOAT SHED
"Matilda the goat lived in this shanty on the northeast corner of Amsterdam Avenue and West 120th Street around 1910 with her owner Patrick Riley, who lent her out for hazing ceremonies among the undergraduates. When she died in 1914, students held a great funeral procession in cap and gown."

THE SUNDIAL
Here, the Sundial is "a dark green granite sphere sitting upon a circular pedestal. It used to tell the time only once per day, at noon. It was a gift of the Class of 1885 and was presented to the University in 1914. Presumably in the interest of safety, the granite sphere was removed in 1946 when a crack developed."

THE SCIENCE FACILITIES
This observatory, built in 1907, was located in a northern part of the campus known as the Green, "with a winding drive and tree-lined pathways." The small building was "hidden by dense greenery." It may have become obsolete after the construction of the Rutherfurd Astronomical Observatory on top of the School of Physics (Pupin Hall) in 1927.
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COVER STORY

16 ALEXANDRA WALLACE '88 HEADS NIGHTLY NEWS
Executive Producer Alexandra Wallace '88 strives to keep NBC's marquee half-hour news show the best in its class.
By Maggie Gram '05

FEATURES

20 DR. ARCHIE ROBERTS '65 HELPS FORMER FOOTBALL PLAYERS
A former Columbia star quarterback who had a long career as a heart surgeon, Dr. Archie Roberts '65 now screens NFL retirees for heart disease.
By Joshua Robinson '08

24 SATIRE AND SUBVERSION ON THE SILVER SCREEN
A film director who gravitates toward the dark and quirky, Michael Lehmann '78 has combined commercial success with doing films he wants to do.
By Jennifer Preissel '05

28 COLUMBIA FORUM
Author Paul Auster '69 explains why he writes, and poet Jeffrey Harrison '80 offers a tribute to the late Kenneth Koch.

ALUMNI NEWS

31 OBITUARIES

34 BOOKSHELF

36 CLASS NOTES
ALUMNI UPDATES
37 Alan Tompkins '29
49 Ken DeWoskin '65
56 James Sanders '76
68 Bryonn Bain '95
70 Topher McGibbon '96
74 Peter Kang '05

88 ALUMNI CORNER
Columbia's expansion to Manhattanville is "simply a smart, and necessary, business decision," says the Alumni Association president.
By Brian C. Krisberg '81

DEPARTMENTS

2 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

3 WITHIN THE FAMILY

4 AROUND THE QUADS
4 Hamilton Hall Turns 100
6 CC Fund Leaders Gather
7 Creative Writing Major
8 Oliver Sacks Joins Columbia
10 Student Spotlight: Ajay Kumar Mangal '10
11 5 Minutes with ... Sharon Marcus
12 Alumni News, Transitions
14 Roar, Lion, Roar
15 In Memoriam
Letters to the Editor

Memories

Thanks for the Hamilton Hall centennial edition [September/October]. Such good memories:
I was 17 and eager to learn when I met Dean [Herbert] Hawkes, and I got to know him! ... The Hamilton Quad surrounded by Hartley, Livingston and Jay, and tennis courts on the west flank — yes, tennis courts. ... December 1941 and World War II — our freshman dreams on hold. ... The U.S. Navy V-12 Program; billeted at Livingston Hall, sixth floor. ... On Sunday nights, we young sailors were entertained by a couple on the fourth floor across Amsterdam Avenue: they played violin and piano in the buff, stark naked to our adolescent joy. And on weekends, they played tennis at the Hamilton tennis courts with a large audience (they weren’t any good, but we satisfied our voyeurism). Oh, yes — they dressed for tennis.

Stan Kogut '46
Marina del Rey, Calif.

The article, “Hamilton 100” by Shira Boss-Bicak ’93, ’97J, ’98 SIPA stimulated my memories of the building where I spent so much time from 1936-40. However, my fondest recollections are of some art treasures in Hamilton that Ms. Boss-Bicak did not mention.

I refer to those wonderful etchings of ancient Rome by Giovanni Piranesi (1720-78) that hug on the walls of Hamilton’s stairwells. Every time I went from floor to floor in Hamilton, the creations of the great etcher, engraver and architect aroused my imagination and made me wish I owned at least a couple of them.

I spoke of my admiration for Piranesi to Richard Birnberg ’41. So on a trip to Italy in the 1940s, Dick bought two Piranesi in excellent condition and to my delight gave them to me on his return. They are “Veduta interna dell’atrio del Portico di Ottavia” and “Spaccato Interno della Basilica di S. Paolo fuori delle mura.”

I had them framed and hung them in the Manhattan apartment that my late wife and I then had. After we moved to my present house in Palisades, Rockland County, more than 50 years ago, they adorned the walls of our living room. There, my son and daughter saw them every day from their childhood.

Now 88, I recently decided that each child should have one of the etchings to admire in his/her own home while I am still around. So after getting them appraised, I passed Birnberg’s gifts on to them.

There may well be other College alumni with similar recollections of those masterpieces in Hamilton’s stairwells.

Alton P. Man ’40
Palisades, N.Y.

How Doctors Think

Dr. Jerome Groopman ’72, ’76 P&S’ excellent essay, “Flesh-and-Blood Decision-Making” (July/August), highlights a perennial irony: Life is understood backward, but must be lived forward.

Since life is understood backward, classroom lectures overflow with the benefits of hindsight. Thus we peruse case studies that presuppose omniscience, armed with theories presuming omnipotence. But life is lived forward, with all the imperfections that implies. To face a crisis in real time involves limited powers and a shadowy grasp of the facts.

Given such constraints, what else can we do but deploy “heuristics,” which can flexibly adapt as further facts come to light?

While Groopman’s essay focuses on the medical classroom’s inability to impart real-time medical judgment, I wonder whether this might apply more generally — for starters, to ethics, government and business. Even the riverboat pilot, as Mark Twain observed, needs more than mere memory: “There are —two higher qualities which [the pilot] must also have. [The pilot] must have good and quick judgment and decision, and a cool, calm courage that no peril can shake (Life on the Mississippi, 1883).”

By illustrating the difference between classroom instruction and real-time decision-making, Groopman offers not

(Continued on page 77)
Ahmadinejad’s Visit as Educational Forum

Believe it or not, one aspect of the visit to Columbia by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad on September 24 was under-reported by the mass media.

I’m talking about the student piece. On a campus where protests are a way of life and any gathering of 10 students is likely to yield a dozen varying opinions, each strongly expressed and vehemently argued, Ahmadinejad’s visit became, in significant part, an educational forum for students. There were protests, to be sure, with parts of Broadway near Lerner Hall cordoned off for the dissenters, Columbians and non-Columbians. But no buildings were seized, no stages stormed and no speakers shouted down.

Since only a limited number of students could be accommodated in Roone Arledge Auditorium, a large screen was set up on South Field so hundreds, even thousands, could watch and hear the controversial leader. A podium provided a focal point for students, before and after the speech, to express their varying opinions and listen to those of their peers. And they did so, in the vast majority of cases, respectfully and with remarkably little squabbling considering the audience was so vast, its makeup so diverse and the subject matter so incendiary.

“We were so proud of our students and the way they handled themselves. They were just terrific,” says Dean of Student Affairs Chris Colombo. “Obviously, this was a controversial speaker who raised concerns among many of our students, and we found ways for them to express their points of view in a respectful manner yet allowed them to make their voices heard.”

You can argue whether Ahmadinejad should have been invited to speak on campus in the first place till the cows come home. You can argue whether this was “free speech at its very best,” as President Lee C. Bollinger characterized it, or whether Columbia had, in the words of Jordan Chandler Hirsch ’10, “presented Ahmadinejad a valuable political gift that he has already used to further repress his people.” You also can argue whether Bollinger’s biting opening remarks were productive in making clear his point of view, or counter-productive by making him look like a rude host. But you can’t argue that this was a remarkable, maybe once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students to see and hear one of the most controversial world leaders of our time and to participate in molding the surrounding debate.

When word of the visit first circulated, says Kevin Shollenberger, associate dean, Student Affairs, “It quickly became clear that a large number of students really wanted to be able to get their voices out about what they felt, either about the University inviting him or about his public policies. A number of student leaders got together to form a coalition, whose main purpose was to provide a forum that day on College Walk where students could express their opinions.” Shollenberger notes that from the time the coalition was formed, “Students were really conscious of calling it a rally and not a protest, of providing a forum where all opinions could be addressed.”

Administrators from Student Affairs worked with other units, including Public Safety, to go about reserving space on South Field and elsewhere, and assuring adequate staffing. “We assisted the students with the logistics, but it was the students who reached out to all the various clubs and organizations for their participation. The students took the lead in getting so many groups involved,” says Shollenberger.

Granted, students had little time to prepare for the visit, learning on Tuesday night and Wednesday about the Monday appearance, and this was at times frustrating. That only made the huge turnout on South Field all the more remarkable. And while students did not have an opportunity to question Ahmadinejad directly (the questions were posed by SIPA’s acting dean, John Coatsworth), they had opportunities to discuss and debate his words in follow-up forums and less formal encounters. “We’ve had a whole month of education programs and dialogues in response to this event,” notes Shollenberger.

“If there was one positive thing that came out of this event, it’s the student dialogue that has taken place,” echoes Student Council President Michelle Diamond ’08. “I’ve seen people in meetings from different groups whom I’ve never seen in the same room before, and that’s great.”

Amanda Erickson ’08, managing editor of Spectator, says, “What I found most impressive was the incredible interest in the speech — students really wanted to be involved in his coming to campus, whether through protest, watching the speech on a big screen or attending the talk in person. Unlike the outside media, students for the most part didn’t reject the Iranian leader’s presence outright. Rather, they approached the talk with open minds.

“It was also very exciting to be around campus in the hours and days after the speech. It was all anyone talked about.”

“It was truly a unique experience,” says Colombo. “In my 15 years here, I have never seen the number of students engaged in such a large program like this and helping to shape it. The conversations that took place afterward, the engagement, the arguments, all added to the educational experience.”

Alek Sahlane
One of the most famous Columbians, Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778), returned to campus on September 8 to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of Hamilton Hall and the completion of the renovation of the College’s flagship building.

Hamilton, portrayed by actor Michael Hedges, joined President Lee C. Bollinger, Dean Austin Quigley, Hamilton biographer Ronald Chernow and other dignitaries — as well as students, faculty, administrators and alumni — for a brief ceremony in front of the building that is the physical heart of Columbia College. Hamilton earlier was a surprise guest at the conclusion of a luncheon in Low Rotunda to announce the launch of The Campaign for Undergraduate Education, and he urged guests to follow him to “my favorite building on campus” for desserts and libations.

As “Hamilton” listened, Chernow gave those assembled a brief review of his rise from humble beginnings to become one of this country’s founding fathers and its first Secretary of the Treasury. Chernow noted that Columbia owed a debt to Princeton, since Hamilton originally had applied to what was then known as the College of New Jersey — but had been rejected. He then applied to King’s College in New York City. After the Revolutionary War, Hamilton was one of the men who restored King’s College, which had been suspended since 1776, as Columbia.

The cornerstone for Hamilton Hall was laid on September 27, 1905, and construction was completed two years later, the McKim, Mead & White building being the first on the Morningside Heights campus dedicated to the undergraduate college. It still houses the Office of the Dean and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions as well as four departmental offices — Germanic Languages, Slavic Languages, Classics and Italian Languages — plus the Center for Race and Ethnicity, faculty offices and 37 classrooms ranging from intimate seminar rooms to large lecture halls. An expansive Center for the Core Curriculum was opened in 2004, when the building was rededicated. The lobby also was refurbished and features the restoration of two grand, vintage Tiffany stained-glass windows that were originally part of the midtown campus.

The original Hamilton Hall opened in 1880 as part of the campus on Madison Avenue at 49th Street.
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Columbia College Fund leaders and Class Agents gathered with Alumni Office development staff in Low Library and Hamilton Hall on September 8 for the fifth annual Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference. The conference was the official launch of the 2008 fund year, which runs from July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008.

Last year, the fund set records on all fronts: $11.8 million in gifts to the College Fund, 84.5 percent participation in the Senior Fund and $1.2 million in gifts to the Parents Fund. Building on these successes, the 2008 development goals are ambitious: $12.5 million for the College Fund, 85 percent participation in the Senior Fund and $1.4 million for the Parents Fund.

The conference, which had almost 150 attendees, aims to thank and support the volunteer Class Agents, who work in tandem with Alumni Office development staff to raise funds from classmates. Volunteers are an integral part of the fund’s success, and the conference offered workshops that allowed them to learn from their peers how to maximize their development success. Sessions included “Reunion Giving,” “Young Alumni Giving” and “Class-Based Giving,” and were run by alumni, for alumni. Staff were on hand to facilitate the sessions, which were held in Hamilton classrooms after a buffet breakfast in Low. “The Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference is a great way to bring Class Agents together and kick off the fund year,” notes Arik Thormahlen, director of class giving.

After the sessions, participants returned to Low for a presentation on the new Class Agent Web site (www.advance.columbia.edu/volunteer), which offers features such as a Class Agent directory and class donor rolls. Class Agents had asked for such a site, and the Alumni Office responded, working with David Park in University Development and Alumni Relations to design and implement it.

Class Agents also received the Columbia College Fund Solicitation Guide for Volunteers. This annual guide gives new as well as returning Class Agents all the information they need to be successful, such as financial aid and College Fund facts, lists of giving opportunities, answers to frequently asked questions and Alumni Office contacts.

Lisa Palladino

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007
Columbia Introduces Creative Writing Major

While Columbia has produced countless authors — think Jack Kerouac '44, Allen Ginsberg '48 and Paul Auster '69, among others — none could have majored in creative writing while students. That has changed effective this year, thanks in large part to Ben Marcus, chair of the School of the Arts MFA writing program, and Sam Lipsyte, director of undergraduate studies for the new creative writing major.

Thirty-five undergraduates have been admitted to the by-application-only major in its inaugural year, and hundreds more have enrolled in newly designed classes that teach students to approach fiction, poetry and nonfiction as crafts to be learned as opposed to traditional English classes that teach students to approach literature as works to be interpreted. In all, 25 new courses were created for the undergraduate major.

“We always had writing workshops in which a student’s work could be critiqued, but now we have workshops running alongside rigorous seminars in which they have to read a great deal and learn about literary history, but from a practitioner’s perspective,” said Marcus, who authored Notable American Women, The Father Costume and The Age of Wire and String, among other works. “If students are only reading literature in an English class, they might not acquire that real, tactile sense of how to make a sentence.”

The courses include writing workshops in fiction, poetry, nonfiction, playwriting and screenwriting as well as craft seminars such as “Exercises in Style,” “Techniques of the Short Story” and “Voices from the Edge.” The classes are small and are taught by full-time faculty members who have been published and translated all over the world.

This is the sixth new major created for Columbia undergraduates in the past five years, according to the College’s Office of the Dean of Academic Affairs. While College students could take individual creative writing workshops prior to this fall, and General Studies had a creative writing major (albeit half the courses came from outside the major), this new major for both schools is as thorough and ambitious as the MFA degree on which it is modeled.

Lipsyte, the author of Home Land, Venus Drive, and The Subject Steve, said he found it exciting to create a curriculum for undergraduates that mirrored the hands-on approach taken by the MFA program in writing. The graduate students “already understand the approach of ‘reading as a writer’ that we are trying to teach,” he said. “With the undergraduates, you are explaining a new way of reading to them. And I see in their eyes when we begin that it’s something they’ve been looking for. It’s a way they have secretly connected to these texts all along. The major is giving them permission to pursue that line of inquiry.”

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Oliver Sacks Joins Columbia

Oliver Sacks, the best-selling author and renowned neurologist who has been described as “the poet laureate of medicine,” joined Columbia on July 1 and gave his first Grand Rounds lecture, as P&S professor of clinical neurology and clinical psychiatry, on September 7. Sacks has been designated a “Columbia Artist,” a new University position. He will continue to see patients at the neurological and psychiatric institutes and also will be involved in training students.

In this appointment, the 74-year-old Sacks embodies the multidisciplinary scholarship that has been one of President Lee C. Bollinger’s priorities. As Bollinger told The New York Times, the appointment exemplifies the University’s effort to bridge the gap between the study of neuroscience and other disciplines in which scholars work to understand human behavior, including economics, social science, law and the arts.

Sacks will range freely across Columbia’s departments, teaching, giving public lectures, conducting seminars, seeing patients and collaborating with faculty members. He will teach in the creative writing department as well as at P&S.

Sacks, who was born in London and educated at Oxford, comes to Columbia after 42 years at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where he was a clinical professor of neurology. While he describes himself as “a relatively solitary figure,” in recent years, he grew more interested in working with colleagues and eager “to return to some of the teaching I loved and of which I haven’t had much lately.” He will pursue his longtime interest in schizophrenia, and in that vein plans to see patients and consult with Columbia’s experts in the fields.

Sacks is the author of 10 books, most of them best-sellers, including Awakenings and The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat. His latest book is Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain. He is a frequent contributor to The New Yorker.
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Corporate Risk Management
Edited by Donald H. Chew
Leading scholars and finance practitioners share the best strategies for managing corporate risk.

Sustaining India’s Growth Miracle
Edited by Jagdish N. Bhagwati & Charles W. Calomiris
The contributors to this volume analyze the forces behind India’s emerging role as a world economic player and identify the hidden weaknesses that, if unaddressed, may slow the country’s growth.
Contributors: Jagdish Bhagwati (Columbia University); Kamal Nath (commerce and industry minister of India); Arvind Panagariya (Columbia University); T. N. Srinivasan (Yale University); Frank Wolak (Stanford University)

COMING IN MARCH 2008

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Ajay Kumar Mangal '10

Giving Back to His Community

By Nathalie Alonso '08

For Ajay Kumar Mangal 10, senior year of high school was unforgettable, but not for the reasons one might expect. While seniors across the country were choosing prom outfits and posing for yearbook photos, Mangal was helping his hometown of Pascagoula, Miss., get back on its feet after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast a month into the 2005-06 school year.

"The entire town was just flooded. Houses on the beach were flat. I felt like I was in a movie, it was that bad," recalls Mangal, whose family was uninjured in the storm.

But although his house was severely damaged by the hurricane, along with most of his possessions, Mangal refused to dwell on his losses. Instead, he organized some classmates and they helped the National Guard distribute ice, hygienic products and Meals Ready to Eat to the victims.

"It put all my prior leadership ability to the test," says Mangal, who was president of the Pascagoula H.S. Student Council and was active in several other student groups.

Mangal's commitment to rebuilding his hometown continued into the weeks and months following the hurricane. Once schools reopened, he organized a relief group that raised several thousand dollars for the relief effort and also helped neighbors gut their houses. Despite these obstacles, Mangal retained his first-place academic rank and was valedictorian.

Once winter set in, he turned his attention to his neighbors living in FEMA trailers, which had thin walls and were vulnerable to the dropping temperatures. Through a program Mangal called Cover Up the Coast, he enlisted the help of other schools around the country to help collect blankets for those who were affected.

In 2006, Mangal was one of 10 youth volunteers in the country to receive the Prudential Spirit of Community Award from Prudential Financial. "I don't know how I did it," he says. "You don't really think about it when you're in that situation. I had a choice to stay idle or make a change and try to help the people who were trying to make a difference," explained Mangal, who also is in the City of New York to help launch a free summer program in Harlem called "SuperKids Summer Experience" for children with asthma. The program offers educational and recreational activities to teach children how to manage their asthma.

Mangal's path to Columbia is an interesting one. Afraid that his unorthodox senior year of high school would jeopardize his chances of gaining admission to college, Mangal applied to 25 schools, the last of which was the College.

"I didn't want people to think no one would want to get into a good school. I think I was using the hurricane situation. I had a choice to stay idle or make a change and try to help the people who were trying to make a difference," explained Mangal, who also is a Coca-Cola Scholar.

Conversational and outgoing, Mangal has brought his caring ways to Columbia, where he is involved with several student groups, including the Hindi Students Organization and CU Smile, which raises money to pay for surgeries for children born with oral deformities. This year, Mangal also is an R.A. in John Jay, where he is responsible for assisting a floor of first-year students. And this past summer he was one of six counselors who partnered with the American Lung Association to major in either biochemistry or neuroscience and behavior.

"Columbia is well known for its pre-medical undergraduate experience. I'm not going to have a chance at many other universities to be doing cutting-edge research. This is the only chance I am going to have to live in New York City for four years," says Mangal, who conducted research on cystic fibrosis in a biology lab during his freshman year.

Although he has not decided what his specialty would be, Mangal wants to become a surgeon. "That's a skill that I can use to give directly back to the community and dramatically help someone who might be underprivileged. I can alter their life for the better," he notes enthusiastically. "I'm going to have to always give my best and give 110 percent as much as I possibly can in order to help others.

According to Mangal, the best part about Columbia is its ethnic diversity. "It's an amazing institution," he notes. "Columbia provides a sanctuary within New York City where you can openly meet hundreds of different people without invading anyone's privacy."

When he's not fundraising for a worthy cause or studying for an exam, Mangal, whose parents hail from India, enjoys kayaking on the Hudson River and is learning to play Indian music on the harmonium, a free-standing, hand-pumped keyboard. He also is a certified personal trainer and enjoys sharing his knowledge of body-building with friends.

"As long as they're dedicated, I'm more than willing to help them out," Mangal says.

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Sunnyside, Queens, is an American studies major, a freelance writer and an avid New York Yankees fan.
Sharon Marcus, professor of English and comparative literature, specializes in 19th-century British and French novels, urban and architectural studies, and feminist and queer theory. Her latest book, published this year, is Between Women: Friendship, Desire, and Marriage in Victorian England. CCT caught up with her during the summer to find out more.

Where did you grow up?
Forest Hills, Queens.

What did you want to be when you grew up?
I wanted to be a librarian.

I wanted a job where I would be paid to read. That was my goal from a very young age.

Was your family literary?
In a way. My mother was a nurse, my father was an English teacher in the public school system — he also, in his spare time, used to write fiction. I grew up with books everywhere. My father was even more of a bibliomaniac than I am. We didn’t live in very large apartments, and there were some apartments where we had books in the kitchen, books in the dining room, books in the living room, books in the bedroom — books everywhere except the bathroom. I was sort of the librarian of the house; I knew where each book was.

How did you become interested in Victorian literature?
I was always interested in Victorian literature, from a very young age — 9 or 10 — and I think it’s because I picked up books such as David Copperfield and Jane Eyre and they were about children. When I started reading Jane Eyre, it sounded like a child was narrating it, that you were right there and this 9-year-old was talking ... I think it was so striking to see that kind of authority assigned to a child’s voice that I felt very, very connected to Victorian literature and it felt really thrilling.

How did you end up at Columbia?
I got my graduate degree at Johns Hopkins and was very lucky that my first job was at Berkeley. I got tenure and was happy there, but I never loved California — I always felt that I was more of an East Coast person.

After I’d been there about eight years, I met someone in New York, and two years after I met her I was invited to apply for a job at Columbia. It had seemed too good to be true. I can’t say that I ever had a fantasy of a job at Columbia, because I’m not the type to indulge in wishful fantasies — I always think the worst is going to happen. But getting a job here was one of the best things that ever happened.

How has your discipline changed during the last few decades?
When I started grad school, it was really innovative and daring to blend history and literature. Now I think what’s happening is that it’s become really daring to return to formal questions and ask, “What is it about literature that’s uniquely literary?” and to pay a little less attention to how literature intervenes in the larger world and reflects the larger world.

I think that studies of the novel are always going to be caught in the back-and-forth between “[Does] literature stand alone?” or, “Is literature a response to the world?”

What is your favorite course to teach?
“Odd Women and Queer Men in Victorian Literature,” which I always teach as an undergraduate course. Undergraduates think the Victorians were very strait-laced, and they’re always surprised to see how much eccentricity and sheer diversity there is in Victorian fiction.

What are you working on?
I’m doing research for a book about 19th-century celebrity where I’m going to focus on Oscar Wilde and Sarah Bernhardt.

What have you been reading for fun?
Here are things I recently finished: Annie Dillard’s An American Childhood; an excellent book by Javier Marías, Voyage Along the Horizon: A Novel; and Maxine Hong Kingston’s The Fifth Book of Peace.

Where do you live?
The East Village.

What is your favorite vacation spot?
My bathtub!

What is your favorite food?
Chocolate. Or coffee ice cream.

If you weren’t teaching, what would you be doing?
I would probably be a research scientist — I did almost go to medical school. But that’s a whole other story.

Interview:
Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard

PHOTO: ELLIS AVERY

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Alumni News

John Jay Awards: Each spring the College honors several of its most accomplished alumni with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. The 2008 recipients, who will be feted at a black-tie dinner on Wednesday, March 5, 2008, at Cipriani 42nd Street, will be Barry Bergdoll ’77, professor of art history and archeology at Columbia and Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture & Design at MoMA; Robert Friedman ’64, senior partner and chief legal counsel at Blackstone; Jonathan Lavine ’88, managing director at Bain Capital; Ronald Mason ’74, president, Jackson State University; and Alexandra Wallace ’88, executive producer of NBC Nightly News. For more information, contact Ken Catandella, executive director of alumni affairs: 212-870-2230 or kmcl03@columbia.edu.

Nominated: Michael B. Mukasey ’63, a lawyer and retired federal judge from New York who spent 18 years on the bench, has been nominated by President Bush to be the next U.S. Attorney General. Senate confirmation hearings were scheduled to begin on October 17.

In private practice from 1967-72 before becoming a judge, Mukasey has represented some of New York’s most famous people, such as lawyer Roy M. Cohn and socialite Claus von Bülow, and its powerful institutions, including The Daily News and The Wall Street Journal.

Born in the Bronx on July 28, 1941, Mukasey graduated in 1959 from the Ramaz School and earned a law degree at Yale in 1967. He was in private practice when he joined the United States Attorney’s Office in Manhattan as a prosecutor. Mukasey returned to private practice in 1976 at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler and in 1987 was nominated to the bench in the Federal District Court in Manhattan by President Ronald Reagan. He was in private practice in Manhattan when he was nominated by President Bush.

Transitions

Alumni Office: Ken Catandella, executive director of College Alumni Affairs, is taking on an additional role as executive director of University Development and Alumni Relations Events.

Catandella will continue to provide support for College events and celebrations while overseeing UDAR Events, a new University unit that will plan and execute development-driven events, in-house professional enrichment programs and seasonal celebrations, primarily partnering with development officers in UDAR and College fundraising events.

Joining Catandella in this new unit is Ilene Markay-Hallack, director of events for University Alumni Relations, who also will serve as director of UDAR Events. She previously was director of alumni affairs for the College.

Stella Miele-Zanedis, who has been with the College alumni office since March 2006, has been promoted to an assistant director, where she will work on various functions. She previously was an administrative assistant for that department.

Paul Pavlica joined the alumni affairs department on October 1 as assistant director for student-alumni programs. Pavlica most recently was assistant director for community leadership and development and graduate housing at Northwestern.

R.A. Reunion

Were you an R.A.? A reunion is being planned for alumni who were residence hall directors, residential advisers or community programmers. If you fit into one of those categories, please e-mail Paul Pavlica, assistant director of student-alumni programs, at pjpp213@columbia.edu with your name, graduation year, the year(s) you served, in what residence hall and in what position, as well as your preferred contact information. Invitations with details about the reunion, which will be held on January 17, will be sent in December.

Alumni Reunion Weekend

Columbia College

New York City and The Columbia Campus: An unforgettable backdrop for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2008

Highlights Include:
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Watch your mail in March for a complete schedule and registration materials.

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THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT

Every Gift Counts.
ATHLETICS CAMPAIGN: Columbia launched a $100 million fundraising initiative, The Columbia Campaign for Athletics: Achieving Excellence, on October 12 and announced two leadership pledges, $10 million from University Trustees Chair Bill Campbell '62 and $5 million from Trustee Emeritus Robert K. Kraft '63, chairman and CEO of The Kraft Group and owner of the New England Patriots of the National Football League.

In recognition of Kraft's gift, the playing field at Columbia's Lawrence A. Wien Stadium at the Baker Field Athletics Complex has been renamed Robert K. Kraft Field.

The athletics campaign is part of The Columbia Campaign, a $4 billion University-wide effort launched in fall 2006 that also includes the $865 million Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education, announced in September. More than $2.4 billion already has been raised for the overall campaign.

"The effort made by Columbia student-athletes enriches their own educational experiences even as it brings us closer as a University community," said President Lee C. Bollinger at the launch of the athletics campaign. "This campaign aims to make participation in athletics as meaningful and successful as possible."

Campbell and Kraft played varsity football at Columbia, and Campbell was captain of the team in 1961 when it tied for the Ivy League championship — Columbia's only Ivy crown. He also was the team's head coach from 1974-79.

"Columbia University is committed to excellence in all of its programs and departments, including athletics," said Campbell. "My gift, like the campaign as a whole, is intended to help the athletics program provide the best possible experience for Columbians today and tomorrow."

"I am proud to support Columbia University and Columbia Athletics in particular," said Kraft, who also is a principal benefactor of the Kraft Family Center for Jewish Student Life (Columbia/Barnard Hillel) and creator of the Kraft Family Fund for Interfaith and Intercultural Awareness. "Lessons learned through athletic competition and teamwork can be invaluable lifelong educational experiences for students."

M. Dianne Murphy, director of intercollegiate athletics and physical education, listed the goals of the athletics campaign as endowing coaching and administrative positions; investing in facilities, including a new sports center to be built at the Baker Field Athletics Complex; and creating endowments and annual giving fund programs to support ongoing operations and fund innovative programs that enhance the student-athlete experience.

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IN MEMORIAM

■ John H. Middendorf, emeritus professor of English, passed away on August 14. He was 85. Middendorf earned a Ph.D. in English and comparative literature in 1953 from GSAS and taught at Columbia for 45 years, devoting himself to his edition of Samuel Johnson’s *Lives of the Poets*, forthcoming in the Yale Edition of the *Works of Samuel Johnson*, of which he was general editor. He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Maureen MacGrogan; daughters from his first marriage to Beverly Bruner, who died in 1983, Cathie Hamilton, and Peggy and her husband, Larry Brindisi; and two granddaughters. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund, 161 Fort Washington Ave., New York, NY 10032-3784, c/o Dr. Chabot (checks payable to Columbia University).

■ Edward G. Seidensticker, emeritus professor of Japanese literature, died on August 26 in Tokyo. An eminent translator who brought the works of ancient and modern Japanese writers to a wide English-speaking public, he was 86 and lived in Tokyo. Seidensticker was most widely known for his translation of *The Tale of Genji*, the 11th-century epic of love and intrigue by Murasaki Shikibu, a Japanese lady-in-waiting at the imperial court. Seidensticker’s translation, published by Alfred A. Knopf in 1976, was praised by critics and attracted a popular following. Seidensticker, who taught at Stanford and Michigan as well as Columbia (1978–85), also was closely associated with the work of three 20th-century novelists: Yukio Mishima, Junichiro Tanizaki and Yasunari Kawabata. Seidensticker’s translations of Kawabata’s work are generally credited with helping Kawabata secure the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1968, the first Japanese writer to receive the award. Seidensticker won a National Book Award in 1971 for his translation of Kawabata’s novel *The Sound of the Mountain*.

2008 Senior Fund Launched

Dana Pavarini ’08 will serve as chair of the Class of 2008 Senior Fund committee, which was selected on October 2. She will be joined by vice-chairs Jeremy Colvin ’08, Michelle Diamond ’08, Linette Lopez ’08, Neil Mehta ’08, Calvin Sun ’08 and Matthew Pheir ’08, and committee members Paul Abelkop ’08, Lindsay Brandt ’08, Dansha Cai ’08, Augusta Foshay-Rothfield ’08, Daniel Free ’08, Brian Grossman ’08, Nicholas Hammerschlag ’08, Caitlin Hodge ’08, John Holten ’08, Rahul Jain ’08, Thomas Langer ’08, John Mascari ’08, Christine Ortiz ’08, Elia Angelica Roldan ’08, Kashif Sweet ’08, Felipe Tarud ’08, Christopher Tortoriello ’08 and Allison Vespa ’08.

The Class of 2008 Senior Fund committee aims to break the record of 84.5 percent participation set by the Class of 2007. Committee members will educate their classmates on the importance of supporting the Columbia College Fund and solicit donations throughout the fall and spring semesters, culminating with a presentation of the class gift at Class Day on May 19, 2008.

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Alex Wallace ’88

HUSTLES TO KEEP

NBC Nightly News

ON TOP

When Alexandra Wallace Creed ’88 graduated from the College, she expected to take a year off and then go to law school. To fill that year off, she applied for internships at the three major broadcast news networks. Two of them said yes, so she took a day shift at one and a night shift at the other.

To be sure, it wasn’t long before Wallace had to choose between the two networks. In the eyes of Brian Williams, the man who anchors NBC Nightly News — for which Wallace is now executive producer — it’s the story that best represents just who Alex Wallace is. “Alex just said, ‘You know what? I’ll do both,’” Williams marvels. “That’s how you know she’s a hustler. And in my lexicon, that’s absolutely a positive quality.”
Alex Wallace '88, executive producer of NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, at the studio earlier this year.

PHOTO: CHANG W. LEE, THE NEW YORK TIMES/Redux
"If you have a half-hour to catch up on what happened, I want it to be with us."

In Williams’ and Wallace’s business, it’s not just a positive quality — it’s a necessary one. In March, Wallace took the reins of one of America’s three major national news broadcasts. The New York Times called her charge “the equivalent of a battlefield commission:” maintain what was at that point Nightly News’ tenuous hold on the top slot in the evening news ratings, and thwart a run for the top by NBC Nightly News’ principal rival, ABC’s World News with Charles Gibson.

Since taking the job, Wallace has spent each day competing with her aggressive and well-equipped rivals to identify and orchestrate the coverage of the top nine or 10 news items that will keep Americans watching during the most watched half-hour of broadcast television news in America. So far she’s kept Nightly News at the top of the rankings: After a year of neck-and-neck competition with ABC’s show, NBC came in with the greatest number of total viewers during the September 2006—September 2007 season. But Gibson’s newscast was the No. 1 evening newscast among adults ages 25–54 — in industry terms, the “seasonal demo” winner — so Wallace has her work cut out for her in the coming year.

Her days, Wallace says, are “pretty crazy.” She goes to bed reading the newspapers and wire stories and then wakes up to Today and another review of the newspapers and wires. She checks her BlackBerry and performs the necessary e-mail maintenance, feeds breakfast to her 5-year-old daughter and 3-year-old son, makes sure they’ve brushed their teeth and lands in NBC’s Rockefeller Center offices with plenty of time before the station’s 9:30 a.m. meeting. That’s when the NBC news bureaus from around the world present what’s going on in their regions, and then she begins to “lay out the day” — to decide how the station will use its resources during the eight hours between that meeting and the 6:30 p.m. broadcast.

What it is that will occupy the day is determined in part by the contents of a now-famous and ever-changing list of lists, written with thin felt-tipped marker on tiny white pieces of paper. Williams calls them “Alex’s Sanskrit cuneiform notes,” and Wallace refers to the complete set as her “crazy person list.” She seeks to explain the list by pointing out individual sections: “my little list of who I love and would love to get on Nightly,” “things I want to do with my kids this weekend” (“I’m really protective of my time with my kids,” she says. “I reference or refer to or rely on what I learned and read at Columbia a lot,” she says. “I draw on that basic knowledge, on history and on the understanding of narrative that you get from reading the Core.”)

When she graduated, Wallace took the LSAT. After taking the NBC night shift internship and the CBS day shift internship simultaneously, she stuck with the unpaid day shift at CBS. She never left the business.

After 17 years at CBS News — where her precipitous climb from intern status included a stint on the foreign desk in London, some time as a field producer for CBS Evening News with Dan Rather, a period as the senior medical producer in New York for CBS This Morning (and earlier incarnation of The Early Show) and a period as a senior producer of The Early Show — she came to NBC in March 2005 to oversee the weekend broadcast of Today. Just a year later, she was promoted to v.p. of the news division and deputy to the president of the NBC News company.

In the traditional salary hierarchy of broadcast news, the v.p. position is more prestigious than the executive producer job to which Wallace moved in March. But when the offer came, she says, she couldn’t say no. She knew Williams was a “great guy,” she says: Once, when she had first come to the

Wallace meets with senior producers, reads scripts, runs staff meetings and rushes through business lunches that often begin just as soon as she can run downstairs, grab a salad and run upstairs. She handles management and personnel issues, focusing on giving positive feedback to her 55 employees and “making sure people are excited to come to work.” She brings the newsroom together for a rundown at 2:30 each afternoon. Then comes 6:30, when the Nightly News goes on air — and Wallace and her colleagues can begin thinking about the next day’s broadcast.

“I literally feel,” Wallace says, “like I walk in the door and five minutes later the day is done.”

Four years at Columbia and nearly two full decades in the news business were, Wallace says, the best possible preparation for this demanding job.

As a College student, Wallace majored in English and played on the tennis team. She also formed an immediate friendship with Teresa Saputo Crerend ’87, ’92 Business and Leslie Gittess ’88, who remain her best friends and frequent traveling companions. (Later, all three were married within a single year). She was not a student journalist, but she says the Core Curriculum left her “incredibly well-prepared” for a news world in which she had had no specific experience before she got her first job. “Even now, I reference or refer to or rely on what I learned and read at Columbia a lot,” she says. "I draw on that basic knowledge, on history and on the understanding of narrative..."
"We have similar personalities. We’re both news nuts," Wallace says of Williams.

network, he had called her out of the blue to tell her he thought she had asked a great question in a meeting, which she “thought was a really menschy thing to do.” And he had a well-earned reputation for being more than just “on-screen talent,” as they call it in the news business. Williams is a hands-on, pavement-pounding journalist. Wallace knew she would have a partner in shaping the content of the broadcast.

She took the job.

Williams was thrilled when he learned Wallace had accepted. “I hadn’t thought she’d do it, because she was already ranked above this job,” he says now. “I was enormously flattered that she would want to work with me and to work to make this broadcast better.”

It has been a gratifying partnership. “We have similar personalities. We’re both news nuts,” Wallace says. “I don’t think he has lists like I do, but I do know that 24 hours a day we’re both thinking about the broadcast. We have e-mail exchanges at midnight about what we want to do next."

Williams agrees. “We have a close and easy relationship,” he says. “We banter back and forth all day — we make fun of each other, more like siblings than like coworkers.”

Balancing all these priorities takes fuel, and many of the people in Wallace’s life — from her personal assistant to her best friends from college — cite her boundless energy as one of her strengths.

Gittess says that Wallace is “so incredibly high-energy, upbeat, enthusiastic.” Gittess recalls memories from their roommate days when they spent hours jumping and dancing on their beds to the music of the band Erasure.

Williams describes the same characteristic as “Alex’s unbridled intellectual curiosity and energy.” One day this summer, he recalls, he told Wallace, “I think this was a good day: You finished two sentences.” She laughed, he says, because “she has more thoughts than time to express them in the average day. She is fairly bursting with information and ideas from sun up to sun down.”

A s of press time, Wallace’s job was only becoming more challenging. ABC’s World News with Charles Gibson had edged ahead to take the top spot in the weekly news ratings, holding the No. 1 viewership rating on and off since early summer. On the weeks that ABC won out, NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams still hovered near the top, holding a close second.

They joke, he says, about “the many options open to us” as ways to advance in the ratings: switching over to cover-

ing exclusively Paris Hilton or Lindsay Lohan, running a ticker tape at the bottom of the screen counting down to “when either one or both of them gets out of her respective institution.”

But in the world of serious global news coverage, all networks must chase the same stories, and journalists such as Wallace and Williams focus on covering them rigorously and well. “We’ve got to watch the journalism,” as Williams puts it, “and just truly hope we will come out on top. We truly believe that the best journalism will do best on television.”

In the meantime, they say, Wallace will not be implementing any major changes to try to get back on top. Both Williams and Wallace describe the television watchers of America as a huge audience of habit, slow to evolve — an audience that doesn’t like big changes and must be acclimated slowly to the progress of any broadcast.

What changes will come to NBC Nightly News will be mostly changes to the content of the coverage. She would like to introduce more coverage of environmental issues, which, she explained, enter into Americans’ decision making every day: “Do we buy our groceries at Whole Foods because we feel that they were grown by farmers who took a little better care of our environment?” She also hopes to introduce more foreign coverage into the broadcast as well as expanded coverage of education — a topic she finds compelling not only because she is the mother of school-aged children but because her husband, Kenny Creed, is a former classroom teacher and the head of the lower school at the private Brearley school in Manhattan.

“The hardest thing about this job is that there’s so much news that it’s hard to winnow it down to what you need and want to do at 6:30,” Wallace says. “That is a struggle every day, all day. There are 15 things I want to put in the broadcast every night, and we end up with nine or 10, and I’m always bursting with wanting to do an addendum: ‘Here’s the other part of Nightly, the part that you didn’t get to see!’ “

It is the content of the broadcast, not the form, that she believes is the priority for American television viewers.

“Most of all, I just want us to be interesting,” she says. “I want us to fit as much fascinating stuff as possible into a half-hour. If you have a half-hour to catch up on what happened in the world every day, I want that to be with us.”

Maggie Gram ’05 is a first-year student in Harvard’s Ph.D. program in English and American literature and language.
The score was 3–3, time was running out and the Harvard football fans were turning hostile. The Crimson had just tied Columbia with a field goal, and Lions quarterback Archie Roberts ’65 was trying to silence them as he marched the Light Blue toward the end zone.

As the clock ticked down on that October 1963 afternoon, Roberts set up Columbia’s chance to win. It was only first or second down and the Lions already were in position for a long field goal. The horseshoe stadium in Massachusetts — among those in attendance was President John F. Kennedy, who had
(Clockwise, from top left) In baseball, Roberts had a career batting average of .371 and led the nation with 30 runs batted in during his senior year, while in football, he set 17 Columbia and 14 Ivy League records and was the first Lion to complete 300 passes; Roberts receives his degree from Associate Dean John W. Alexander '39; Roberts (20) with members of the 1964 Columbia football team; Roberts with assistant coach Jack Armstrong '55.

PHOTOS: COURTESY COLUMBIA ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT
I was so busy taking care of my patients and teaching professional game to retirement, usually in their mid- to late-30s, these health risks too often are neglected. The widely reported figure for average life expectancy of an ex-NFL player is 55 — life expectancy at birth for the average American male is 74.4 years, according to a 2004 report by the Centers for Disease Control.

“I was aware of the collisions and concussion problems, the things that the average observer of professional football would know about,” says Roberts. “I also knew from having been a player that while the team doctors and the teams delivered a high level of healthcare for the active players, once the players transitioned into retirement, there was quite a change. When you retired, you were on your own.”

During the past year, a number of alarming studies regarding the long-term effects of concussions on football players have emerged, and retired professional players have made public demands for better care from the league. Roberts asserts the league is taking positive steps toward improving care for retired athletes. Last July, the NFL and NFL Players’ Association announced the formation of the NFL Cardiovascular Health Program, to which Roberts is a consultant.

“Doctors have been thinking more about short and long-term consequences of professional football. The owners, the players’ union and the players have spoken out about better methods for the players’ union to help them handle the disabilities that occur after football.”

This is Roberts’ way of giving back to the game that made his dream of becoming a doctor a reality. At the College, Roberts lettered in three sports — though he confesses he was nothing special on the basketball court — and had the option to play baseball or football professionally when he graduated. Ultimately, however, sports wasn’t his long-term plan. “I loved baseball and I loved football, but I wanted to become a doctor, and that was the most important thing for me.”

The St. Louis Cardinals selected Roberts, a shortstop who batted .386 his senior year, in baseball’s first college draft in 1965, while he was drafted in the seventh round by the New York Jets as a quarterback, and subsequently signed by the Cleveland Browns.

His numbers made him an obvious candidate for both pro sports. In football, he played offense and defense, threw for 3,704 career yards, set 17 Columbia and 14 Ivy League records and was the first quarterback in Columbia history to complete 300 passes. Donelli once said, “Archie Roberts is as fine a quarterback as I have ever coached, and I believe he is in the same class as the finest forward passers I have ever seen, men like Sid Luckman [’39], Y.A. Tittle and Harry Agganis.”

To cap it all off, Roberts also led the Lions in punting.

On the baseball diamond, he set another Columbia record by batting .371 for his career — that now ranks fourth all-time —
and as a senior, Roberts led the nation with 30 RBIs in 21 games.

But it was the Browns who made him an offer he couldn’t refuse: If Roberts signed with the pro football team, the Browns would put him through medical school.

“The Columbia family was instrumental in helping to arrange the opportunity with Case Western Reserve Medical School and the Cleveland Browns,” he acknowledges. “I remember in particular, Gene Rossides ’49, a former great running back for Columbia, was helpful in contacting Art Modell, who was then the owner of the Browns, and Doug Bond, the dean of the medical school. Being in Cleveland, they knew one another and the Browns had provided funding and grants for the medical school.”

As far as Roberts knows, he is the only person to play professional football and go to medical school during the season, balancing his studies and football with remarkable discipline. “Given that both sides, the team and the medical school, were willing to be flexible and creative and permit an unusual thing to happen, I was given this opportunity,” he recalls. “It made it possible in that era. In today’s world, there’s too much demand from medical school and football; it wouldn’t be possible.”

As he approached the third of his four years at Case Western Reserve, Roberts still had not seen a minute of competitive action for the Browns. The starting spot belonged to Frank Ryan, a quarterback whose claim to fame was having a Ph.D. in mathematics. Ryan and Roberts’ best shot at NFL history then might be as the answer to a rather obscure trivia question: “Who was the best educated starter-backup quarterback tandem in football?”

By 1967, Roberts thought the opportunity to be a bona fide NFL quarterback might be passing him by. So when the newly-formed Miami Dolphins offered him a chance to start that season, he jumped at it.

“But guess who was drafted as another quarterback?” Roberts asks. “Bob Griese.” A future Hall-of-Famer, Griese went on to play in seven Pro Bowls, win two Super Bowls and lead the Dolphins through their perfect 17-0 season under legendary coach Don Shula.

Roberts only played one game and left Miami after a single season to return to Cleveland and finish his medical degree. But he has never felt a twinge of regret. “The goal of medicine and doing research that I neglected my own health.”

That came to an abrupt end in 1997. While lecturing a group of cardiologists in New Jersey, Roberts suffered a stroke. “I’d never been sick a day in my life,” he explains. “I’d never been in the hospital as a patient and didn’t have any obvious health issues. I was so busy taking care of my patients and teaching and doing research that I neglected my own health.”

In the immediate aftermath, Roberts displayed many of the characteristic ailments of stroke survivors — trouble with speech and impaired motor skills on one side of the body. He could barely move the right arm that carried him through Columbia to the NFL and finally to medicine. It hit him hard.

“It took me the better part of a year to come to grips with the fact that I was not immortal and that health issues are unpredictable. I decided to retire from heart surgery, because it’s a stressful job with many long hours — probably not what I needed to be healthy,” Roberts notes.

As he started on the long path to full recovery, he founded Living Heart, based at Rutgers University. The first screenings were at high schools around Holyoke, Mass., where he grew up, and the Columbia football team.

Living Heart rose to prominence, however, during the massive rescue efforts following 9-11. A group of 25 people from the nonprofit foundation set up on the Lower East Side and screened more than 2,000 rescue workers who were worried about the effects of their exposure to the debris, smoke and stress.

“When word got around the city that someone in the health field was reaching out,” Roberts remembers, “volunteers poured in from the hospitals. We had more than 400 at the end of the two-week period … 14 consecutive days, all day, all night. There’d be rescue workers lined up around the block in the morning wanting to get in.”

Screening retired NFL players is a change of pace, but the impact on people’s lives is no different. Roberts continues to travel throughout the year conducting free screenings sponsored by the NFL players’ union, as well as a few college football teams. With an estimated 18,000 retired players scattered across the country, many of whom don’t respond to the union’s invitations for a screening, he knows that cardiovascular disease will continue to be a silent killer.

“There’s room for much more to be done,” he says. “It’s all a process, and the league is finding a healthy way of approaching things.”

Roberts didn’t make it past the fringes of the professional game, but to many retired players, he may be the best teammate they never had.

Early in the film *Heathers*, directed by Michael Lehmann '78, Veronica offers the leader of her high school clique a hangover remedy, unaware the concoction is laced with lethal household cleaner. Popularity queen Heather begrudgingly accepts the mixture and, soon after drinking the glass whole, tumbles backward (in slow motion), shattering a glass table into shards on the candy-colored carpet. Veronica arrives at a horrified revelation: “I just killed my best friend!” Her partner-in-crime JD reminds her, “And your worst enemy.” Veronica’s jaded response? “Same difference.”

Employing the signature exaggerations of melodrama and invoking the spitfire wit of the screwball comedy, Lehmann wrings laughs from murders and suicides in this quintessential black comedy of the 1980s. What might seem tragic in another context comes off as rip-roaringly funny in this film, a subversive upending of the high school movie depicting teens’ quest for popularity, a genre popularized by director John Hughes and his stable of Brat Packers. As Lehmann’s College roommate and fellow filmmaker Ric Burns ’78 states, “[Michael] is a great cartoonist, and I think there’s a way in which he exposes the cartoon comedy of real-life behavior. His tendency is to draw it out in exaggerated, broad strokes.”

But what is a cult ironist like Lehmann to do these days? At a time when the majority of studio comedies star caricaturists such as Will Ferrell, Ben Stiller and Jack Black, it seems Hollywood has little room for quirky comedies that do more than deliver punchlines. Though Lehmann has always been comfortable as a studio hire — he recently helmed *Because I Said So*, starring Diane Keaton and Mandy Moore — his sensibilities skew more eccentric and satirical than most multiplex fare. Rather than throw in the towel, Lehmann has shifted to smaller passion projects such as the upcoming IndigEnt feature *Flakes*; in order to support such independent projects, he multitasks with stints on television series (he won an Emmy for directing *The Larry Sanders Show*) and commercial jobs.

Born and raised in San Francisco, Lehmann describes himself as “a California kid.” He spent his youth frequenting the city’s famous Fillmore concert hall, playing guitar in rock bands. Although he’s directed stars such as Bruce Willis, Uma Thurman and Diane Keaton in major studio productions, Michael Lehmann ’78 continues to make indie features such as *Flakes*, which showcase his offbeat comedic style.

PHOTO: MARK DOERING-POWELL
bands and drawing comics inspired by underground cartoonists such as R. Crumb. Though registered to attend UC Berkeley, he says, “I had that epiphany that the comfortable place I’d grown up wasn’t where I wanted to be. I left Berkeley as soon as I could.”

Enrolling in the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan, Lehmann studied expressionist painting and conceptual art but soon grew disenchanted with art school. Influenced by the writings of the English group Art & Language and New York conceptual artist Joseph Kosuth, Lehmann decided he would rather study philosophy than painting. “These people were not painting anymore — they were writing about art and questioning what it was. I figured if the artists weren’t practicing the traditional craft anymore, wouldn’t I be better off studying philosophy at a university and coming to grips with the things those artists were talking about?”

When a friend suggested he consider Columbia, Lehmann inquired where the school was. “I’d never been north of 96th Street,” he admits. After sitting down with an admissions officer, Lehmann submitted a transfer application and entered the College in 1976.

Burns, also a transfer student, recalls meeting Lehmann on “a blizzard morning in January 1976 in a dean’s office in Hamilton Hall. There were 17 pale-faced, undercaffeinated transfer students sitting around sort of miserably … Michael and I immediately decided that we would try to find an apartment together.”

Burns glows when he talks about his old roommate. “He has this kind of … puckishly obsessive compulsive personality where he focuses in on something. He’s aware of what is comic about his obsessions. I kind of loved him immediately.” The two were enthusiastic about academics (Burns remembers spending “hours and hours sitting back-to-back in our apartment, him...
studying philosophy and me studying literature”), but also thrived on the excitement of gritty 1970s New York. Burns recalls their cockroach-ridden Morningside Heights apartment. “When we got tired of working,” Burns notes, “we would turn the oven on and wait for tens of thousands of cockroaches to burst off the back of the oven in waves. We would smash them with rolled up copies of the Sunday Times Magazine.”

Electing to major in philosophy, Lehmann fondly recalls taking courses with Robert Cumming, Edward Said and Michael Rosenthal. Taking advantage of the College and city’s film resources, Lehmann took classes with Columbia film scholar and then-Village Voice critic Andrew Sarris ’51. He also passed free time educating himself on film history by frequenting the city’s many cinemas. In addition to dollar screenings at the Olympia and the Thalia, where he took in works by the rising tide of New American directors, Lehmann ate up films by New German auteurs Wim Wenders and Rainer Werner Fassbinder and frequented revival houses to watch films by Luis Buñuel and Douglas Sirk.

Though a film lover, Lehmann initially opted to pursue a career as an academic. Graduating summa cum laude, he was granted a Fulbright by the German government and traveled to Berlin to pursue a course of study in philosophy. However, Lehmann soon realized that the life of a scholar was not for him. Burns notes that upon leaving Berlin, his friend “went off to sell hot dogs in San Francisco and found a job at [a studio in California], which is maybe a perfect way of describing Michael. He is someone who is effortlessly, seamlessly at home reading [Martin] Heidegger and eating hot dogs and laughing at the most cartoonish jokes in the world.”

After moving back to California, Lehmann landed a job at Zoetrope Studios, Francis Ford Coppola’s nascent production company. Coppola, fresh from the success of The Godfather films and Apocalypse Now, “had just bought a studio in Los Angeles … He tried to turn it into an old-fashioned, 1930s-style Hollywood studio, with a full staff, development people, a production department, actors under contract, writers under contract.” While Lehmann initially was a receptionist, he eventually headed the video department, overseeing Coppola’s attempts to revolutionize the process of filmmaking by using video feeds to edit his films during production. Though common practice today, this technique was unheard of at the time. According to Lehmann, “Everybody said, ‘Francis is crazy.’ Nobody believed that what he was saying had any validity.” To make matters worse, in order to make One from The Heart, an ode to Hollywood musicals, Coppola “built Las Vegas on that lot and basically went broke, and the movie was not successful. The studio didn’t last.” Lehmann, anticipating Zoetrope’s demise and eager to strike out on his own, enrolled in USC’s film school.

Screenwriter Larry Karaszewski, a fellow USC student, remembers “being in awe of [Michael], because most USC film students were lowly undergraduates or people who had gone to law school and decided they wanted to become filmmakers.

But here was Michael, who seemed light years ahead of all of us because he had worked with Coppola.” Before long, Karaszewski and his writing partner, Scott Alexander, became friends with Lehmann; both worked on Lehmann’s notorious thesis film Beaver Gets a Boner.

“At USC’s film school at the time, you could not make a movie unless you got it approved by a group of five ancient faculty members who felt that students should only be making movies that were about things from their personal experience,” Lehmann recalls. “So virtually every student film from that time at USC was about a kid who was deciding between taking that scholarship to go to college or staying at home to help dad with the farm.” In contrast, Lehmann’s thesis film, in a mold that would define much of his later work, parodied the coming-of-age narrative. Scripted by Redbeard Simmons, the film, about a druggie who cleans himself up to win a college scholarship but ultimately reverts to his destructive ways, was viewed as legendary by classmates. When the film was screened for the industry at USC, the response was so great that it garnered Lehmann an agent (no small feat for an emerging filmmaker). “It’s really terrible — you’re not allowed to see it,” Lehmann jokes, though he begrudgingly admits, “It was like a John Waters movie; it was irreverent.”

Despite Lehmann’s reservations about the film, studios and producers came calling. Through Alexander and Karaszewski he met screenwriter Dan Waters, who had just penned Heathers. Lehmann shopped the film around and found an interested party in New World Pictures, an independent B-movie studio known primarily for churning out low-budget horror flicks and frat house comedies. “A guy at New World saw my student film and read the script and said, ‘I’ll make this for a price.’ It happened a lot more easily than movies are supposed to happen.”

Anchored by Winona Ryder’s breakout performance, the movie has become a cult classic, inspiring many imitators, from 1999’s Jawbreaker to the Lindsay Lohan vehicle Mean Girls. The picture featured many characteristics that would go on to become Lehmann trademarks: pitch-black humor, subversion of genre and surrealist flamboyance.

According to Lehmann, “Heathers was a kind of conventional dark comedy, where well-intentioned people kill people — it was like Kind Hearts and Coronets” or Frank Capra’s Arsenic and Old Lace. The film was an unexpected critical and commercial success. (The Washington Post wrote, ”Heathers may be the nastiest, cruellest fun you can have without actually having to study law or gird leather products.”)

When Heathers was released, Lehmann was in post-production on Meet the Applegates, an outlandish film in which Stockard Channing and Ed Begley Jr. play the matriarch and patriarch of a family of South American bugs (yes, bugs) hiding out in a Midwestern suburb. Lehmann describes the film as “a ludicrous, cheesy B-movie idea that I never thought anybody would make.” However, because the execs at New World were so happy with Heathers, they “gave me the money to make the

PHOTO: MARK DOERING-POWELL

MICHAEL LEHMANN ’78

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

26
For his third feature, Lehmann moved into the big time, working with producer Joel Silver and star Bruce Willis to make Hudson Hawk, an over-the-top satire of action movies. “I thought it was an opportunity to take a conventional genre film — an action-adventure movie of the kind that were being made on big budgets in the late ’80s — and turn it completely on its head,” Lehmann states. “The sentiment behind it was, these movies are so conventional, they follow such a pattern, that if we just twist it everywhere, we can just have fun with this. And that’s the movie that we made.” The critics were not kind. Silver and Willis had essentially made their fortunes on the kind of films Hudson Hawk was poking fun at, and in Lehmann’s opinion, people “didn’t really believe that those two guys could really be involved in something that attempted to be both ironic and mocking their own careers. What I learned was you don’t subvert a genre unless you’re willing to get punished for it.”

Around the same time Hudson Hawk received its critical lambasting, Lehmann’s old friends, Alexander and Karaszewski, wrote the script to Problem Child. Though financially successful (the film garnered two sequels), the film was universally derided by critics. Joking with each other about their critical woes, Alexander and Karaszewski decided that they would write a film about Ed Wood, one of the worst filmmakers of all time, to be directed by Lehmann. Tim Burton expressed an interest in the project and took over the directorial reins, but Lehmann remained in the producer’s seat. Martin Landau won an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of a heroin-addicted Bela Lugosi in the film.

After wrapping the cult comedy Airheads, Lehmann departed from his previous work with The Truth About Cats and Dogs, a romantic love triangle complicated by mistaken identity. In making a gendered twist on the traditional Cyrano de Bergerac tale (with Uma Thurman and Janeane Garofolo occupying the respective roles of pretty face and seductive voice), Lehmann modernized the film with the inclusion of a “phone sex scene that nobody had done in a conventional movie. It was very much in the time of when [people were reconsidering] how to relate sexually since AIDS had changed people’s sexual behavior.”

The throughline in all these comedies is in Lehmann’s ability to warp genre expectations and play with divergent tones. His best work follows the tradition of Billy Wilder and Hal Ashby, stable studio directors who managed to convey their idiosyncratic style while working within the Hollywood system. Michael London, producer of Sideways, The Family Stone and the Lehmann-helmed comedy 40 Days and 40 Nights, says Lehmann “has the ability to take mainstream movie ideas but bring an original voice to them. The struggle that Michael has had is, how do you continue to make movies within the system and not lose your originality? And I think he’s worked pretty hard on that.”

Since the mid-’90s, Lehmann has directed episodes of several television series, principally on HBO. After a film project he was developing with Barry Levinson’s production company fell through, one of Levinson’s producing partners approached him about directing an episode of a new series. “I said, ‘I’ve never done television before,’” Lehmann recalls. “And they said, ‘We like that. We want to have different people direct the show.’ So I went to Baltimore and I watched Levinson shoot the pilot” of the critically lauded series Homicide: Life on the Street. Lehmann directed the third episode of the show. He has also shot episodes of Wonderfalls, The Comeback and Big Love. “The reason I keep doing it is that, when you do high-quality television — and I don’t think high-quality television existed when I started — you are usually working with a group of actors and writers who are often higher caliber and more subtly intelligent than those working in most features now, because features are a different game. They’re about spectacle and star power.”

Despite encountering several bumps in the road as a director, Lehmann is eager to make more films. His indie feature Flakes screened at the South by Southwest Music and Film Festival in March. The film, about a musician whose day job is to manage a Big Easy eatery that serves only breakfast cereals, is a return to the offbeat comedic style with which Lehmann made his name. Variety called the film “one of the more spot-on cinematic attempts to convey the flavor of New Orleans as a place that embraces eccentricity as a way of life.” Shooting in the city before Hurricane Katrina, he made the project for about $500,000 with the company InDigEnt. “It’s an idiosyncratic little movie. I shot it, ran out of money, and while I was shooting for HBO and Because I Said So, I would go in on evenings and weekends to work on Flakes.” Lehmann, still shopping the film for distribution, takes pride in the project that he says he found a “way to make without anybody interfering.”

After advising emerging filmmakers at the Sundance Institute this summer, he planned to finish what he calls “a dark comedy script about bioterror, the medical industry and the cattle business. It’s pretty funny and very dark and twisted, which is, of course, where my work should be.” Of his best friend and former College cohort, Burns predicts, “His best work is still ahead of him. He has 30 to 40 years of films left in him.”
“Human beings need stories. They need them almost as desperately as they need food ...”

Paul Auster ’69

Paul Auster ’69, the noted novelist profiled in CCT’s March/April 2006 issue, was awarded the Prix Asturias, Spain’s highest literary honor, last year. In his acceptance speech, he attempted to address why he writes.

I don’t know why I do what I do. If I did know, I probably wouldn’t feel the need to do it. All I can say, and I say it with utmost certainty, is that I have felt this need since my earliest adolescence. I’m talking about writing, in particular, writing as a vehicle to tell stories, imaginary stories that have never taken place in what we call the real world. Surely it is an odd way to spend your life — sitting alone in a room with a pen in your hand, hour after hour, day after day, year after year, struggling to put words on pieces of paper in order to give birth to what does not exist, except in your head. Why on earth would anyone want to do such a thing? The only answer I have ever been able to come up with is: because you have to, because you have no choice.

This need to make, to create, to invent is, no doubt, a fundamental human impulse. But to what end? What purpose does art, in particular the art of fiction, serve in what we call the real world? None that I can think of — at least not in any practical sense. A book has never put food in the stomach of a hungry child. A book has never stopped a bullet from entering a murder victim’s body. A book has never prevented a bomb from falling on innocent civilians in the midst of war.

Some like to think that a keen appreciation of art can actually make us better people — more just, more moral, more sensitive, more understanding. Perhaps that is true — in certain rare, isolated cases. But let us not forget that Hitler started out in life as an artist. Tyrants and dictators read novels. Killers in prison read novels. And who is to say they don’t derive the same enjoyment from books as everyone else?

In other words, art is useless, at least when compared, say, to the work of a plumber, or a doctor, or a railroad engineer. But is uselessness a bad thing? Does a lack of practical purpose mean that books and paintings and string quartets are simply a waste of our time? Many people think so. But I would argue that it is the very uselessness of art that gives it its value and that the making of art is what distinguishes us from all other creatures who inhabit this planet, that it is, essentially, what defines us as human beings.

To do something for the pure pleasure and beauty of doing it. Think of the effort involved, the long hours of practice and discipline required to become an accomplished pianist or dancer. All the suffering and hard work, all the sacrifices in order to achieve something that is utterly and magnificently ... useless.

Fiction, however, exists in a somewhat different realm from the other arts. Its medium is language, and language is something we share with others, that is common to us all. From the moment we learn to talk, we begin to develop a hunger for stories. Those of us who can remember our childhoods will recall how ardently we relished the moment of the bedtime story, when our mother or father would sit down beside us in the semi-dark and read from a book of fairy tales.

Those of us who are parents will have no trouble conjuring up the rapt attention in the eyes of our children when we read to them. Why this intense desire to listen? Fairy tales are often cruel and violent, featuring beheadings, cannibalism, grotesque transformations and evil enchantments. One would think this material would be too frightening for a young child, but what these stories allow the child to experience is precisely an encounter with his own fears and inner torments in a perfectly safe and protected environment. Such is the magic of stories — they might drag us down to the depths of hell, but in the end they are harmless.

We grow older, but we do not change. We become more sophisticated, but at bottom we continue to resemble our young selves, eager to listen to the next story and the next, and the next. For years, in every country of the Western world, articles after article has been published bemoaning the fact that fewer and fewer people are reading books, that we have entered what some have called the ‘post-literate age.’ That may be well true, but at the same time, this has not diminished the universal craving for stories.

Novels are not the only source, after all. Films and television and even comic books are churning out vast quantities of fictional narratives and the public continues to swallow them up with great passion. That is because human beings need stories. They need them almost as desperately as they need food and however the stories might be presented — whether on a printed page or on a television screen — it would be impossible to imagine life without them.

Still, when it comes to the state of the novel, to the future of the novel, I feel rather optimistic. Numbers don’t count where books are concerned, for there is only one reader, each and every time only one reader. That explains the particular power of the novel and why, in my opinion, it will never die as a form. Every novel is an equal collaboration between the writer and the reader and it is the only place in the world where two strangers can meet on terms of absolute intimacy.

I have spent my life in conversations with people I have never seen, with people I will never know, and I hope to continue until the day I stop breathing.

It’s the only job I ever wanted.

Reprinted courtesy of Paul Auster ’69 and the Carol Mann Agency.
“Reading your poems I know anything is possible”

Jeffrey Harrison ’80

Jeffrey Harrison ’80 has received fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as two Pushcart Prizes, the Amy Lowell Traveling Poetry Scholarship, and the Lavan Younger Poets Award from the Academy of American Poets. His fourth book of poems, Incomplete Knowledge, made the 2007 Book Sense Poetry Top Ten list. Here, he remembers his College professor, celebrated poet Kenneth Koch, whom CCT featured in its November 2002 issue.

TO KENNETH KOCH

I should say something to you
Now that you have departed over the mountains
H ow lucky that I ran into you
When everything was possible

Yesterday I was leafing through the Times
and saw your face suddenly
fifteen years younger smiling up
from the obituary page and stopped
breathing for a second and didn’t answer
the question Julie was calling from upstairs
but after I started breathing again called
back to her that you had died as if
that were the answer to her question.
I don’t know if you can hear me
where you are now or whether you
will get this at your new address
(it is an affectation to address the dead
one literal-minded poet once told me)
but reading your poems I know anything
is possible, and you addressed everything
with contagious ebullience:
my first and best teacher, who let me
into Imaginative Writing not because
the poems I showed you were any good
but because as you said in front
of the entire class that first day
t here were so many of them! — and I was too
happy to be humiliated, proud to be the only
freshman of the chosen twelve, and I have
always been grateful and of course
you were right about the poems.

After I read the article, Julie and the kids and I
drove to Fenway Park (the Sox were playing
the Tigers). It was a weird murky day,
the sun shining weakly with an eerie light
through a sallow haze that the radio told us
was smoke from forest fires in Quebec.
I thought about you during the game —
how I was such a small part of your life
but you were a big part of mine, especially
those years at Columbia which have stayed with me
all this time, how we were both from Cincinnati

and I always liked to think that meant something
even though it didn’t mean that much
but I still remember when I told you
you halted in surprise on the way out of
Hamilton Hall. I remember your office
on the fourth floor, looking through the window
at pigeons flirting on the ledges as you read
my poems or wrote a letter of recommendation
at tremendously high speed and then
read it aloud to me while I thought
Is anyone going to believe this? but it

But it was the exuberance of the crowd
in the later innings that was most like you,
and when the wave started going around
the Fenway grandstands I held
my sadness in check and joined the celebration,
throwing my arms up with all the others
as that many-tentacled surge moved
with the energy of one of your poems,
coming to a brief stop at the left field stands
and then reappearing in the center field bleachers,
leaping invisibly across the synapse
of the Green Monster, like your leaps
which always amazed me, and then it
 came toward us again and we laughed
in anticipation and rose up cheering
with everyone around us as the wave
moved past us and we sat down
until our turn came to be part of it again.
The sun was still trying to come through
and sometimes pierced the haze as if
to look down on the stadium — Kenneth,
life seemed to burst from you like light
from the sun, and if now that sun is gone
I have your poems that never stop asking,
“So what is the ecstasy
we are allowed to have in this one life?”

“To Kenneth Koch,” from Incomplete Knowledge © 2006 Jeffrey Harrison ’80. Reprinted by permission of Four Way Books (New York). All rights reserved.
Obituaries

1930

John J. Dropkin, physicist and professor emeritus, Brooklyn, N.Y., on August 5, 2007. Born in Bobruisk, Russia, on February 22, 1910, Dropkin was professor and chair of the physics department of Brooklyn Poly from 1947–88. According to a note CCT received from his wife, Ruth Zeitlin Dropkin, he “could — and would — chant all of the verses of the Columbia anthem in loving recollection of his years at Columbia, from which he garnered not only a Phi Beta Kappa key, a graduation math award and a TA position with L.I. Rabi but also all the needed sources for the genuinely educated person he was until his death.” Dropkin is survived by his wife; daughters, Frances, Vivian Ubell and Deborah Zeitlin; son, Jonathan Zeitlin ’72; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Polytechnic University, Attn. D. Duncan, 6 Metrotech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

1935

Edward der Mateosian, physicist emeritus, Bradenton, Fla., on May 20, 2006. A member of the 1934 intercollegiate fencing championship team, der Mateosian earned an M.A. in chemistry from Stuyvesant H.S. in 1932. At Columbia’s C.S. Wu on beta spectra. With his wife, Ann, der Mateosian taught children ballroom dancing in Bellport, Long Island. He studied painting with Gertrude Quastler and sold many watercolors. Der Mateosian’s extensive civic work included the founding of the Bellport Village Association, and he was a driving force in obtaining a beach on Fire Island for the Village of Bellport. He built and sailed a 28-foot ketch. Der Mateosian is survived by his wife, Ann; his daughters, Maro Lorimer and Lisa.

1936

Adolph Surthshin, retired physician, Los Angeles, on July 24, 2007. Born in 1916 in the Bronx to immigrant parents, Surthshin graduated from Stuyvesant H.S. in 1932. At the College, he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior. Surthshin received his M.D. from St. Louis University in 1941 and served in the Army Medical Corps during WWII. Surthshin joined the faculty of Washington University School of Medicine in 1949 and later that year married Marjorie Winterbotham. In 1957, they moved to California, where he assumed a research position at Riker Laboratories. In 1960, Surthshin became assistant dean of the California College of Medicine, now part of UC Irvine. In 1968, he opened his private practice in Mission Hills, Calif., treating patients until 1996, when he retired. An avid sailor and traveler, Surthshin pursued both hobbies until shortly before his 90th birthday. He was an active member of the Ethical Culture Society of Los Angeles for more than 45 years. Surthshin was predeceased by his wife of 49 years and is survived by his children, Stephen ’75, Julia ’75 Barnard and Ann; and two grandchildren.

1937

Daniel B. Posner, Flushing, N.Y., on August 2, 2007. Born in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, Posner later raised his family in Flushing. He earned his LL.B. from Yale Law School in 1941. After serving in WWII, Posner worked for the Securities and Exchange Commission. He later practiced law with Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, where he was a senior partner. For many years, Posner contributed a yearly review of securities legislation to The Business Lawyer. He often sailed on Little Neck Bay, in good weather and bad. His love for the water was matched by his love of classical music, especially the violin concertos of Beethoven, Bruch and Sibelius.

1939

Cecil J. “CJ” Francisco Jr., retired engineering v.p., Austin, Texas, on May 28, 2007. Born in Sioux City, Iowa, on September 23, 1917, Francisco Jr.’s early years were spent in Denver, Colo., and Cheyenne, Wy. He earned three Columbia degrees (B.A., 1939, B.S., 1940 and M.S., 1941, the latter two from the Engineering School). Francisco started his career at Sinclair Oil in East Chicago, Ind., starting in the refinery and moving through many different divisions including research, patents and licensing and petrochemicals. During WWII, Francisco was involved with the war effort in the production and delivery of aviation fuel. He married Martha Marie Daniels in 1944. As he was promoted, they moved to New York City, Philadelphia and finally, Houston. Francisco retired from ARCO as a v.p. in 1981. He is survived by his children, David and his wife, Donna, Alice Wipper and his husband, Bob, Cecil J. III and his wife, Jeannette, Claudia Vier and her husband, Rick, and Brian; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the SPCA.

1947

Russell J. Hill, WWII correspondent, writer, Medford, N.J., on July 31, 2007. Born in New York on September 29, 1918, Hill attended school in Europe and the United States. He graduated from the College as a Phi Beta Kappa and was awarded a scholarship to study in Cambridge, England, but was caught on the continent by the outbreak of the war. He went to England in the study in Cambridge, England, but was caught on the continent by the outbreak of the war. He went...
to Berlin and was hired by the New York Herald Tribune but soon was expelled by the Nazis for his articles. He continued to cover the war in the Balkans and North Africa; he recounted the latter campaign in the books Desert War and Desert Conquest. Accompanying Allied forces in Italy and France, Hill was wounded during the first attack into Germany. Stationed in Europe after the war, he contributed to the debates at the outset of the Cold War with his book Struggle for Germany. In 1952, he reported on European politics for Radio Free Europe, becoming its senior correspondent in Washington D.C., in 1963. He covered the U.S. government there until his 1983 retirement. Hill is survived by his wife of 60 years, Mary Catherine (Kay) Hill, niece Phillips; sister, Anabel Barahal; sons Philip, Alan, Ralph and KC; and nine grandchildren.

1940

Alvin Turken, orthopedic surgeon, Beverly Hills, on August 1, 2007. Turken earned a degree from P&S in 1943 at 21. During WWII, he served as a medical officer, general surgery, with the 4th General Hospital in Luzon, Philippines. After the War, Turken trained as an orthopedic surgeon and moved his practice to Los Angeles in 1959. He served many years on the Board of Governors of Technion University in Haifa, Israel, and was a member of the American Technion National Board of Regents and a past member of the Board of Directors and the Technion International Board of Governors; he participated in Technion events in Southern California for more than 30 years. Turken is survived by his wife of 58 years, Deborah; sons, James, Donald and David, and daughters-in-law, Karen and Julie; and four grandchildren. [Editor’s note: For more on Turken, see the May/June 1940 Class Notes.]

1941

William M. Franks ’41

William Franklin Ranew and Marty Cusack; daughters-in-law, Mabel Franks and Basia Franks; 17 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Smile Train.

1942

Russel V. Van Metre, retired engineer, San Mateo, Calif., on November 22, 2006. Born in 1920 in New York City and raised in New York, New Jersey and Vermont, Van Metre was his father, Thurman Wm. Van Metre, was a professor of transportation at the Business School. Van Metre earned a B.A. and the same year a B.S. in mechanical engineering, the latter from the Engineering School, and soon after married Rosemary Ellen Short, a Barnard alumna. Upon graduation, he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving in the Pacific theater, principally Okinawa and Saipan. After WWI, Van Metre returned to New York to obtain a master’s in mechanical engineering in 1947 from the Engineering School. In 1947, he went to work for Proctor & Gamble in Cincinnati and remained there until his 1971 retirement. From 1971–91, he and his wife lived in Pompano Beach, Fla., before moving to California to be near their family. Van Metre is survived by his wife of 64 years; daughter, Patricia Thiers; a Barnard alumna and 76 GSAS and her husband, Eugene ’65E, ’70E; two grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Humane Society.

1946

William G. McGuinness ’46

international medical missionary in Africa, the West Indies and Haiti. He worked tirelessly caring for patients and sharing his knowledge by training local physicians. McGuinness is survived by his wife, children, Maureen, Bill, Hallie, Georgean, Peggy, Brian, Matthew and Martha; their spouses; and 14 grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Crudem Foundation, in support of the Hospital Sacre Coeur, in Milot, Haiti, where McGuinness and his wife volunteered for many years: Crudem Foundation, PO Box 804, Ludlow, MA 01056.

1949

Richard M. DiDiego Jr., retired textile designer, Greenwood, S.C., on June 26, 2007. Born in the Bronx on January 9, 1924, DiDiego attended Columbia’s painting and sculpture school and studied textile design at various schools. During WWII, he was attached to the Third Field Artillery Observation Battalion and served in the European Theater. DiDiego moved to Greenwood in 1974, when he was transferred with Milliken, and was a designer of automotive fabrics at Abbeville Mill. After his 1996 retirement, he was a consultant for several more years. He was an active member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church as well as of the Knights of Columbus. DiDiego was an avid golfer was a professional guitar player in New York. He was predeceased by a son, Billy, and brother, Ted. Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Ann Theresa “Boots” Gilligan DiDiego; brother, Robert; daughters, Marianne Melton and her husband, Pat, Laura Harrington and her husband, Bill, and Caroline Elsken and her husband, Paul; sons, Tim, and his wife, Kelly, and John, and his wife, Michele, and eight grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Our Lady of Lourdes Life Center Building Fund, 915 Mathis Rd., Greenwood, SC 29649 or to Hospice House, 408 W. Alexander Ave., Greenwood, SC 29646. Condolences may be left at www.blythfuneralhome.com.

1950

John J. Iorio, English professor emeritus, Tampa, Fla., on February 7, 2007. Iorio was born on January 1, 1925, in Casandrino, Italy. His family immigrated to the United States when he was 2, settling in Trenton, N.J. Iorio joined the Army at 17 and was a decorated WWII veteran. As a member of the 17th Airborne Division, his paratroop division jumped across the Rhine River and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, he completed high school and college and earned an M.A. in English and comparative literature from GSAS in 1951. Iorio did his doctoral studies at Minnesota and Penn. He began his teaching career at Dickinson College and received a Fulbright Internship to teach at Vassar before going to Colby College, where he taught for eight years. In 1963, Iorio accepted a position at the University of South Florida, where he taught in the English department for more than 30 years. He was a published short story writer. Iorio is survived by his wife of 56 years, the former Dorothy Lockett; sons, Jay L. and Paul L.; daughter, Pam; son-in-law, Mark Woodard; two grandchildren; sisters, Katherine Bartolini, Susie Cirillo and her husband, Andrew, and Mary Koch and husband, George; brothers, Louis and his wife, Vera, and Christopher and his wife, Fran; and many nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the USF Foundation, John and Dorothy Iorio Award, 4202 E. Fowler Ave., ALC 000, Tampa, Fl. 33620 or to a charity of the donor's choice.

1952

Arthur C. Ingerman ’52

Arthur C. Ingerman, retired dentist, Brooklyn, on August 3, 2007. Born in Brooklyn, Ingerman worked his way through college primarily with jobs at the Johnson (now Wien) Hall Cafeteria and the Tau Epsilon Phi (TEP) Fraternity House, where he was an active brother, writing songs, plays and satires on college and fraternity mores. He was elected to Phi Beta
Kappa in his junior year. After graduating from the Dental School in 1955, Ingerman became a captain in the Air Force and in 1957 opened a dental practice in Brooklyn; he later had offices in Manhattan and Rockland County. Ingerman was an active alumnus, serving on reunion committees and attending football and basketball games as well as Dean’s Day. After Homecoming, Ingerman threw an annual cocktail party at the Tennis Club at Baker Field for TEP members and guests. He was his class’s C.C.T Class Notes correspondent from 2002-07. Surviving are his wife, Rosalie; daughters Ellen Yamshon, Lauren Gerlis and Michele Henderson; son, Adam; and five grandchildren, including Samuel Yamshon ’11.

1954

Robert H. Elwell, physician, Upland, Calif., on June 6, 2007. Elwell was born May 28, 1932, in Bennington, Vt.-An Army veteran, he was an Upland resident for 17 years. Elwell earned a master’s in psychology from GSAS in 1955 and graduated with honors from the University of Vermont College of Medicine in 1959. His internship and residency were at Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D.C., and upon completion, he was assigned to Brooke Army Hospital in San Antonio as acting chief of neurology. Elwell later was appointed assistant professor of neurology at the University of Vermont College of Medicine. Starting in 1970, he maintained a private practice in Glens Falls, N.Y., for 20 years. Elwell is survived by his wife, Patricia; children, Deana, Wendy and Robert; brother, Jon; sister, Patricia Graham; and one granddaughter.

Stephen Gilbert ’54

Stephen Gilbert, retired neurologist, Brooklyn, on July 12, 2007. Born in Manhattan on January 18, 1932, Gilbert attended Forest Hills H.S. and ran track at the College. He minored in art history, attended Syracuse Medical School, interned at the University of Chicago and was a neurosurgery resident at Bowman Gray. Gilbert initially practiced at Montefiore Hospital, then Maimonides Hospital and Kings County Hospital, where he was chairman of neurology. He also practiced at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center, where he served terms as president of the medical staff, as chairman of neurology and numerous committees. He was in private practice for more than 40 years. Gilbert was a lifelong bridge fanatic and tournament champion on the national level. He is survived by his wife of almost 46 years, Sandra; son, Ian ‘84; and daughter, Holly ’87. Memorial contributions may be made to The Rogosin Institute, www.rogosin.org/donations or 212-746-1552.

1958

David Pass, retired government employee, Silver Spring, Md., on July 18, 2007. Pass earned a master’s from the Architecture School in 1962, a B.S. from the Engineering School in 1964, a master’s in city planning from UC Berkeley and the equivalent of a Ph.D. in city planning from Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm. A career employee of HUD from 1973 until his 2003 retirement, Pass worked in the New Cities Program and then later in Indian Affairs. He is survived by a sister, Rodna Hurewitz, and her husband, David; nephews, Joel Hurewitz, and Barry Hurewitz, and his wife, Alison; and numerous cousins. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

1960

James R. Ayers, accountant, St. Petersburg, Fla., on September 19, 2007. Ayers was born in Mt. Airy, N.C., on August 26, 1932, and spent his early years there. From 1942-1945, the Ayers family lived in Baltimore; they returned to Mt. Airy in 1945 following the end of WWII. After high school, Ayers enlisted in the Army and served in Korea during the Korean conflict. Following four years of military service, in 1956, he entered the College. He later transferred to Bentley College in Waltham, Mass., where he earned a degree in accounting. He went on to have a distinguished business career as a CPA and a financial advisor in the Boston area. Ayers and his wife, Christine, moved to St. Petersburg in 1998, where he continued his CPA practice. Ayers is survived by his wife; children, James, Diana and Jerald; and his wife, Heidi; a grandson; stepchildren, Geoffrey and Hannah; and her husband, John, and their daughter; brothers, Perry, and his wife, Fannie, and Nylies ‘57 and his wife, Cynthia Young.

1965

Richard J. Haber, physician and professor, Laguna, Calif., on June 11, 2007. Born on December 8, 1944, in Torrance, Calif., and raised in the Bronx, Haber graduated from the Bronx Science High School and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering. Among others, he is survived by his wife, Louise.

2007

Meade H. Anderson ’07

Meade H. Anderson, Glendora, Calif., on August 14, 2007. Anderson, who graduated with a degree in philosophy, competed on the varsity fencing team during his four years at Columbia. His best season was 2005-06, his junior year, when he won eight of 10 bouts. With the addition of two newcomers, Anderson did not appear in any matches during his senior year, and finished with a 16-12 career record. He was a highly successful Cadet and Junior fencer before entering Columbia. Anderson was a U.S. Fencing Association Cadet national champion and was ranked as high as 13th nationally among U.S. Juniors in men’s foil.

Lisa Palladino

OBITUARIES

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today has learned of the deaths of the following alumni (full obituaries will be published if information becomes available):

1941 Robert C. Witten, retired manufacturer’s representative, New York City, on September 11, 2007.
1954 Ralph W. Gerchberg, engineer, Airdale, N. Y., on October 27, 2006. Gerchberg earned a B.S. in 1955 from the Engineering School and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering. Among others, he is survived by his wife, Louise.
1985 Ian T. Bang, photographer, New York City, on May 8, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Svetlana; son, James; parents, Nils and Jean; brother, Anders; and sister, Anne Grete Bang (de la Torre).
Bookshelf

Thumbnail Sketches: 29 Important Americans by Richard R. Weber ’42. Weber sketches out brief biographies of U.S. history’s most important figures, from William Jennings Bryan to Woodrow Wilson (Vantage Press, $12.95).

Darwinian Misadventures in the Humanities by Eugene Goodheart ’53. In this volume, the author — Edythe Macy Gross Professor of Humanities Emeritus at Brandeis — attacks the neo-Darwinist approach to the arts and defends humanist criticism (Transaction, $32.95).

Yellow Flag by Robert Lipsyte ’57. This latest young-adult novel from the veteran author is set in the world of stock-car racing. Kyle, one of a family of racing legends, is forced to take the driver’s seat when his talented older brother is injured (HarperTeen, $16.99).

Mountain Rat by George Erdstein ’60. During summer 1957, Phil Dechter, a Columbia College pre-med, is a busboy in the cutthroat environment of a Catskills resort (PublishAmerica, $19.95).

Toni Cade Bambara’s One Sicilian Night: A Memoir by Anthony Valero ’62. This first volume of Valero’s memoir depicts American writers in Italy around 1991, including Harold Brodkey, Kurt Vonnegut and Toni Cade Bambara (Bordighera Press, $10).


Make Hay While the Sun Shines: Farms, Forests and People of the North Quabbin by Allen Young ’62. Articles Young wrote in the 70s and 80s for the Athol (Mass.) Daily News and the Valley Advocate are reprinted with updates and a mix of new and old photographs (www.iuniverse.com, $16.95).

How to Be Perfect by Ron Padgett ’64. Padgett’s latest collection of poems “is an attempt to sing about the oddity and beauty of puzzling out what its means to be alive now” (Coffee House Press, $15).

The Savior: A Novel by Eugene Drucker ’73. In this WWII novel, young musician Gottfried Keller is forced to play the violin for a group of near-death concentration-camp detainees; see September/October Bookshelf for more (Simon & Schuster, $23).

Who Killed Andrei Warhol by Alexander J. Motyl ’75. In this absurdist tragicomedy, Motyl describes the imaginary friendship between an orthodox Communist, Soviet Ukrainian journalist Sasha Ivanov, and pop artist Andy Warhol (Seven Locks Press, $18.95).


The Moose Show by Matthew Litch ’82. A collection of short stories by Licht, who was nominated this year for the Frank O’Hara Award (Salt Publishing, $14.95).


Sexiest Man Alive by Diana Holquist ’89. Jasmine, a costume designer who is mortally afraid of attractive men, lands the job of dressing one of the world’s sexiest movie stars (Warner Forever, $6.99).

Dry Manhattan: Prohibition in New York City by Michael A. Lerner ’89. In this history of Prohibition in New York City, Lerner looks at the “noble experiment” of the 18th Amendment and the world of speakeasies, corruption and vice that it fostered (Harvard University Press, $28.95).

Wobblies on the Waterfront: Interracial Unionism in Progressive-Era Philadelphia by Peter Cole ’91. This book describes the rise and fall of Philadelphia’s Local 8 union, “the most durable interracial, multiethnic union seen in the US prior to the CIO era” (University of Illinois Press, $40).

“The Good Observers of Nature”: American Women and the Scientific Study of the Natural World, 1820-1885 by Tina Gianquinto ’91. Gianquinto focuses on four writers (Almira Phelps, Margaret Fuller, Susan Fenimore Cooper and Mary Treat) in order to study changes in the way 19th-century women looked at the natural world (University of Georgia Press, $19.95).

The Buried Book: The Loss and Rediscovery of the Great Epic of Gilgamesh by David Damresch, professor of English and comparative literature. A history of the fate of the world’s first great epic, the tale of Gilgamesh, which was lost in 612 B.C. (Henry Holt and Company, $26).

Theater of a City: The Places of London Comedy, 1598-1642 by Jean E. Howard, William B. Ransford Professor of English. Howard’s book examines the ways in which London comedy in the first half of the 17th century portrayed and interpreted the locales in which its scenes were set (University of Pennsylvania Press, $55).

The Good Life in the Scientific Revolution: Descartes, Pascal, Leibniz, and the Cultivation of Virtue by Matteo L. Jones, assistant professor of history. Jones’ study of three early modern scientists shows how these men imagined their work as a useful aid to the cultivation of virtue, and the pursuit of the good life (University of Chicago Press, $27.50).
Nicholas Kulish ’97 Covers the Iraq Invasion His Way

By Alia Malek ’06J

To Nicholas Kulish ’97, The New York Times’ Berlin bureau chief, writing an account of his few months in 2003 as an embedded journalist in Iraq seemed presumptuous and self-important. “I never really wanted to write a memoir about the war,” he said in a July interview on NPR’s All Things Considered. Though his colleagues were taking notes for nonfiction books, Kulish had a different impulse. “I guess I’m sitting in the back of the classroom,” he explained, “rolling my eyes, and wanting to roll up a little Mark Twain-style spitball.” No surprises, then, that his Iraq book, Last One In, published in July by Harper Perennial, was a witty, well-received satirical novel.

Kulish’s protagonist, Jimmy Stephens, isn’t even a foreign correspondent — he’s a naive gossip columnist for a fictional New York paper, the Daily Herald. Through a combination of bad luck and carelessness, Stephens reports a piece of lascivious but untrue gossip about a married celebrity hooking up with a waitress in a bathroom stall at Nobu. An angry lawsuit ensues. What saves Jimmy from being fired is the less-than-happy coincidence that he shares the same name as the paper’s legendary war correspondent, James Stephens, who has been hit and therefore sidelined by a delivery truck in Manhattan. The Pentagon won’t accept any last-minute substitutions from the paper, so the editor-in-chief resorts to defrauding the Defense Department. Thus Jimmy flies off on the other Stephens’ clearance, visa and destiny.

At first, Jimmy finds himself in limbo in Kuwait, trudging through advance briefings, vaccinations and training. Kulish uses the opportunity to offer a send-up of certain media types: the foreign correspondents who trade stories of conflict zones as if they were combat veterans themselves, the network reporters fretting more over their airtime than their safety, the tough cameramen and women who silently hold their teams together. Mainly, though, the book stays with Jimmy and the Marines with whom he’s embedded. Kulish admits to putting more effort into developing those characters, having felt some obligation to show the Marines as human beings — both contradictory and nuanced. (The Washington Post praised Kulish’s “pitch-perfect ear for the musical crudity of Marine banter.”)

But the agent he ended up with, Marly Rusoff of Marly Rusoff & Associates, persevered. Kulish went back to work at The New York Times, joining its editorial board. And finally, after two years, the novel was sold. The reviews more than justified his perseverance. Master satirist Christopher Buckley, in The New York Times, called the novel “a very good book, funny, harrowingly sympathetic.” Entertainment Weekly graded the book A- and The New Yorker called it a “clever, affecting novel,” which portrays the Iraqi conflict as “a cruel, mismanaged catastrophe from the first shot.”

There’ve been many changes for Kulish this summer: leaving the editorial board, marrying Lauren Reynolds ’00 and moving to Berlin, where he spent a semester while an undergraduate. He’s already at work on another novel. His College daydream — which he calls his Hemingway fantasy — of being a novelist and foreign correspondent would seem to have come true. Looking back, he credits the University with, at the very least, his taste for city life: “Columbia turned me into an urban person, who wanted to see the big cities of the world. Since Columbia, that’s been my life — New York City, Washington D.C., Hong Kong, Berlin.”

Alia Malek ’06J is a writer living in New York City.
Class Notes

Bernard Queneau '32 was honored in July at the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center as part of the tour for the book The Lincoln Highway: Coast to Coast from Times Square to the Golden Gate by Michael Wallis and Michael S. Williamson. Bernard was one of a group of Boy Scouts who traveled cross-country in 1928 to help promote the opening of the Lincoln Highway. Along the way, he and his fellow Scouts demonstrated skills such as fire-starting, knot-tying, first aid and lifesaving — and were introduced to latter-day celebrities such as Mary Pickford and Amelia Earhart. "It was fantastic, but we worked hard," Bernard told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review this summer.

After the tour, Bernard, who graduated from Columbia at 19, served in the Navy and worked for US Steel. He married and raised a family.

In his mid-80s — and, by then, a widower — he received a call from Esther McNaull, then president of the Lincoln Highway Association, asking him to one of the association’s events. After the event, they kept in touch. The two are now married. "I got the ultimate Lincoln Highway call," she remarked in an interview, "A 1928 Boy Scout." [See November 2003, www.college.columbia.edu/cct/nov03/first.php]

Carl Relyea '35 writes: "I retired as hydrologist-in-charge of the Ohio River Forecast Center in 1978. Sundays I played at Highland Methodist Church, Fort Thomas, Ky. (a Cincinnati suburb), now organist emeritus in 1999. Still alive at 94."

Carl's Who's Who in the World entry also mentions a wife (now deceased), three children and an 11-year stint as deputy director of the Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency. During his Columbia years, Carl was accompanist for the Glee Club.

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Sarah Lee Johnson, Graham S. McConell’s daughter, writes:

"My father asked me to write to you and share some of my mis¬sives about how much he and Art Buchwald remind me of each other. He was 92 last Valentine’s Day and is now residing in a care facility not far from his home so [his wife,] Lois, can get to and from him often. What a pair they are, full of humor and ‘gotcha’ attitudes. I have file drawers full of his mother’s and father’s letters to each other, which I’m sifting through — slowly, so as not to miss anything significant. This is the beginning of our book about him: ‘Chief Eagle Beak of the Icy Feet Tribe,’ which pays tribute to his early nickname, his penchant for moving from one small town’s family practice to another, and his dressing up as an Indian for Scout affairs, parades and a Washington State County Officials gathering in Olympia when he was Spokane County coroner. (He won the costume prize there!)

"Now re: Art Buchwald (who passed 17 January 2007) and my dad. Similarities: Cryptic or off-handed answers or non-answers to simple questions. Both beat the hospice assignment. They even look alike — bushy eyebrows, often raised in a weird expression, and having an open-mouthed smile (Dad’s almost toothless). Consummate flirts, they liked the ladies. Their mothers were named Helen, they were raised in New York suburbs and they often wore garish or mis-matched clothes. They both could use a ‘remedial charm school,’ are pleased with the enemies they made, and, as Democrats, worry about President Bush.

"In later years, they had to have rehab, Buchwald to learn to get around with one leg, and Dad to regain strength after a stroke. They had/have to have help getting around, Art in a wheelchair and Dad with a walker and wheelchair. Adjectives used to describe Buchwald are courage¬ous, graceful, insightful and a ‘great raconteur.’ I’d describe my dad as committed to living (courageous?), not too graceful (too large a body for that), eccentric and a great storyteller.

"So there you have the latest update on Graham S. McConnell ’36. The Class Notes with one entry, then none in the latest Columbia College Today, prompted Dad’s request to get this to you."

[Editor's note: McConnell passed away on September 24. An obituary is planned for the January/February issue.]

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35
37
39

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No news to report. Please let us know what’s new with you!

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I deeply regret having to report that Alvin Turken died on August 1 of complications from pancreatic cancer. We were close friends during our College years and afterward in New York, but later, separated by a continent and years, we pretty much lost touch until this March. Then, with two very long, great calls, the years seemed almost to melt away, and there was no mention from Alvin of any major medical problems. Thus, our May/June Class Notes were entirely devoted to Alvin and I was shocked at his death only four months later.

Alvin was our youngest classmate — just 14 in September ’36 — a Pulitzer scholar and junior Phi Beta. Then he went to P&G, inspired by his father, a highly dedicated general practitioner, where he graduated at 21. Alvin served with the Army as a surgeon in the Pacific, on Luzon. During postwar orthopedic surgery training, he married Debby, who was his wife for 58 years. Moving to Los Angeles in 1959, Alvin continued his practice in Beverly Hills. Last year, he described himself as 95 percent retired but continuing with consultations.

Alvin and Debby have been very active through the years in public affairs. Alvin gave 34 years of dedicated service to Technion, Israel’s MIT. Its grads make up more than 70 percent of the founders and managers of Israel’s high-tech industries; the country is home to the greatest concentra¬tion of high-tech start-up companies anywhere in the world, outside of Silicon Valley. After membership for many years on Technion’s Board of Governors, Alvin retired from that demand¬ing activity a year ago.

After calling Debby, I called Melvin Intner, a close friend of Alvin’s and mine, to share our sense of loss. Classmates active in past reunion planning will recall Mel and Lila as the gracious hosts of multiple meetings at their Manhattan apartment on Central Park South — the striking, well-located and much appreciated planning site for at least two of our reunions. Mel has been active in class affairs, including serving as our treasurer, for years. Mel and Lila recently moved to a retirement community in Maplewood, N.J., near their daughter’s home.

John “Rip” Ripandelli continues to be active and helpful on multiple fronts. In (semi) retirement from his actuarial practice, he reviews past clients’ Treasury Department filings. With the help of a couple of buddies, Rip recently got West Point’s Archives to accept a semi-pictorial history of their battalion in Europe during WWII, dedicated in remembrance of their late commanding officer.

Rip’s reading is prodigious, most recently Brian Greene’s book on string theory and then further explorations on quantum theory. He also has been informal actuarial consultant for several of our Class Notes and general e-mail commentator, from time to time, on both the notes and our evolving Class of ’40 legacy theme. During the legacy work’s earliest days, shortly after our 60th, the millenni¬um reunion, Rip contributed a set of audio tapes by Harvard’s Kennedy School Dean Joseph Nye. Their subject was the causes of World Wars I and II. Nye’s closing summary: “It is a mistake to use historical metaphors as a cause for complacency or despair. History does not repeat itself. Our future is always in our own hands.”

Nye’s words perfectly complement Professor Jim Shenton ’49’s key question at our 60th reunion, summarizing his powerful and moving introduction to that day’s theme: “Have we learned, have we learned, have we learned?”

Writing these notes on September 11, 2007, I’m reminded of Dean Herbert Hawkes’ apology from his generation to ours on our 1940 graduation day, as British troops were escaping at Dunkirk, and then our class’ subsequent WWII record losses.

Looking back across the seven
years since Shenton spoke, his and Nye’s words resonate powerfully to me, as I think about the possible threats and opportunities of the next few decades, let alone the uncertain legacy our generation — and our children’s — will be leaving to our grandchildren.

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Arthur Weinstock writes: “I called Stan Gotliffe to see how he is progressing. He answered the phone himself and sounded great. The rehab is progressing well.

“I described what I had gleaned from Barnard Magazine, and he asked me to send it myself. So here it is: I’m on the mailing list for Barnard Magazine, probably because of my contribution in memory of Jayma Abdoo, daughter of the late Fred Abdoo and his wife, Helen. The only Barnard girls I knew were those who were in the same astronomy class with me for Columbia College undergraduates and those who took the two-year seminar in education at Teachers College in my junior and senior years. So I turned to the Class Notes section but found more than I had expected, albeit unrelated to the ‘joint programs’ that prompted my search.

“I learned that Bill Shanahan and his wife, Catherine ’40 Barnard, live in New Haven and celebrated their 65th anniversary! Bill and Catherine, we learned, have eight great-grandchildren.

“Our Barnard source provided a report from Alice Drury Mullins ’41 Barnard, wife of Jack Mullins. Alice wrote about their many trips to Paris, Geneva and Madrid, where they celebrated the marriage of one of their granddaughters. The gathering included three sons and seven grandchildren, and six of their spouses.’

“We are delighted to read that Helen Abdoo will be chairing the mini-reunion committee for Barnard ’42 ladies. Helen is a class correspondent emerita for our Class of 1941, a past v.p. and, with Fred, winner of the President’s Cup for conspicuous service to our class.

“Bob Zucker, class president, hopes to hear from those who would attend our 66th reunion in October or November. Several options are under consideration: 1) get together for lunch or dinner at a) the Columbia Club, b) the Harmonie Club or c) the Columbia campus (keep in mind that Faculty House is scheduled to be

Alan Tompkins ’29: A Passion for Painting

By Daniella Zalcman ’09

To Alan Tompkins ’29, a painter and the former director of the Hartford (Conn.) Art School, those far-away College years still seem meaningful. Perhaps it’s because it was at Columbia that his lifelong career started. “As an idealistic student, I fell so hopelessly in love with art that my friends would muse — with some accuracy — that I would rather paint than eat,” Tompkins jokes.

Tompkins, whose 100th birthday was October 29, enrolled at Columbia as a pre-engineering student at the behest of his father, a civil engineer who was the deputy commissioner of docks for the City of New York. But during his first year, Tompkins remembers, “I drew a portrait of Herbert E. Hawkes, then-dean of the College. Dean Hawkes intuited that my interests and talents lay outside the discipline of engineering, and when I tripped up on calculus, he recommended a change of majors to my father.”

Tompkins quickly became a joint history and art history major, and soon after discovered a singular passion for painting. After graduation, he earned a B.F.A. from Yale’s art school in 1933. His talent led him to government commissions, painting murals for post offices in Indiana and North Carolina. In the ‘40s, he was a designer at GE, where his designs for kitchen appliances were patented. He also taught at Columbia and Cooper Union, and in the early ‘50s was named assistant art director of the Hartford Art School. He became its director in 1957.

Tompkins, according to a recent Washington Post interview, isn’t eager to define himself by his stints at academic institutions. “When you have lectured and taught at other places, there’s a tendency for people to say you’re a teacher,” he remarked. “I am a painter, a professional painter.” Nonetheless, his contributions to the Hartford Art School clearly were significant. As its director, he oversaw the school’s merger with Hillyer College and the Hartford College of Music to become the University of Hartford. And later, at the new institution — whose seal he designed — he was named vice chancellor for the visual arts.

This summer, at the University of Hartford, a selection of his paintings was exhibited — a showing that coincided with the Hartford Art School’s 130th anniversary, the University of Hartford’s 50th, and (almost) Tompkins’ 100th birthday. “An Exhibition of Paintings by Alan Tompkins” featured works from recent years as well as works dating from the 1940s and ‘50s. (Alan Tompkins — painter, a biography with selected artwork by Linda Powers Tomasso, also was released earlier this year.) Tompkins’ wife and his two children are deceased, but his 38-year-old grandson, Charles Tompkins, a financial planner from Seattle, flew in to help his grandfather set up the retrospective exhibit. To Charles Tompkins, it seemed clear that his grandfather’s engagement with art had “extended his life by many years.” The message of Tompkins’ long career, he told the Washington Post, was this simple one: “If you’re passionate about something, keep doing it.”

Daniella Zalcman ’09 is majoring in architecture and comparative literature. Her articles have appeared in The New York Times and Wired Magazine.

PHOTO: JON BONDY

Alan Tompkins ’29

Tompkins’ painting Faculty Club Dining Room (1949) was inspired by intellectuals in conversation at Columbia’s Faculty Club.

PHOTO: JON BONDY
closed for renovations next year);
2) weekend at a conference center near NYC (Arden House is closed). We could have van transportation from NYC; or
3) theater matinee with hotel lunch or dinner.
"Please phone or write your preferences to Bob @ 516-621-8443, or 29 The Birches, Roslyn, NY 11576, or rzucker@optonline.net, or fax 516-621-1999."

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In early June, Don Mankiewicz sent me reprints, from Columbia's archives, of the program and photographs for the 1916 Varsity Show, The Peace Pirates, written by his father, Herman J. Mankiewicz 17. In the cast were Oscar Hammerstein II '16 and Lorenz Hart '18. Herman went on to a brilliant career as a Hollywood screenwriter, winning an Academy Award for Citizen Kane with Orson Welles. Hammerstein became the lyricist partner of Richard Rodgers '23 for the great Broadway musicals South Pacific and Oklahoma. Rodgers showed early promise as a composer when he wrote the 1920 Varsity Show, Fly With Me, for which Hart, seven years older, wrote the lyrics. This show had a wonderful tribute to Columbia in the song titled "A College On Broadway." Rodgers and Hart also wrote the 1921 Varsity Show, "You'll Never Know." Don's uncle, Joseph Mankiewicz '28, Herman's brother, was a writer and director of All About Eve and A Letter to Three Wives, and also directed the notable film version of Julius Caesar. Who could have predicted the great contributions our Columbia alumni have made to Broadway theatre and Hollywood films? It is a unique record of creative genius, nurtured at our beloved alma mater.

Art Wellington, a charter member of the Columbia branch of the Certified Degenerate Horseplayers Club (along with the late Chic Hoelzer, the late Don Dickinson, Don Mankiewicz and this correspondent) recently hit two Trifecta wagers at Belmont Park. Art places his bets at the Elmira, N.Y., OTB office, and his handicapping skills are improving with his chronologic age (88). He recently presided at the celebration of the 25th wedding anniversary of his youngest son, Jim, and his wife, Julie, who are the parents of Jim Jr., a second lieutenant in the Tank Corps, awaiting assignment overseas.

On July 26, attorney Albert Burstein '47 sent me a funny story via e-mail, about a grave error he made as a counterperson at the Columbia Chemists in 1942. Al was preparing a milkshake for his Jersey City high school friend, our deceased classmate, Dr. Herbert Mark. Wanting to give Herb a really great milkshake, Al loaded the metal carabiner with extra milk and ice cream before starting the spinner. As Al said, "In one flash, the over-abundant concoction splattered the wall, Herb, and myself in that order. Herb immediately left the counter to shower, I remained frozen in place under the hateful and disgusted gaze of Mac Levy, and was never again assigned to counter service." Despite this mini-disaster, Herb never sued Al for assault and battery, and they remained friends for five decades.

Al played varsity basketball at Columbia, practiced as a trusts and estates lawyer, and became a prominent member of the New Jersey State Legislature. Herb was sports editor of Spectator and had a distinguished career as a cardiologist, chief of the Medical Service at the Bronx VA Hospital and professor of medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine before his retirement. Herb died in January 2006. His memory has been preserved by classmates, friends and family with the creation of the Herbert Mark Memorial Scholarship, implemented in September.

On July 24, Paul Hauck sent me a note to express his appreciation of our 65th Reunion Luncheon on campus. Paul regretted that his grandson, Danny, is at Northwestern Medical School, and his granddaughter, Amanda, started at Dartmouth this year. By the time this issue of CCT reaches us, our Homecoming Day gathering on October 13 will be part of history. I hope to produce a special issue of our college's Class of 1942 Newsletter for the occasion, with additional photographs if possible.

Meanwhile, kind regards to all classmates. Long may Columbia stand!

Ronald A. Graham '45 of New Providence, N.J., has created a program to encourage local residents to help elderly and disabled neighbors in specific ways according to need.

How true, how true. Bernie enjoys his place in Montauk, N.Y., where he and his wife, Sheila, play golf and swim. Among many in Bernie's gifted family, he reports that his grandson, Danny, is at Northwestern Medical School, and his granddaughter, Amanda, started at Dartmouth this year. By the time this issue of CCT reaches us, our Homecoming Day gathering on October 13 will be part of history. I hope to produce a special issue of our college's Class of 1942 Newsletter for the occasion, with additional photographs if possible.

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REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1
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Happy Thanksgiving. We need much more correspondence from our classmates! Please pick up your pens and mail in some news!

most of us octogenarians: "I keep busy with one thing or another, but too often at the end of the day I look back and do not see that I have accomplished much!"

Prominent Bay Area psychiatrist Dr. Francis Rigney is now "in the Modern World" with an e-mail address: fjrigney@sbcglobal.net. He adds: "This also is my debut as a typist" (the sample received looked fine). Using his new skills, Francis keeps a page count of what I type — I recently finished 200 pages about the arts: the types, aesthetics, society, etc. So now on to a new topic."
state of Texas seeking improved health care for 2.8 million poor children. Less spectacular, but important to a fisherman, was a granddaughter’s catch of a 19-inch bass at summer camp.

Larry still recalls the invitation of Dean [Herbert E.] Hawkes at orientation in 1941 for students to bring problems to him. The dean’s desk was located at the doorway so he could refer problems to the appropriate secretary. This personal student concern “set the tone for my college experience,” says Larry. As the only student, Larry recalls a senior seminar with Grayson Kirk. An A for the six-credit course enabled Larry to graduate in 1944. Ben Brown, a College freshman instructor, became Larry’s lifelong friend. In addition to a B.A. from the College, Larry earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. from GSAS. A final word from Larry: “I’ve been grateful ever since for my undergraduate experience at Columbia.”

Ronald A. Graham ’44E of New Providence, N.J., a former rocket scientist and Pulitzer Scholar at Columbia, has created an innovative program to encourage local residents to help elderly and disabled neighbors in specific ways according to need. The local mayor awarded Ronald a Borough of New Providence certificate of appreciation for instituting the “Good Neighbor” program. Ronald plans to spread this program throughout New Jersey and possibly other states.

Thomas T. Semon of Pompton Lakes, N.J., retired in 2001 as a marketing research consultant. Tom likes to travel and engages in stock market analyzing, gardening, sudoku and bridge as hobbies. He remembers Professors Hibbit and Hubbell as teachers who helped him reduce his German accent. An interesting College experience was working at Paul Lazarsfeld’s Office of Radio Research and participating in a “lousy” play at the McMillan Theater. Richard Popklin ’43 was a close friend.

With regret, I inform you of the death of John P. Loth, a retired artist, of Freeport, Maine, on January 1. Our condolences are extended to John’s wife, Anne.

In a recent US News survey, Princeton was ranked as the No. 1 university in the country, with Columbia tied for ninth. One criterion for the rating was the percentage of alumni support with financial contributions. Princeton had a 60 percent rating in this category. The 2006-2007 Columbia College Fund Blue Sheet as of June 30 reports the highest participation is the Class of 1957 at 42.32 percent for $343,885. With class years listed from 1941 to 2006, our class ranked 21st in participation for a contribution of $17,401, the lowest amount stated. Class size attributes to the low dollar amount but not the low participation rate.

Honorees chosen at random and to whom a questionnaire for Class Notes information will be sent are Frank A. Lloyd of Philadelphia; Jay J. Pack of New York City; Howard Schwartz ’45E of Lewisburg, Pa.; and George T. Wright of Tucson, Ariz. May we hear from or about these honorees?

Bernard Sunshine 255 Overlook Rd. New Rochelle, NY 10804 buns@optonline.net

Norman Hansen, writing from Laguna Woods, Calif., recounts arriving at Columbia according to the Class of ’46 but graduating in 1950. WWII altered the change, not an unusual tale for our class. Norman retired as senior associate engineer of Mobil. On his annual calendar are visits to his children, granddaughter and two great-grandchildren in Jacksonville, Fla., where he resided before moving West. Norman volunteers as a usher and greeter at pastor Rick Warren’s Saddleback Church.

We recently reported Bernie Goldman’s accident on the ski slopes. He brings us up to date, saying he is “not 100 percent by a long shot” but good progress is being made. He is ambulatory and beginning to think about snow-covered trails. We look forward to news about Bernie’s complete recovery.

Bernie recently was recognized by the State of Colorado for 10 years of service on the Adult Judicial District Attorney’s Citizen Advisory Board. ADC is a program in conjunction with the judiciary that provides an opportunity for offenders to avoid incarceration and having felony charges on their record. There are two intensive years of screening, testing, counseling and classes, during which judgment and sentencing are delayed pending the recommendation of ADC. Perhaps ADC also is an acronym for Another Desired Chance.

Robert Schrage commuted to Columbia and feels he missed out on friendships with those who lived on campus. After graduation, Bob earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the Engineer-

Irwin Nydick ’46 volunteers in the Department of Medicine at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, where he teaches interns and residents three days a week.

Irwin Nydick indulges his love of gardening and photography. Mike still savors a remarkable trip they took through Kenya and Tanzania. He gives this a two thumbs up recommendation to classmates.

From Post Falls, Idaho, John McConnell recalls meeting Dwight D. Eisenhower when he served in Europe in WWII. When the general became Columbia’s president, John occasionally waited on him at the Faculty Club and managed not to “spill coffee or soup on Ike.” (He could have found himself on K.P. at Faculty House.) John reports that three of his sons are veterinarians, which is probably a record for our class and possibly all classes. Looking ahead a bit, John and his wife, Pearl, are intent on a trip to Alaska.

Irwin Nydick writes from Bronxville, N.Y., that he retired from his office of internal medicine and cardiology nine years ago. He volunteers in the Department of Medicine at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, where he teaches interns and residents three days a week. Irwin makes bedside rounds with students, and the house staff has fondly labeled them “Nydick rounds.” He also is a cardiologist at the Hospital for Special Surgery. “Some retirement!” Irwin comments, but he enjoys every bit of it. He is director emeritus and on the Advisory Council of the Louis August Jones Foundation, an international scholarship program for talented teenagers.

For R&R, travel and golf rank high. Irwin has golfed in Mexico and Costa Rica, and he particularly notes a golf expedition by ship and Zodiac [inflatable rubber raft] to Scotland and Ireland. Now there is an idea for golf buffs.

To all the interesting travel reported in this column I add my own, more modest and not exotic. I first visited Niagara Falls in 1947 (not honeymoon) and my most recent visit with my wife, Marge, and our 12-year-old grandson was my fourth, but the appeal has not lessened. The impact and beauty of the falls is undiminished for me, and the Maid of the Mist boat ride is still a must. This time, the large presence of international visitors was apparent. If you haven’t already, treat yourself to a few days on the Canadian side of the falls and the beautiful Berkshires, where Mike indulges his love of gardening and photography. Mike still savors a remarkable trip they took through Kenya and Tanzania. He gives this a two thumbs up recommendation to classmates.

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch. School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts School of the Arts
Barnard Barnard College
Business Graduate School of Business
CE School of Continuing Education
Dental College of Dental Medicine
E Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS School of General Studies
GSAS Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J Graduate School of Journalism
L School of Law
Nursing School of Nursing
P&S College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA School of International and Public Affairs
SW School of Social Work
TC Teachers College

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007
CLASS NOTES

39
was quite a guy." Alex also worked with a number of top-notch scholars in the Soviet studies field, including John Armstrong and Thomas Shaw. Since retiring five years ago, Alex says, "I’ve been trying to catch up with materials I missed when I was bibliographer. When I was buying materials, I didn’t always have time to read them." He also has traveled to Belarus, where he has family, and to Poland and Ukraine. He retains a faculty position and a computer at the University of Wisconsin, which recognized his long service by conferring the title emeritus professor.

This letter from Brooklyn counselor-at-law Seth Rubenstein speaks for itself. "Perhaps this will make you think twice about inviting service experiences. As it happens, I met two classmatess at Fort Dix, to which we reported when we were first inducted in 1947.

“One of them was Stu Schwartz, who was a company clerk in the Army and went on to an important career as a Manhattan lawyer.

“The other was Bill Rubin ‘48E. At induction, he was a musician, and I remember him sketching out the overture to La Bohème on the train that took us to Fort Belvoir. Bill was unhappy in the Army and eventually was shipped to Italy. Where he became interested in art and eventually acted as the curator of the Museum of Modern Art.

“In the Army, I was in a marching band, and on Army Day our band went to Chicago to march in a parade. The night of the parade, we went out to Great Lakes Naval Station and saw Dick Hoffman with a great dancing band. I’ve seen Dick several times recently when he has played at the Barge in Brooklyn.

“Meanwhile, while I’m at it, my granddaughter, Mary-Jane Rubenstein, went from being a Manhattan lawyer to working as a freshman on the staff of the New York Times. I’m happy for her and her success. And I’m happy for her parents and her family."

Another granddaughter, Madeleine Rubenstein (these two are the offspring of different sons, both of whom are College graduates), is in her second year at Barnard.

Thanks, Seth. Maybe you’ll inspire service stories and granddaughter/grandson stories from more classmates. We caught up with New Yorker Malcolm LaPrade on the eve of his departure for a round of world travel starting in Alaska. Malcolm was one of the younger members of the class — perhaps the youngest — graduating at 17 after hearing Phi Beta Kappa honors. He especially remembers working as a freshman on the Varsity Slate with Martin Chamin, probably best known as the lyricist for the 1977 Broadway musical Annie.

Ted Melnechuk reminisces about growing up in New York City in the 1930s in the “Metro- polis and Memory” column of the New York Times: “I no longer know what the children do when school is out in Queens, but I vividly remember what a gang of 7-year-olds I belonged to in Richmond Hill would do on our block on many a hot summer day.

“Our street, 97th Avenue between 124th and 125th Streets, was paved not with asphalt but with tar, which the hot sun caused to bubble. We would either jump on the bubbles to make them pop, smearing our sneakers to the consternation of our parents, or we would use an old Popsicle stick to gouge out some tar, which we would then chew on, for the older kids on our block had told us that doing this would whiten our teeth.

“And when an ice man would stop his horse-drawn wagon on our block, we would wait until he had gone into a house to deliver a block of ice (no one on our block had an electric refrigerator in those days), and then we would chew on the bits of ice that he had created by chipping the block away from a larger block of ice on the floor of his wagon.

“On hot days here, I don’t miss the ice men, or the newsboys, or the street vendors selling newspapers and magazines. But I do miss the cooling effect of the ice on my face, and I do miss the coolness of the ice itself.

Ted lives in Amherst, Mass. Speaking of New York City in “the old days,” who remembers the peanut vendor on Broadway in front of McMillian Theatre? The Good Humor man on the corner of 116th and Broadway during the torrid summer days of 1943? Trolleys screeching up the Broadway incline? Bread pudding at Hinze’s on Amsterdam?

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Jack Shearer, Art Thomas and Tony Zega, all of whom were members of the lightweight crew in 1941, will gather for a reunion in August. These classmates are the known survivors of that crew. All other survivors of the same crew are invited to contact Jack (jackreet@hvc.rr.com) or Art (kingarttom@aol.com) for more information.

An overwhelming experience for Ray Annino was the surprise (it really did surprise him) birthday party that his family hosted for him in Hyannis, Mass., in August. It was Ray’s 80th birthday. Forty family members plus numerous friends were present for the festivities, which consumed an entire weekend and included a professional fireworks display and a cruise on a two-masted schooner. "It was a fantastic weekend," says Ray, "although I was reeling from all the partying."

Dan Neuberger, continuing his second career as a photographer, in August had an exhibit of his...
work at the Image City Photography Gallery in Rochester, N.Y. Dan specializes in architectural forms and shapes, and many of the images in the exhibit were from Santorini, one of the Greek islands in the Aegean Sea, which he visited earlier this year. He added color to the exhibit with images he made in the Istanbul Spice Market.

Dan is a founding partner of the Image City Photo Gallery. You can visit him there on the Internet at a look at some of his works and even look at Dan himself. Just go to www.imagecityphotographygallery.com.

After half a century in the field of institutional development (fundraising), Al Schmitt has retired. In his career, Al has run fundraising campaigns for hospitals and universities including, in the 1960s, a new gymnasium for Columbia. (Who doesn’t remember the semicircular gym of our alumnus in Goodyear, Ariz., which is about 17 miles from Phoenix. Both are members of the Pebble Creek Singles and of an offshoot “Men’s Texas Hold-Em” club. Frank, after graduating from the Law School in 1953, began his career in Manhattan as a deputy district attorney. He then moved to Arizona, was a founder of his own law firm and has practiced securities law for the past 50 years. Most of us remember Frank as a member of one of Columbia’s greatest basketball teams, almost making it to the NCAA finals. According to Tex, Frank is still tall, slender, athletic and a helluva good poker player! Classmates can contact Tex by dropping a note to his home at 15617 W. Earl Dr., Goodyear, AZ 85338.

There is nothing like a wedding to prompt a family reunion. Frank Raimondo and his wife, Pat, returned in August from a trip out West, where they attended the wedding of their granddaughter, Dr. Keeyah Raimondo, to Dr. Brent Zeidler. Kamackshi is in her third year of a surgical residency at the UC San Francisco. Brendon practices dentistry in Las Gatos. The wedding festivities included Frank and Pat’s four children, five grandchildren and great-granddaughter, Kia, who was a flower girl. Is it any wonder that Frank is suggesting a new Columbia alumni group called “Great-Grandparents of the Class of 1951?” He certainly won’t have to worry about medical care in the future, and maybe that’s why he and Pat had a second honeymoon in northern California, Oregon and Montana before coming home to New Jersey and to Frank’s new career as “helper-at-large” to his son, Tim, who is in the residential development business.

Arnold Schwartz and his wife of 56 years, Phyllis, traveled to Paris in August for a 19-day French river cruise. Arnold is a retired businessman residing in Boca Raton. He and Phyllis have four daughters residing in California, New York and Florida, and seven grandchildren.

For most of us, the word “Columbia” means Columbia College. However, to quote Regina Baio, v.p. of the Columbia University Alumni Club of Westchester, “It is impossible to ignore the remarkable and ongoing success of the work pouring out of the Columbia University’s School of the Arts Graduate Film Division. At prominent film festivals around the world, Columbia films are routinely courted and accepted into competition, consistently gathering cascades of awards. In this year’s Sundance Film Festival, there were 20 films by Columbia students and/or graduates with Columbia projects virtually sweeping the top festival awards. To quote University President Lee C. Bollinger, ‘The quality of films coming out of our film and writing programs has never been better and this is a direct result of the way we teach our students from day one.’”

With encouragement from the alumni office, class correspondents who write these every-other-month CCT Class Notes often become close friends. I enjoyed a warm friendship with Arthur Ingerman ’52, whose column follows mine in every CCT. Artie died on August 3, and I would be remiss if I did not quote some words from Stanley Schachter, a TEP fraternity brother of Artie’s who gave the eulogy at the funeral service. Quoting from William Shakespeare, Stan said, “‘Some men are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them.’” Arch (his name since college 59 years ago) laughed at the Joseph Heller paraphrase using the word ‘mediocrity,’ which wasn’t in Arch’s lexicon. ‘Great’ was a key Ingerman word, a special key word, and it fit perfectly when a number of us met him at Columbia almost 60 years ago. Arch did not come from a well-to-do family, but he came from a ‘wealth’ where achievement had to be earned — and indeed he earned it — from top of his class at Erasmus H.S. and Columbia College (where he was a rare third-year Phi Beta Kappa) and an Honor Society Member at the Columbia Dental School, to the proprietor of three dental offices in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Rockland County (at the same time). How is that for greatness? We of the circa 1948 era of TEP’s created an immodest inner circle called the ‘Greats,’ in which somehow Arch appeared to be the greatest among us. And so it has remained. It was always a unique delight to watch the intellect pour out of his mouth and demystify subjects such as philosophy, politics, entertainment, history and literature, to name but a few. He wrote plays and performed at Columbia and in Rockland County. He was the modern version of the Renaissance man; but I told him not to give up his day job. He was my dentist since 1960 and he was ‘great.’

Thank you, Stan, for this eulogy. Our hearts and sympathy go out to Arthur’s wife Rosalie, children and grandchildren. [See Obituaries.]

Hope you all made it to Homecoming! Write, phone or e-mail. Your input is important. It makes my day!

A few members of the 1946-47 lightweight crew got together on August 14 at Pierre’s Restaurant in Morristown, N.J., for lunch (left to right): Jack Shearer ’50, Rita Shearer, Art Thomas ’50, Charlotte Thomas and Tony Zega ’50. Any other members are invited to contact Jack at jackreet@nvcrr.com or Art at kingarttom@aol.com.
His fourth oldest grandchild hospital as a general practitioner
graduated first in her high school
the University of New Mexico
school in June and is interning at
child graduated from medical
families. The municipality has
division championships. In addi-
tball team and led them to two
Stan played for the Sceaux bas-
Erosion,
ous book.

It's fascinating new book, Science for
Sale: The Perils, Rewards and Delu-
sions of Campus Capitalism. It's being published this fall by the University of Chicago Press. Dan wrote the book while a guest scholar at the Brookings Institute, in Washington, D.C., where he and his wife, Wanda, live. His research included visiting campuses across the country (Columbia included) and the United Kingdom in order to examine the controversial issue of universities commercializing research from their labs. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation helped out with a grant for research and travel. The University of Chicago Press also published Dan's previous book, Science, Money, and Politics: Political Triumph and Ethical Erosion, in 2001.

In July, Stan Maratos was honored by the Association of Sports d'Sceaux Anciens for his contribution to the French city's basketball team during the 1963 and 1964 seasons. During those years, Stan was a captain in the Air Force and was stationed at Orly Air Field, where he was the personal pilot for the U.S. ambassador to NATO, J. William Fin-
letter. During his off-duty time, Stan played for the Sceaux basketball team and led them to two division championships. In addition to being inducted into the Hall of Fame, Stan and his wife were honored at a banquet and feted with a TV interview and a cruise on the Doubs River.

Stan wrote, "I never thought they would remember me after 43 years, but when the invitation came, we couldn’t refuse. It was a fantastic reunion, and I saw many of my former teammates and their families. The municipality has built a new, state-of-the-art stadium next to the old gym but it has retained all the old trophies, awards and charms." 

Angel Ferrer’s oldest grandchild graduated from medical school in June and is interning at the University of New Mexico hospital as a general practitioner. His fourth oldest grandchild graduated first in her high school class a week later and will study genetics and his youngest grandchild recently celebrated her first birthday.

Angel recently returned from CERN, where he explored the new accelerator, especially the Alpha Experiment. (I’m planning to ask Angel what the Alpha Experiment is and will report in the next issue.) Meanwhile, Angel writes, seeing the Alpha Experiment before it was finished caused shades of Quimby and Kuschi to dance through his head. (I’m also planning to ask Angel for his memories of Quimby and Kuschi.)

Alas, Michael V. Tepedino, who was a retired physician and lived in Manhasset, N.Y., passed away on May 26. Mike certainly will be missed.

About our 55th reunion … As I mentioned in a previous column, George Lowry has been enlisted to help organize plans for another wonderful reunion. If you would like to have fun as a member of the planning committee, please e-mail your name, phone number and e-mail address to me: lew.robins@aol.com.

There are days (most of them) when I really enjoy reporting news about our classmates. For those who enjoy reading CCT and especially about members of our class, I’m sorry to say that for this issue I only can report about those who are no longer with us … in body if not in spirit. I know some of these classmates better than others but all of them added to the strength of our class in terms of what they contributed and the Engineering School while living a good part of his life in Pittsburgh. He spent the bulk of his career with Westinghouse as a nuclear engineer.

Someone else I knew but only slightly; I wish that it could have been otherwise: Ralph Gerchberg passed away after several years of struggle with a rare form of myeloma. His career covered work which he had done in wave theory. He was well known in the field of applied physics and had done a great deal in the field of algorithms.

I become more and more impressed with the contributions our classmates have made whether it be in the orbit of their families, their communities, their professions or in the world at large.

Please let me hear from you or I will be forced to get on the phone and start a conversation with a “You will never guess who this is.” Please be well and continue to enjoy the benefits of being a member of such a “glorious age,” as we have.

George Bahamonde '55 is an attorney, U.S. Army, in the Office of the Judge Advocate in Heidelberg.

The campus looks fantastic with the visible construction completed (albeit the erection of the new science building on 120th Street and Broadway is moving along but out of sight to onlookers). Students have been taking advantage of the weather by basking on Low Library steps. Tous are in high demand to prospective applicants and their parents. It is a great time to be in the orbit of their families, and their parents. It is a great time to be in touch with students. Interviewing candidates for the Class of 2012 has begun in all parts of the country and overseas. It appears to be a bigger applicant pool than last year’s record number. In addition to being in New York City, “the Core is the biggest reason for students applying to our favorite school on Morris-
side Heights.

Columbia hosted a special event in Paris at the end of Sep-
tember, “A Weekend of Celebra-
tion,” which featured appearances by Kofi Annan, Jeffrey Sachs, Joseph Stiglitz, Carol Becker and President Lee C. Bollinger, among a vast number of luminaries. Receptions, panels and tours were the order of the weekend for the overflow crowd of attendees. It was a mighty suc-

gest! We weren’t sure whether any of our classmates living and working overseas were able to make it to the festivities — Bill Weinstein, professor of interna-
tional business, Henley-Man-
agement College in England; Abe Ashkenazi, retired professor, Freie University, Berlin; George Baha-
monde, attorney, U.S. Army, Office of the Judge Advocate, Hei-
delberg; and Constantin Vichy, architect in La Clotte, France.

On an entertainment note, a couple of Columbia College graduates each played an important role in two major movies released recently. Julia Stiles ’05 had a sig-
ificant part in the acclaimed The Bourne Ultimatum and Dan Fut-
terman ’89 portrayed journalist Daniel Pearl in A Mighty Heart.

Put those films on your viewing list.

In addition to having classmates residing in different parts of the world, we have the pleasure of making their homes in the Northwest — the state of Washington. Ron Cowan, our former associate editor at Spectator and retired research analyst, is in Seattle, and

Bob Thorus, formerly with Exxon, made it back for Home-
coming (and a stroll around the campus for the first time in a long while). Bob and his family live in Murrieta, Calif. Also on the West Coast resides Bill Cohen (a transplanted Brook-
lynite of years ago), who also is retired, from the legal profession. Sidney Sime, who transferred from Cornell to study at Columbia, has retired from the Marine Corps and resides in Santa Monica, Calif.

Down south in Houston lives transplanted New Yorker Milt Fin
gold. A longtime resident of this great city, Milt is professor of pathology, Baylor College of Med-
icine. Our favorite band manager, Ronald Dubner, makes his home in Bethesda, Md., and is chief, neurology and anesthesiology, National Institute Dental Research at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. We wonder if he ever runs into Jerry Plasse, plastic sur-
gon in Chevy Chase, Md.; Lew Mendelson, capital markets con-
sultant; or even Larry Cove, retired psychiatrist; both also from Bethesda. Moving further north, Dave Stevens, an old Varsity Show favorite and formerly...
from Allentown, now "struts his stuff" in Philadelphia.

Another member of our class who has retired is Boris Iovich, who was a noted pediatrician at the Hunterdon Development Center in southern New Jersey. Many recall the feature article about Boris that appeared in The New York Times several years ago. (It was good stuff.) Dick Kuhn, our most avid Columbia sports fan next to Bob Pearlm an, is ready for the Lions' March appearance at James Madison Gym, when our guys play the Princeton Tigers. It could be a crucial weekend in the Ivy League race. A short while ago, we spoke to Jim Phelan (1956 Olympics Water Polo participant). Jim is doing quite well living in Princeton, thank you. Former news director of WKRK Warren Goodman toils away as physician/psychiatrist in Great Neck, Long Island. Speaking of the island, the annual '50s baseball party was held in Freeport and hosted by Tom Brennan. In attendance were Jack Freeman (who subsequently had successful double knee surgery — he'll be back in action for 2008 spring training), Don Schappert, George Raitt, Paul Taormina '56 and Charlie Brown '56. Absent with good excuses were Ron McPhee, John Naley, Walt Depta, Tony Paladino and Jud Maze. What would coach Rollie Rourke say?

Just recently, your favorite correspondent esied the good doctor, Herb Rubinowitz, doing his errands on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. Before we could get closer, the light changed and Herb disappeared into the crowd.

Maybe next time. Stanley Blumberg, who lives on Park Avenue, is special counsel at First American Title Insurance Company of New York — do you think he's as quick as Herb?

Intelectually gifted and provocative members of the "Class of Destiny" — Columbia College's Class of 1955. Keep striving to be the best. New horizons and challenges are before us. Don't forget the Big Party in a little more than two years.

Love to all! Everywhere!

Steve Ronai '57 teaches "Regulation of the Health Care Industry" in the health care concentration curriculum at the Quinnipiac University School of Law in Hamden, Conn.

Barbara and Jerry Fine to visit at their lovely Long Island home, which has great views of the water. We played tennis doubles, where I was absolutely horrible, one excuse being that I used a borrowed tennis racket I could not stand (a partial excuse).

Nich Cohn has been busy with visitors at his place in Rhode Island... I know of Lisa and Mike Spett and Ruth and Lenny Wolfe. I cannot expand this column any more except to mention that Homecoming was on October 13 and our annual basketball get-together will be planned. I saw Roy Russo and Steve Easton at Columbia at the 100th anniversary of Hamilton Hall in September. If you have any news or suggestions for class events, please tell me.

So, as usual, here's wishing you health, happiness, longevity and a little wealth — keep contributing to the Columbia College Fund so we can keep funding our 10 annual class scholarships, which we started with the great 50th reunion.

May we all have sympathetic children as we get older, and even more importantly, extraordinary and loving grandchildren.

Love to all.

Carlos Muñoz: "Greetings from Nashville, where I am attending a North American Championship Bridge Tournament and had an opportunity to meet with former championship fencer Nyles Ayers, who met me at the airport and gave me a miniature of Nashville. We enjoyed an excellent dinner and subsequently, Nyles chauffeured me to a renowned country inn, where his lovely wife, Cindy, came along for a real country breakfast with biscuits and red eye gravy. For those of us who didn't attend the reunion, Nyles, who is older than most of us, will be at our [55th], continues to monitor his scholarship business actively and is looking forward to that event."

Steve Ronai: "I am again teaching my 'Regulation of the Health Care Industry' course at Columbia, and the health care concentration curriculum at the Quinnipiac University School of Law (Hamden, Conn.) on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so I will be unable to make the stimulating class luncheons. There is indeed ... a good life after our [50th], at least for most of us, and at least so far. Would be pleased to hear from classmates."

Joel Schwartz: "The New York State 2007 Empire State Games are over. In July, I entered [three] events: swimming with the following results for the 70-74-year-old male age category: 1,650-yard swim — second place — silver medal (by about 22 seconds) — my time, 34:48:28; 1,000-yard swim — second place — silver medal (by about 20 seconds) — my time, 19:34:25; 500-yard swim — second place — silver medal (by about 20 seconds) — my time, 9:51.09.

"[The events] were in Westchester this year and will be in Binghamton next year. I learned from this event that if you keep at anything, eventually you get to be good at it (or the competition is too old or sick to beat you)," remarked Schwartz.

PHOTO: DEBORAH SCHWARTZ

This summer, at the Empire State Games and the New York State Senior Games, Joel Schwartz '57 collected four medals (three silver, one gold) for swimming freestyle in the 70-74-year-old male category. "I learned from this event that if you keep at anything, eventually you get to be good at it (or the competition is too old or sick to beat you)," remarked Schwartz. Schwartz also was a gold medal winner at the New York State Senior Games. [See photo.]

While in San Francisco for the ABA Annual Meeting and vacation in August, yours truly met Eloise and John Norton for lunch and Ira Lubell, his partner and cousin for dinner on one day, and two days later met Dick Cohen for dinner.

The incoming chair of my ABA section named me a co-chair of the Research & Development and Intellectual Property Committee for 2007-08.

On September 2, at a reception near Washington, D.C., celebrating the life of Lucy M. Kramer Cohen (1907-2007) '28 Barnard (noted anthropologist and editor), I met Bob Klipstein. Because of space limitations, several lines from the issue on our reunion (September/October) had to be cut. In her presentation on the "Four Years of Columbia College THEN and NOW," Emma Judkins '07 noted that through participation in Columbia sports she made several close friendships, some of which will be for life.
July. My wife, Lily, threw me a birthday party (I recently retired from San Francisco State’s English department after teaching there for 37 years — with another two years at Columbia, where I was in graduate school, and five years at Cal). Lily rented a beautiful, late Victorian mansion-art center in San Rafael. Falkirk House, where I was overwhelmed to find so many well-wishers. My oldest, Naomi, and her husband, Michael John, and their three children flew in from London; Noah and his girlfriend, Lea, drove up from Los Angeles and Eva, who recently relocated from Vermont and her boyfriend, Tyler, drove over from Oakland, to round out my immediate family. My other child, Sarah, had to stay in Manhattan, preparing for the birth of her second child, a boy, Kai Warren Vanderhoff.

“The party was very moving. Colleagues from State, from the San Francisco Psychoanalytic Institute, former students from 40 years ago, a friend from high school — all spoke so fondly and eloquently that I almost felt I was attending my funeral. Dessert was just as splendid. We rented a house in Sea Ranch for a week. Naomi, Noah, Eva and their families rented houses there, too, as well as many two or three evenings, their families. You may have heard of the place. It’s about 100 miles north of San Francisco on 4,000 acres of a former sheep ranch. The landscape architect, Lawrence Halperin, helped design it some time ago, trying hard to avoid the buzz about JFK’s inauguration. “Boy, was it cold that day; froze our tushes off.” (Somehow that important news went lost in the buzz about JFK’s famous inaugural speech and his going hatless.) Karl was too modest to mention that he was a terrific clarinet player with the College band.

Karl adds that he was an “April Fool’s” hire with Honeywell; he started work on April 1, 1960, and was terminated on April 1, 1991. His last assignment was as upstate New York regional manager but he was downsized in the course of a series of corporate reorganizations. He then gladly left Syracuse and its annual 12 feet of snow accumulations for Jensen Beach, Fla., where he enjoys retirement and the occasional round of golf. He and his Dutch-born wife, Maria, have four children and one grandchild.

After retiring from the Navy, Rudy Hradecky has become deputy city attorney for the City of San Diego.

Save the date: The planning committee continues to work on our 50th reunion, which will take place on and around campus from Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. More details to come.

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Princeton/Columbia Club, 15 W. 43rd Street. ($31 per person). E-mail Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinclass.com

Norman Gelfand

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Michael Zimmerman tells us, “still haven’t come down from a high [I’ve] been on since the end of July. My wife, Lily, threw me a 20th birthday-retire-outing party at the National Institute of Health special Senior Postdoctoral Fellow (1972–73), a NATO Senior Research Fellow (1973), a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellow (1982), an Alexander von Humboldt Senior Scientist (1983), a JSPS Research Fellow (1984) and have won a Fulbright-Hays Fellowship. I was a member of the executive committee of the Inter-American Photochemical Society, a medalist of the SouthEast American Chemical Society (1984), was chairman and was chairman of the Organization of the American Chemical Society (1985–86).

“I also have been a member of the Medicinal Chemistry A Study Section of the NIH, the chairman of the Gordon Research Conference on Heterocycles, the NSF Workshop on Reactive Intermediates and a member of the Advisory Board of the Petroleum Research Fund. I have served as editor for the Marcel Dekker Organic Photochemistry series as well as for the John Wiley Dipolar Cycloaddition series. I have been a visiting professor at Harvard, MIT, UC Berkeley, UCLA, The ETH in Zurich, Beijing University, the University of Lyons (France), University of Wurzburg (Germany), the University of Melbourne (Australia) and recently (2005) was the Wilsome Fellow in Chemistry at Melbourne University in Australia.

“I have been awarded the Southern Chemist prize, the Senior Award in Heterocyclic Chemistry from the International Society of Heterocyclic Chemists and the Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award from the American Chemical Society. I was president of the International Society of Heterocyclic Chemistry, a volume editor for Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry III, a member of the Editorial Board of Topics in Heterocyclic Chemistry and I am an associate editor of the Journal of Organic Chemistry. My research group is now at nine grad/postdoc students but will rapidly diminish in

Jerome Charyn ’59’s novel, Johnny One-Eye, about a young rogue who attends King’s College with Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) just before the Revolution, will be published by Norton in February.
size since I decided to kick into the emeritus mode in September 2008. “My three children from marriage No. 1 live in Boston (M.D. at Harvard); Providence (Jeff, lawyer) and NYC (Carolyn, manager, touring exhibitions, Whitney Museum of American Art). My fourth child (Aaron), from marriage No. 2 with Maureen Walsh, is a freshman at Emory. Maureen and I bought a lake cottage in Tryon, N.C., about three hours north of Atlanta, and we spend about two months for long weekends. Hope to have contact with some old friends who live nearby.

“I have a passion for high mountains and for more than 30 years have been climbing/hiking/trekking all over the world, including Mt. Rainier, New Zealand, Nepal, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Argentina, Africa, Australia and Chile. I spent 3½ weeks climbing to 22,600 feet on Mt. Aconcagua, summited Kilimanjaro (19,600), Cotopaxi (20,000), Mt. Fuji, Mt. Cuyoc and most recently (in January) the Torres del Paine in Patagonia. Next May, I am scheduled to climb near the Karakorum Highway in Western China. Photos of these and other climbs can be found at my Web site: http://euch6f.chem.emory.edu/padwa.html. Hope to be able to make our 50th gathering.”

David G. Trager is a district court judge for the Eastern District of New York and was formerly dean of Brooklyn Law School. A David G. Trager Public Policy Symposium is held in his honor at the law school.

Jerome Charyn’s novel, Johnny One-Eye, about a young rogue who attempts to leave the Lower East Side for Yale University Press and hopes to begin a novel about Emily Dickinson.

David Rosand, Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History at Columbia, was honored by The Renaissance Society of America with the Paul Oskar Kristeller Lifetime Achievement Award, named for the late Woodbridge Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Columbia, the world’s leading historian of Renaissance philosophy and a founder of the Renaissance Society.

David is engaged in the development of Casa Muraro in Venice, a house and library that has been left to Columbia as a study center. He also is project director of Save Venice, the organization devoted to the restoration and conservation of works of art and architecture in the lagoon city.

Lew Fineman and his wife, Ann, enjoy spending the summer volunteering at Kenai Fjords National Park in Seward, Alaska. This was their fifth summer volunteering in the interpretive division of the National Park Service. They spend most of their time at Exit Glacier, so they welcome any Columbia alumni who would like to stop in and say hi. In their time off, they can be found in Anchorage playing with their first grandchild, Jack.

Herb Stern’s daughter, Johanna Smith ’07, and Murray Epstein’s son, Jonathan ’07, graduated in May. Just to think that when we were students in the college that members of the Class of 1907 were at Homecoming! How old they were and how young we are. Ted Graske lives in Waldwick, N.J., with his wife, Sally. Their three daughters and three grandchildren live near his parents. Ted is in touch with Tom Bilbao and George Spelios. Since Ted retired recently as v.p. of administration for Ricoh, he and Sally have done a fair amount of traveling and maintain a program of regular exercise and physical activity. Ted has also done some consulting.

Ted has become involved in the movement to restore ROTC to Columbia. He notes that “Since 1916 and prior to the Vietnam War, Columbia cadets and midshipmen peacefully coexisted with their classmates. Despite Columbia’s tradition of supplying thousands of bright young leaders to defend their country, the Columbia administration expelled ROTC cadets in 1969 to appease student protestors and disgruntled faculty.”

He believes that 9-11 rekindled the ROTC issue on campus and spawned a student movement for the return of ROTC on the Columbia campus. Conversations with alumni from as far back as the early ‘50s through the Class of 2006 resulted in the formation of the Columbia Alliance for ROTC to support the student movement. In the short run, Ted is working to increase University and alumni support for Columbia students participating in ROTC at the nearby campuses of Fordham University and Manhattan College. He hopes that campus leaders will set a tone that encourages undergraduate and graduate involvement in ROTC and the importance of serving their country. Ultimately, he seeks the return of ROTC to the campus.

Ted and his associates publish a newsletter, The Wounded Lion, which is designed to be “provocative and informative” so as to raise awareness and interest among alumni. Anyone interested in learning more about the organization and its goals can contact Ted at ted1104@msn.com. He can also be found in the stands at every Columbia football home game.

We would like to hear from all of you who have not contributed to our Class Notes. Please write.

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Lawrence Fisher was elected to the board of directors of The Quantum Group, one of Florida’s largest community-based healthcare provider systems, at the board’s meeting in June. Lawrence is among the nation’s top IPO attorneys. A securities specialist, he has been counsel on hundreds of offerings, most recently as a partner with the law firm of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe in New York. Lawrence has served on the board of directors of Financial Federal Corp. for 14 years and on the board of the National Bank of New York City for more than 20 years.

Summer’s heat, quite intense in many parts of the country, now is a fading memory. The prospect of climate change and ever-more torrid summer presents an increasing challenge for us all, however.

Bill Tanenbaum has a prescription for coping with the summer that may be worth considering: A trek to the summit of one of Colorado’s 54 14,000-foot peaks. Here is Bill’s description of his ascent to the summit of Grays Peak: “July 5, 2007, was a gorgeous, sunny day in the Colorado Rocky Mountains. The sky was crisp, clear blue and without a cloud in it. The trail head begins on the north side of Exit Glacier, so they welcome any hikers and me to struggle up the mountain in the cold, cold rain. It took almost two hours to reach the parking area.”

Two years, Bill has conquered three of Colorado’s 14,000-footers. As time and providence will allow, Bill has but 51 peaks to go. At the rate of two a year, we will be following Bill’s adventures into our 75th reunion, at which time we will join Bill at the last peak and plant the class flag (wherever and in whomever’s possession that may be).

At its meeting on July 7, the New York Space Society highlighted an address by Thomas Hamilton, retired professor of astronomy and former orbital analyst on the Apollo Project in the 1960s at Grumman Aircraft. Titled “My Experience from Sputnik to Apollo,” Tom’s address recounted his 50 years of experiences in space, which began with his vivid recollection of the first pickup in the United States of the signals emitted by Sputnik. On October 4, 1957, Radio Moscow broadcast an announcement that the Soviet Union had launched the first satellite into orbit. This was Tom’s introduction to the space race and to a race in which he was more closely involved. “Two groups in the USA were unknowingly in a race to be the first to tape the signal of Sputnik 1 and put it on the public airwaves.” The two groups were NBC and WKCR.

“In Riverhead, Long Island, a group of engineers from NBC became the first Americans to hear, and record, the 0.3 second long recurrent beep of Sputnik. They then had to drive more than 60 miles to Manhattan to get this on the air, and in 1957 the
Long Island Expressway had not been completed. The drive took more than two hours. "Meanwhile, Sputnik rose higher over America, finally clearing Manhattan’s horizon. At Columbia University, several students from WKCR took an Ampex tape recorder, weighing over 30 pounds, one block across campus to the ham radio station (John Pegram was an engineer involved with both stations). At the ham station, W2AE, they recorded a couple of minutes of Sputnik 1 and then lugged the Ampex and its precious recording back to WKCR’s studio, where it was put on the air. "The next morning, about 9:05 a.m., two men came into the station and asked to see the person in charge. The then-station president asked what they wanted. They flashed credentials showing they were from the FBI, and asked, "Do you have a tape of the Russian thing in space? Have you been broadcasting?" At this point no one yet realized that WKCR had been the first in the United States to get Sputnik on the air. ‘We want the tape. Now.’ And the FBI walked off with the tape, never to pay for it, return it or replace it. "The following Tuesday, Professor Jan Schilt, Rutherfurd professor of astronomy and director of Columbia’s Rutherfurd Observatory, began his introductory astronomy class with the comment: ‘Well, gentlemen, it is not every day that we have something new in the sky to talk about.’ It is a curious anomaly that the weighty device the WKCR men used in 1957 to record the Sputnik signal would now fit into a breast pocket with room to spare, but as for the NBC crew, traveling via the since-completed Long Island Expressway could only have prolonged their two-hour trip to Manhattan.

On July 18, the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University announced that Doug Morris was elected to its board of directors. "The addition of Doug Morris to the CASA board of directors continues our effort to assemble the best and the brightest individuals in our country to lead and counsel CASA," said Joseph A. Califano Jr., CASA’s chairman and president and former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. "We are honored that Doug Morris, the nation’s top music industry leader, is joining the board."

As reported in a prior Class Note, Doug is chairman and CEO of the Universal Music Group, responsible for guiding the overall global activities of the world’s largest music company. Nothing happened in August — or did it? If you have any more news to share, please get in touch.

61

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Jim Melcher and his $100 million hedge fund, Balestra Capital, were featured in an August 19 article in The New York Times, "How Missed Signs Contributed to a Mortgage Meltdown."

Arnold Klipstein ’61 started his 37th year in private practice, specializing in gastroenterology, in Manchester, Conn. All through last year, Jim saw unmistakable signs of the deteriorating housing market and took appropriate investment actions. Jim is quoted in the article, "We saw an opportunity of a lifetime, and since then events have unfolded on schedule." The end result was that his flagship fund doubled in value despite the market turmoil.

Dr. Theodore H. Stanley is co-founder and non-executive chairman of ZARS, a specialty pharmaceutical company focused on development and commercialization of topicaly applied drugs using proprietary drug delivery technologies, with an initial focus on pain management. The company was started in 1997 and went public on June 8.

On May 19, Seixas was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual dinner of a local Jewish mental health organization. The following Tuesday, Professor John Seixas was started in 1997 and went public on June 8.

Richard Klipstein started his 37th year in private practice, specializing in gastroenterology, in Manchester, Conn., and has no plans for retiring in the near future. His son is a physicist with the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, Calif., and his daughter-in-law is a teacher. They have two sons. His daughter works for Sprint in Kansas City, Mo., and his son-in-law works for a company that maintains GPS systems. They have two daughters.

62

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Richard Kobrin and his wife, Gloria, live in New York City and celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary in December. This summer, they traveled to Berlin, Warsaw and Krakow with their 22-year-old son, who recently started his own company creating non-traditional branding strategy and lifestyle entertainment. Their daughter, who is 30, taught school for a few years but now is a full-time mom to Richard and Gloria’s 14-month-old grandson. "Happily," Richard writes, "our granddaughter and her parents live three blocks away, so we get to see them often. Gloria became a mediator several years ago and finds her work rewarding. I am still playing around in real estate with the company I joined in March 1972."

Richard modestly says that "his 15 minutes of fame” have included being a co-honoree at a dinner on May 8 in London in recognition of his years of leadership of Columbia/Barnard Hillier, where he served as a co-president for the last five years. Richard received the seventh Gershon Mendes Seixas Award, which Columbia/Barnard Hillier presents annually to "those who have made outstanding contributions to Jewish life at Columbia University."

Seixas was the first American-born rabbi, an incorporator of Columbia College, a trustee for 30 years and a Revolutionary patriot who refused a British order that his congregation pray for King George III. Seixas closed his synagogue rather than give allegiance to the king. A photograph of Richard shows how handsome the years have made him! Contact Richard at rkn105@aol.com.

David Barrett ’63 is not, according to Columbia, an official member of our class (he subsequently received his law degree from Harvard), but he is nevertheless spiritually one of us. And much to my delight I recently received news from him, which I’d like to share with you. David and his wife, Judith, live in Cambridge, Mass., but spend half their time in Italy. Their two daughters are grown and out on their own. Judith has been writing cookbooks for nearly 20 years, and five are on Italian food. This interest led David and Judith to travel frequently in Italy and regularly spend summer visits with friends who have a house in the little beach town of Forte dei Marmi on the Tuscan coast. When David stopped working in June 2005, he and Judith decided to start their new life by renting a house in Forte for a year. No longer willing to settle for her “kitchen Italian,” Judith thought she would take an intensive course in Italian at Berlitz in Boston. Ever the wise consumers, David and Judith discovered that the price for lessons for two people...
ple was only slightly more than the price for one, so David decided to do the course with her.

With their newly earned linguistic dexterity, David and Judith spent August 2005 in Forte dei Marmi and had such a good time thanks to their primitive ability to speak Italian that they decided to rent an apartment in Florence for three weeks that November and attend language school. That turned out to be so much fun they decided to go to Rome for winter 2006 and attend language school five days a week in the morning and wander about Rome the rest of the time. Neither of them had ever been especially drawn to Rome — their old dream was to spend time in Paris — but they wanted to pursue their Italian. In addition, David is interested in Greek and Roman art and architecture, and they both prefer temperate Roman winters to those in other parts of Italy, let alone Northern Europe or Massachusetts. David and Judith had a fabulous time in Rome that winter and decided to return to Forte for the entire summer of 2006. They have stuck with that pattern since.

David writes, “Our Italian has gotten up to a pretty serviceable level. I love the language and can now get beyond the daily newspaper and read some real books. Of course there’s the food, the people and the wonderful bicycling here in the summer. And Rome turns out to be extraordinary. The deeper we get into it, the more we like it. Renting the same apartment gives us a feeling of ‘returning’ when we arrive … I would describe our story as one with an extremely happy ending, but for now I happily don’t see any end in sight.”

In the meantime, David has become an enthusiastic bicyclist. For his 65th birthday, he traded his mountain bike for a custom-made Serotta 20-speed. David says that Forte dei Marmi is flat as a pancake “so you can do everything (provisioning, going to the beach, into town for a coffee or an evening passeggia) on a rustly, no-speed, basket-in-front bike. We use our car only once or twice a week … But I can also get on my Serotta in front of our house — without putting it on the back of my car and driving somewhere — and in half an hour be in the foothills of the Apuan Alps and in an hour or two up 500 meters in some little town at the actual end of a road … Which I do pretty much every morning for two to three hours. Magic!” You may reach David at db@barrett112.com.

Neilson Abeel writes from Portland, Ore., that his daughter, Maud Abeel, gave birth to a grandson, Otis Gustavus Abeel Knoop, Neilson’s first grandson, on August 13. Neilson may be contacted at nabeel@188web.com. Paul Cooper, married for 40 years to his sister, Leslie, recently became the grandfather of Alexandra (Lexy) Freidin Cooper. She is the second child of Paul and Leslie’s older daughter, Doris, who is editor-in-chief of Clarkson Potter Press, a division of Random House. Paul, who recently retired from his illustrious career in neurosurgery at NYU, writes: “Lexy is tiny and, I think, looks like a little poulet de Bresse, perhaps because we have been growing chickens all summer! However, she is as good as gold and eating and sleeping just like her mother wants her to. Her brother, Zach, is keeping a close eye on her, singing to her when she gets fussy and telling her not to cry when she is making too much noise.”

Douglas E. Ferguson died on April 11. He was a retired investment banker and lived in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. Our condolences to his family. Please write with your recollections of him. [See September/October Obituaries.]

For those of you who took classes with Jacques Barzun ’27, a special day recently passed. Barzun will celebrate his 100th birthday on November 30, and the University honored him with a Great Teacher Award at a ceremony on October 18 in Low Library. Barzun epitomizes the potential of liberal arts education. He distinguished himself not only as one of the most outstanding professors and scholars but also in a variety of delicate administrative posts. Barzun helped establish Humanities A and taught the course regularly. Even after retiring in 1975, he has continued to defend the Core Curriculum and to speak out against declines in academic standards. A prolific author for the specialist and the general reader, he has published as author or editor more than 30 critical and historical studies across the eight decades. He is perhaps best known to students for The Modern Researcher, now in its sixth edition, and to teachers for The American University (1968). His surprise hit, From Dawn to Decadence: 500 Years of Western Cultural Life 1500 to the Present, was published in 2000. In 2003, Barzun was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the country’s highest civilian award.

It was inevitable, and I hate to remind you, but our 45th reunion is now only seven months away. Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. The reunion committee is in formation, and I had the pleasure of meeting with many of its members at the Columbia Club in early September for the first organizational meeting. By the time you read this, you will have received correspondence from us, but as I write, we are busy planning events, lining up speakers, selecting banquet venues and setting aside time for a chance to meet and renew old friendships. We are also discussing our reunion gift should be to Columbia. If any of you want to take part, or make suggestions for any of the above, let me know. I’ll post the latest plans to the class Web site, www.cc63ers.com, where we will be adding all sorts of interesting stuff leading up to the big weekend.

Labor Day has recently passed as I write these notes, but the summer weather continues, and I am at the beach — down the Jersey Shore. Earlier this summer, Steve Barcan celebrated his 65th birthday by riding his bike along the Jersey Shore from Sandy Hook to Sea Girt and he picked one of the hottest days of the summer. For a rest stop, he came by my summer house in Bradley Beach on LaReine Avenue, a block away from his boyhood home. Look on our class Web site for a picture of Steve in my back yard. Steve writes, “After I left, I rode to Sea Girt and then back to the Hook — 50 miles total. Probably not the smartest thing I have ever done.”

Now I’m sure many of you had a special 65th or plan on making it a memorable day when it finally comes. Take a moment to send me a note (and photos) describing it, and I will post them to the site. The Alumni Office tells me that we have another legacy in the Class of 2011, Onwuchekwa Jamie’s daughter, Nnenna. Congratulations, Onwuchekwa! As you might remember from three years ago, Onwuchekwa’s older child, Jecmmu ’08, is co-president of the Nigerian Students Association.

Robert Rodvien writes, “I’ve retired from my active practice in oncology and started an anticogulation clinic at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco. Subsequently, my wife, Rayna, worsened and then died of ovarian cancer at home. I have started podcasts to honor her memory. The podcasts are concise casual conversations, accessible over the Net or at the iTunes store, and are directed at people with cancer, their family and friends to help them be smarter patients. Access them at www.smarterpodcasts.com; they’re free. Let your friends know about them as well. Through sponsorships and gifts (some of them already received from my Class of ’63 classmates), I hope to broaden the scope of the podcasts to help more people with cancer and other illnesses.”

Robert, we are very sorry to hear of your loss. The work you are doing in these podcasts is informative and helpful. I hope that you continue to receive support from your classmates and friends for this important work.

Patrick Cary-Barnard writes, “I recently met Gil Zicklin in Montreal as he was going to a music camp here. In Canada he had a great conversation — and of course 40 years have passed — but Gil is still full of the warm intelligence for which I remember him. We talked about Marty Silver, whom I would dearly like to contact. Do you have any news of him? ’I enclose here, for your information, an electronic essay by me, ‘A Big Story in a Small Place.’ I am in correspondence with NYC Commissioner of Parks Adrian Benepe ’81]. On April 15, Betsy Cothraum, the public advocate of The City of New York, called for
New York City to place a moratorium on the installation of all new synthetic fields in the park system. In the words of the April 15th press release, "The rubber pellets, used to fill in the synthetic turf in more than 70 athletic fields throughout the City, are made from recycled tires that contain high levels of cancer-causing chemicals."

“We here in Westminster, Quebec, have issued a unique guide by Noven Pharmaceuticals. You could help?”

percent have been admitted into public school students get into top-ranked colleges as ranked by US News and World Report).

“The issue is for New York and everywhere else. What’s in there? Do we not want to know?”

You can access Patrick’s essay and more information about this issue on our Web site.

Harley Frankel’s nonprofit, College Match, “had another very successful year helping low-income public school students get into great colleges.” Harley writes that during the last two years, all of the seniors have been admitted to four-year institutions with financial aid packages enabling them to attend. More than 92 percent were admitted into top-ranked colleges (defined as the 50 top national universities and the 50 top small private colleges as ranked by US News and World Report). And in the current year, approximately 40 percent have been admitted into Ivy League universities or an Ivy-equivalent such as Swarthmore, Wellesley and Amherst that were not on the list was Columbia. “In addition, during this period we raised the average SAT scores of our students by 330 points.”

Harley, your nonprofit is doing fantastic work. Is there any way we could help?

Another one of our class authors, Hank Davis, recently had his book about old movie serials, Classic Cliffhangers: Volume 1, 1914–1940, published by Midnight Marquee Press (www.mmdmar.com). Hank and Scott Parker ’64 are completing production work on a book and boxed set on the music of Frankie Miller, to be published by Bear Family Records of Germany. Hank and Scott used to play Miller’s music regularly on their radio show “Tennessee Border,” broadcast by campus station WKCR in the early ’60s.

Phil Satow’s firm, JDS Pharmaceuticals, recently was acquired by Noven Pharmaceuticals. You can read all the details in their press release on our Web site.

I was happily surprised to get an e-mail from our classmate in Tehran, Farhad Ardalan. He writes, “I feel guilty in this age of connectivity not to write. After receiving my Ph.D. in physics (theoretical particle physics) from Penn State in 1970, I went back to Iran, to the then-called Aryamehr University (Aryamehr was the title of the Shah), now called Sharif University. Spent a year at Yale, 1973–74, and a year at Stony Brook, 1977–78. Upon [my] return to Iran, the Iranian Revolution was in full swing. A year later, the Iran-Iraq war started. Almost all of my friends and colleagues left Iran. I chose to stay and do something. I contributed to the establishment of the first Ph.D. program in physics in Iran and the establishment of the first theoretical physics institute, Institute for Theoretical Physics and Mathematics (IPM), there.

Eventually I got into a dispute with the IPM management, and I had to leave Iran. I am sure this would be in the mind of the reader. I am a member of the Academy of Sciences of Developing World, TWAS (www.twas.org). Information about IPM can be found at http://physics.ipm.ac.ir.

“I am married for the second time. I have a son, Nima, from my first marriage who lives in California, and is estranged from me, unfortunately. I have a daughter, Malakeh Cramer (my wife’s from a previous marriage), who lives in Geneva, Switzerland. [She is the] mother of a son, Alexander (6) and a daughter, Darya (4).”

“I hope this note will get me in touch with some of my College friends.” I visited your site, Farhad, and I see that you are interested in string theory, and have an impressive list of articles. I hope at least some of the other physicists in the class will reconnect with you.

Alan Wilensky works full-time at the University of Washington Regional Epilepsy Center. “I was promoted to full professor in the Department of Neurology [in] July 2006 and I was inducted as a member of the American Neurological Association at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C., in October.”

Mel Gurtov’s 21st book, the fifth edition of Global Politics in the Human Interest, recently has been published. He writes, “It’s a critical study, from a global-citizen perspective, of the major international issues of our time: globalization, the environment, human rights, military spending and arms racing, and especially poverty and underdevelopment.”

Mel is professor of political science and international studies at Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University and editor-chief of Asian Perspectives.

Doug Anderson writes, “AIDA (The Association of Israel’s Decorative Arts) is the name of a foundation my wife, Dale, and I created five years ago with our friends, Andy and Charles Bronfman. It has flourished, and we are delighted with the results (www.aidaarts.org). Its mission is to expose the work of artists from Israel to collectors and dealers in the United States and Europe. We’ve had one successful year and this year we’ve worked on introducing the works of more artists. We would love to introduce anyone interested [who is] going to Israel to our director of Israel operations, and she will gladly add an art component to your trip.”

Keep in touch and let your classmates know what you’re up to, how you’re doing and what’s next. Hope to see you on May 29!

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I hope the summer was a good one for each of you and your families and friends.

Roy Fleischmann is a clinical professor of medicine at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. In 1975, Roy moved to Dallas, where he started and maintains a clinical practice in rheumatology and where he also founded a clinical research center in rheumatology. “I have been associated with the development of virtually every non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug since ibuprofen (Motrin), as well as every disease-modifying drug for rheumatoid arthritis that has been approved since 1980.”

He has published almost 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and presented more than 150 abstracts worldwide. Roy has three daughters and three grandchildren, with one more grandchild on the way.

Henry Epstein is Green Distinguished University Chair and professor in the Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. His work in genetic research continues to fascinate him although his major at the College was, and “recreationally still is,” philosophy. One of his sons is interested in philosophy and religion, and the other is interested in law. During the summer they read together the work of Morris Raphael Cohen, who taught many Columbia philosophers in their student days at CCNY.

Henry’s other “Columbia-inspired recreational passion” is rowing. He does single, double and quadruple sculling (two oars per person), and four or eight rowing (one oar per person). In October, he and his wife were in Virginia for four weeks, attending classes. During the summer, his eighth grandchild was born, and one week later, his mother died at 93. Our congratulations and condolences go out to him and his family.

David Schiller has been named head of the Upper Division (grades 9–12) at Horace Mann School in New York. Dave previously was chair of the English department. Also at Horace Mann is Steve Singer, nationally recognized as one of the top college advisers in the country.

Your correspondent has been reelected to a two-year term on the Executive Committee of the American Bar Association’s Council of Appellate Lawyers.

We have learned that Allan Ellin died last December. Remember: Classmates meet the second Thursday of the month for an informal lunch at the Columbia Club in Manhattan. Join us, a table is waiting for you.

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In summer 1964, Columbia helped several of us to secure internships with our congressmen or senators in Washington, D.C. It was an exciting summer, political, to be in D.C. Both parties had their nominating conventions and were gearing up for the Presidential election (Johnson vs. Goldwater). Six of us rented a house for the summer at 4400 Surrey Ln., in Foxhall Village, near Georgetown: Lee Dunn ’66, Brian Fix, Bob Henn, Jim Levy, Jim Murdough
Ken DeWoskin ’65: China Expert for U.S. Business

By Helaine Olen

When Ken DeWoskin ’65, ’74 GSAS, entered Columbia, he thought he would major in engineering. But a Core course, “Oriental Humanities,” taught jointly by Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41, Ainslee Embrey and C.T. Hsia, changed his life direction. He became an expert on China, a man whose expertise straddles the worlds of academia and business.

DeWoskin chose to attend Columbia because he was in love with jazz, and he spent much time as a student trolling New York City’s then-numerous jazz clubs. But nothing compared to what he was learning at Columbia. “Columbia was a part of and yet apart from the rich and chaotic life of New York,” DeWoskin observes. “Inside the gates life was … contemplative, where everyone at least in theory pursued a sophisticated and serious engagement with the great issues of the past and present.”

But it was his studies of Asia that truly piqued his interest. Intrigued by the subject, DeWoskin accepted an offer from faculty members to spend a summer semester at Columbia learning Chinese. Under the influence of such famed East Asian Studies scholars as de Bary and Burton Watson ’50, DeWoskin found his academic and professional home. “I was struck by the passion of the faculty, who taught the materials as if they had found things of great interest and importance they were compelled to bring to Western students,” he recalls. He graduated from Columbia with a dual degree in English and Asian studies.

Hooked on East Asia — and academia — DeWoskin went on to study in Taiwan and Japan and get his Ph.D. from Columbia in early Chinese literature and cultural history. In 1973, he headed off to teach East Asian culture at the University of Michigan. He got tenure after seven years, enjoyed his work and no doubt would have remained in his classroom, immersed in books, but for a twist of historical fate.

DeWoskin was the scholar of a country he had never visited. Very few Americans had traveled to China post-1949, when Communist forces were victorious in the country’s long civil war. “I didn’t ever expect to go to China,” DeWoskin says now. But all that changed when the U.S. government and China’s regime began taking steps toward a rapprochement in the 1970s. DeWoskin’s area of expertise suddenly had very practical uses that led him to a second career in the world of business.

In 1984, DeWoskin took a trip to the mainland with then-Michigan governor James Blanchard. When they returned, the governor asked him to join a state commission dedicated to increasing trade and investment with China. That, in turn, led to corporate consulting gigs with companies such as Motorola, Alcoa and Hewlett Packard. Today, DeWoskin is a professor emeritus of Asian languages and cultures and business administration at Michigan and a consultant on Chinese business development for PricewaterhouseCoopers.

DeWoskin’s knowledge of early Chinese history and literature gave him valuable insights into contemporary China. For example, when DeWoskin worked on a training program for China-bound executives at the Ford Motor Co., he had them read the second-century B.C. classic The Debate on Salt and Iron, a report of a formal debate in a Han dynasty emperor’s court between partisans of state-controlled and free market economies.

“I wanted them to understand that the organization of China, where the state played a significant role in the economy, was something with deep historical roots. It wasn’t something Chairman Mao had simply introduced,” DeWoskin explains. Similarly, DeWoskin points out that many modern Chinese regulations, which often are written in a vague fashion that allows for multiple interpretations, can be traced to the country’s Confucian heritage.

Confucians believe people are best governed by good men of absolute authority, and not by impartial law. DeWoskin believes the attitude persists in the Chinese culture to this day. “Laws continue to be published with inherent contradictions,” he observes. “Their clarification and implementation is left with great license to the ‘good people’ in the relevant positions of authority.”

“Foreign investors are predictably frustrated by the persistence of this ambiguity,” he adds. As the demand for his services grew, DeWoskin cut back on his university work; by the mid-1980s, he often was teaching one seminar a semester. Even so, combining a business career with academia was challenging. He remembers one year when he taught a Monday morning class in Ann Arbor, leaving for the airport as soon as it ended. He’d arrive in Beijing Tuesday afternoon and work there through Sunday morning, then catch a plane back to Detroit, only to repeat the process week after week. “Some people just thought I was crazy, and there was probably some truth to that,” DeWoskin says with a laugh.

His three children have inherited his love of Asia. His daughter, Rachel ’94, starred in a popular television soap opera in China and published a well-received memoir in 2005 — Foreign Babes in Beijing — about her years of living in China. “China was always a part of our house, conversation and imagination. He and my mom brought my brothers and me here every summer from the time we were tiny,” she says. “My parents loved the language, had tons of Chinese friends, gloried in boat rides down the Yangtze River and trains across the countryside.”

DeWoskin has two other children, Jacob, 35, an engineer in Minneapolis, and Aaron, 30, who plans to move to Beijing by the end of this year. DeWoskin maintains a home base in Ann Arbor with his wife of 42 years, Judith, a high school teacher. He spends about half his year in China, a country that still, after all these years, holds an unbreakable allure for him.

“What began some 43 years ago as an uncharted summer of language flash cards and all-night study sessions has turned out to be a sustained and sustaining engagement with one of the most fascinating stories in our world today,” he says. “The things I have always loved about China are still there, and the pace and energy of today’s development are very compelling.”

Brian Fix reports that after close to 20 years practicing law in London and Paris (and more often than not, Kiev, Warsaw and points east), he has decided to return to American shores to practice as a partner of the New York office of Salans (212-632-5500, bfix@salans.com) but also to start getting involved in some other activities, particularly international nonprofit work such as project development for several New York- and D.C.-based foundations in his old stomping ground, Africa, and probably some real estate development activity thrown in as well.

Brian notes that for those of us who have been in private law practice (among the rest of you, some of us), we increasingly ask ourselves how we can get off the treadmill of billable hours and gradually “give back” — be it nonprofits, community work, politics/government service, culture or whatever — and also pursue all those other interests we thought about when we walked through the doors of Ferris Booth Hall for freshman orientation in 1961 and were encouraged to become true “homines de renais¬sance.” Brian already has gone half-time with his firm this year and spent much of this past spring studying Paris architecture and urbanism at the Archi¬tecture School’s Paris campus — Reid Hall, next to what Brian calls “the real Tour Montpar¬nasse.” Indeed, Brian’s “term paper” was on Tour Montpar¬nasse, and in the small world department, Brian notes that when construction of the Tour Montparnasse was stalled with an architectural studio in Nantucket. This was our sixth year there, and we’ve actually come to enjoy the long road trip in the car from Houston. A highlight in Nantucket was a weekend visit from Allen Steere and his wife, Margie, who were wonderful and managed to put up with us, our dogs and our houseguests from Houston and New York. It was a joy to catch up with Allen; we’ve stayed in touch by email, and generally had not seen each other in more than 25 years. He’s on the faculty of Har¬vard Medical School. “While the rest of us were lazy, Allen and Margie brought along their bikes on the ferry and spent a day biking all over the island. They clearly are healthy and happy. Then the first weekend of August I went along with Gary, who had recently returned from Aspen and Santa Fe, on a de¬velopment trip for Rice to a weekend end at Tanglewood in Berkshires. (The Shepherd School has more students accepted to Tanglewood than any other music school; and at Aspen they’re sec¬ond in numbers only to Juilliard. I was astonished.) We spent a night in Tanglewood, and generally had a great time with, Bob Gronley and Ann Rosewater, who have bought a superb vacation house in the Berkshires.”

Brian also was reminded about the glorious summer of 1964, when some of us trotted down to D.C. to have a taste of politics, with Jim Murdauh, Bob Henn, Jim Levy, Lee Dunn ’66, Leonard Pack and I and pumped out there at the then-not-well-known Reid Hall for freshman orientation in 1961 and were encouraged to become true “homines de renais¬sance.” It all started with what Brian calls “that awful Tour Montpar¬nasse.”

Jeremy Epstein writes, “After spending two years studying clas¬sics at Jesus College, Cambridge, and three years studying law at Yale, I entered the workforce in 1972. I spent two years clerking for a federal judge and four years as a federal prosecutor in the Southern District of New York. Since 1978, I have been at Shear¬man & Sterling, a large New York law firm, where in due course I became a litigation partner, head of the litigation department and a member of the firm’s Policy Com¬mittee. Although I value working for clients who pay, the most meaningful matter on which I have worked in private practice has been my representation of an important foundation. Now I took the case on in 1984, and it is still going. My views on the death penalty, and on the system that begat it, could, and have, filled many pages, but not here.”

I remain devoted to Columbia. I have been on the Alumni Associa¬ tion board for approximately 10 years, and I have kept in touch with the classics department. The scholarship I endowed at the Col¬lege gives preference to classics majors, and I have also endowed the classics faculty library in mem¬ory of Howard Porter, a teacher I loved and admired. Having now had some opportunity for com¬parative assessment, I have no doubt that the undergraduate education I received was far superi¬or to that many seniors and daughter at Princeton and Yale, respectively. None of the pro¬fessional satisfactions achieved in the practice of law can compare to the personal satisfaction of my family. I have been married to...
Amy Kallman '67 Barnard for more than 38 years; what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23). Neither of my children is what I owe to her cannot be adequately expressed here or anywhere else. Our lives have been graced by our children, Joshua (29) and Abigail (23).
the rise. I am a big fan of coach Joe Jones. His basketball team is senior-laden and should play well. Football coach Norries Wilson, whom I have met, seems like a giant of a talent, too. I saw Buzz Zucker recently at a Columbia basketball event. He has a niece who may be perfect for Columbia. He continues to go to Off-Broadway and Broadway shows, his hobby for years now. If you are looking for guidance on this subject, Buzz would be great to call. I have heard from Henry Welt and look forward soon to seeing him for lunch.

Chris Friedichs wrote the following note and in a follow-up said he might make it to reunion. (I really believe that this 40th reunion will have a turnout that will be record-breaking and that it will be enjoyable.) Chris writes, “Having recently reached my 60th birthday, I think it is high time to bring my classmates up to date about my activities. I teach history at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver while my wife, Rhoda, teaches at nearby Douglas College. We became grandparents in 2006 when our daughter, Ellen, a schoolteacher in Brooklyn, gave birth to a daughter. Our son, Jonathan, is a high school teacher in Vancouver, and our son, Jeremy, is a student at the University of Victoria.

“I had an unusually interesting sabbatical in 2003-04. I first spent three months in India visiting universities and libraries and giving a number of lectures and seminars. I was based in Delhi but travelled to Mumbai, Calcutta, Hyderabad and A’lghar, and found it all immensely enriching. I then spent five months as a visiting fellow in the Department of History at Princeton, where I had done my Ph.D. Our time in Princeton was interspersed with visits to relatives and friends in and around New York, including a great weekend with my Columbia roommate, Charles Jarowski (an oncologist in Manhattan), and his wife, Joan. Since then I have been back at work at Vancouver, teaching European and world history and enjoying life in what Lonely Planet lists as the 15th best city in the world. Admittedly, New York is listed as the second best city (after Paris), but I am quite content with No. 15.”

Chris, 60 is a great year, and I can report having turned 61 that it is OK, too. Great to hear from you.

Glenn Reeves writes: “I am baazack! — or was, briefly. I was part of a team that was invited by the NYC Department of Public Health and Mental Hygiene Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program to teach a three-day course to a group of physicians and other health care professionals from several NYC-area hospitals. My topics were medical management of radiation injuries and hospital response to mass casualty incidents involving radiation. I think they got a lot out of the experience. I haven’t seen the critiques yet, so we’ll see. Our team stayed at the Hotel Wellington. Question: How do you get to Carnegie Hall? Answer: Go out the door, turn right and walk one block.”

“One on the free evening we had, we elected to go to Columbia and walk around the repair zone of College Walk. I also saw Farnsfield Hall. In my day, Ben Jarman was behind a half-door, passing out mail and greeting all the students by name. Now there is a guard instead. I am sure he would have let me in, but I didn’t want to press the issue. I also went to the medical school, Bard Hall, and the apartment on West 170th Street where Jane and I lived for the first two years after we were married.

“One more question, to which I don’t have the answer: Whatever happened to The Gold Rail Tavern? I went to a restaurant that I thought was where it used to be. I asked my waitress (who is a freshman at Columbia) and the maître d’ if they knew; neither had ever heard of it (of course, both of them were born long after I had left the College and probably medical school and residency as well).”

Glenn, the next time you are in town, I will take you to a restaurant up there. There are many fabulous places if you have some cash in your pocket.

Russell Needham wrote that he “enjoyed your discussion with Seth Weinstein about the joys of an evening out in New York. I would like to get to Columbia (admitted via ‘geographical diversity’) from a small town in West Texas. Though I went to graduate school for social work and worked more than 30 years as a clinical social worker supervisor and administrator for New York State government programs, I am just now falling back on my undergraduate political science studies. In the past few years, I have been to Albany to lobby the legislature, including a reception in the Executive Capital with Governor Eliot Spitzer on behalf of a consortium of gay and lesbian health and human service programs for increased funding.

“My partner and I spend most weekends in a restored stone farmhouse in eastern Pennsylvania but my heart will belong to New York (and Columbia, which made it possible). This year, Columbia is sending a graduate student for the internship program I supervise at New York City’s oldest gay and lesbian counseling center.”

Russell, great to hear from you. I enjoy upstate New York, but after I have been there awhile, I want to get back here. See you at reunion.

I received this note from Bob Brandt regarding Jim Shorter and a similar one from Jim. They met at a golf outing and enjoyed reminiscing, even though they had never met. Bob was my roommate one summer and Jim is a friend from school, too. They both opined to me that the other fellow was “delightful” or something along those lines. Now, I never said they had good judgment.

I also received a note from Roger Bush, who was looking for Paul Brosnan, Bill Abodeely and Larry Borger. I failed on Paul; I don’t know what I did with your e-mail address, Paul, so please send it to me. Roger also sent me some history, so here goes (abbreviated a bit): “I worked for Counselor Councilman Burke at least on three occasions, the first when he was managing Bobby Kennedy’s campaign in 1968 with Bill Walton. He hired me, John Staffier, Larry Becker and Nat Taylor to run the transportation department for that headquarters, under RFK’s local driver, Frank Belloti. We did same, and it was the most fulfilling time that we individually and together have ever had. Our major duty was to see that the nightly press release was delivered to all the significant newsmen in town and that no one crashed one of our Avis cars inappropriately. Since everybody else at Columbia sought other confrontation or inspiration that spring, and found different fulfillment, our graduation was held not at St. John the Divine but in the supply and copy room in the basement. (The Xerox was named ETHEL.)

“Later, when I heard from Denver that Carter was running for city council, I left law school to work on that campaign because it seemed that perhaps he had not given up either. That also was fulfilling: for better or worse, I got to know Ed Koch fairly well while standing in line for the theaters in the 19th District handing out brochures. Carter was normally across the street in front of the other subway stairs. After he won, I stayed on to write letters, deliver the press releases and drive him where he wanted to go.

“The next year, after I had gone back to Denver Law, he invited me back to help research and write a study of NYC budget processes. I felt useful when he trusted me to get him from 52nd to City Hall in 14 minutes, and gratified when asked for my opinions. I believe it was a great loss that he also died too young.”

Bill Abodeely is still in Massachusetts; his two daughters graduated from Barnard and the College. Larry Borger sent a longer note (he once told me that he thought he should have been used as a guard; I wonder) that said, in part: “I’ve been retired for five years, live in a home with my wife, Jane, that we renovated in the mile-high town of Bisbee in southwestern Arizona, play golf poorly (especially following recent ankle fusion surgery), do a little wood carving and light carpentry, serve on the board of our local Boys & Girls Club, am mmy wife’s gardener’s helper, have joined the community chorus and, oh yes, my local claim to fame: I organized and manage Bisbee’s first kazoo marching band, a feat I’m especially proud of while so many of my classmates save lives in operating tables, settle multi-million dollar law suits, make the big-bucks on the NYSE, etc. Some of us just have fun! (I’ll put that on my resume!)

Nigel Paneth is a professor of...
epidemiology and pediatrics and human development at Michigan State and is part of a truth squad in Michigan regarding Israel.

Nigel has some interesting views about Israel and the Middle East that I’m confident he will share with us at reunion, which he is hoping to attend.

David Shapiro’s book, New and Selected Poems (1965–2006), has received many good reviews, including one from me. Here is part of one from Rodger Kamenetz, The Forward, “In the Presence of Genius:”

“What is there to say? Prodigious, brilliant, David Shapiro has lived in many worlds of art, including music and painting... But poetry is at the center of his work — not poetry simply as a formal activity, but as a way of thinking and a way of feeling, and even of being. This new collection is a chance to look back at the published work of the past 40 years, which includes a selection from his previous nine books, and a sheaf of new poems. Reading these poems together in one volume is a pleasure and a gift, especially as some of the books are now out of print. One is in the presence of a genius, clearly...”

“He is the most musical of our poets, and hence of course he isn’t understood straight on, as music isn’t understood — because who the hell would try to understand music unless that person were bent on politics or explanatoriness or some other sin against real poetry? And Shapiro is a real, pure poet, and this book of ‘new and selected poems’ is right now our best access to that purity, which is music or aspires to it.”

If you want to read the entire review, log onto www.forward.com/articles/11169.

David has become a great friend and an adviser on art, too. I was pleased to read the fine review and of course everyone should buy a few dozen of these books for friends and family.

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall and thinking about our reunion. I guarantee it will be great.

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Reflections on turning 60 that appeared in the July/August issue prompted two other major birthday boys to share some news. From Mark Leeds: “Hitting 60 for me was cushioned by happy distractions. The week started with the ordination of my son-in-law, Josh Lobel, as a Reform rabbi, headed for the position of assistant rabbi at Temple Emeth in Plainview, Long Island. That was followed the day after my birthday by the graduation of my daughter, Elizabeth Rachel Demeny Leeds Lobel ’02, from NYU School of Medicine, headed for a residency at Long Island Jewish-Hillside and a career in child psychiatry. The graduation was made more sweet by Elizabeth’s request to her mother, Dr. Marian B. Demeny ’69 Barnard, an alum of NYU’s School of Medicine, to present Elizabeth with her diploma, and by the joyful hug and smile with which Elizabeth greeted that presentation. Regrettably missing from the ordination and graduation was my son, Daniel (an alum of Columbia’s Master of Science Program), who was tied up with first-year Ph.D. exams at Carnegie Mellon, where, after B.S. and M.Eng. degrees from MIT in computer science/electrical engineering, he decided to take his NSF Graduate Fellowship in the CMU Robotics Institute and Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition. He is doing fabulously, even if we are mystified by his research.

“Marian and I (and her mother) recently returned from a great visit to Pittsburgh to see Daniel for his 24th birthday and our 37th anniversary. As to my 60th birthday, we finally got to celebrate on Father’s Day, when Daniel stopped off in New York on his way back to Pittsburgh from Mississippi to visit us. A wonderful family keeps me young and brings me joy!”

Lee Pearcy writes: “Your reflections on our classmates’ impending 60th in the most recent CCT prompt this news. Having thought I’d stepped out of academic administration last year when I stopped being director of curriculum at the Episcopal Academy, I was promptly elected v.p. for education of the American Philosophical Association. So far I’m enjoying the role and learning a great deal about the present state of classics in American higher and secondary education. I also enjoy spending time with my four grandchildren — none old enough for Columbia yet. So far the seventh decade feels good.”

To generate the column six times a year, I depend on the kindness of our classmates, and I did get important help for this issue. July/August (page 15) included an ad for Sepp Setz (with photo) in his role for Halsted Property. I promptly asked him for news, and he promptly reminded me that he had given news for the May/June issue. Even so, he was kind enough to share the following: “I am currently ensconced in the turf trade here in Manhattan. I have had some contact with Mike Schnipper. Some of you may remember him as the jolly resident of the fourth floor of John Jay and member of the CC band. After a long stint in labor law and the ESPN legal department, Mike recently retired and is enjoying the fruits of his labor, dividing his time between upstate Connecticut and Cape Cod. He spends some of his time working for a literacy program near his home. What I found amazing was that when we met recently here in NYC it was a seamless resumption after a 38-year hiatus. I continue to be surprised by how strong the contacts that were forged among the college years can be. On a different note, I applaud your mining the collective memory for teachers, topics and issues that shaped our time at Morningside Heights. One that comes to mind is the Morningside Park debate in which all of you may remember — students, the University and the community entered into a fatal embrace with no winners. Echoes of that time are reverberating in the University’s current plan for expansion northward. I attended President Lee C. Bollinger’s speech at the Columbia Club in the spring and was impressed by the difference with which he handled the issue as compared to Grayson Kirk. It would be appropriate for us survivors of the earlier University/community controversy to make our voices heard now that experience and insight have hopefully tempered our vision.”

Miles Freedman was kind enough to give me a call and to stop by when he noticed my firm’s sign in the lobby of our office building, which he was visiting to see someone at a different company. We had an impromptu lunch, and spent a few hours catching up. We had not met each other in decades, although we had spoken a couple of times over the years when I was looking for news or a gift to the College Fund. We agreed that the change in the sequence of Core Curriculum courses is probably a good development (students take Lit Hum in the first year, CC in the second year and music and art humanities typically in the junior or senior year). Splitting the courses this way takes away some of the shared experience of having all of one’s classmates taking the Core courses at the same time and also takes away from the ability to match the developments in art and music with developments in philosophy, literature and politics. Miles is beginning to give thought to the College-Barnard Economics Society and was president of the Columbia-Barnard Economics Society. He now occasionally teacheconomics. He gave me a brief introduction to the quantity theory of money and the work of [the late] Milton Friedman (Capi- talism and Freedom was assigned in Econ 101). When teaching, he always explains three of the cardinal causes of the Great Depression: the government (Federal Reserve) reduced the supply of money and credit for the period 1929–32 by 32.5 percent, never matched before nor since, which significantly contributed to the stock market collapse and Depression; the tax rate increase from 25 percent in 1909 to 65 percent by the Smoot-Hawley tariff, which stranded global trade. In reminiscing, he discussed how dogmatic students would not even discuss Friedman, now widely considered to be one of the greatest, if not the greatest, economist of the 20th century. Miles is glad that Columbia’s basic text now emphasizes more of Friedman’s work.

Miles is chairman of the College’s Alumni Representative Committee for eastern North Carolina. In 1976, he started GFD Management, a management and development company that has developed 23 mostly Wal-Mart-anchored shopping centers at which more than 5,000 people are employed. Like many of our classmates who have devoted three decades to a business, industry or profession, Miles is beginning to give thought to what will occupy the next stage
of life. He lives with his wife in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Two more of our classmates have become members of the Columbia community (see September/October; the number of legacies in the first-year class has increased to 59 from last year’s 49 — a positive development). As reported in March/April, Joel Scharfstein’s son, Jefrey, was an early admit to the Class of 2011. Adam Flomenbaum, son of Neal Flomenbaum, was admitted on transfer to the Class of 2010. I e-mailed Neal for the details and for some news; his reply: “Adam transferred from the University of Miami, his mother’s alma mater. In doing so, he is following a ‘family tradition’ in that I, too, transferred to Columbia College after my freshman year (at Brooklyn College).

“To update the extensive and very generous profile you wrote about me a year-and-a-half ago, our unique New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Geriatric Emergency Medicine fellowship program is thriving thanks to the generous and enthusiastic support of Jerry Speyer ’62. We also have started a popular program combining wilderness medicine (in the Adirondacks) with preparedness for natural disasters. The ninth edition of our textbook on poisons and overdoses — Goldfrank’s Toxicologic Emergencies, edited by Flomenbaum et al — was published last year. At about that time, I was asked to be the editor-in-chief of the journal Emergency Medicine, along with my regular ‘day job.’

The College Fund began a new fundraising drive; but — while the fund runs until June 30, 2008 — I know that many people make their charitable contributions at the end of the calendar/tax year. Since this is the last issue of CCT for 2007, I ask you — on behalf of Class Agents Eric Brandman, Dick Menaker, Richard Rapaport, Joel Scharfstein, Mike Schell, Eric Witkin and me — to make a gift to the College Fund by December 31.

(Columbia College Fund, 475 Riverside Drive, Apt. 17B, New York, NY 10115-0998 or https://giving.columbia.edu/giveonline/?school_style=410). We are working hard to increase the percentage of classmates who donate to the fund. Generous gifts, to be sure, are greatly appreciated; but our participation rate does not require any minimum amount from each classmate. Give as much as you comfortably can, but please try at least to give something.

So now, I turn to all of you and appeal to your sense of kindness, especially those whose news and/or views have not appeared for a time in CCT. Could you kindly e-mail me some news or some reflections on the enduring influence of the Columbia experience?

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The Class of 2011 has within its ranks the daughter of one of our most loyal and spirited class members. I am pleased to report that Robert Douglas’ daughter Mary Martha, who attended Manhasset H.S., is a member of this class and is happily ensconced on campus. Congratulations to Bob. For those of you who follow the admissions games this day, it is a major feat. The number and quality of applications to the College is absolutely staggering.

As proof that something of our class actually reads this column, here is a note from David Lehman: “How great to learn from the Class Notes that two of my old buddies, Michael Stern and Bill O’Brien, are, though on opposite coasts, partners at law. I hadn’t heard from or about Michael in a long time, so his news was very welcome. Also exciting to find out that Rob Stulberg’s son is a Kellett Fellow, as Michael Stern and I were. I purchased The Best American Poetry 2007, which hit bookstores around Labor Day, and am working on The Best American Erotic Poems: From 1800 to the Present, which Scribner plans to publish on Valentine’s Day, 2008. I am also completing a new book of poems.

“If people like poetry contests, they should come to the Best American Poetry Web site — www.bestamericanpoetry.com — and sign up to be on our subscription list. It’s free. Twice a year or so, we pose a challenge: You have to answer a question or solve a puzzle and base a poem on your response. Winner gets a bunch of books autographed by their authors, including Best American Poetry 2007, plus other prizes.”

From Dick Alexander: “Ashley Alexander, singer, songwriter — last year at Berklee College of Music in Boston and about to release her debut solo CD — is performing all around New England with her own band. For info on my daughter, you can go to myspace.com/ ashleyalexmusician. She has performed with O-Town, Christina Milian and Lenny Kravitz and will perform solo acoustical shows in New York, Nashville and Los Angeles in 2007 and 2008.”

Bernnie Josefsberg and I hosted a tailgate party before the Fordham football game and were joined by Frank Furillo and Jim Wascura as well as Jim Alley ’69 and Lew Fishbien ’72. I won’t name the no-shows, but you know who you are. The food, company and weather were great, the game bad. Plans are afoot to organize a mini-reunion for our class during the winter consisting of an early dinner at V&T and a basking game. Stay tuned... Until then, please send me some news. And of course, don’t forget to support the College and get out there and root for our Lions.

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Much had to be cut from this column to meet space limitations. Subscribe to the eNewsletter and get it all.

Congratulations to first-year college students everywhere, especially to these members of the Class of ’11 (parent classmate in parentheses): Hannah Lepow (Les Lepow) and James Mueser (John Mueser).

Rick Higgins wrote in August: “Twelve years ago my family, which consisted of my wife, two sons and one daughter, moved to Fairfield, Conn. I had been a lawyer for 25 years and a builder of 200 homes in the Saddle River, N.J., area. I started a residential real estate brokerage in 1997 called The Higgins Group (www.higginsgroup.com). It was a lot more difficult than I had anticipated because I didn’t know anybody in Connecticut. It was an impulsive move, as was my decision to uproot after 45 years and leave New Jersey for Connecticut. After six years of near-failure and near-death (a surprise emergency triple bypass), through the grace of God it took root. We now have 15 offices and 300 salespeople all over Fairfield County.

“My kids are 15 (son) and 26 (daughter) and I am very sad to say we recently lost our 24-year-old son in an accident. I have entered a period of deep reflection since then and because of this event I am doing things like writing this letter.

“I am married to Adele, who is the love of my life, but among other things, the death of TJ has bonded our family to a level that we had not arrived at before. For all those classmates with children, hug your kids at every opportunity, you will never regret it. I haven’t seen any of my classmates for a long time and would love to hear from anyone.”

Andy Arbenz: “I'm portfolio manager of my own investment company, Riverside Capital Management. I volunteer for the Blue Hill Troupe, a New York charity. My wife, Alison, recently became a docent at the Japan Society. We were joined a few months ago by a small dog, who usually stays at least a step ahead of us.”

Larry Sherkow: “After all these years, a name I recognized in the eNews I was at Columbia for my freshman year. I think I was on the women’s tennis team. We graduated in three years, finished 1971, never quite sure what year I am really in, know more '72s, but officially '71. Lived with Keith Kaufman one year at 600 W. 111th St., if my memory is correct, my second year at Columbia. Wasn’t sure if it was really him, but the guitar clinched it. He played a lot of guitar, the electric kind, while I was trying to study. And here he ended up a doctor! The Web says he is doing some clinical research at Merck. Wow!

“Anyway, I went through in three years and remember only a few people. Have had a great life, moved back to [Wisconsin] and have been a radiologist for 27 years, met a wonderful Wisconsin farm girl and we have had a great 27 years as well. I am part-time now, have two daughters, one in med school, the other recently finished MIT [and is] not sure yet what she wants to do.

Paul Arnett: “I live in Towson, Md. On August 21 (a day before writing this) I married Tracy Miller of Baltimore in a private ceremony hosted at the Sherwood Gardens mansion in Guilford, in Baltimore City. I have three children by my late wife, all of whom died of cancer in 2004. Joanne graduated this year with a double major in French and mathematics from Oberlin College and will live in France this year as an English tutor; Bernard, who will be a junior, is majoring in architecture but is increasingly interested in fine arts; and Rachel is a senior at Loch Raven H.S. in Baltimore County. Rachel spent last school year as an AFS student in Shijiazhuang, China (about the same distance from Beijing as New York City from Baltimore) and became fairly fluent in Mandarin. She is interested in attending Columbia next year.

I am a program director for Compuware Corp., a software and IT services company based in Detroit. I had a great time at the reunion last year, and my bride Tracy and I attended the unveiling of Greg Wyatt’s Macbeth sculpture in Stratford earlier this year, also a very enjoyable occasion.”
Peter Jacoby: “On Friday, August 24, my wife, Laurann, and I were graced with the birth of our daughter and first grandchild, Taylor Avery Jacoby, to our younger son, Jonathan, and his wife, Julie, who live in North Hadley, N.J., close to Waynesboro. Mother and baby are doing well. Jon and Julie had adamantly refused to allow her ob/gyn to inform them of the gender of their child prior to the birth and had simply been referring to the baby as ‘Baylor’ (since I had a penchant for stomping vigorously against the walls of the womb). At all of 6 lbs, 11 oz., at her entry into the world, any future use of this nickname may seem a bit misplaced, although in our days at Columbia we cheered the football feats of ‘Earthquake’ John Sefcik (who, as I recall, weighed something south of 160 pounds).

“Taylor also is the first great-grandchild of our dad, Herbert Jacoby, ’34, ’37L, who celebrated his 94th birthday two weeks before her arrival.”

The next two items are about two filmmakers, Richard Squires and Paul Cronin, who have ties to spring ’68 and have incorporated filmmaker Werner Herzog in their work, but who don’t know each other.

Richard wrote and directed (and contributed to the score of) the film Crazy Like a Fox, starring twice-Academy Award–nominated Mary McDonnell and Tony Award-winning Roger Rees. Released in 2006, it is now distributed worldwide (PG-13, for some brief language, by a villain).

The film’s view of Virginia Piedmont nature is luminous and lyrical, as you’ll see from the first frame. The protagonist is Nat Banks, in a quixotic attempt to come to grips with losing his eighth-generation family farm and what to do about it. It is wonderfully acted, photographed, edited and scored.

The DVD, as many do, comes with a bonus track with the director commenting over the course of the movie. But hey, this is a Columbian, so in addition to hearing about making the film, we get what might be a Continental Civ seminar. Rick describes the characters as being in “a three-dimensional Skinner box,” and explains that “the traditional social structure was held together by families, then communities, then loyalties, then bonds, then law.” He adds that appropriating “law to override common decency, common sense and common law, is the center of this story.”

The commentary also notes that the founding fathers were from the liberal enlightenment thought of Locke, Voltaire and Rousseau, but wound up as radicals. Rick told casting that since the villains (named Will and Ellie Sherman, naturally) would have the intelligence and mores that whatever the law would allow is allowable, but still respect law, he wanted them to look as if they had recently graduated from Yale.

From a Werner Herzog movie [Where the Green Ants Dream], Herzog appropriated a line of script. And while the movie is its own thing, the film was informed by his experience in spring ’68 at Columbia, though the influence is so intrinsic to the film that I hadn’t noticed.

Not in the commentary, but told by Rick in a phone interview, is that the sweet sausage Nat buys in the country store was inspired by that offered by Ta-Kome. Lawyers and quick bucks may challenge some of the film’s notions, but because they are broad brush-stroke, you will brush them aside if they bother you. The deeper post-viewing discussion will likely be of Southern and Northern sensibilities, and it is worth having. Makes me think of JFK’s quip that Washington, D.C., was blessed with combination of Northern hospitality and Southern efficiency.

The film’s Web site is www.crazyliketofox.com. On the Web site, click on Cast & Crew for Rick’s bio. Click on News and then click on The Movie Business for a release forms will be signed. Cronin wrote to me, “Thus far, I have filmed interviews with 75 people, including SDS students, Majority Coalition students, for several Joel Feigin ’72’s compositions have been performed in recent months at a variety of venues in California; he is professor of musical composition at UC Santa Barbara.

Another filmmaker is Paul Cronin, born in London in the year after we graduated. He is making a documentary, Tipping Point, about Columbia in spring ’68. Cronin’s film is an independent project not endorsed or opposed by Columbia. See the ad on page 52.

Cronin contacted me and in a telephone conversation told me he is interested in making a “rounded historical story” and is looking for interview subjects regardless of their political opinions. He also is especially looking for photographs and other artifacts of the protests or opposition to them. Cronin has authorized me to give out his contact information: 646-234-7510 and paulcronin@gmail.com, if you are interested in contributing in any way. His Web site is www.thestickincplace.com, which includes material on his film and books. He is a filmmaker who is a student of filmmakers. His books include Herzog on Herzog, edited in the immortal Werner Herzog.

His Web site also includes dialogue transcriptions of several of his documentaries. I read two, Look Out Haskell, It’s Real: The Making of Medium Cool (2001) and In the Beginning Was the Image: Conversations with Peter Whitehead (2006). Whitehead’s movies include The Fall (1969), which includes (in the third of three parts) footage Whitehead shot while an occupier/liberator at Columbia. I have watched In the Beginning Was the Image and The Fall. Cronin’s use of clips from Whitehead’s movies were well-illustrative, tight and attention-keeping, and his interviewing and editing were done well.

In the British Film Institute’s March 2007 issue of its journal Sight and Sound, Cronin quotes Whitehead: “What I was actually filming was the collapse — the ‘fall’ — of an increasingly ineffective and impotent protest movement. ... As a group, the anti-war activists were fragmenting, crossing some kind of threshold, tipping over into something more radical. The breakdown of legal protest and the shift to calculated political anarchy were just around the corner” (www.bfi.org.uk/sightsounds/feature/49559).

Cronin wrote to me, “Thus far, I have filmed interviews with 75 people, including SDS students, Majority Coalition students, for several Joel Feigin ’72’s compositions have been performed in recent months at a variety of venues in California; he is professor of musical composition at UC Santa Barbara.

Mr members of the University administration, current and former faculty, representatives of the mayor’s office and two police officers. Moreover, I have pulled together many hours of archive footage and close to 10,000 photographs. I believe that I have read almost every important written source about the events of that spring. The point: This will be a well-rounded historical piece, made not by some old SDSer, but rather by someone who was born a few years after the events in question and who, I believe, is capable of producing an accurate and historically fair representation of the facts. Indeed, I feel able to shape the mass of material I have to make as ‘objective’ a film as it’s possible to make ... Personal experience ... is crucial to this film. The characters ARE the story. This is why I have spent the past six months interviewing so many people. Inevitably, not all will end up in the film, but all major points of view will be represented.”

Participating in a documentary is not like Class Notes. Yet Cronin writes to me that “Any one who responds to your [eNews or column] and contacts me can be assured that he would be able to veto his contribution to the project. No release forms will be signed.”

That is an unusual offer by any documentary, and I would recommend that if you participate that you bring up the point and satisfy yourself that it will apply and how.

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Steven Hirschfeld is associate director for clinical research at the National Institute of Child Health and Development in Bethesda, Md. He reports, “I have spent the last couple of decades in government, and about 95 percent of what I produce is done anonymously and results in policies, guidance documents, regulations and occasionally laws. Working from the ‘inside’ has been satisfying and in general makes it easy to become informed about many issues.” Steven has a second set of responsibilities as a captain in the U.S. Public Health Service that relates to providing care and recovery during disasters. “During the Gulf Coast hurricanes in 2005, I spent parts of September through December on different deployments. Now I am the chief medical officer and operations chief for one of five multidisciplinary 105-person teams that rotate coverage for the entire United States on a monthly basis to provide medical and mental health services during disasters. On average, I have deployed somewhere about once every 12 months since 1990.” And perhaps most important, he is married to Dr. France Carrier, a cancer researcher at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, and “Our son, Joshua, is almost 3 and keeps us busy and extremely happy.”

Several of Joel Feigin’s compositions have been performed in recent months at a variety of venues in California, including his First Tragedy for soprano, clarinet.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY
CLASS NOTES

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2007

55
James Sanders ’76: Manhattan’s Prose Laureate

Last June, a pedestrian walking through New York’s Grand Central Station might have suddenly noticed that he was surrounded by sights both familiar and unfamiliar. Over his head loomed a long city bridge, buildings and the blue of an East River sky. Beside him stood a clean-lined lobby from the ‘50s and a high, vaulted corridor from the old Penn Station. The city—or an older version of it—had temporarily moved indoors.

For this unmoored moment, the pedestrian could have thanked James Sanders ’76, author of Celluloid Skyline: New York in the Movies. In this landmark book, published in 2001, Sanders wrote the history of “movie New York,” a larger-than-life metropolis dreamed up by the cinematographers, directors and writers working in the Hollywood studio system. In research libraries and studio archives, Sanders had studied New York’s cinematic depictions—from the early street-scene footage filmed by Manhattan’s own turn-of-the-century film companies (Edison and Biograph, where D.W. Griffith made a film, were based here) to the huge, detailed recreations that still take up substantial real estate in Hollywood’s backlots.

While still immersed in his research, Sanders had dreamed of turning Celluloid Skyline into a multimedia exhibit. Last year, Turner Classic Movies, in conjunction with Time Warner Cable, finally agreed to sponsor the show, and Sanders got to work. The result was a display that drew an estimated 100,000 visitors and press coverage from Belfast to Brazil. Visitors to Grand Central’s Vanderbilt Hall found four gigantic “scenic backings” — swooping, detailed cityscapes that rose as high as a three-story building and stretched as wide as 60 feet. Images of old Broadway—its neon signs advertising Admiral Television and Coca-Cola—created “an eerie, dreamlike overlay of past and present,” wrote Caryn James in The New York Times. The idea was for visitors to stand in front of these screens as the actors had, starring in their own personal New York movie.

Sanders could be said to be starring in his own New York film, probably a downtown indie. He is a man with a bewilderingly large number of successful pursuits: architect and environmental designer, writer, conference host for an online virtual community (Echo) and sometime curator. As a writer, co-writing with his friend Ric Burns ’78, he has won two Emmys (for New York, the well-received 1999 PBS series, and their 2006 documentary on Andy Warhol). He has co-curated exhibits on 42nd Street and New York housing. As an architect, he has designed apartments for high-profile clients such as Molly Ringwald and the late Edward Said. What pulls it all together is New York. “James was and is, at least in my mind, the prose laureate of Manhattan,” says writer Don Guttenplan ’78, the London correspondent for The Nation, who met Sanders when he was a sophomore. The two walked endlessly around the city, immersed in talk, exploring its public and forbidden places. “Hacking was [then] an MIT expression for benign illicit entry,” says Guttenplan. He and Sanders “hacked,” memorably, into the space between Grand Central’s roof and its ceiling. “James knew where the door was. He also knew that the stars on the ceiling are reversed — like a ‘flipped’ photo.” In a way, Guttenplan recalls, he “taught me how to be a New Yorker.”

It may have been partly for love of the city that Sanders ended up at the College. Sanders, who was from old Columbia stock, must have guessed early on that he would apply to the school. His father, Albert ’41E, had attended the College for two years. “He was...
in the first Lit Hum class taught by Mark Van Doren,” Sanders recalls. As a young New York boy, James was taken by his father to hear Isaac Asimov ‘39 GSAS, ‘41 GSAS speak at the Engineering School, and to Baker Field to watch Columbia football. When it came time for college, Sanders applied to Cooper Union and got in, but he knew already that he wanted a liberal arts education before going to architecture school. “I would be a better architect, and a better person,” he says now.

It was the right decision. “I loved it. I was never so happy,” he says. With professors such as Eugene Santomasso, Joe Masheck ’63 and of course, Ken Jackson,” the young intellectual was able to flex his muscles. There was “that sense in which you could literally feel yourself growing,” he remembers. Celluloid Skyline began as a series of notes — lists of films — for an unwritten paper for Jackson’s “American Urban History” class. His various projects, he believes, are “an attempt to recreate on my own the experience of being able to learn and write at the same time … to me, it goes right back to Columbia.”

What’s next? Maybe a book (Sanders was awarded a Guggenheim fellowship last year to do research on “the experience of cities”). Or an urban improvement project. The Celluloid Skyline exhibit may be moving to D.C. next summer. Then there’s his new family. A few years ago, the gregarious Sanders added “father” to his long list of credits. He and his partner, Ingrid Bernstein, a creative director in advertising, live in Tribeca with their 3-year-old son. One thing, though, you can probably bet on, at least for now: Sanders won’t be leaving New York.

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On a quiet, late summer day, I had a rare chance to read deep into The New York Times. Buried on page 15 was a prurient article that caught my eye: “the most comprehensive national survey to date of sexual behavior among older adults.” The article said the National Institutes of Health had partially financed the study. All was fine until I read that they did interviews with “more than 3,000 Americans, 57–85 years old.”

Does this mean we are only two to three years from being in the government’s definition of “older adult?” Perhaps our new refrain should be “Viva Viagra!”

Even if we are on the cusp of joining the “older adults,” we are still exuding creativity at a prodigious rate in a multitude of media. For example, Bryan Berry is in his fourth year teaching literature and writing at the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Ill. (near Chicago). He recently published an article on Henry James in First Things magazine and is writing another article on John Dryden. His wife, Jill, is a librarian at a local elementary school and their three children are earning degrees at the Eastman School of Music, Catholic University and the University of Illinois.

Did you notice our classmates featured outside this column in the last two issues of CCT? Haruo Shirane had books mentioned in the “Bookshelf” department in the the “Bookshelf” department in the project has been supporting the 35th reunion approacheth rapidly — get this — Yoko Ono. Rob Stevens continues as president of One Stop Productions, his longtime music and video production company, and managing director of Mind Train Records.

Rob Stevens ’74 is president of One Stop Productions, his longtime music and video production company, and managing director of Mind Train Records.
ways to balance the agency’s budget, currently projecting deficits into the billions of dollars across the next five years. For the past 16 years, Gary was director of labor relations at the MTA and arch- nemesis of the TWU Local 100. Insiders have long said that Gary was often the go-to person for day-to-day operations at the MTA. New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg recently appointed Jeffrey Hon to coordinate the city’s response to growing health issues of those exposed to dust and smoke from the collapsed World Trade Center towers and advise the mayor on 9-11 health issues and pension-related issues. Jeff had been spokesman for the American Red Cross September 11 Recover Program. Jeff says (in the New York Daily News), “I see it sort of as a wrangler position; the city is a really complex organization, and we need to make sure that everybody is on the same page.”

Who Killed Andrei Warhol is an absurdist tragicomedy featuring the iconic Warhol by Alexander J. Motyl. The cover of the book is as psychedelic as you would expect for its title character, and the advance reviews are great. (Copies may be ordered from Seven Locks Press at www.sevenlockspublishing.com as well as from www.amazon.com and www.barnesandnoble.com.) Alex was associate director of the Har- riman Institute at Columbia from 1992–98. He also is a painter, represented by The Tori Collection, and his work is on display at www.toricollection.com. His most recent exhibit for the Tori Collection was... small world!

Jeff Sovern ’77 teaches law at St. John’s University School of Law and is co-coordinator of the Consumer Law and Policy Blog (www.clpblog.org).

Ilan began a furious and ultimately successful campaign to be reinstated and again practice law. As a member of Olshan Grundman Frome Rosenzweig & Wolosky, he came to prominence by settling some 40,000 lawsuits filed against Inamed, a manufacturer of breast implants. Subsequently, Ilan was hired to help Inamed with regulatory and business matters. Inamed and eventually even appointed a co-CEO. Then came the interesting part. While flying a small airplane for recreation in 2005, Ilan suffered a brain seizure and passed out for 20 seconds, recovering consciousness just in time to crash land the plane in a pond. He then smashed his way out of the plane with a hammer and swam to shore. While tending to his injuries, including a fractured spine, surgeons discovered a brain tumor. After surgery for that, Ilan became paralyzed on the right side and without feeling in his right arm, leg or torso. With typical ferocity, he threw himself into physical rehabilitation and within five months was snow-boarding and learning to scuba dive. At only 52, his story continues (like the rest of us). Several 2007 Columbia grads are children of members of the Class of 1976, including Yael Merkin (daughter of Ezra Merkin), Benjamin Baker (son of Daniel Baker), Yukika Sugimoto (daughter of Yuji Sugimoto), Joshua Levine (son of Joseph Levine), Gregory Wing (son of David Wing) and Justin Nunez (son of Domingo Nunez). Congratulations to all. And in the pipeline, members of the Class of 2011 are Beatrix Carroll (daughter of David Carroll), Emily Goldstein (daughter of Steven Goldstein) and Sophia Merkin (another daughter of Ezra Merkin). Looks like a family tradition, Ezra.
Bottom lines: The College accepts one out of 11 applicants and is looking to raise $4 billion during the next few years to grow and yet remain affordable. If you had been there you would have been very proud and would have written it out your checkbook. ...I’m sure you’ll have another chance soon.

Columbia’s own James Bond, Chris Dell, recently sent something in the diplomatic pouch for us. “I write to you from Kabul,” he went on, “where I've been for about five weeks now. After three bloody years as ambassador in Zimbabwe, where my spats with Comrade Bob won me a certain degree of notoriety, I've come here to be the deputy chief of mission in Kabul, and I confess Afghan experience made me a natural to think that after almost eight years as chief of mission in Kosovo, Angola and ‘Zim,’ I’d get something a bit cushier, but no good deed goes unpunished in the Foreign Service.”

If you lose all that experience made me a natural to come here, and I confess Afghanistam reminds me of Kosovo on steroids: same issues, just bigger and harder. If it weren’t for the security threats, it would be a great place. But the threats are real, and in the short time I’ve been here, we’ve already had a couple of rockets thrown at us (luckily, the bad guys are terrible shots) and a number of car bombings around town. We’re quite secure inside the embassy compound, but you’ve got to get out and about to do the job, so every week brings its own adventures.

“If you had been there you would have whipped out your wallet and written a check,” Mr. Dell continued. “I’m confident that at least one of these will come along in good time.”

Ron Goldstein brings us up to date from Israel. “We are trying to survive our incept government’s handling of everything from higher education to defense. All of the college and university students in the country went on strike for five weeks, hoping to get their tuition (set by the government) reduced.”

“My eldest, Noam (26) is studying jazz flute at the Rubin Academy of Music and musicology at Hebrew University while playing in a number of ensembles. Next in line is Nechama (25), who finished a degree in film at Tel-Aviv University (her final project was selected in a couple of short film festivals in Europe) and went to Columbia this fall to get her master’s. Naftali (22) is in the five-year religious study/soldier program here, finishing his fourth year. At the end of his main military service last year on the Gaza border, he had an all-expenses-paid trip to Lebanon. Unfortunately, he had to march tens of miles without sufficient food or water. He went for another two months at the beginning of June, and we hope he will get to spend the whole time at the calm Egyptian border. Finishing high school in a couple of weeks is batmitzvah Akiva (18), who is extremely spiritual in the 60s sense, but gets high on religion instead of illegal substances. Finally, Nechama will finish high school and will attend the same high school as his four brothers, one under the auspices of Rabbi Adin Steinsalz, a big innovator in Talmud study here.

“I do human embryonic stem cell research, and I think I am an author on about 1 percent of all the published papers in this hot field: www.biu.ac.il/faculty/goldst. Research is going great, funding less so. Sometimes I wish I lived in California with its $3 billion stem cell initiative! My wife Judy ’78 GS, ’81 CSAS, and I will celebrate 30 years of marriage in the winter; we were married at the end of December in the new-fortun Plaza hotel. Although the view of Central Park in the snow was magnificent then, this year we had last night of the Old City of Jerusalem Walls lit up in gold, with occasional fireworks, was definitely more amazing and spiritually uplifting.”

Sigmund Hough adds, “Gee, 30 years goes by very fast when you are having ‘fun.’ Are we having fun yet? The answer is clearly ‘yes.’ Thirty years past graduation has allowed for the vision of the world through more experienced eyes of losses, trouble and danger and in it the world but also happiness, joy and life rewards that are appreciated more and more with each morning.

“Having each morning puts into context what much of one’s life is all about and the opportunities and hope that are available in so many meaningful ways. I hope to read this note in the archives 30 years from now with my family … with a smile and continued appreciation.”

A close friend from 30 years ago, Merrill Weber, who lives in greater Chicago, turns out to have a daughter the same age as my Elana. So this summer we got together for a great evening of cooking and talking at my family’s place in the Berkshires during an overlap in each girl’s tour of college and New York and at Columbia in the 70s helped to shape my perspective and awareness in so many meaningful ways. I hope to read this note in the archives 30 years from now with my family … with a smile and continued appreciation.”

After spending many years in that quaint New England city, where my wife, Susan, worked to redevelop a neglected but now thriving section of downtown (class correspondent note: True! Come and see!), my career and educational interests led us to the left coast, Los Angeles in particular. In my 20 years-plus as an architect, I have worked on buildings from New Haven to Shanghai and in cities for the Westfield Corp., a major developer and operator of regional shopping centers in the United States, United Kingdom and Australia. I am working on projects in Seattle and San Francisco.

“Susan and I late and cycled through the Basque regions of France and Spain this summer, finishing with a tour of Dordogne. Partly to compensate for these indulgences, I have taken up distance running, completing 10 marathons, including ones in Los Angeles, New York and Boston. I also enjoy long walks along the beach, campfires at sunset … oops, wrong bio. We extend an invitation to have a drink with any fellow Columbia from our class who may be in the City of Angels. HS knows where to find us.”

You have all done well with the e-mails of late, in fact, the powers that be cut a half-dozen of you until next issue because I wrote too much! Keep it up, and our 30th
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Cardiologist Gil Lancaster writes from Redding, Conn.: “I never imagined that I would end up in the woods of Connecticut with my wife, Mary, children (Peter, 16, and Chloe, 11) and a dog. Actually, it was not so hard to make the transition to the exurbs, especially when it is an hour from NYC.”

Gil is based at Bridgeport Hospital, Conn., and teaches at Yale. In his spare time, he has represented Columbia at college fairs and he volunteers with the New York City Alumni Representative Committee interviewing potential CC students.

Architects Scott Kamen and his wife, Joanne, continue their design work, as always. “Joanne is designing beautiful residential and commercial work in Westchester, while my office in Manhattan, Bond Street Architecture, is involved in a range of work in the city. Some of our recent projects are VIP Community Services (housing for the homeless), Randall’s Island Tennis Courts and complex restorations of significant structures. Recently we completed a privately-owned NYU dormitory restoration that reminded me of my days at Carman Hall — except this time we were repairing the damaged walls, not building them. During the last few years, my partners and I built a new office on Bond Street and Joanne and I renovated our historic Hudson Valley home.

“Our girls, Abby and Hannah, are in middle school and high school this year. Both are excellent students and are involved in sports, music and art. I never imagined being so proud of my family and work.”

Eight years ago, when he semi-retired from the music business, Jeffrey Light started a certified organic farming operation, Rancho Tres Gatitos, on his Santa Barbara, Calif., ranch. The farm brought 12 tons of exotic fruits to market this year ("primarily cherimoyas, which I understand are pretty rare on the East Coast"). Check out www.tradingfruit.com/cherimoya.htm.

“Many law partner and I handled all legal work for my long-standing clients, The Rolling Stones, for the forthcoming documentary filmed last year at New York’s Beacon Theater. Check out the trailer www.rollingstones.com/vtBox/index.php?deepLink=video-3207. It’s a hook.

“Christine and I have been married 18 years this November, and we have six cats, five horses, three goats and quite a few raptors hanging around the house. I miss New York, but not that much. Peace.”

Francisco Aquila is a partner at Sullivan & Cromwell and can be seen regularly on CNBC and Bloomberg discussing M&A and private equity issues. “Hope all is well,” he says.

Steve Fuller has been a professor of sociology in the United Kingdom for the past 13 years and now is based at the University of Warwick, which this year awarded him a “higher doctorate” (D. Litt.) for recognition of “published work or papers which demonstrate a high standard of important original work forming a major contribution to a subject.” He is associated with the interdisciplinary research program “social epistemology,” the name of a journal he founded in 1987 and the first of his more than a dozen books. He can be reached at www.warwick.ac.uk/~sysdt/index.html.

Eliot Goldman is on a NATO and Partnership for Peace training mission in Macedonia. He writes, “I am no doubt one of the luckiest people in the Army Reserve, notwithstanding the involuntary muster I recently attended at Fort Totten, where I was probably the oldest soldier in the room. In November I get promoted to lieutenant colonel, and I look forward to the Russian and Czech nine millionners as well as a 12-gauge shotgun. Even at 50 years of age and wearing progressive eye glasses, I hit all the targets. Hope everyone is well.”

After two years of coaching the freshman girls’ volleyball team at Santa Fe H.S. in Santa Fe, N.M., Gabriel Bustamante will be an assistant coach with the SFHS varsity. “Hope all is well with you and the rest of the class,” he says.

Jeff Frieden is a professor in the Department of Government at Harvard. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia in 1984. Jeff lives in Brookline, Mass., with his wife, Anatasha, and son, Alexander.

Jeff recently authored Global Capitalism: Its Origins and Effects, which was published in the 21st Century, details of which are available at www2.wwnorton.com/catalog/ spring07/032961.htm.

Thomas A. Klapper sent this update during August, having spent the summer (as he has done for the last 10 years) in Weekapaug, R.I. “Celebrated my 50th birthday racing 12 meters in Newport. Placed third overall in the Beetle Cat regatta at the start of August at the national championships in Bass River, Mass. The kids also are sailing in the local yacht club and spending a lot of time on the beach. A fun summer, generally, with things busy at the office.”

Daniel B. Kaplan reminisces and writes, “Nineteen years ago, on a rainy Thursday evening, I came home from my job at Fire Department Headquarters on Livingston Street and my wife, Marianne (Ph.D., Graduate School of Business, 1989), told me she’d received an offer to be an assistant professor of management at the University of Oregon in Eugene. It seemed like an adventure. We went. We worked. We had kids. After nine years, we moved up to Portland (a much better fit for us). Finally, we moved up to Berkeley, Calif. I’ve taken a job as finance director at the Alameda County Social Services Agency. Our son has recently started at NYU. Our daughter has recently started high school here in Berkeley. Marianne is finishing up a job in Portland and starting a new one here in the Bay Area. The adventure continues.”

David Hecht has been retired from federal service for more than a decade and writes, “In another four years, I will have been retired a decade and writes, ‘In another four years, I will have been retired a decade and writes, ‘In another four years, I will have been retired a decade and writes, ‘...’

Robert Klapper: On the subject of, “It’s all about food …” my wife and I recently visited Philadelphia for the bat mitzvah of Jack Garden’s daughter, which was most amusing since we came late to the event. When it came time to greet each other, I did not recognize Jack and he did not recognize me. But I was able to enjoy a classic Philly cheesesteak sandwich in Philly at Jim’s Steaks — despite it when you’re there.

To celebrate my 50th birthday, my wife and I visited Mt. Rushmore. To say it was amazing is an understatement, but the Statue of Liberty can easily fit in Washington’s nose. The sculptures are huge. And here’s the Columbia connection: Gutson Borglun, the genius behind the statues, also sculpted the figures that surround St. John the Divine. For some of you, that’s the church across the street from V&T. There’s no need to go to Egypt when we have our own pyramids in South Dakota. All the best.

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Dr. Dennis Costakos wrote from the family farm in the Midwest. Dennis is the director of the neonatal-perinatal division at Franciscan Skemp Healthcare — part of the Mayo system — in La Crosse, Wis. He will be featured in a new book called White Coat Wisdom, which will be released this fall. Dennis lives in La Crosse with his wife.

We had the pleasure of having dinner with Diana Wood Kutlow ’80 Barnard. Diana is at the Kroc School of Peace Studies at the University of San Diego, where she is the program director of the Distinguished Lecture Series. The Kroc School’s mission is to educate and train graduate students in peace and conflict resolution studies.

Jay Kutlow produces sporting events of the highest quality. He works with the California Angels baseball team and freelance produces college football games on the West Coast. Jay and his wife, Diana, live in the San Diego area.

Dr. Arnon Krongrad sent us an interesting article on prostate cancer and the value of PSA testing. Arnon is a pioneer in the use of laparoscopic radical prostatectomy, which reduces the pain and bleeding associated with prostate surgery. Based in Miami, Arnon is the CEO of the Krongrad Institute and a medical advisor to the American Prostate Cancer Initiative, which is designed to raise awareness about this illness.

Jim Gerkis and I attended the Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference on September 8. There is a great deal of activity on Morningside Heights these days. You will be hearing from us regarding The Campaign for Undergraduate Education and the College Fund, so stay tuned.

Congratulations to Jim Schachter, Nick Di Benedetto, Arturo Garcia-Sola, Richard Goodman and Tom Rice. They are the proud parents of students in the Class of 2011! Drop me a line; we would love to hear from you!”
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I’m writing from lovely Kennedy Airport, where I’m waiting for a flight to Los Angeles. I’m heading to one of those events that is so wonderful in the minds of the planners and so lonely for those of us who actually attend. Travel to what should be a beautiful location. Stay in a high-end hotel. Sounds good, but the reality is you rarely eat in the windowless, over-air-conditioned meeting room. And when you do tentative-ly step into the sunshine, blinking back the light like some weired-out mole creature, you are con-fronted by colleagues in swimwear best worn by small, European children. It’s an image that you will carry with you back to New York, and will trouble both your dreams and any future encounters with these poor, deluded folks.

So, I must be relatively brief as I’m wedged between a guy eating an especially smelly Big Mac and a woman yammering into her cell phone in what we used to tell our children was an “outside voice.” Let’s start with some homecoming.

After six years in London running Reuters, the global information company, Tom Glocer and his family are moving back to New York in 2008, Reuters is being acquired by Thomson, and Tom will run the combined group from NYC. Tom is following in the footsteps of Charles Murphy, who also recently left London for New York. Charles, the former co-head of financial institutions investment banking at Credit Suisse, joined Fairmont Pampa, a hedge fund, as a partner responsible for strategy and capital markets business. Also returning to New York is Hyun Chong Kim, who left his position as the Korean trade minister in August and now is Korea’s ambassador to the United Nations.

Hyun Chong Kim ’81 left his position as the Korean trade minister in August and now is Korea’s ambassador to the United Nations.

Daniel Gordis writes: “After nine years at the Mandel Foundation in Jerusalem, I’m leaving the foundation to become s.v.p. and senior fellow at the Shalem Center, also in Jerusalem. The Shalem Center has long been a highly-regarded think tank on issues of philosophy, politics and Zionism, and it now hopes to create Israel’s first four-year liberal arts college with a core curriculum. The chance to bring Lit Hum, CC and the rest of the Core to bear on Israeli higher education was a challenge and an offer I couldn’t resist, so I’m taking the plunge. At the same time, I’m still writing. My seventh book, on the question of whether Israel can survive to 100, should be out within the year.

“Our family is well. My wife, Elisheva ’83 SW, is a tour guide in Israel, and our kids are growing up. Our eldest, Taliya (20), is in her third year of service in the Intelligence Corps of the Israeli army. Avi (18) recently graduated from high school, is in a pre-army year in a partnership practice at River-side Methodist Hospital in Columbus ever since. My wife, Susan, and I live in New Albany with our yellow Labs, Willy and Piper. With no kids, we travel, play golf and ski, eat and cook great food and drink as much great wine as I can get my hands on. I saw some of the gang at our 20th reunion, but couldn’t convince my wife to go to the 25th (it may have had something to do with her 50th birthday being the same dates, and her making me take her to Tuscany). I haven’t been able to find Mike Mercan-detti or Steve Minnello, so if you are out there, give me a holler at seskin@insight.net.com.

Greg Vanderheiden had his own cross-generation moment recently: “I had a memorable visit to Slovenia this August with my dad, age 76, and my sons, Mike, Chris and Brendan. We visited my dad’s home village from where he left for America 60 years ago. The family still owns vineyards.”

Theodore Helms has been appointed investor relations director at Petroleos Brasileiro (Petrobras); he previously was executive director of the company.

Greg Vanderheiden checks in from Mzans! “This was the coldest South African winter in more than 40 years. Low temperatures briefly veered into the high 20s. It was also the first time that snow had fallen in Jozi in 25 years.” Greg reports that the South African family living with him did not know what this white stuff was, though the kids “were quickly enchanted when they learned they could form it in balls and throw it.”

Reminds me: Do you guys remember a monstrous snowstorm freshman year — I think — that shut the school down?

And from our representatives in the arts: John Leland recently got a nice review in The New York Times Book Review for his latest book, Why Kerouac Matters. Jack Koenig made an appearance on All My Children earlier this summer and continues standing by for the leading role of Scar in The Lion King on Broadway. (If any fellow alum needs house seats for the kids or grandkids, feel free to contact Jack: knaverex@gmail.com) And our class houseband, Kenny Young and the Eggplants, wowed them at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, winning the Herald Angel Award. (Although the Scots are the same people who eat haggis, so what does that say about their taste?)

And finally, note that the DNA of the Class of ’81 is well represented in the Class of 2011, thanks to the superior parenting skills of Mikhail Brown, Harvey Cotton, Michael Cunningham, Jay Y. Lee (twins, no less) and Marc Mazur.

Send updates, tales of business trips and other so-called boon-doggles to jputydk@yahoo.com.

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Greetings, gentlemen. As I sit writing this report, the summer is coming to an all too rapid conclusion. I assume that most of you whiled away the hours during your vacations in unproductive slumber ... a literary device that implies that I’m modestly chafed off because only one disciplined soul bothered to write in. Nonetheless, I am pleased to announce some interesting news.
about one of our talented classmates, Michael Friedman. Michael is a practicing attorney (at the Denver firm Lottner Rubin Fishman Brown & Saul), author of six poetry collections and founding editor of the literary journal Shiny. His poems from Species were included in Great American Prose Poems: From Poe to the Present, published by Scribner [and edited by David Lehman '70]. Michael also is a former chairman of St. Mark's Poetry Project, and in addition to practicing law teaches in Naropa's M.F.A. program.

Last fall, Michael published his first novel, Martian Dam (published by Turtle Point). As he describes it, "The book is a mash-up of several genres." Publishers Weekly called it a "scrumptious literary trifle." Critic Ed Park (The Village Voice, The Believer) named it one of his 10 favorite books of fiction of 2006.

Great work, Michael! Really looking forward to reading it, and that he's embarking on another book project.

On a related, yet personal matter, in July, Wiley Finance published the book How I Became a Quant: Insight from 25 of Wall Street’s Elite (edited by Richard Lindsey and Barry Schachter). The 135-page paperback (N.Y.) amuses yours truly. Ironically, the book has photos of King's College, him). My family recently attended a Columbia tour guide, I was very impressed. Larry Momo '73's son, Lucas, is a member of the Class of 2011 and four members of the SEAS Class of 2011 are sons and daughters of Columbia alumni. Larry Cohen's son, Michael (Ma'ayanot Yeshiva H.S. in Jeanneck, N.J.), Michael Katz's son, (attended Hebrew Academy H.S. in Great Neck, N.Y.) and Nathaniel Christian III's son, Nathaniel (Horace Mann School in Yonkers, N.Y.) are included on the list. Nathaniel is the managing director and general counsel at Castle Oak Securities in Manhattan. He attended the 100th Anniversary of Hamilton Hall/Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference and is involved in the 25th reunion effort. Also noteworthy is that Lauren (Yeshiva U.) is now a member of the Class of 2010. Larry is a former director of admissions and was partly responsible for all of us being admitted to Columbia.

Christopher Rankin: "I have never considered studying anything for Class Notes because I have applied my education not to a career, but to gracious living instead. I guess I'll have to get over it. After Columbia, I spent some time doing technical writing in Manhattan then moved in quick succession to Albuquerque, Boise and San Francisco to dance in ballet companies, ending up with the San Francisco Opera Ballet. After that, I took up the harp and played a couple of years with orchestras and for weddings and funerals. I've been in San Francisco for almost 20 years and am a legal assistant. With my partner, Simon Berry, director of music and liturgy at St. Dominic's Catholic Church in San Francisco, whom I met in London 15 years ago when I was studying harp, I'm restoring my second 1905 Victorian. I still dance and play music almost every day. And I don't think I've seen a soul from Columbia since I left New York in 1990."

Mark Reisbaum is director of grants at the San Francisco-based Jewish Community Endowment Fund (www.sfcjef.org), which he joined in 1997. With assets of approximately $2.8 billion, JCEF is one of the largest Jewish community foundations, awarding grants totaling more than $200 million last year. At JCEF, Mark oversees grantmaking for a range of funds and supporting foundations, providing grants in the Jewish and general communities. Mark came into the nonprofit world in 1993 after a 10-year career in investment banking in Hong Kong and in New York, where he was director of entry-level training for Citicorp/Citibank. He has a master's in non-profit management from the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the City University of San Francisco. An active community volunteer, Mark serves on the Board of Directors of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, is national co-chair of GLAAD's Leadership Council program and participates in the this year. Mark left New York in 1989."
erick. In such classics as M*A*S*H, Nashville and The Player, Altman developed a distinctive style that has entertained audiences and influenced artists. Actors and filmmakers, including Tim Robbins and Bob Balaban, discuss Altman's influence and legacy. The program, which includes film clips, is moderated by entertainment journalist and historian Eddy Friedfeld.

Wayne Root was invited to speak at the 2007 Conservative Leadership Conference with more than 1,000 of America's leading conservative leaders, bloggers, thinkers and media in attendance. Evan Charkes '82 wrote me to get in contact with Paul Lerner (an old high school and college friend). I vividly remember Evan's excellent sports articles in Spectator. Evan was the sports editor of Spec and played intramural football (twice defeated in the finals).

Lawrence Lester "I joined Chase Bank about a year ago, working as the branch financial adviser at the Chase branch at 23rd Street and 6th Avenue in Manhattan. As I did at AXA Advisors, I continue to help people with financial planning, especially investing. I last saw Jordan Sprechman in early January for lunch to celebrate his birthday. He married his longtime girlfriend, Barbara, this spring. Jordan has spent most of his (legal) career also with Chase, where he met Barbara. He specializes in tax and trusts and estates law. Jordan probably worked at and enjoyed the U.S. Open tennis championships, as he has done every year since 1985. David Einhorn and I have much regular contact and Lee-Anne had their first child, Felicia Abigal, a few months ago. He enjoys his work heading up the intellectual property law practice at Anderson, Kil! and Ol!ck.

Michael Higgins is a published novelist and recently accepted a managing editor position at Ziff- Davis publications. He is happy to be living back in Morningside Heights in a new apartment that he, his wife and daughter recently moved to. I enjoyed playing poker at Andrew Gessner's Brooklyn Heights apartment a couple of times about a year ago. Since then, he was appointed the chief librarian of the Image Library of the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

Finally, Kevin Chapman sent me some amazing photos from his trip to Switzerland with his family. Their hotel, Hôtel d'Angleterre, was right on Lake Geneva. They took a boat to Montreux, stayed at the Eden Place au Lac and attended the 41st Montreux Jazz Festival. Other highlights included the train to Roche de Naye, the Chillon Castle, The Olympic Museum in Lausanne, the Alimentarium (food museum), the Cailler Factory Tour (Nestlé) and their stay at La Reserve in Geneva (the nicest hotel they ever stayed at).

We are expecting a huge turnout at our 25th reunion. Ed Joyce has graciously allowed us to use his conference room for planning meetings. Please send an e-mail if you want to join the committee.

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Congratulations to John B. Travis for fathering our class's first legacy! His son, Maximilian, is in the Class of 2011, having graduated from the American School London. Kudos also to Albert J. Pinzon, who recently joined Stroock & Stroock & Lavan as a partner. He had been a partner at Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels.

Sadly, I regret to report that Ian T. Bang died on May 8, 2007, who entered the College with our class but graduated in 1985, lived in Indianapolis with his wife and 4-year-old son. He was a photographer and filmmaker.

From the "I couldn't say it any better" department comes the following perfect submission (a class correspondent's dream): "David Cavicke, who has served the House Energy and Commerce Committee as Republican general counsel and deputy chief of staff, today was named Republican chief of staff, ranking Republican U.S. Rep. Joe Barton announced. "I'm happy that David has agreed to accept the top Republican staff job on our committee. He has big shoes to fill, but it's hard to imagine a person so uniquely qualified to fill them," said Barton, R-Texas. "In his 12 years with Energy and Commerce, David has done everything but sweep the floors, and done each job with grace and success. He's a brilliant diplomat, humor and a powerful intellect, and I'm pleased to have him with us.""

"Prior to his becoming general counsel in 2005, Cavicke, 45, was the chief counsel for the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection. On the committee he helped author the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and led congressional investigations into financial fraud at Enron and Andersen.

"Cavicke was also deeply involved in the development of Securities Litigation Reform Act, which was the most significant set of reforms to commercial litigation enacted by Congress in the last 50 years. He also developed and implemented an initiative to decimate the stock exchanges."

"Previously, Cavicke worked at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy in New York City. While at Milbank, Cavicke specialized in banking and securities transactions. He ran the firm's mentor program, in which attorneys volunteered their time to teach in Brooklyn public schools."

Atta boy, Cavicke, even if you missed out on the joy of Mop & Clog!" At the recent Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference, class emissaries Louis Vlahos, John Perfetti, Philip Hirschhorn, and yours truly, Dennis Kleinberg, networked with fellow alumni, Columbia faculty, parents, and administrators at Low Library. As part of the University's $4 billion campaign, the College will share in the $865 million earmarked for the Arts and Sciences, and a portion of this — $85 million — is intended for the fund. The fund provides financially needy students with grants, not just loans, and ensures that Columbia's famed "need-blind" admissions policy remains robust. It also was reported that applications to the College are at an all-time high, with our admissions rate far tougher than just about all other schools in the Ivies and "most competitive" colleges! So please be as generous as you can, for every donation is an invested bet — and man, is your diploma worth a lot more today!

"In addition to attending a seminar on fundraising and preparing for our 25th reunion, we were privileged to witness a panel discussion on the Core Curriculum (providing a list of what Columbia professors, with questions posed by President Lee C. Bollinger) and a guest appearance by fellow Columbia Alexander Hamilton (of the $10 bill) in celebration of Hamilton Hall's 100th birthday.

Next stop ... the Columbia Alumni Association meeting in Paris!

Robert Bradley received an Emmy nomination in the category of "Outstanding Main Title Design" for the Sci Fi Channel miniseries The Lost Room. He has designed and executed main title sequences for many TV shows and films, including Friday Night Lights, Heroes, Grey's Anatomy and Weeds.

Wilfredo Benitez wrote, "Things are very hectic for me and my family right now, moving to a new house in Montclair [N.J.]. Selling and buying a house is tough work. Three kids, ages 2, 7 and 9, start of school. I had them all this past week because camps are over. My private law firm is growing and my wife, who also is an attorney, works for Schering-Plough. Things are great."

In April, Mark Rothman became executive director of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust, the oldest Holocaust museum in the country. He had previously been Holocaust Services Advocate at Bet Tzedek Legal Services, helping survivors apply for reparations and restitution.

"We've had a productive summer at the museum, aided most ably by Susan Freeman '00, who volunteered during her month-long vacation in Los Angeles. Susie and I have an interesting connection: She got in touch with me about volunteering at the museum through her father, Arthur, who introduced my parents, Augusta and Louis Rothman '57. My wife, Vicki, is the faculty advisor in the category of "Outstanding Main Title Design" for the Sci Fi Channel miniseries The Lost Room."
leader for Santa Monica College’s Career Services Center. We have three sons, Saul (14), Eitan (11) and Noah (9), so our home is quite active.”

And finally, congratulations to Mauro Gabriele, whose daughter, Laura, is a proud member of the Class of 2011.

86

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Michael Gottdenker shared with us a first-time update. After graduation, he worked for five years as an investment banker at Salomon Brothers, then for three years at Reinvestment Management. He transitioned to general management. After Revlon, Michael was hired to run Commonwealth Telephone, a rural telephone company based near Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Michael then was recruited to be chairman and CEO of Access Spectrum, a company backed by private equity firm Quadrangle Group. Most recently, he took on an additional role as chairman and CEO of Hilton Head-based Hargray Communications, a local phone, cable, Internet and wireless company that Quadrangle purchased this summer.

Michael is active in several philanthropic and professional organizations, including serving as a trustee of Wilkes University; as a member of the Investment Committee of Georgetown Day School; as vice-chair of the Washington, D.C., chapter of the Young Presidents’ Organization; and as a member of the Board of Directors of Congregation B’nai Tzedek. He lives with his wife and children (ages 9, 8 and 4) in Potomac, Md., and is obtaining his private pilot’s license.

David Kornacker is alive and well and headhunting in New York for Bert Davis Executive Search, where he is a senior v.p. He is particularly proud of his wife’s recent first-place finish in the 40–44 age group at the century-mile race in Van Cortlandt Park. He also is an enthusiastic member of the bass section of the Oratorio Society of New York and invites all interested members of the Class of ’86 to check out the society’s annual performance of The Messiah at Carnegie Hall on Tuesday, December 18.

John LaRocca lives in Montclair, N.J., with his wife, Carolyn, and children (Alex, 7, Matt, 5, and Georgiana, 1). John is v.p. and chief legal officer for Actavis, a generic pharmaceutical company that is part of the Actavis Group.

87

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You’ve waited patiently for two months, so here it is, part two of the Reunion Report. And yes, you will be rewarded for your efforts, starting with our intrepid correspondent from Oklahoma City, Cathy Webster:

Laurela Efros ’87 has a Ph.D. in chemistry from Yale and is a senior director for global vaccine policy in the West Point, Pa., offices of Merck.

“Your faithful reporter flew in several days before reunion. I was accompanied by my husband, Bill Dycus, and my kids, Meredith (7) and Thayer (2). I am an assistant professor of French at the University of Central Oklahoma. We live in a historic home in OKC and generally travel to the west in the summer. We’ve found enough kindred spirits, politically and otherwise, to keep us happy and busy.

“Since we had a bit of a late night at Essex on Friday, Conyn Island at Columbia was in full swing when we got to campus on Saturday afternoon. I first ran into Jill Levinson Chenok and her husband, Dan ’86, and also a high school pal of mine. Jill was one of the first people I met at Columbia (we lived on 6 McBain as freshmen, a bonding experience if ever there was one). Having been in the working world for some time, Jill is now home with the three Chenok daughters, who were in Connecticut with their grandmother during reunion.

“Then we headed under the tent for fun and frolic. On the way there, I finally met Andrea Solomon’s husband, Grant Waterson, and two boys. Andrea does us proud in the School of General Studies as a dean of students.

“I caught up briefly with Eve Cohen and her family. Her dad was in the Class of ’57, so the Cohen clan was celebrating in a big way. Her kids were enjoying the inflatable obstacle course, bounce house and carnival games, leaving us a few minutes to chat.

“Under the tent, I briefly spied Barbara DiDomenico Geary with her family (two cute boys), but they were on their way out, unfortunately. Barb works for the state of New Jersey, and I got her e-mail so we could be in touch.

“Barb was at a table with Rebecca Turner and Laurie Gershon, later joined by Jennifer Insogna Donarsi, all of whom live in the New York metro area. Laurie talked about our time as undergrads and distinctive events that shaped us (body in a rug, anyone? NCAA men’s soccer final? But I digress...).

“Once the panel wrapped up, I collected my family and headed for the subway to do a quick change of clothes and child-care drop-off. While waiting on the platform for the 1 train, the Pierre-Beby family and my own caught up with Ed Weinstein ’57, father of Ilene Weinstein Lederman, who let us know that Ilene had been back to NYC in May and was returning in July, which made attending reunion all but impossible. Still, she was missed!

“Bill and I chugged back up to Low Plaza in record time and got to taste some wine with Farah Chandu, Laura Ting and their spouses, both ’87. It was really nice to have a moment to chat with them before heading over to Butler Library for our class dinner. Yes, my friends, we ate in the upstairs reading room, opposite the entrance to the stacks. Did you know that no longer are students required to check their coats and backpacks before entering the stacks? Does tradition not mean anything to the administrators of..."
Butler Library? I, for one, never imagined that I’d be served a mixed drink in that location, but I suppose stranger things have happened.

“It was here, at last, that I was able to give Suzanne Waltman a big bear hug and hear her two-year stint in Switzerland. She really enjoyed the expat life and would love to go back (I can relate on both fronts). And then all too soon it was time to eat, and we were divided up into little tables. Our classmates were Peter Ross and his wife, Mary, and Larry Alletto and his lovely fiancée, Pete and Larry work in finance and yet manage to seem very laid back. Suffice to say that the evening whizzed by and before we knew it we were heading back to the Steps to dance under the stars. It was after 11 by then, and we had an early flight out, so I knew we weren’t going to get to fully enjoy the after-party atmosphere ‘neath the glow of NYC’s summertime haze, but I did spot Dean Austin Quigley and his wonderful wife, Pat Denison, for a quick hello between dance numbers.

Dean Q provided some reassurance that there would be no need to storm Low Library in the weeks ahead. Finally, it was wonderful to see Kathryn and Derek Wittner ’65 kicking up their heels and making the most of the evening. If anyone could have made me stay longer, I think it would have been them!”

Thank you so much, Cathy! And now, some words from Kyra Barry, without whom this reunion would not have been possible:

“First, thanks to so many of our classmates for coming back for reunion. It was really fun reconnecting with everyone and the energy and excitement this time was huge. A special thanks to our classmates who made everything possible and help keep our classmates connected throughout the year. I want to say how much I enjoy working with Columbia because it allows me to stay in touch and reconnect with so many classmates. I hope that we can soon make even bigger committees and more people involved for our 25th!”

“Some more guests from Thursday night: Suzy Upton and her husband, Peter; Sharon (Weitzenfeld) Rozman ’87E and Lynn. And, of course, Azer also joined Susan Rempe, Gary Rempe, Larry Frigerio ’87E, Irka Song, Teresa Saputo and Alex Wallace ’88. Mary Peterson also joined her peers from the Class of ’87. My old roommates Glenn Anderson, Andrew Anker and our friend Kevin Drury ’86 flew in from across the county.

“Annmarie Jurczak and her husband, Keith, came from Providence, R.I., on Friday night for the rest of the weekend. Annmarie is an ob/gyn there.

“And on Saturday at the picnic, we were joined by Michelle Estillo and her gang and Irka came by with her son. At the last minute, Laura Lent Michnowicz took the train from central Pennsylvania. With her two daughters and mother two nights out solo Lynne Lada Azer brought her daughters, Emily and Erin, in from Wayne, N.J.”

Thank you again, Kyra, for making the reunion as fabulous as it was! Finally, we have a few words from Lee Ilan:

“At reunion, it was fun to talk to Larry Alletto and his fiancée about their engagement, since during Memorial Day weekend, I got engaged to Peter Engel. I was happy to introduce him to many of my friends at reunion events. We’d known each other for years through our bicycle club, but the stars never aligned until last fall, and life is now consumed with wedding plans.

“I was delighted that Sandy Asrivatham made the trip up from Baltimore with her husband for Friday night to show us her CD and pictures of her son.

“Also, I enjoyed speaking with Kyle Kiyertys ’89 and his wife, Kate Rolston, about their life’s journeys since college days. They now run the Web site www.real savvymoms.com and television show that focuses on pregnancy, parenting and family issues.

“In other 13 Carman news, I recently heard from our friend (and hockey fan) Welch, who lives in Syracuse, N.Y., with her husband, Roy. She was planning a trip with her siblings to Costa Rica.”

Thanks, Lee!

And in other news, Esther Chung is associate professor of pediatrics at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where she teaches medical students and pediatric residents. She also is attending physicians at the Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Del. Her husband, Dennis Lee, is director of chemistry at GlaxoSmithKline and they live in Swarthmore, Pa., with their daughters, Marissa and Emma.

Victor Jerez has been promoted to product manager at Mars & Co., a management consulting firm specializing in business strategy. Victor has a master’s of architecture from Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. At Mars, he has worked on a broad range of strategic engagements for Fortune

100 clients around the globe. Currently, Victor is in Brazil leading a team that is working on an engagement for one of the firm’s Europe-based clients. He and his family live in Greenwich, Conn.

Laura Eros married Kugelmass and Kugelmass in August in Philadelphia. Laura, who has a Ph.D. in chemistry from Yale, is a senior director for global vaccine policy in the West Point, Pa., offices of Merck. In 1999 and 2000, she was a director for international economic development with the National Security Council and a senior adviser for international health with the National Economic Council, concentrating on global AIDS policy and international health. Noam is the strategic business intelligence manager at Duane Morris, a Philadelphia law firm.

Peter Ross wrote to explain why his wife, Mary, was not around too much at the reunion: she was getting ready to give birth to their fourth child, Victoria, who joins Katherine (10), Lizzy (7) and Philip (3). Congratulations, Peter and Mary!”

Claire Theobald ’88, with two friends, owns an accessories company, Dante Beatrix, that designs and sells diaper bags and children’s backpacks.
of New York City, lived in Japan, earned an M.B.A. and had a successful career in the media business, mostly working for Hearst. Stan writes, “After flying about three million miles and spending more time on airplanes and in hotel rooms than any reasonable person should, I decided to pursue a modest change in lifestyle. I took what may turn into a sabbatical and went to cooking school, a long-ignored fantasy. I recently finished a program at French Culinary Institute in Soho, which turned out to be easily one of the five best experiences of my life. I am not decided yet whether to head back to the media world or stick with cooking. I was fortunate to get an offer to cook at a well-known restaurant in New York but will wait to make a decision until November.

“In the meantime, I headed to Nepal in October to trek to Mt. Everest with the Rickshaw Dumpling Bar (www.lovemystrengthfoundation.com) to help raise awareness and financial support for cancer and cancer research. Cancer has touched my family countless times, and this is a chance for me to help do something about it. The trek culminates with a concert at the base of the mountain with a variety of musicians and bands, to be taped and broadcast by the BBC.”

Wow! Congratulations, Stan, on what sounds like a really great year. If you do take the cooking job, perhaps you’ll run into Anita Lo, who was the subject of an article in Crain’s New York Business about her plans to open a new restaurant in Manhattan. Anita had a very successful in the hyper-competitive New York restaurant business; she is co-owner of the award-winning Annisa restaurant and the Rickshaw Dumpling Bar chain. The new spot will be “a 120-seat Asian barbeque spot with a 40-seat garden. The restaurant, still unnamed, will serve plated food and boast waiter service. If it’s successful, the Michelin-starred cook plans to open additional branches around the country. Ms. Lo declined to comment on the new eatery, but she said in a recent interview that she hopes ’to build an empire.’” We certainly wish Anita luck in this new imperial venture! If you come to reunion, you can check out one of her outputs.

Benjamin Horowit chas has also had some notable business successes. This summer, he was interviewed for the regular New York Times feature in which prominent business leaders talk about their ideas on leadership and management. Ben’s interview appeared on July 16, and he spoke about his career in the high-tech industry and how his leadership style was formed by his father and his family life. Since graduation, Ben has earned a master’s in computer science at UCLA and was an executive at AOL, Lotus and Netscape. He then founded Loudcloud, which hosted dot-coms on its servers, and most recently Opysware, which specializes in data center software. Ben was CEO at Opysware, which was sold this summer to HP for $1.65 billion.

Ben is married and lives in California with his wife and three daughters. Get ready for this next item: Ben’s eldest daughter, Julia ‘11, is on campus. Oh my goodness. Ben and I had a good laugh about Julia living in Carman, where we both spent our freshman year, now 23 years ago. I wonder how much has changed? Ben told me he’s thinking about reunion but was definitely planning to be at Homecoming. Thanks to all those who contacted me, and please get in touch! Don’t be intimidated — write!

89

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Hi, all — As I write this column, a fabulous summer is setting and I’ve had a nice amount of contact with our classmates. A highlight for me this past month was meeting beautiful Sophie Rose, daughter of Amy Weinreich Rinzel. Sophie cooed sweetly as Amy, Kristine (Barakat) Flynn ‘88 and I enjoyed a delicious lunch at the home of Jody Collins Fidler, who entertained us with her home renovation tales.

At a little league baseball game in Brookline, Mass., I ran into Elizabeth Emma Ferry ’90 whose son, Sebastian, plays on the same team with our son, Henry. Elizabeth started with us in 1990. She and I had the pleasure this summer of seeing Dan Javitch, whose son, Sebastian, plays on the same team with our son, Henry. Elizabeth started with us in 1990.

I also had the pleasure this summer of seeing Dan Javitch, whose son, Sebastian, plays on the same team with our son, Henry. Elizabeth started with us in 1990.

In addition to being Hudson and Sydney’s mother, Beverly is married to an Aussie, Jason Brown, lives in Hancock Park, Los Angeles, and works at AdlhochCreative, a small advertising agency. Howard lives in Silver Lake, writes screenplays and is a Web editor. I also saw Anne Hall, a physician’s assistant in Los Angeles, and Nina Davidovich-Litvak ’90, who is married to Salvador Litvak and the mother of Mandy and Avi (2), who both play for Rob last summer in England. I still have the invitation on my bookshelf — a miniature VW surf wagon and clock. Sadly, I couldn’t get our clan overseas, because it sounded like an amazing time as described by the birthday boy: “The birthday boy was fantastic. A complete surprise, after surprise, after surprise. The party was extraordinary, about 40 adults and 60 kids. The kids were the best part. The average age at my 40th was about 10. The details were amazing. The food, the constant entertainment for the kids, the constant entertainment for the adults, sleeping in a VW camper van, the stage and the two bands, the sailing... If this is what my 40s will be like, then I am ready!”

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"Surprise!?' I was in Los Angeles whose son, Sebastian, plays on the same team with our son, Henry. Elizabeth started with us in 1990. I declined to comment on the new interview that she hopes to do for Howard’s 40th birthday. I still have the invitation on my bookshelf — a miniature VW surf wagon and clock. Sadly, I couldn’t get our clan overseas, because it sounded like an amazing time as described by the birthday boy: “The birthday boy was fantastic. A complete surprise, after surprise, after surprise. The party was extraordinary, about 40 adults and 60 kids. The kids were the best part. The average age at my 40th was about 10. The details were amazing. The food, the constant entertainment for the kids, the constant entertainment for the adults, sleeping in a VW camper van, the stage and the two bands, the sailing... If this is what my 40s will be like, then I am ready!”

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“search archives” box. Here’s a preview to whet your appetite: “A steady, soulful tenor of a voice — combined with a first name that is as mellifluous as it is unusual — has won public radio host Soteros Johnson a legion of devoted fans, some of whom have gone so far as to write songs in his honor and name pets after him.”

Steve Winick was profiled with other Chanter singers in *The Washington Post* on August 12. Enter Steve’s name in the search box at www.washingtonpost.com to read more about Steve’s interesting hobby.

Hamish Fletcher (who goes by Ian these days) recently married Julie Hormel (who was briefly in a box at www.washingtonpost.com Thanksgiving and hope to hear about sheetrock.

Although this was a job offer on August 12.

Enter your reading pleasure:

**Doug Freed ’91 married Kate O’Brien at Calamigos Ranch in Malibu, Calif., on July 7. Many guests from Columbia attended, including (left to right) Jill Sulka ’91 Barnard, JoEllen Dinges ’90 Barnard, Diane Clapp ’65 Nursing, Jori Finkel ’92, Vicki Curry ’90 Barnard, the groom, the bride, Russell Glober ’89, Valencia Gayles ’88 and Ivan Freed ’65 Business (father of the groom).** Photo: CHUCK GREEN

man (and his dad) did on the Americas commodities business.

Doug has his own consulting company, Sagewood Cinema Ventures, which programs independent movie theatres and distributes art films across the country. Congratulations, Doug and Kate! [See photo.]

After graduation, David Wacks continued his academic studies at Boston College and UC Berkeley. He lives in Eugene, Ore., with his wife, Katharine Gallagher, and their son, Eitan (2). He has been an assistant professor of Spanish at the University of Oregon for the last five years. He has recently published a book, *Framing Iberia* (Brill 2007), about medieval Spanish story collections. Coincidentally, David’s office is directed by the work of Paula Rogers, who teaches Japanese literature (she also was Carman 6 with me). David also is in touch with Justin Kerber and Deb Blumenthal, a history professor at UC Santa Barbara.

Bob Kolker sent a long note. “While I was unable to make it to our big reunion last year, a small group of us from the eighth floor of Carman Hall got together in August 2006 in Philadelphia for our own pale imitation of a reunion, gathering for a weekend of reminiscing (and, as I recall, a good deal of eating). I was there with my wife, Kirsten Danis ’92, our daughter, Audrey (now 4) and our newborn son, Nathaniel (now 1). We live in Brooklyn; Kirsten is the City Hall bureau chief at the New York Daily News, and I write for New York magazine, where I’ve been for eight years. Also there was my great buddy, Ed Mitre, his wife, Deborah Appelbaum ’93 Barnard, and their daughters, Mira (4) and Talia (6), who reside in Washington, D.C. Ed tells me, in words that send my mushy liberal arts brain spinning, that he conducts research on the immune response to parasitic infections at the Uniformed Services University medical school and sees patients as an infectious diseases physician at the National Naval Medical Center. Deb recently accepted a job as a speech therapist for Montgomery County schools in Maryland.

“We were joined by my classmates, Doug Charytan, and Shoshana Jacobs ’92 Barnard, who live in Brookline, Mass.

David is a nephrologist at Brigham and Women’s, and Shoshana is an elementary education literacy coach. They have blessed us all by having the curve and effortlessly raising three awesome kids: Natan (8), Amalya (6) and Tamir (3). As a nephrologist, his sister is unlikely to let him make it to 4). Rounding out the group was honorary Carman 8 member and Debevoise & Richter partner, Jonathan Ardaí recently published *Songs of Innocence* under the pen name Richard Aleas. He was the former CEO of Juno and is a managing partner of D.F. Shaw & Co.

According to *The Washington Post*, “in 2004, Ardaí founded Hard Case Crime, which reprints classic crime fiction and publishes new novels as well, issued in low-priced paperback editions with sexy guns-and-girls cover art. One of Hard Case Crime’s early offerings was Aleas’/Ardaí’s own first novel, *Little Girl Lost*, which was nominated for the Edgar and Shamus awards. Now comes an even better sequel, *Songs of Innocence*, that proves he can write noir equal to that of the best of the authors he publishes.”

Whew — what a great class, and even if you didn’t know these folks in college, perhaps you are as impressed as I am with their contributions and accomplishments. Kudos and good luck to all!
Activist Bryonn Bain ’95 Uses the Arts to Reform Prisoners

By Laura Butchy ’04 Arts

Bryonn Bain ’95 has filled his time with countless pursuits since graduating from the College, working as an activist, poet, author, actor, teacher and more. This fall he joined The New School University as poet-in-residence, and in September, he began performing in the Off-Broadway production From Auction Block to Hip Hop. 

During the last few years, Bain also has used his talents and passions as an adjunct professor at Columbia, teaching a graduate course called “Lyrics on Lockdown” in the Institute for Research in African-American Studies. Bain begins the semester focusing on the prison industrial complex as a social phenomenon. “Prison is being used to treat a wide range of social problems that it is incapable of helping,” contends Bain. “If you are a drug addict, going to jail doesn’t stop that. Going to jail just gives you a better network when you leave for getting drugs.”

In the second half of the semester, Bain and the students go to the NYC prison on Rikers Island to offer workshops for teenage prisoners. Bain and the students teach literacy and critical thinking using popular culture, talking about such topics as gentrification and sexism. The students research everything from where the inmates are from to what music they listen to, then the class prepares lesson plans using elements of hip-hop, theater and spoken word. The Rikers students have the chance to express themselves through the arts as well as have honest discussions about life before and after prison.

Though the class is not offered every semester based on funding, Bain teaches at Rikers in the summer as well. “But I love doing it with Columbia students,” he says. “I connect with them because I went to Columbia, but I connect with the guys from Rikers because I live in neighborhoods they are from and had an experience that helps me relate to what they’re experiencing.”

Bain’s brief experience was being arrested while a student at Harvard Law School. In 1999, he was leaving a Morningside Heights club with his cousin and brother when they were arrested for a crime they witnessed someone else commit. When police arrived, bouncers from the club pointed out the three young black men to the officers, who arrested them, and they spent the night at the 24th Precinct. After four court appearances across five months, all charges were dropped (with the help of Columbia Law School professors).

Later that year, Bain wrote an article about his experience and submitted it to The Village Voice. The cover story, “Walking While Black: The Bill of Rights for Black Men” (April 26–May 2, 2000) struck a chord; hundreds of letters poured in recounting similar experiences. “It should have mattered that we had no record. But it didn’t,” Bain wrote. “What mattered was that we were black and we were there. That was enough for everyone involved to draw the conclusion that we were guilty until we could be proven innocent.” Bain’s story helped push him to the forefront of prison reform movements, especially after he discussed the ordeal on 60 Minutes.

The incident strengthened Bain’s commitment to social justice, which he began developing at a young age. Originally from Trinidad, his parents moved Bain and his four siblings all over the world following his father’s work as a photojournalist, but Bain spent most of his youth in Brooklyn. In high school, Bain was in a hip-hop group that performed at local events, including a prison upstate. They found the experience so rewarding that they returned to the prison as much as possible.

At the College, Bain majored in political science with a concentration in black studies and was president of his class for four years. Working with the Double Discovery Center and after prison.

“Lyrics on Lockdown” is a graduate course he began offering every semester based on need-blind admissions, and challenging the Core Curriculum to include more diverse literature and arts. During student demonstrations, Bain would write about the protests and perform his verse with a megaphone. He further honed his artistic skills taking dramatic writing classes and later auditing Rita Pietropinto-Kitt ’90’s acting class.

Bain went on to earn a master’s in urban politics and cultural studies at NYU, then his law degree at Harvard. After working in the law and business affairs departments at MTV and Sesame Street, Bain decided to focus on bringing his own art to the world. He was named Nuyorican Grand Slam Poetry Champion at the 2000 National Poetry Slam, then began organizing artists to teach workshops in prisons nationwide through the Lyrics on Lockdown Tour. He uses his performance skills to further social justice causes. “The art of storytelling is what I’m most passionate about,” Bain says.

Bain’s use of storytelling is diverse. In addition to teaching “Lyrics on Lockdown” at Columbia, he has taught spoken word at NYU and has lectured and performed at more than 100 colleges and universities nationwide, as well as in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. In 1997, he founded Blackout Arts Collective, a grassroots coalition of artists, activists and educators working to empower communities of color through the arts.

PHOTO: © 2007 LARRY LOWE/WWW.LOWEIMAGING.COM
Let’s call this the “Linkedin” column. That’s because most of my news this time comes from communications I received from folks who asked me to join their “connections” list on this Internet networking service. In rapid-fire succession, I heard from several of you. It’s good to feel wanted, but better to get updates, even in a new way. You can quote me on that.

Among my new Internet contacts are Clay Arnold, senior counsel at Bausch & Lomb; Robert Haga ‘92E, legal adviser to the California Public Utilities Commission; and Jonathan Henick, a foreign affairs officer at the State Department. When I followed up with Jon via e-mail, I learned that he is based in one of the most exotic locations anyone has ever provided me an update from: Baku, Azerbaijan. His profile indicates that he is serving concurrently as the press spokesperson and the head of the public diplomacy section handling educational, cultural and civil society programs. Although he didn’t ask, I’m sure he’d appreciate hearing from any Columbia folk who happen by his neck of the woods.

Of course, not all of the news came by virtue of Linkedin. I am pleased to report that Peter Hatch and Hilary Hatch are the proud parents of Veronica Baker Hatch, born July 18. The birth announcement noted that “Hilary and Veronica are healthy and happy and Peter is thrilled.”

Jake Novak ’92 GS is the color commentator for Columbia football this year. He comes highly recommended: Jake became senior producer at FOX Business Network earlier this year, is a longtime fan of Columbia football and maintains a blog, “Roar Lions Roar,” dedicated to reporting on the team. He was a producer at CNN for the last seven years and also has worked locally for NY1.

Megumi Ikeda was named executive director of Peaceock Equity Fund, a joint investment venture between GE — Media, Communications & Entertainment and NBC Universal. She is based in London, where, according to the press release, she will focus on investments in media and technology companies with high growth potential. Megumi had previously been v.p. of strategic initiatives and new media for NBC Universal in New York.

Frank Au, already managing director of Latitude Capital Group, has been appointed a director of Grand Toys International. Frank, a Brooklyn native, has worked in the toy business for 20 years and also has worked locally for NY1. He comes highly recommended: Jake became senior producer at FOX Business Network earlier this year, is a longtime fan of Columbia football and maintains a blog, “Roar Lions Roar,” dedicated to reporting on the team. He was a producer at CNN for the last seven years and also has worked locally for NY1.

Jay Michaelson is an award-winning writer and teacher specializing in Kabbalah, law, contemplative practice, and sexuality. He is a columnist for The Forward, the chief editor of Zeek: A Jewish Journal of Thought and Culture, the executive director of Nefilim; and the author of God In Your Body: Kabbalah, Mindfulness, and Embodied Spiritual Practice (2007). Jay is a Ph.D. candidate in Jewish thought at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and holds a J.D. from Yale. Whether in the academic world or as a visiting scholar in residence, Jay combines intellectual rigor with an alternative cultural sensibility and a personal devotion to the contemplative path.

Shana Priwer lives in the San Francisco Bay area and recently gave birth to her fourth child, Sophia. She was welcomed by Zoe-cyn (8), Elijah (5) and Benjamin (2).

Leyla Koken
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Phil Greenspan writes that since finishing a fellowship in pulmonary/critical care and sleep medicine from Mt. Sinai in New York, he and his wife, Monique ’06 TC, have been living in Westport, Conn., where Phil is in private practice.

“We have been blessed by the birth of our wonderful daughter, Jordana,” Phil writes. “She has visited Morningside Heights many times and looks forward to spending more time hopefully there in the future.”

Phil’s family has seen Erik Groothuis and Marina (Gurin) Groothuis a few times: “Erik is a lawyer with a law firm in New York, and Marina is taking care of their two daughters. They live in Roslyn, N.Y.”

Phil frequently sees fellow CAVA alum Dave Robbins. Dave is an attending gastroenterologist at Beth Israel in New York and spends lots of weekend time with Phil and his family on the beach in Westport.

Many thanks to Phil for writing in — things looked pretty bleak for this Class Notes column until he saved the day!

And for everyone else, please drop me a quick note and tell me what you’re up to. I know it’s easy to get busy with new jobs, new spouses, babies — and all sorts of other new adventures — but that’s exactly what all your CC’94 friends would love to hear about!
The story of Topher McGibbon ’96’s business began, as so many do, with a few friends gathered at a café during a busy lunch hour. The Upper West Side restaurant was packed with toddlers, and the convened circle of friends — among them three doctors — started to wonder how so many Manhattan-born babies managed to make it home safely from the hospital in the snarl of New York City traffic.

That afternoon’s conversation was enough to prompt McGibbon to toy with the idea of a safer, more reliable taxi service for infants, a venture he christened Kid Car NY. All too quickly, however, he realized that the idea wasn’t quite financially viable. Catering to newborns alone wouldn’t provide a steady customer base, and it seemed that there wasn’t enough demand for an expanded car service that also accommodated older children.

But the idea had already started to form, and for the next four years, McGibbon frequently revisited that initial conversation. Kid Car hovered on the edge of his consciousness, just waiting for an opportunity to take shape.

McGibbon, who majored in history at the College and was a member of the swimming team, worked for Morgan Stanley for two years and then attended the University of Michigan’s School of Business, graduating in 2006.

During his time at Michigan, McGibbon couldn’t stop thinking about Kid Car. Meanwhile, in March 2005, New York State passed a law requiring that children under 7 be restrained in child safety seats. The new legislation, however, only encompassed private vehicles, giving an exemption to taxis and private car services.

“That exemption means that while parents are not going to get tickets if they and their children are in a crash while riding in a taxi or black car, they will get a visit from Child Protective Services for letting their child ride in a car without a safety seat when they should have known better,” McGibbon says. Car-less families living in Manhattan were left with few safe options for transporting their young children.

The new law was McGibbon’s opening. He began to stop families with young children on the street in an effort to gauge public interest and find out if the market had changed. “I walked the streets of New York with a clipboard in my hand,” McGibbon says. “And if you have ever seen how people with clipboards are treated in the city — well, I think we got some amazing responses. But as soon as I mentioned safety and automobiles, people stopped what they were doing to sit down and talk to me. They really cared, and that’s when I knew I had something.”

McGibbon expanded his initial business model to include toddlers and elementary school-aged children — a significantly larger target customer base — and on March 29, 2007, Kid Car picked up its first customer. In addition to a $300 annual membership fee, customers pay a flat rate (no tipping permitted) of $25 per trip to travel anywhere in Manhattan. Most importantly, McGibbon’s cars are all equipped with the regulation child safety seats that taxis lack. Currently, the company has more than 100 members and McGibbon is planning to expand his fleet of distinctive maroon minivans to keep up with his growing client list.

“I have had the service twice and definitely expect to in the future for doctor’s appointments, play dates and so forth, as there really is no other safe, reliable and relatively inexpensive way to get the kids about town,” says Michael Griffin, whose triplets were brought home from the hospital by Kid Car in May. “I think that Topher is on to something that could be really big. He has done his homework, is continuously refining his business model, and most of all, understands that he is carrying precious cargo.” Griffin is the University’s senior associate director of alumni relations.

“McGibbon is careful to emphasize the importance of familiarity and hospitality at Kid Car. “The great thing about this business is that there’s continuity,” he says. “The drivers see the same customers over and over again. In New York City, that’s very different from the random cabdrivers whose placard you may not be able to read from the back seat and God knows you’re never going to see that person again.”

“The really successful businesses look at the lifetime value of a customer,” McGibbon adds. “We view our customers as an opportunity to develop a lifetime relationship. We brought that newborn home from the hospital, we take that kid to school and we will continue to provide service until that kid is 15, 16 years of age.”

Above all, McGibbon makes sure never to lose sight of the company’s founding principle: child safety.

“I really do see Kid Car having a profound impact on increasing the safety of children living in New York City,” he says, “and I hope we can eventually improve safety nationwide. In the end, that’s what matters most.”

Daniella Zalcman ’09 is majoring in architecture and comparative literature. Her articles have appeared in The New York Times and Wired Magazine.
area in 2009 because of a job change. Jason Lovelace married Kimberly Gamble, and they live in Edgewater, N.J.

Jon Finkelstein joined McDermott Will & Emery as a partner in the firm’s Washington, D.C., office.

Thanks for the updates, and please keep the news coming.

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Happy fall, everyone! Only a bit of news to report for this issue.

Julie Satow is the business editor for The New York Sun and is in charge of the real estate section as well. She had previously been at Crain’s New York Business magazine.

Jody Alpert Levine and Ellie Levine have three girls, Skyler (10), Jasmine (7) and Caitlin (4). Jody, a board certified pediatrician and board certified dermatologist who practices pediatric and cosmetic dermatology, and Ellie, a plastic surgeon who specializes in cosmetic surgery, opened a joint practice in October in NYC. The practice is called Plastic Surgery and Dermatology of NYC and is located on 84th and Madison, (212) 988-1800. The practice will focus on all aspects of aesthetic care and will have an extensive array of lasers. The office will even have its own operating room!

Congratulations to both Drs. Levine.

That’s all for now — keep this thought in mind until next time:

“The time of universal deceit, when truth becomes a revolutionary act.”

— George Orwell

On August 4, at the Hotel DuPont in Wilmington, Del., Brian Legum ’00 married Karen Kimmell. Among the Columbia guests were (top row, left to right) Dan Burstein ’00, Jordan Wand ’99, Michael Shields ’00, Brian Andrews ’99, Erik Courtney ’00 GS and Amir Arison ’00; (bottom row, left to right) Juliet Ross ’00, Jennifer Legum ’05, the groom and Lindsay Mathieson ’00 Barnard.

PHOTO: PAUL CSHAS AND DANIELLE DURE/LAFAYETTE HILL STUDIOS

Happy fall. Class of 1998. Usually news about Amy Bryant, who graduated from the Business School, working in either New York or Los Angeles. As for Dean’s non-West Coast friends, Sam Nouri recently graduated from the University of Chicago and graduated from the University of Chicago. He joined the firm of Heller Ehrman as an associate in its New York office in October. Greg McDonald recently started at the Carlyle Group, working in its real estate team.

But even Dean can’t escape baby updates: Greg Lambirides ’08 and his wife, Heather, recently had their first baby, Lukas
Socrates. Greg is a portfolio manager at PNC Bank. He and his wife reside in New Jersey.

Thanks, Dean, for all the great (and first-time) updates!

Congratulations are in order for Tom Sanford, who married Alexandra Guillette Lloyd on August 24. Tom and Alexandra’s ceremony took place at St. Paul’s Chapel on campus. Tom is a New York-based artist represented by Leo Koenig, Inc., and his new bride is a research manager at Eurasia Group, a global political risk advisory and consulting firm. She graduated from Tufts and has a master’s from SIPA. Best wishes to the newlyweds!

I hope you are all keeping warm, and I invite all of you to gear up for our 10th reunion by sending me a note to let the class know what you’ve been up to!

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Congratulations to April Greenberg, who celebrated her commitment ceremony with Tessa Blakeley on June 10. The ceremony, officiated by Rabbi Caric Carter, was held at the Park Slope Jewish Center. The happy couple will use the surname Silver. April and Tessa each own Internet consulting businesses in Brooklyn. Tessa attended the Phoenix Art Center in Arizona, where she received a degree in advertising design. Congratulations!

Check out the latest Granta, which names Daniel Alarcón one of the best “Young American Novelists.”

Send your news to CCT!

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Hello. I’ve recently heard from several of you regarding exciting milestones in your lives. Please keep them coming!

Jorge Herrera wrote in with great news: “My wife, Victoria, recently gave birth to our son, Ian Francisco. He was born on August 16, 2007, at 8:41 p.m. He weighed 8 lbs., 10 oz., and was more than 21 inches in length! I am still in San Antonio, Texas, but look forward to your visit soon.”

Finally, I am back in the city! I really missed everyone and hope to see you all soon. I was able to get in touch with Columbians in New York recently.

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Since graduation, Jasmine Hyman ’01 has been living with her fiancée in Rome, where she originally was working for the United Nations (with Johanna Erhardt ’01). After completing an M.Sc. in environmental and development economics at the London School of Economics, Jasmine left the public sector to work on climate change issues and renewable energy finance. Since 2005, she has been the marketing director for The Gold Standard Foundation, which regulates investments in carbon offsets and government actions toward Kyoto Protocol compliance. Jasmine would love to get in touch with Columbians in Italy or Switzerland, particularly those involved in environmental markets. She can be reached at jasmine.hymann@gmail.com.

Kelly Alderson was married to Gustavo “Axel” Radics in Washington, D.C., on June 2. The newlyweds have moved to Lima, Peru, where Kelly is the communications director for an infrastructure development project and Axel is writing his dissertation for his Ph.D. in public policy.

Elizabeth Bradford Boylan and Andrew Christopher Byington ’00E were married on August 4. The Rev. Joseph Constantino, a Roman Catholic priest, performed the ceremony at St. Francis Xavier in New York, with the Rev. Martin Boylan, a Roman Catholic priest and an uncle of the bride, taking part.

Elizabeth is an associate specializing in stock sales at Lehman Brothers in New York. She received her M.B.A. from NYU. Andrew is a technology stocks analyst at Sigma Capital Partners, a hedge fund. Andrew has two undergraduate degrees: a B.A. in mathematics from Holy Cross and a B.S. in industrial engineering from SEAS.

Finally, I am back in the city! I recently made the move from Miami to Manhattan, where I started attorneyhood at Latham & Watkins and live in Chelsea. I’d love to get back in touch with alumni in the area, so please e-mail me!

Ivan Rapoport ’02 has begun his second year as the University of Alabama sports beat reporter for The Birmingham News, the state’s largest paper.

Noah Lichtman and Sara Elizabeth Stein ’02 were married on July 29 in Westport, Conn. The couple met at Columbia. Sara teaches science at the Booker T. Washington School in Manhattan. Noah is a director for account management at Winning Strategies, a public relations firm in New York.

Lauren Goldstein ’04 SW and Daniel Silvers were married on July 21 at the Park Hyatt Philadelphia at the Bellevue. Lauren works in New York as an early-intervention service coordinator for LifeStart, a program for preschoolers of the New York League for Early Learning. She received a master’s in social work from Columbia as well as a master’s in early childhood special education from the Bank Street College of Education. Her husband is a v.p. at the Fortress Investment Group in New York, specializing in financing for gambling and real estate companies.

John Balonzi’s new book, Debating Globalization, has recently been launched. The book explores the world economic and social order from the perspectives of a group of international authors representing NGOs, intergovernmental organizations, and civil society. For more info, find it on Amazon.com.

Lisa Zebrowski wrote, “I’ve recently returned to Boston after all these years in NYC and am setting up a comfortable new life in the West End. I work at Iron Mountain, producing major internal conferences, and spend my free time reacquainting myself with Boston. I’d love to find Columbia alumni in the Boston area! I’ve also been doing my best to keep up with the wonderful friends I left behind in NYC. Melinda Mellman ’01 Barnard took a break from designing watches at Tiffany long enough to catch the fireworks on the Esplanade with me and Kristy Overman visited with her longtime boyfriend for Jenny Mussa’s wedding. Jon Lennie and I met up one day while he was here visiting family. You can see his byline in the New York Daily News pretty frequently to figure out what he’s doing with most of his time. Several of my friends from Columbia are engaged now, but I’ll let them make their own announcements ...”

Ariel Neuman left his job with a private law firm in Los Angeles, spent a month traveling and started work as an assistant United States attorney in Los Angeles.

Finally, I’m delighted to report that Annie Lainer has moved back to Los Angeles, her hometown. Annie will be an attorney...
for Bet Tzedek, an organization that provides legal advice and representation for low-income individuals in Los Angeles. We are so excited to have her back in the area! Keep in touch!

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Mathias Daniels graduated from SUNY Downstate Medical School and started his residency in orthopaedic surgery at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York. Sara Elizabeth Stein married Noah Lichtman ’01. She teaches science at the Booker T. Washington School in Manhattan and received a master’s in education from Bank Street College of Education. Tze Chun, whose short film, Windowbreaker, played at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival, was named one of 25 New Faces of Independent Film by Filmmaker Magazine. Genevieve Thornton started business school at Columbia this fall and will be classmates with Elizabeth Robilotti ’99, and is looking for volunteers interested in organizing alumnae-student and professional development events (or any other programming—they are open to new ideas!). Anyone interested can e-mail her at gthornton99@gsb.columbia.edu.

Ian Rapoport has begun his second year as the University of Alabama sports beat reporter for the Birmingham News, the state’s largest daily paper. He still lives in a college town, except now it’s Tuscaloosa, Ala., instead of Starkville, Miss., where he lived for two years while he covered Mississippi State for the Columbus Ledger-Journal. If anyone is dropping by Alabama, please e-mail him at irapoport@bhamnews.com.

Chuck Leonard was married to Marci Salata on July 8 in Tampa. A host of classmates attended. [See photo.] Kevin Eng, Miklos Vasarhelyi ’04 and Colleen Hsieh competed in the New York City Triathlon on July 23, an Olympic distance race covering a 1.5k mile swim in the Hudson River, a 40k bike ride and a 10k run. All three did the race as a part of Team in Training, a charity group dedicated to raising funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. They raised more than $10,000 toward the team’s ultimate contribution of $1 million. Colleen recently started the executive M.B.A. program at the Business School. Kevin Vee also is at the Business School, pursuing his M.B.A. full-time. Bruce Wang recently moved back to New York to work for Goldman Sachs after completing his Ph.D. at the University of Washington.

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Campus recently was alive for the 100th anniversary celebration of Hamilton Hall. Since the festivities followed the Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference, several members of our class, including Michael Foss and Johanna Quinn, were able to attend. The event included a visit from “Alexander Hamilton,” champagne, green apples and plenty of Colonial attire. On the topic of attire, wedding gowns and tuxedos have been in fashion for many of our classmates recently. Aileen McGrath married Jason Gillerwater on Staten Island in October. In attendance were Jessica Slutsky, Kathy Jorda, Ben Wolf ’03E, Andrea Herbst Paul, Jacques Paul ’03E, Amy Weiner ’02 and Donald Bydenburgh ’01. Aileen graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Law School, where she was president of the Law Review, in June. She is clerking for Chief Judge Michael Boudin on the First Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston. Ben Langmead and Sara Goldfarb ’02 were married in Baltimore on June 16. Among the Columbians who attended were (from left) Max Joel ’03, Rachel Forster ’02, Carina Schoenberger ’02, Jim Ball ’04, Amanda Luken ’03, Luba Kagan ’02E, Natalie Robin ’02, Jennifer Hoekstra ’01, Emily Boland ’00, the bride, the groom, Pat Higgiston ’04E, Sandy London ’02, Ned Ehrbar ’03 GS, Lindsay Torrey ’01, Jenny Moussa ’01, Jon Spring ’03E, Dixon Gaines ’02, Ken Torrey (faculty), Viviana Rodriguez ’02, Michael Kalinicki ’02E and Jaime Stedler ’02.

Molly Conley writes, “After teaching English at Eagle Rock School, a tuition-free residential high school in Colorado, for two years, this past year I helped start an AmeriCorps program in Pittsburgh, Public Allies, a leadership development program for young people. In the fall, I entered a Ph.D. program in English at the University of Pittsburgh.” Molly Conley ’03 helped start an AmeriCorps program in Pittsburgh, Public Allies, a leadership development program for young people. Ph.D. program in English at the University of Pittsburgh.”

Alex William-Resnick writes, “I graduated from USC’s Keck School of Medicine in May and have begun my first year of pediatrics residency at USC. I’ve moved to Manhattan Beach, Calif., where the sun is warm and the surf is great. Rachel Solomon began her third year of medical school as my medical student this past June.” Cyrus Habib is working on a book on his travels and experiences, for which he is being represented by literary agent David Kuhn. He also recently authored an amicus brief with Harold Koh, dean of Yale Law School. Adam Kushner covers international politics for Newsweek. Daniel Shamah graduated from Georgetown Law School in May and moved back to New York with his wife, Danielle (née Schieber) ’03 Barnard. He writes, “I do securities litigation at O’Melveny & Myers, and she’s back at Columbia, getting her master’s at SIPA…We had our first child, Steven, on August 1.” Carrie Lebligre is studying at the Law School. Sabine Bejori works for McKinsey & Co. for four years after graduation and recently left to pursue her M.B.A. at NYU. Joel Marrero is a 1L at UCLA. Jaime Oliver writes, “I spent the last year doing a solo backpacking trip through 26 countries on five continents. Some of the many highlights include a safari in Africa, climbing part of the Great Wall of China, swimming in Australia’s Great Barrier Reef and biking through the countryside in India. I also toured Bologna, Italy, with Syga De Thomas ’05, who is studying there and introduced me to the world’s best tortellini! I recently moved to Philadelphia and am an account manager for an IT staffing company.”

Jonathan White is a first lieutenant in the Marines and was deployed to the South Pacific in January. He is scheduled to

PHOTO: AARON HASLINGER
Peter Kang ’05 Takes The Varsity Show Online

By Joshua Robinson ’08

Throughout his senior year, Peter Kang ’05’s goal was to get a job at a New York investment bank. Then he got a job at a New York investment bank. Though it paid well, the job didn’t live up to his expectations. The hours were long and the work was tedious. What really captivated him was his work outside the office, running a small Web design business with his friend, Sei-Wook Kim ’07E, in the wee hours of the morning.

“It was pretty hectic when I was at Lehman Brothers,” Kang says with a laugh. “Every day I’d go to work at 9 a.m. and come home around midnight, sometimes even later. Then from midnight until 3 a.m. or 4 a.m., I’d work on Web stuff. We’d get out a little early on Fridays — 9 p.m. — and then Sei-Wook and I would work until the morning. We did this nonstop for about six months; it was the only way we were able to keep up.”

After a single year in banking, Kang quit his day job.

In summer 2006, he and Kim formalized their Web design firm, naming it Barrel (www.barrelny.com). Designing sites for student organizations had been a way for the pair to give something back to the Columbia community. But working at a discount wasn’t going to prop up their new enterprise.

“We realized that we’d done four Columbia group sites and maybe it was time to focus on more business-oriented ventures,” Kang remembers. “We couldn’t be stuck doing college sites forever. But then the Varsity Show project rolled around.”

Kang and Kim set about designing what Kang calls “a stained-glass look with a wide color palette.” As he describes this, someone sitting at a computer across the Lerner Hall lounge is staring at a brightly-colored page that Kang recognizes. “Yeah, that’s it,” he says — a testament to the popularity of www.thevarsityshow.com, which offers downloadable music from past years, photos, history and video clips.

By December, the layout was finished, but only because the pair worked at breakneck speed. “I was in school full-time and Peter had a pretty crazy schedule,” Kim remembers. “So whatever time we had needed to be pretty high-paced.”

They finished the project in about two months and met their deadline, the end of winter break. But it was not without ratcheting up their efforts at the end. “We were working 15–16 hour days for at least a week. If we had taken it at a normal pace, we might have needed three or four months.”

Being busy is nothing new for Kang, who toyed with Internet sites through high school. When he arrived in Morningside Heights, he began Web work for a number of organizations around campus, building a solid reputation. After his sophomore year, Columbia/Barnard Hillel gave his confidence a major boost. With its site in need of a redesign, the group pitted Kang against a professional firm to compete for the contract. Winning it surprised Kang more than anyone.

From there he never looked back, working on sites for the DSP fraternity, the Non Sequitur a cappella ensemble and the Korean Students Association.

“We wanted to give other groups a chance to have something good, but affordable, that wasn’t just whipped up by students who didn’t have time but by people who were in this to make money,” Kang says.

In 2005, Kang’s work paid off and earned him some of the highest recognition on campus. During his tenure as KSA president, the group won the Student Development & Activities Alma Mater Award for the organization that best embodies the ethic of community building at Columbia. “Just a year before we were in a shambles, this little-known Korean club. I’m happy to think that the Web site and branding played a major part.”

Kang and Kim’s business is growing. Barrel’s newest venture is Barrel to Bottles, a simple site that features four wines from New York wine stores, with more to be added soon (www.barreltobottles.com) — he is proud of his work at the school. But none of his accomplishments at Columbia can compare to the Varsity Show Web site for popular appeal.

“Geo and I are hard to please,” Gorvy says, “but Peter and Sei-Wook had this highly functional and aesthetic vision from the beginning and they did a wonderful job.”

Joshua Robinson ’08 is a regular contributor to The New York Times as well as CCT. His articles also have appeared in The Washington Post and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.
return to Camp Pendleton near San Diego, where he is stationed, in January 2008. Anna Maria Mannino writes, “After spending two years on Governor [Eliot] Spitzer’s campaign, I am the communications manager for Empire State Development, the economic development branch of the New York state government.”

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Class of 2004, hope this edition of CCT finds you well. Please don’t be a stranger to your classmates and alma mater, and submit to Class Notes.

Joe Escobar
230 John Jay

Hello, classmates! Many congratulations are in order for this edition of Class Notes, so we’ll cut to the chase. Wedding and engagement announcements first.

Elizabeth Levine (new Greene), who finished her fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., in early May was married the month next to Carey Greene. In attendance were Shamafa Ali ’05E, Tehmina Haider, Michelle Kornfield ’05, Libby Raffel ’05 Barnard, Carah Santos ’05E, Sety Sidiat ’05E and Chuck Britton. Elizabeth’s sister, Sara Levine Kornfeld ’03 Barnard, was the matron-of-honor. “After the wedding,” Elizabeth reports, “Cary and I spent two weeks in Portugal and Spain for our honeymoon, and on the last day of our trip we ran into Valerie Arboleda and her boyfriend in Sevilla. It was unplanned but such a nice surprise. They had recently visited Katie Goldstein in Madrid.” After a relaxing summer, Elizabeth began her first year at the George Washington University School of Medicine.

Steph Huffman, Lily Wohl, Lauren Farmington, Paul Wright, Mike Camacho, Teresa Hermann, Pepin Gelardi ’05E, Aaron Farber ’04E and Allison Sudol ’04, along with diving coach Gordon Spencer and his wife, Bertica, road-tripped up to Vermont in July to celebrate with Grace Coyle as she married Justin Souther in a countryside ceremony and reception. The evening was topped off by a 3 a.m. dance-off between Paul and Grace’s 11-year-old sister, in which she “popped and locked,” her way to victory.

Stephen Foster writes, “After meeting at CU our sophomore year, my beautiful girlfriend Lindsay Tuylus and I were engaged on May 10. We are to marry on a private island in the Bahamas next March surrounded by family and close friends, many of whom attended CU. They include my best man Craig Smart ’03, Tommy McMeneny ’04, William Murphy ’02, Blake Lindberg ’06 and Jana Whiting and her boyfriend, Chris Oosterhuis ’05E.”

Bridget Geibel and Marcin Stefanski were married August 4 in Torun, Poland. Lindsey May ’05E, after a long flight from South Africa, was in attendance. Lisa Wood and Peter Ottomendi ’03 were married on Labor Day weekend in Santa Barbara, Calif. Pamela Quinan and Erik Moss ’03 were engaged and will be married in September 2008.

Congratulations to all of our newly-wed and newly-engaged classmates!

We have other exciting updates as well. Yuma Terada left his position at Goldman Sachs Tokyo to take up a job with a hedge fund in London. Luis Saucedo works for the Los Angeles Housing Department in the division that helps build affordable housing. He also has a demo of his music at www.myspace.com/luisaacedo. Steph Katsigiannis and Rachel Kiwi are first-years at Fordham Law.

Meredith Fuhrman left her master of architecture program at MIT to take a position with the new online sales and operations team for Google in Boston. She writes, “Architecture at MIT will experience no shortage of Columbians upon my departure, though, since Charles Curran ’06, Marissa Grace Desmond ’06 and Doug Dunlap ’01 stay on (realize that our program was only 25 people!); Cambridge and that “other” school up the river will also get an influx of new Columbia blood, including Ted Baab; I briefly caught up with him while he and Bora Mici (who is in Boston working for an architecture firm) were visiting architecture open houses in the spring.”

Meredith also met up with fellow ’05s at Pat Higginson ’04E’s annual BBQogue on Long Island in July. Among those in attendance: Frank Angones, Mike Kraft, Phil Coakley ’04E (who helped Meredith get the job at Google), Rose Ginsberg, Katie Henderson, Jim Ball ’04 and Ben Weiss. Meredith also notes that Seton Hawkins has been making monthly pilgrimages to Boston for general carousing while juggling his job at Ekapa Records, and working for Carnegie Hall.

He recently moved to Astoria, Queens, with Jessica Hertz ’07, right across from the Bohemian Beer Hall, so “carousing is plenty easy to be had at home.”

Rebekah Pazmino lives in Brooklyn Heights and is in her first year of law school. She spent the summer as a program assistant at the Conservation Law Foundation in Boston, and prior to that spent time working in a similar capacity at New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. Emily Schwarz changed jobs in July, going from her post in housing development for the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development to the American Museum of Natural History, where she works on the museum’s capital (construction) projects.

Emily Schwarz ’05 works at the American Museum of Natural History on its capital (construction) projects.

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In June, Elizabeth Levine ’05 married Cary Greene in Baltimore at The Belvedere, an old hotel near the Inner Harbor. Helping her celebrate were (from left) Sara Levine Kornfeld ’03 Barnard, Carah Santos ’05E, Sety Sidiat ’05E, Chuck Britton ’05, Tehmina Haider ’05, Michelle Ko ’05, the bride, Shamafa Ali ’05E, Michelle Rosenthal and Libby Raffel ’05 Barnard.
Lehecka Fellows

Roger Lehecka ’67 (second from right) met with the first Lehecka Fellows, (from left) Aditi Chokshi ’07, Elizabeth Mooers ’07 and Alper Bahadir ’07, at a brunch hosted last spring by Janet (Frankston) Lorin ’95.

PHOTO: JANET LORIN ’95

College students have received Lehecka Fellowships since the endowment’s inception in 2005. Funded by alumni to honor retired Dean of Students Roger Lehecka ’67, the endowments provide grants for unpaid summer internships to students who otherwise wouldn’t be able to take them. Alper Bahadir ’07 used his stipend to conduct research at a United Nations office in Geneva and works at McKinsey in Chicago. Aditi Chokshi ’07 completed two internships with nonprofits in India and works at Bain in New York. Libby Mooers ’07 completed internships with nonprofits in Singapore and Uganda and spent the past summer in Uganda working with a Columbia professor on an asset-promotion project to empower orphans and their families. This past summer, Sara Arias ’08 interned with the American Museum of Natural History, learning about forensic anthropology, and Gabrielle Apollon ’09 traveled to Haiti to renovate an orphanage and develop a tutoring and arts program for children.

Alumni who are interested in the fellowship may contact Janet (Frankston) Lorin ’95: [email]jrl10@columbia.edu.

...and doing some amazing things.

During the summer, Terence Zaleski wrote, “I am in my third season with the New York Yankees in their guest services division and will be starting full-time at Lehman Brothers investment management division at the end of this month.”

Susan Hendrick shares, “Daniella Padilla and I headed to Georgetown University this fall and to work toward our master’s at the Communication, Culture & Technology School.”

Sean Colenso-Semple has enrolled in the M.A. program in Spanish language and translation at NYU’s center in Madrid. He will live in Spain until summer 2008. Many of our classmates are still at Columbia pursuing graduate degrees. Jordan Davis and Paula Lobeck live in Montsinger Heights and is pursuing his J.D. at the Law School. Jonathan Talamini also is in his 1L year at the Law School, and Christine Lin is in her first year at T&G. Jonathan declares, “We love Columbia lifers!” Stephen Chu, who graduated early in 2006 but considers himself an ’07er, will be starting his second year at the Law School.

Catherine Chang recently started her first year at P&S (aka College of Physicians and Surgeons). She shares, “I essentially just moved up 50 blocks up to 168th Street.” Catherine adds, “I recently learned that my picture was in the US News & World Report ranking issue on page 17. I suppose it is pretty embarrassing, as I’m in mid-dance in my regalia and sunglasses. Also, I was asked to be an extra in a Mischa Barton-Bruce Willis film, The Sophomore, which doesn’t come out until this fall.”

Catherine wasn’t the only member of our class featured in recent issues of US News & World Report. The inside cover of the 2008 college rankings prominently features a picture of a celebratory group of our classmates at University Commencement. The photograph features a festive Helam Gebremariam, Gregory Wing wearing his oversized aviator sunglasses, Emily Msall, Elizabeth Klein waving a cap with a large yellow smiley face, Risheen Maheswaran, Brianna Hailey, Subash Iyer and his cap featuring a Watson House logo, Michelle Rappaport, Joel Ryzowy, Nick Flath’s chin, and David Berlin’s left ear.

All have become instant celebrities. Michelle shares, “It made me homesick for those happy faces.” Elizabeth writes, “My parents have been carrying around the magazine to family events, work,
Letters

(Continued from page 2)

just a portrait of medicine but a picture of the human condition.

Timothy Chambers
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD
(Conn.)

Class Day
Thank you for your cover photo from this year’s Class Day (July/August). In the center is Jennifer Oki (’07), whom I taught in high school in South Africa. I see from her shoulder decoration that she graduated magna cum laude. Brava!

Gregory Vanderheiden ’81
GLENHASEL, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Still Strong
The other day, I bumped into an old Columbia lion, Abraham Druss ’28, 101 and still going strong. He was originally a member of the Class of 1926 but took leave for two years.

When we shook hands, his powerful grip crushed my fingers. I noticed, however, that his fingers remained curled. He explained that it was caused by the interclass “cane spree,” which he won as a freshman. If they still had them on South Field, I am sure he could hold his own.

Irwin Grossman ’36
ROSYN, N.Y.

Who Owns Paree?
Thanks for publishing Dan Carlin’s ’65’s interesting tour of Columbia connections in Paris (July/August). I enjoyed it and wish I had had that on my visits there. I don’t remember that, in my day, 1932–36, we had that option of spending a term in Paris. Besides, I think most of us in those years could not have afforded it.

Sal Fisher ’36
PLEASANT HILL, CALIF.

Selectivity
Selectivity at our college is at an all-time low of 8.9 percent (July/August), among the lowest in the country. However, another school in New York City has an even lower rate: Stuyvesant H.S. at 3.0 percent! One of several public high schools in the city that require entrance exams for admission, it too, has a selective student body (four Nobel Laureates are alumni).

Columbia could probably fill its incoming classes with the capable graduates of schools like Stuyvesant. However, it has been my understanding that the College wisely casts a wider geographical net. There are talented youngsters in Seattle, San Antonio or small towns, and in Manila, Mumbai or Montreal, who can bring with them their different perspectives, much to the benefit of the entire class.

I know there have been articles on our selection methods (a devilishly difficult process), but should we have an update? Now that Columbia has the lowest rate in the Ivy League, a review of the process would be of great interest.

Desmond J., Nunan Sr. ’50
(4/5 Stuyvesant)
OCEAN CITY, N.J.

[Editor’s note: Admissions is one of the topics we plan to examine in our series, “Columbia College: Moving Forward,” which was launched in September/October and will continue during the next two years.]

An American First
Six full pages on Jim McGreevey ’78’s new life plus a front cover photo blurb (July/August) is an extravagant waste. His sexual orientation is his own business.

What is the public’s business is his behavior as governor of New Jersey and his behavior toward his wife, both of which speak to integrity and character. He accomplished nothing as governor, and he betrayed his constituents and his wife. He even tarnished the good name of Columbia College by making his three semesters there the final three, which entitled him to a Columbia degree.

McGreevey even manipulated his own histrionic resignation, postdating it like a bad check so that the voters could not elect his successor, who was instead appointed by the New Jersey Democratic Party machine. Since his departure from office, McGreevey’s public actions have consisted of vigorous self-promotion, criticizing his wife for not being supportive enough of his personal choices — as if her rights were inconsequential — and securing a part-time job teaching ethics in a New Jersey state university, thereby enhancing his government pension.

The only positive quality of this article is that it was followed immediately by “Flesh-and-Blood Decision-Making,” the excerpt from the riveting essay/memoir by Dr. Jerome Groopman ’72, ’76 P&S. I might have missed it without the ode to McGreevey.

Charles K. Sergis ’55
CALABASAS, CALIF.

Residents of New Jersey have, in recent years, become resigned to being the targets of bad jokes about the state by their non-resident friends and a large number of TV comedians. However, the lengthy “joke” by Dan Fastenberg ’05 in the July/August CCT would not be used by either Jay Leno or David Letterman, two of New Jersey’s most vocal negative but amusing commentators.

James McGreevey ’78 was a mediocre mayor and an incompetent governor. He did not serve the citizens of New Jersey well. In his political life, he surrounded himself with a gaggle of corrupt associates. McGreevey’s accomplishments during his political life are, at best, modest. Nothing he has done since resigning suggests that his future will be any different. However, his ability to take credit for the accomplishments of others was, and continues to be, outstanding.

Attilio Bisio ’52
WESTFIELD, N.J.

University Professor
At a time when the sacralization and celebration of suicide bombing threaten the very fabric of civilization, Columbia has seen fit to name Gayatri Spivak, one of its most ardent apologists, a University Professor (May/June). In June 2002, for example, speaking at Leeds University, this celebrated tribune of “international feminism” declared: “Suicide bombing — and the planes of 9/11 were living bombs — is a purposive self-annihilation, a confrontation between oneself and oneself, the extreme end of autoeroticism, killing oneself as other, in the process killing others ... Suicidal resistance is a message inscribed on the body when no other means will get through. It is both execution and mourning ... You die with me for the same cause, no
matter which side you are on. Because no matter who you are, there are no designated kiloes [sic] in suicide bombing ... It is a response ... to the state terrorism practiced outside of its own ambit by the United States and in the Palestinian case additionally to an absolute failure of hospitality."

This is a stunning example of what another University Professor, Lionel Trilling [25] used to call the language of nonthought, to obliterate the victims — "no designated kiloes here! — metaphysically as well as physically.

In Spivak's prose, the opaque pseudojargon of literary postmodernism becomes an accessory to murder. One wonders just what role this particular aspect of what [President] Lee C. Bollinger calls her "great intellect" played in earning Spivak Columbia's highest faculty rank.

Edward Alexander '57
Seattle, Wash.

University Professor Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak responds:

I am not an "apologist for suicide bombing." Alexander is quoting a citation in The New Republic.

In the longer speech I was attempting, in Dr. King's words, the "necessary task ... to speak for our enemies ... We must understand the significance of the 'necessary task ... to speak for our enemies'"... But his or her action. It is in this belief

— not to endorse suicide bombing but to be on the way to its end, however remote — that I have tried to imagine what message it might contain. Of course this does not mean each suicide bomber has these specific thoughts in mind! ... Things are out of control and whole generations have been affected. Mine may therefore be seen as the counsel of despair, but certainly not as an endorsement of violence. It is convenient for the laws of war to distinguish between civilians and soldiers. It is just that there be law, but law is not justice. With justice in mind, the ethical axiom is that no human life can be designated for death by positive law.

Hurricane Steve

I was very pleased to find among Stephen Joel Trachtenberg '59's reminiscences of his Columbia College days (July/August) some well-deserved recognition given to the late Bernard W. Wishy '48, '58 GSAS, who was a junior member of the history faculty during the late 1950s and early 1960s. Trachtenberg recalls that Wishy, his Contemporary Civilization instructor, had been for him an inspirational figure, deeply devoted to the College and the education of its undergraduates. I, too, remember Professor Wishy as having been a truly outstanding teacher. His thought-provoking lectures on American history to his exceedingly bright, informative and urbane. The seminar he conducted on the intellectual origins of the American Declaration of Independence and the Constitution was stimulating, challenging and extremely well-structured. Both his survey and seminar remain for me models of how such courses ought to be taught.

During those years, Wishy and James Shenton '49 offered parallel sections of the basic, two-semester American history survey. I enrolled in Wishy's class. An upperclassman friend chose to enroll in Shenton's section one semester and Wishy's the other, in order to compare the two highly regarded young professors. His verdict: Shenton's presentation was somewhat more entertaining, but Wishy's contained more substance. Professor Shenton was then well on his way to a much-acclaimed career within the Columbia community; Wishy was subsequently denied tenure and soon after left the College unceremoniously.

Thank you, Dr. Trachtenberg, for recalling, for those of us old enough to remember, Bernard Wishy's positive contribution to our undergraduate education.

Edward Kosberg '53
Shrewsbury, N.J.

In the paean to Stephen Joel Trachtenberg '59 (July/August), there is no mention of his acrimonious relationship with the adjunct faculty at The George Washington University during his tenure as President. This is a significant omission given that a majority of GWU's professors are adjuncts.

Even though, as the article itself noted, GWU's litigation is "among the highest in the nation," the average salary paid to adjunct professors in 2005 was a miserly $3,500 per course. In addition, adjunct salaries were frozen in 2000. Other indignities included having to pay for parking in GWU lots (while the administration was exempt) or to use university athletics facilities. The first effort to organize a union among adjunct professors was met with a nasty witch hunt that resulted in mass firings. The second effort led to an election in 2004 in which a majority of adjunct faculty voted to have the SEIU be their bargaining agent. GWU's administration then engaged in a costly and ultimately fruitless legal battle to challenge the election results. Perhaps not coincidentally, the announcement in late 2006 that GWU would finally sit down to negotiate with the adjunct faculty union coincided with that of Trachtenberg stepping down as the university's president.

Thomas Andrew O'Keefe '82
San Francisco

PS: I was an adjunct professor at GWU's Elliott School of International Affairs from 1999-2005.

President Emeritus Stephen Joel Trachtenberg '59 responds:

If Mr. O'Keefe means to suggest that during my 38 years as a university dean, vice president, president and president again I sometimes was less than absolutely perfect, I think he is probably right. Undoubtedly, during my tenure as an academic administrator, I sometimes erred. I like to think I was right more often than not and added value at all three of the universities I served, which is perhaps why I was asked to remain in office for as long as I was.

As to the balance of his comments, they were mostly either overheated, unthinking or just plain wrong. For example, everybody at GW pays for parking — all faculty, all administrators. And, naturally, everybody complains. The notion that a 21st-century university administration would respond to an effort by adjunct faculty to unionize with mass firings shows a lamentable ignorance of the National Labor Relations Act. No contemporary institution could do it or even think to do it. It would be an illegal, unfair labor practice and self-defeating. I will not reply to Mr. O'Keefe's comments about "the indignity of having to pay to use university athletics facilities" and other such matters. All of mankind should have such problems. His text sadly refutes itself.

PS: For the record, the degree I earned at Harvard was an M.P.A. I was elected to Phi Beta Kappa by Epsilon Chapter of Massachusetts.

Iranian Visits

The recent visit by the president of Iran was not the first time that Iranian government officials have been on the Columbia campus.

On December 19, 1949, a president's dinner was held by the then-University president, Dwight D. Eisenhower, at Faculty House for his imperial majesty, Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlavi, the shah of Iran.

I was a member of a small singing group at the College, the Blue Notes, who sang several songs at the affair — "Goodbye Old Paint," "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" and a third number I don't recall. Then, as a surprise for the shah, we sang the Iranian national anthem, which we had memorized phonetically (I still remember the opening lines).

It was an interesting evening and the kind of experience that Columbia students have on our cosmopolitan campus.

Desmond J. Niman Sr. '50
Ocean City, N.J.

ANSWERS TO GAME ON INSIDE BACK COVER

1. F
2. D
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5. B
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Deadline for January/February issue: December 4, 2007
The Need for Manhattanville

By Brian C. Krisberg ’81
President, Columbia College Alumni Association

As I drove my 78-year-old mother to my 10-year-old son’s travel hockey game recently, she asked me what I planned to write about next in this column. I quickly threw out a couple of ideas, to which she responded with a simple shake of her head and said, “No, why don’t you tell them what you think about that expansion idea?”

Her suggestion seemed particularly timely given the late September announcement of an agreement between Columbia University and the Borough of Manhattan on a series of financial and other commitments from Columbia to benefit the West Harlem community as it relates to the planned Manhattanville campus. The press release from Manhattan’s borough president stated in its headlines:

Borough President Scott Stringer Announces Agreement with Columbia University to Protect and Enhance West Harlem Community as Part of Columbia Expansion Proposal

Historic Agreement Includes Significant Investment by Columbia in Affordable Housing, Open Space, Sustainable Development and Community Resources

The planned expansion is a smart and necessary business decision. Finally, the athletics department, which has not been the beneficiary of any capital projects in literally decades, may have the opportunity to address some of its long list of needs.

Columbia has become, in many ways, a corporate style enterprise. It maintains a “AAA” rating from the bond rating agencies and is one of New York City’s largest employers. Its actions and inactions are scrutinized by the press and pundits from all walks of life. It is run by talented professionals and officers with oversight from a devoted board of trustees. These individuals have a responsibility to run this great academic institution in the best interests of a wide variety of stakeholders, be they students, faculty, alumni, staff or parents. Viewed in this manner, the planned expansion of the campus is simply a smart, and necessary, business decision.

By now, you have probably figured out where I come out on Manhattanville. I am an unabashed supporter and think that the expansion cannot happen soon enough for our students. Certainly the University must be mindful of and responsive to the needs of the West Harlem community. Given the history of relations between Columbia and its neighbors, Columbia must go the extra yard in generously providing its resources and expertise so Manhattanville becomes a “win-win” for all involved. Only time will tell whether the agreement announced in late September is the first step in forging new and improved connections between Columbia and its neighbors and surrounding businesses. The Manhattanville campus, with its sense of new possibilities and horizons for our students and faculty, has the potential to energize and excite the College and University communities for many years to come.
Crime and Punishment at King’s College

Boys will be boys, and that goes double for rowdy undergraduates, no matter how far back we go. In the Columbia University Archives sits a volume called *The Black Book of King’s College*, otherwise known as the “Book of Misdemeanors.” Here, from 1771–75, were recorded the misdoings of some of Columbia’s earliest miscreants.

It’s unclear what happened to the most ambitious rogues: the gang who stole “a very large Quantity of Wine” from the president’s garret, or the student who resisted arrest so artfully that he caused “four Doors to be broke open before he could be laid hold of ...” But others were effectively dealt with, 18th-century style.

See if you can match the punishment to the crime.

**Answers on Page 78.**

**The Crimes**

1. Early 1771: Thomas Shreve '73, M.A. '76, Isaac Abrahams '74 and Cornelius Bogert '73, for “taking Tea-cups out of another student’s room, and denying that they knew anything of them.”

2. April 28, 1772: Beverley Robinson '73, who “spit in the Cook’s face, kicked, & otherwise abused him ...”


4. July 9, 1772: John Van Beuren, Douglass & Nicholls, for going “over the College Fence ... between the Hours of 3 & 4 P.M. to bathe.”


6. November 22, 1771: Edward Dunscomb '74, against whom a complaint was made by Mrs. Wrag “for wounding her Son.”

7. July 9, 1772: Jacob Remsen '75, for beating a fellow student, “& absenting himself from College under Pretence of Sickness ... tho it was proved he had been fishing.”

**The Punishments**

a. “Reprimanded, & admonished to behave better for the future.”

b. “To be confined to College till next Sunday, & have such additional Exercises, as the President shall think proper.”

c. Among other punishments, “directed to translate into Latin 4 Pages of Dr. Chandler’s Charity Sermon.”

d. “Confined by the Committee, after being publicly reprimanded, & ordered not to go beyond the College Fence for the Space of two Weeks; also to perform such Exercises as the President should assign him.”

e. “Reprimanded in the College Hall before all the Students & after having his Gown stripped off by the Porter, he was ordered to kneel down & read a Paper containing an Acknowledgement of his Crime, expressing much Sorrow for it, and promising Amendment for the future — He was then forbidden to wear his Gown or Cap for one Week.”

f. “Confined to College.”

g. Ordered to publicly ask his fellow student’s pardon, confined, and “injoined to translate into English the 21, 22, 23 & 24 Chap. of the 3rd Book of *Selectae e Profanis.*
Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) returned to campus on September 8 to help celebrate the centennial of the College’s flagship building “named after none other than, well, me.” Actor Michael Hedges joined Hamilton biographer Ronald Chernow, President Lee C. Bollinger, Dean Austin Quigley and hundreds of alumni, students and guests to mark the completion of Hamilton Hall’s renovation.
Clarence Jones ’53 was a lawyer, speechwriter, adviser and confidant to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Support the Columbia College Fund this academic year. Help maintain our tradition of excellence by sending your gift today.

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Contents

A WINTERTIME SOLDIER
Clarence Jones ’53 witnessed history, and helped shape it, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s lawyer, speechwriter, adviser and confidant.
By Evan J. Charkes ’82

FEATURES

KINGDON RECEIVES HAMILTON AWARD
University Trustee and Columbia Campaign Co-chair Mark E. Kingdon ’71 was honored on November 15 with the 2008 Alexander Hamilton Award.

A MIGHTY TALENT
A film and television actor as well as an award-winning screenwriter, Dan Futterman ’89 maintains his balance in high-pressure Hollywood.
By Michal Lemberger ’94 Barnard

COLUMBIA FORUM
During Prohibition, Manhattan was anything but dry, thanks to the many speakeasies and clubs that catered to all tastes. An excerpt from Dry Manhattan: Prohibition in New York City, by Michael A. Lerner ’89.

ALUMNI NEWS

OBITUARIES

BOOKSHELF
Featured: Jerome Charyn ’59’s new novel, Johnny One-Eye, looks at the Revolutionary War through the eye of fictional College alumnus John Stocking.

CLASS NOTES

ALUMNI UPDATES
50 James Melcher ’61
61 Bill Minutaglio ’76
65 Douglas Sadownik ’81
71 Rohit Aggarwala ’93

ALUMNI CORNER
Among the challenges on the horizon for the College, says the Alumni Association president, is how to maximize its relationship with the School of General Studies and any changes that may occur.
By Brian C. Krisberg ’81

DEPARTMENTS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WITHIN THE FAMILY

AROUND THE QUADS
4 2008 John Jay Award Recipients
6 Manhattanville Rezoning Approved
7 Mukasey Confirmed As Attorney General
8 Seniors Win Rhodes, Marshall Scholarships
9 “Frontiers” Goes Behind Bars
10 Student Spotlight: Nhu-Y Ngo ’09
11 5 Minutes with ... Shahid Naeem
12 Kluge Challenge
13 Senior Fund
13 Roar Lion Roar
13 Save the Date!
14 Transitions
14 CCW Mentoring
14 Relay for Life 2008

“He’s not ours.
Try River House.”
Letters to the Editor

Backward, March!
In connection with the article on Archie Roberts ‘65 and the Harvard game in 1963 [November/December], let me add some items, as I was in the stadium that day. President Kennedy was indeed in attendance, but he left at halftime so he could visit the grave of his recently deceased infant son, Patrick. But not before he was serenaded by the Columbia band, which hilariously emulated Barry Goldwater by marching backward “into the 19th century.”

Ashbel Green ’50
New York City

Balancing Speakers
I have always felt that college should be a time for exploring new and different ideas. When President Lee C. Bollinger invited Iranian President Ahmadinejad to speak, it was in keeping with this philosophy. But when a speaker is controversial, as in this case or even in less striking instances, another speaker with the opposite opinion should be invited. This would help to avoid the critical reaction experienced and would guarantee that the subject would receive a wider discussion. We do this with political speeches nationally and it seems to work.

Herb Sandick ’43, ’45 P&S
Bonita Springs, Fla.

Not Late
I’m pleased to see the praise Edward Kosberg ’63 gives to Bernard Wishey ’48, ’58 GSAS in his letter [November/December], but hasten to add that Bernard is not “late” but very much alive. I had a postcard from him today in the same mail that brought me Columbia College Today. The card comes from Germany, where Bernard is traveling, away from his current home in England near London.

My first acquaintance with Bernard was in a Colloquium class with Professors Jacques Barzun ‘27 and Lionel Trilling ’25. (The class included another old friend, Irwin Nydick ’46, who I’m glad to see from the Class Notes is still flourishing.) But I came to know

Bernard’s first-rate historian’s mind when we were drafted together in March 1944, and spent most of the next two years in the same U.S. Army outfits in the United States, England, France and Germany. He always was a stimulating and generous companion and friend, and it’s good to see his merits given their due recognition.

George T. Wright Jr. ’45, ’47 GSAS
TUCSON

Non-Reply?
Professor [Gayatri] Spivak’s non-reply to the critique of Edward Alexander ’57 (November/December) ends so incoherently that it stands as a stunning affirmation of Alexander’s concerns. Is this what passes for incisive thinking and serious scholarship at Columbia these days?

Ira Weinryb ’61
Lower Gwynedd, Pa.

Hip-Hop Pioneer
Contrary to the assertion of Peter Nash ’89 [September/October] that he was the first to play hip-hop on WKCR, in summer 1986, that distinction belongs to Ovid Santoro ’86 GS, who not only aired rap and hip-hop records as early as 1984, but with the assistance of José Alfano ’86, ’89 Arch., Ethan Singer ’86, Henry Hollander ’86, Al Itzkoff ’86 and Andy Caploe ’84 brought artists such as the Cold Crush Brothers and Run-DMC to Ferris Booth Hall for live broadcasts.

Jonathan Gill ’86, ’92 GSAS, ’94 GSAS
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Means of Protest
It no longer comes as a surprise to me that Columbia’s alma mater goes to the same tune as Deutschland Uber Alles. Every time I see pictures of students shouting speakers off platforms or demonstrating against invited guests, I hear the strains of the Horst Wessel Lied in the background. What next? Will we have book burnings of the works of Limbaugh and Hannity? Perhaps they can start the fire with a copy of the Bill of Rights!

Dr. Jack Wagner ’58
New Rochelle, N.Y.
A n alumnus asked me the other day, "Is Manhattanville really going to happen?" I was momentarily taken aback, because working on (or at least near) campus, I’ve been surrounded by all the talk about Manhattanville, the design drawings, the site tours and the frequent updates on the planning and approval process.

After pausing for a moment to make sure I wasn’t overlooking something, I responded, "Yes, it’s almost certainly going to happen." And following recent approvals by the City Planning Commission and the New York City Council of the necessary rezoning of that land from light manufacturing to mixed-use, I’m confident that it’s time to take “almost” out of my response.

The approvals completed the four-step Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (fondly known as ULURP, an acronym for the ages), after public hearings by Community Board 9 and Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer. In the New York Times story announcing the City Council vote, President Lee C. Bollinger was quoted as saying, “This is a great moment for the University, for the city and we hope for the communities around us. Expansion is a critical requirement for us to remain one of the great universities of the world.”

It’s important to keep in mind, however, that just as Rome was not built in a day, neither will Manhattanville.

The project as proposed covers 17 acres and provides 6.8 million square feet of space above- and below-grade for teaching, academic research and civic and commercial activity, as well as below-grade parking and facilities support. It is not scheduled for completion until 2030 — and NYC construction projects are known to occasionally run behind schedule.

As campuses go, Manhattanville will not look like Morningside Heights. It will be an open campus, with none of the familiar iron gates. There will be a public square near the middle of the site. Sidewalks will be widened on the perimeter and on the cross streets to improve access to the square as well as the Hudson River waterfront park under construction. Buildings along the main thoroughfares — Broadway, Twelfth Avenue and West 125th Street — will include stores, restaurants and other community services.

The first phase of construction, which could begin later this year, includes new homes for the Business School, the School of the Arts and the new, Columbia-assisted public secondary school for math, science and engineering. These will be located in the southern part of Manhattanville.

For more information on Manhattanville, see the story on page 6 and log onto http://neighbors.columbia.edu/pages/manplanning.

On December 9, I watched 1968 with Tom Brokaw on The History Channel, which got a jump on what promises to be a plethora of programming marking the 40th anniversary of one of the more eventful years in recent history. Among those interviewed on the two-hour program was Mark Rudd ’69, one of the leaders of the Columbia student uprising, who chatted with Brokaw from a perch outside Alfred Lerner Hall.

I came away from the program with mixed feelings. I was fascinated by the old film footage and still pictures that were used throughout, and it was interesting to hear Rafer Johnson and Andrew Young discuss the assassinations of Robert F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., respectively. But when it was over, I was left dissatisfied: I’d taken a nice stroll down memory lane, but I hadn’t really learned anything new. I’d been hoping for some insights into why so much boiled to the surface in this one particular year, but maybe 1968 was just too messy for a two-hour TV show to put a bow on it.

To mark the 40th anniversary of Spring ’68 at Columbia, CCT is inviting all who were on campus at the time — students, faculty, administrators, staff, outside agitators, police, whoever — to share your thoughts in our May/June issue. How did these events shape your life? Was there one image or event that summed it all up for you? Did Spring ’68 change the way you looked at the world in the ensuing decades, and if so, how?

Please limit your responses to 250 words or fewer. Send them to me at as801@columbia.edu or mail them to the address on our masthead. Since we expect more responses than we can publish in the magazine, we’re planning to put some on our Web site.

W ill this be the year for Columbia men’s basketball, since coach Joe Jones has six seniors back from last year’s 16-12 (7-7 Ivy) team? Those 16 victories were Columbia’s most since 1992-93, raising hopes that the 2007-08 Lions might win their first Ivy League title since 1967-68 (ah, the symmetry). The Lions stumbled out of the gate, going 4-6 before breaking for finals. Those non-conference games were marked by inconsistency, with players shooting well one night and poorly the next. Different players would play well in different games, but rarely would enough play well at the same time for the team to look like a contender for the Ivy championship.

Columbia has five more non-conference games before beginning Ivy play on January 16 at Cornell. Five of Columbia’s first eight league games are on the road, and those games — plus the annual Princeton-Penn Weekend in Levien Gym on February 8-9 — will go a long way toward determining whether Columbia will contend for the Ivy crown.

Alex Sarabane
Five Distinguished Alumni To Be Honored with John Jay Awards

BY LISA PALLADINO

Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City will be the setting on Wednesday, March 5, as the College honors five of its most accomplished alumni, presenting Barry Bergdoll '77, Alexandra Wallace Creed '88, Robert L. Friedman '64, Jonathan S. Lavine '88 and Ronald F. Mason Jr. '74 with a 2008 John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement.

Bergdoll is the Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art and professor of architectural history in the Department of Art History and Archeology. He earned an M.A. and B.A. with honors from King's College, Cambridge, and an M.Phil. and Ph.D., in 1982 and 1986, respectively, from GSAS. Bergdoll's interests center on modern architectural history, with an emphasis on France and Germany between 1750-1900; cultural history; city planning; and the intersections of architecture and new technologies. He has studied questions of the politics of cultural representation in architecture, the larger ideological content of 19th-century architectural theory and the changing role of architecture as a profession and architecture as a cultural product in 19th-century European society.

Bergdoll has organized, curated and consulted on numerous exhibitions, including “Mies in Berlin” (MoMA, 2001), “Breuer in Minnesota” (Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2002), “Les Vaudoyer: Une Dynastie d’Architectes” (Musée D’Orsay, 1991) and “Ste. Genevieve/Panthéon: Symbol of Revolutions” (Canadian Centre for Architecture, 1989). He has written for Architecture, Harvard Design Magazine, The Yale Architecture Review and The New York Times and has written or contributed to several books. An edited volume, Fragments: Architecture and the Unfinished, was published in 2006, and a study of Marcel Breuer’s architecture is to be published this year.

Creed was named executive producer of NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams in March 2007. This appointment made her the first woman to lead a weekend network evening newscast in a decade, and she is one of a small group of women to serve in the top post of a Big Three daily newscast. Creed also is an NBC News v.p., a position she has held since January 2006, and has overseen a number of areas in the News Division, including NBC Special Reports and NBC Nightly News.

Previously, Creed, who has a B.A. in English literature, was executive producer of Weekend Today and senior producer of Today beginning in March 2005. During her time as executive producer, Weekend Today’s ratings remained dominant and Saturday Today was No. 1 across the board. Creed joined NBC News from CBS News, where she was a senior broadcast producer for The Early Show starting in May 2000, and was a senior producer for The Early Show and CBS This Morning. From 1996-98, Creed was producer for CBS Evening News with Dan Rather. From 1990-96, she was an associate producer for CBS This Morning, 48 Hours and the CBS foreign desk. Creed began her network career at the CBS News London bureau and has won six News and Documentary Emmy awards.

Friedman is a senior managing director and chief legal officer of The Blackstone Group. Blackstone is a leading global alternative asset manager, operating the world’s largest private equity fund, one of the largest real estate opportunity funds, a leading fund of hedge funds business and other alternative asset management businesses.

Friedman joined Blackstone in 1999. He participates in the work of its private equity group and its mergers and acquisitions advisory group and also played a key role in effectuating its initial public offering in June 2007. Before joining Blackstone, Friedman had a 32-year career as a mergers and acquisitions lawyer at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. He became a partner there in 1974 and for a long time was a leader of its mergers and acquisitions practice and a member of its senior management.

A member of the Board of Visitors, Friedman has served as a director of eight companies and currently is a member of the Boards of Directors of Axis Capital Holdings Limited, Northwest Airlines and TRW Automotive Holdings Corp. He is a member of the Board of Advisors of Penn’s Institute for Law and Economics and is a trustee of the Nantucket Land Council as well as Chess-in-the-Schools and New Alternatives for Children.

Lavine is a managing director at Bain Capital, a leading global private invest-
COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

AROUND THE QUADS

ment firm based in Boston, and the chief investment officer of Sankaty Advisors, its fixed income and credit affiliate. Lavine started Sankaty, one of the nation’s leading managers of leveraged loans and bonds, credit derivatives, mezzanine and distressed debt, in 1997; it now has 70 investment professionals in offices in Boston, London and Chicago and approximately $25 billion in committed assets under management. Before starting Sankaty, Lavine worked in Bain Capital’s private equity business, was a consultant at McKinsey and began his career at Drexel Burnham Lambert.

An active alumnus, Lavine is a member of the Board of Visitors, the President’s Task Force on Athletics, the Campaign Committee for Undergraduate Education and Faculty Development and the Leadership Committee of the Columbia Campaign for Athletics. He also is a member of the boards of Children’s Hospital Trust, City Year, Horizons for Homeless Children, and Stand for Children and is a director of the Boston Celtics.

Lavine earned an M.B.A., with distinction, from Harvard Business School. While at Columbia, he received the David Truman Award for outstanding contribution to the College’s academic affairs. Mason was appointed president of Jackson State University in February 2000. Prior to this appointment, he founded and was executive director of the Tulane/Xavier National Center for the Urban Community, which grew out of his work as the federal monitor over the recovery of the Housing Authority of New Orleans. As an appointee of the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Mason was responsible for improving the city’s public housing.

A 1977 alumnus of the Law School, Mason simultaneously was Tulane’s senior v.p. and general counsel, where he oversaw the university’s business operations and was its chief legal counsel for 18 years. Prior to working at Tulane, Mason was executive counsel to the president of the Southern Cooperative Development Fund, which organized and financed low-income businesses and cooperatives across the Southeast. Mason was legal counsel and worked on special assignments, including management of a 300-acre experimental vegetable farm.

Jackson State has experienced unprecedented growth and enhancement during Mason’s tenure. Enrollment has grown by almost 3,000, the size of the campus has doubled, there have been more than $200 million in capital improvements, two colleges have been added, the endowment has quadrupled, the number of African-American Ph.D.s produced is second in the nation and research funding has tripled.

Among Mason’s awards and recognitions are the Mayor’s Medal of Honor from the City of New Orleans and the Martin Luther King Lifetime Achievement Award from Dillard, Loyola, Tulane and Xavier Universities.

For more information on the dinner, contact Ken Catandella, executive director of alumni affairs: 212-870-2288 or kmc103@columbia.edu.

Ronald F. Mason Jr. ’74

Jonathan S. Lavine ’88

The Columbia University Club of New York
15 West 43 St.
New York, NY 10036

Columbia’s Social/Intellectual/Cultural/Recreational/Professional Resource in Midtown.
City Council, Planning Commission Approve Rezoning of Manhattanville Site

Columbia's proposed Manhattanville expansion has moved two giant steps closer to reality after receiving key approvals from the City Planning Commission on November 26 and the New York City Council on December 19.

The Planning Commission voted to approve with modifications the proposed rezoning of the manufacturing zone in West Harlem for academic mixed-use. The commission's changes to Columbia's proposed plan for the 17-acre site include modifying the use and reducing the scale of two of the proposed buildings and widening the walkway leading to the proposed open space between 130th and 131st Streets.

In a statement following the City Council approval, President Lee C. Bollinger declared, "After five years and innumerable discussions, negotiations, plans, documents, hearings and votes, we have arrived at a significant turning point on the matter of space for the University to grow together with our communities."

Columbia has committed to building nearly 1,000 housing units to accommodate the projected demand from University employees in the area surrounding the project site, as well as to guarantee that the residents who live in approximately 130 apartments in the proposed expansion zone will have high-quality, alternative affordable housing in the community. In addition, the University recently reached an agreement with Borough President Scott Stringer to provide $20 million in seed capital to an affordable housing revolving loan fund to create and preserve an estimated 1,100 affordable housing units within Community Board 9.

Columbia also has made a number of commitments to environmental standards for future construction and the sustainability of new buildings in Manhattanville. The University has committed to meeting the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver standard in new University office, classroom and residential buildings, and the design plan for Manhattanville was selected earlier this year for a new "smart growth" pilot program sponsored by the U.S. Green Building Council. Overall, Columbia, along with eight other NYC universities, joined as Challenge Partners in Mayor Michael Bloomberg's PlaNYC 2030 in a commitment to reduce its carbon footprint by 30 percent by 2017.

For more about Columbia's Manhattanville expansion, visit the planning Web site: www.campusplan.columbia.edu.

Alex Sachare '71
Mulcasey Confirmed as Attorney General

Michael B. Mukasey ’63 was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on November 8, becoming the 81st Attorney General of the United States. Mukasey served for 18 years as a judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, including six years as chief judge. He has received several awards, most notably the Learned Hand Medal, which is presented annually by the Federal Bar Council to an outstanding member of the legal profession who has demonstrated excellence in federal jurisprudence.

Mukasey has taught “Trial Practice” as a lecturer-in-law at the Law School every spring since 1993. “Judge Mukasey is dedicated to teaching students not only the art of trial practice, but to be scrupulously honest about the facts and the law,” said Lev Dassin, chief of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York, who has co-taught “Trial Practice” with Mukasey since 1999.

John Ponicsanyi ’08L, who took Mukasey’s course last spring, said he “gave us a sense of one’s duties not only to your client, but to the other side and to the court. Judge Mukasey doesn’t teach to be on the stage or to tell war stories. I think he sees it as public service. My impression is that he wants to train future lawyers in order to sharpen the practice of law.”

In private practice from 1967-72 before becoming a judge, Mukasey has represented some of New York’s most famous people, such as lawyer Roy M. Cohn and socialite Claus von Bulow, and its powerful institutions, including The Wall Street Journal.

Mukasey returned to private practice in 1976 at Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler and in 1987 was nominated to the bench in the Federal District Court in Manhattan by President Reagan. He had retired from the bench and was in private practice in Manhattan when he was nominated by President Bush on September 17 to succeed Alberto Gonzales as attorney general.

Alex Sachare ’71


Born in the Bronx on July 28, 1941, Mukasey graduated in 1959 from the Ramaz School and earned a law degree at Yale in 1967. He was in private practice when he joined the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Manhattan as a prosecutor.

Miller Theatre’s 2007-2008 season is made possible through the generous support of THE PETER JAY SHARP FOUNDATION, THE REED FOUNDATION, and THE NEW YORK STATE MUSIC FUND.

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Three Seniors Awarded Rhodes, Marshall Scholarships

Three College seniors have been awarded prestigious scholarships. Jason R. Bello ’08 and George C. Olive III ’08 have been selected as Rhodes Scholars, the first time in five years that a College student has won. Also, Emma Kaufman ’08 has been awarded a Marshall Scholarship.

This year, 16 Columbians applied for the Rhodes and nine were finalists, according to Michael Pippenger, associate dean of the office of fellowship programs. Last year, Columbia had three finalists for the Rhodes Scholarship.

Bello, who is from Boston, majors in political science and economics and minors in linguistics. His special interest is in democracy studies, and particularly how democracy flourishes or flounders as a result of new technologies. Bello is active on campus as co-president of Gayava, the LGBT Jewish Student Organization, and is an executive board member of the Columbia Political Union and Black Students Organization, where he is the group’s historian. He also hosts a gourmet cooking show on CTV, The Careless Cook. Bello intends to do the M.Phil. in comparative government at Oxford.

Olive, who is from Springfield, Mo., majors in economics and environmental science. His academic work has focused on energy and equitable economic development. Olive has published a paper in Geology and done research in the Caribbean, India and South America. He also has worked on projects related to hydroelectricity, alternative energy technologies and climate change, has done assessments on sustainable energy for the governments of the Dominican Republic and Papua, New Guinea, and has been a catwalk technician sampling seafloor sediments in the Arabian Sea. Olive plans to do the M.Phil. in economics at Oxford.

The Rhodes Scholarships, the oldest award for international study, were created in 1902 by Cecil Rhodes, a British philanthropist and African colonial pioneer. Bello and Olive will each receive all expenses for two or three years of study at the Oxford, including a living and a vacation stipend. For more on Bello and Olive, look for “Student Spotlight” in the March/April issue.

Sixteen Columbians applied for the Marshall Scholarship, which gives students the opportunity to study in the United Kingdom at any university of their choice, and seven were finalists.

Kaufman, a double major in philosophy and women and gender studies, is interested in the relationship between gender, disenfranchisement and criminal justice. In 2007, she received a Guggenheim Fellowship for research in criminal justice and has since been a fellow at the Correctional Association of New York, where she interviews inmates, monitors prison conditions and advocates for reform in prisons across the state. Kaufman will pursue a master’s in criminology at Oxford and hopes to attend law school, then work in a government role crafting prison policy.

The Marshall Scholarship, established in 1953 by the British government and named for then-Secretary of State George C. Marshall, funds university and research fees, as well as cost of living expenses.

Lisa Palladino
Taking “Frontiers of Science” Behind Bars

By Amanda Erickson ’08

Armed with only paper, pencils and a chalkboard inside a New York City prison, Claire LePichon ’01 GSAS, ’05 GSAS, ’07 GSAS is explaining to a small group of inmates why some nerves conduct messages up and down the body more quickly than others.

She struggles to describe the intricacies of the nervous system until one woman raises her hand and asks if nerves work like the New York City subway — some transmit information locally and others run express.

“It was that ‘oh’ moment that students have,” LePichon says. “I was so happy.”

That type of moment is the most rewarding part of teaching for LePichon, who did double-duty as a science teacher during the fall semester. At Columbia, she guided a section of first-years in “Frontiers of Science,” the newest element of the Core Curriculum. For the NYC prison system, working with the Bard Prison Initiative (BPI), she volunteered as an instructor, teaching a weekly class modeled on “Frontiers” to a small group of prison inmates.

“LePichon, a 1999 Cambridge University graduate, became involved in the program last summer, when Kenner invited her to teach a science course there. Kenner said friends recommended he contact LePichon, who was studying biology at Columbia, because they thought she might be willing to contribute some time to fill the program’s science hole. BPI had been struggling to find science teachers. The opportunity excited her, she said, but she was nervous about teaching such different classes. She contacted Columbia to see if she could offer a modified version of “Frontiers” to students in the program.

Professor of Biology Darcy Kelley, who helped create “Frontiers,” says sharing the program with other schools is exactly what she and others hoped for when they wrote the curriculum. “We want to make the material as widely available as possible,” says Kelley. “Most places have a lot of trouble teaching about science.” Toward this goal, the University is creating a Web site where all the information from the course will be uploaded and available for the general public. The hope, Kelley said, is that more universities and schools will take advantage of the curriculum.

While LePichon was able to adapt the class for her work, she says there are some challenges. Most students in the prison classes haven’t studied math or science for years, and several have not graduated from high school. In December, however, four of the students in her Columbia section began working as tutors, coming to LePichon’s weekly classes to provide one-on-one trainings.

Thomas Sun ’11, one of LePichon’s students, has worked with young people before, but says he jumped at the chance to teach math at Bayside Prison because it would give him the chance to meet new people. “It seemed like a unique opportunity,” he notes.

Amanda Erickson ’08 majors in urban studies.

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Nhu-Y Ngo ’09 Stands Up for Immigrants and Voters

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

In the rule is that watching too much television impedes a child's ability to succeed in life, then Nhu-Y Ngo ’09 certainly is an exception.

Ngo was born in Vietnam and was 3 when her parents immigrated to the United States, sponsored by a family in Lincoln, Neb., through Catholic Social Services. Ngo’s family has lived in the Cornhusker State ever since.

Growing up, Ngo admits to spending many hours in front of the television while her parents worked long hours as meat cutters and factory workers to support their family. “I know all about ’90s trivia,” she says, laughing.

As the first member of her family to attend college, Ngo has plenty to laugh and smile about. But gaining admission to Columbia was only half the battle; paying for an Ivy League education without taking on significant debt was the next challenge.

“I knew if I wanted to go [to Columbia] I would have to pay my own way,” says Ngo, the oldest of four children.

Determined not to let the opportunity to get a Columbia education slip past her, Ngo applied for a slew of scholarships and was rewarded for her diligence with more than 30, including the Gates Millennium Scholarship, which pays for her tuition. She also is a Jackie Robinson/Coca-Cola Scholar, which provides her with financial assistance and mentorship opportunities.

In August 2005, Ngo boarded a plane for the Big Apple. She had never been to New York City prior to arriving for freshman orientation. Though supportive of their daughter’s decision, Ngo’s parents could not afford to travel with her. “That trip is probably the farthest I have gone alone,” she notes.

Ngo’s academic pursuits played an important role in her choosing Columbia. Although she arrived intending to major in political science and Asian-American studies, her goals have since changed; she now is a history major and a political science concentrator.

“In high school, my most influential teacher was my history teacher. He wrote my letter of recommendation for Columbia and encouraged me to come here,” says Ngo, who is particularly interested in the formation of immigrant communities and the Civil Rights Movement. “In polisci classes, I found that I was usually most interested in the historical background.”

Ngo has considered attending law school to pursue a degree in public interest law. She is convinced that she wants to use the knowledge she has acquired at Columbia to assist immigrant communities like the one she grew up in. “I could use my skills and this privilege that I’ve been given to give back to where I came from,” she says. Ngo is particularly concerned with improving issues of language to facilitate civic participation.

“They are many immigrants who want to vote but do not understand the technical language on ballots,” she observes.

Ngo interned last summer at the voting section of the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division. Her work revolved around lawsuits involving Section 5, which requires that voting procedures employed by different states are compliant with the Voting Rights Act. While in the capital, Ngo also worked for Asian and Pacific Islander American Vote, a non-profit organization that encourages civic participation within that community.

During the 2007 spring break, Ngo traveled to the Dominican Republic with Columbia’s Rotaract Club to work on issues of education and drug use with the youth of Yamasa, a village outside the capital of Santo Domingo.

Yet for someone with so many accomplishments under her belt, Ngo is not lacking in modesty. “I feel I wouldn’t be so involved if I didn’t have so many people to be inspired by. I have friends who are so much more involved than I. I don’t even know if they sleep! They are so passionate about what they do. That just keeps me going,” Ngo says.

The same question — “Does she ever sleep?” — could be asked about Ngo. As a member of Columbia’s Asian American Alliance’s Political Committee, she devotes many weekends to participating in voter registration drives around the five boroughs. She also is president of the Vietnamese Students Association and recently worked with her colleagues to bring to Columbia a screening of the film Journey from the Fall, which tells the story of a Vietnamese family that fled to the United States after the Vietnam War.

Much of Ngo’s motivation to assist immigrant communities comes from having seen her parents struggle with the process of becoming American citizens. “The monetary fees were hard. They had to drive to Iowa, nine hours away, to have their fingerprints taken. That cost them gas and their time, especially since they go by hourly wages. That annoyed me so much. They wanted to become Americans and there were so many barriers,” says Ngo.

During whatever spare time she can salvage, Ngo enjoys attending shows and concerts, particularly singer/songwriter performances. “Things happen here. New York is like the center of the universe,” says Ngo. “You can have fun anywhere in New York.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Sunnyside, Queens, is an American studies major, a freelance writer and an avid New York Yankees fan.
Shahid Naeem, chair of the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (E3B), received his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley in 1989. He taught at the University of Minnesota and the University of Washington before coming to Columbia in 2003.

Where did you grow up? I was born in San Francisco, but I grew up in Brooklyn.

What did you want to be when you grew up? I wanted to be an astronaut — be involved with aviation or flying or something like that. Living in Brooklyn, in a relatively poor neighborhood, it seemed like it would be really cool to fly, to travel all over the world, and even to the moon.

How did you get interested in ecology? That was much later. I was already a junior [at Berkeley] — a cell biology major — by the time I got interested in ecology. When you grow up in Brooklyn, I don’t think the environment is something that strikes you on a day-to-day basis. You see it on television ... Nature was as distant as outer space.

What got me hooked on ecology was a class by a professor who made thinking about plants, animals and their environment much more interesting than anything I’d taken up till then. He was phenomenal. It made me realize the power that a professor can have.

What happened next? I graduated with honors from Berkeley, but lost my interest in medical school. At the same time, the professor I was interested in [Robert Colwell] got a grant. I worked for him for the next three years. We went to Costa Rica, Dominica, St. Lucia, Trinidad, Mexico and Southern California, and we worked on hummingbirds, the flowers they pollinate and the mites that lived in the flowers. We’d get up at the crack of dawn in the middle of the jungle and set up these virtually invisible nets that catch hummingbirds in their folds. You then reach into the fold and you gently grab the bird and you pull it out and you have this living iridescent gem in your hand — they’re so tiny, and so warm. We were doing abstract research, but the experience ... I’d never really experienced nature this way.

By the time the grant ran out, my professor said he thought I’d be a really great graduate student in ecology. If I was interested, he would let me join his lab.

How did you end up at Columbia? In 2002, I got a call from Marina Cordes, who was the chair of the department at the time. She told me that there was a job for a senior faculty member here. She said, “This is a new department. It’s just started.” I was hesitant, but she said, “Why don’t you come and check it out?”

The department was new and tiny, but it had 85 adjunct faculty in the American Museum of Natural History, New York Botanical Garden, the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Wildlife Trust — a museum, garden, zoo and NGO. They have state-of-the-art-labs and incredible research programs here and in more than 60 countries — and these people actually teach our classes!

The idea about coming to Columbia, being part of this extended family of cultural institutions and growing a department grew on me.

What’s new in your department? We’re in the process of trying to recruit someone for a new professorship in sustainable development.

What are you working on right now? I work in China, where we’re looking at how the diversity of the grassland vegetation is important to the herders who live in Inner Mongolia. We’re working with Chinese faculty — it’s a joint venture among Columbia, Arizona State and the Institute of Botany in China. We’re going to try to find out what’s the best kind of grassland for them to have, given that they want to increase the number of animals they have, because there’s more of a market for meat in China than there was before.

Are you married? I’m married, but we don’t have kids. My spouse, Sara Tjossem, is a historian of science at SIPA.

Where do you live? Right on Broadway.

Any pets? A couple of indoor cats.

What have you been reading for pleasure? *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri.

If you could go anywhere in the world right now, where would it be? Northern Scandinavia — polar bears, arctic vegetation. I think that habitat’s changing so fast, I’d love to see it before it’s gone.

What’s your favorite food? Chinese food, in China.

Coffee or tea? Espresso.

Your lab’s motto is “Ecology with No Apology.” Why? Ecology ... is smelly, dirty and involves a lot of messy and intricate ideas. It clashes with the pristine, sterile, high-tech feel that biology often has ... but we’re not apologetic for that! I often say that our department is the voice of the 30 million other species. There’s more to the world than *Drosophila* and white mice.

**Interview:** Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard

**Photo:** SARA TJOSEM

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008**
Kluge To Match Gifts For Financial Aid

John Kluge '37 has agreed to dedicate $50 million of his $200 million pledge for College financial aid as a challenge fund to match new pledges and gifts. Under the Kluge Challenge for Endowed Financial Aid, a one-to-one match will apply to all donations of $150,000 or more, with no ceiling on the matching of endowment gifts. The Kluge Challenge also will match the first $50,000 in new annual pledges and gifts as of November 1, 2007 (within a combined College Fund/endowment gift of $150,000 or more) with an endowment gift of the same amount.

Last spring, Kluge announced a pledge of $400 million toward financial aid, $200 million of which is dedicated to the College, as part of the $4 billion Columbia Campaign. In September, The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education was launched with an overall goal of $865 million to benefit the undergraduate community, including $400 million in new financial aid endowment for students in the College. In addition to Kluge's $200 million pledge toward the $400 million financial aid goal, approximately $60 million has been raised since the start of the campaign, leaving $140 million to go before the goal is reached. The hope is that the Kluge Challenge for Endowed Financial Aid will encourage a widening circle of alumni, parents and friends to contribute toward this effort.

Typically, a donor's gift at the $150,000 level will be allocated with $100,000 going to the endowed financial aid fund and $50,000 to annual giving. Under the Kluge Challenge, an additional $150,000 will be added to the donor's endowed financial aid fund named for the donor when the University receives Kluge's gift. Thus, a donor's gift of $150,000 (or $30,000 annually for five years) results in $250,000 for financial aid endowment and $50,000 for the Columbia College Fund.

For further information on the Kluge Challenge for Endowed Financial Aid, contact Andrea Rounds, Columbia's director of development for Arts and Sciences: 212-879-2395 or ar2621@columbia.edu.

Alumni Reunion Weekend
Columbia College

New York City and The Columbia Campus: An unforgettable backdrop for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2008

Highlights Include:

- Chelsea Art Gallery Crawl with a collector and an artist.
- New "Back on Campus" sessions featuring Mini-Core Courses, Engineering Lectures, tours of Morningside and library special collections, and more.
- All new Young Alumni Casino Royale and Dance Party at the Nokia Theatre.
- Plus, cocktails parties, dinners, tours and more planned by your reunion committee.

Watch your mail in March for a complete schedule and registration materials.

Classes
1943 • 1948
1953 • 1958
1963 • 1968
1973 • 1978
1983 • 1988
1993 • 1998
and 2003

MAY 29 – JUNE 1, 2008
ROAR, LION, ROAR

■ HALL OF FAME: The Athletics Department is seeking nominations for its second Hall of Fame class, to be inducted on Thursday, October 2. Interested individuals may submit former student-athletes, coaches or teams for consideration at www.gocolumbialions.com/halloffame. For consideration for the 2008 ballot, nominations must be received by Monday, March 17. For more information, contact Michelle Maguire: mm2688@columbia.edu or 212-854-2781.

■ VARSITY SQUASH: Columbia will elevate its club squash programs for men and women to begin full varsity competition in fall 2011, raising to 31 the number of intercollegiate sports programs at the University. Columbia is the last Ivy League school to compete in squash at the varsity level.

“Squash is a popular sport in New York City and a program with a rich tradition in the Ivy League,” says Director of Athletics M. Dianne Murphy. “Columbia prides itself on being a truly international campus, so it makes perfect sense to offer a sport that is popular around the globe. That we were able to maintain balance in our athletics opportunities for men and women was a key factor. We are thrilled to be able to offer a larger number of athletics opportunities for both women and men.”

A leadership gift from Geoff Grant ’82 SEAS, a former club squash player at Columbia, and his wife, Annette ’83 Barnard, will help establish an endowment for varsity squash.

■ TENNIS ENDOWMENT: Columbia has announced the establishment of an endowment for the head coaching position for varsity men’s tennis, to be named The Bidyut K. Goswami Head Coach of Men’s Tennis upon the retirement of Goswami, who has led the Lions to six Ivy League titles in his 26 years as Columbia’s men’s head tennis coach.

The endowment, part of the $100 million Columbia Campaign for Athletics, will ensure the continuity of the program and the legacy of Goswami, who played on the Indian Davis Cup team and was a touring professional and club pro before becoming Columbia’s men’s tennis head coach in 1982.

Bid Goswami played on the Indian Davis Cup team and was a touring professional and club pro before becoming Columbia’s men’s tennis head coach in 1982.

PHOTO: GENE BOYARS

Save the Date!

SPRING SEMESTER 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Thursday-Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>JANUARY</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY-JUNE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Day of Classes</td>
<td>Last Day of Classes</td>
<td>Los Angeles College Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEBRUARY</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>JUNE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>29-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February Degrees Conferred</td>
<td>Baccalaureate Service</td>
<td>Alumni Reunion Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAY</strong></td>
<td><strong>JUNE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Jay Awards Dinner</td>
<td>Class Day</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>29-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Academic Awards &amp; Prizes Ceremony</td>
<td>San Francisco College Day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, please call the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development toll-free, 1-866-CC-ALUMNI, or visit the College’s alumni events Web site: www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events.

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for Athletics, was made possible through $2 million in gifts from Philip Milstein ’71, Evan Ratner ’88, Gary Jacobs ’85, Navroz Udwadia ’97 and several other former Columbia tennis players and friends of the program.

Goswami’s teams have posted a record of 309-128 (.707), making him one of the winningest coaches in Columbia history. He has had 10 former student-athletes go from Columbia to the professional tour, including Jeff Chang ’90, the 1990 Collegiate Senior Player of the Year, Phil Williamson ’87, the 1987 EITA Player of the Year and Rob Kresberg ’89, who went on to become head woman’s tennis coach at Columbia. Goswami also has seen 28 of his student-athletes named first team All-Ivy League in singles during his tenure.

The gift marks the third endowed head coaching position at Columbia; the others are The Patricia and Shepard Alexander ’21 Head Coach of Football and the Andrew F. Barth ’83 Head Coach of Wrestling.

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**ALL-AMERICAN:** Carmen Ballard ’08 earned All-America honors at the NCAA Cross Country Championships in Terre Haute, Ind., on November 19, placing 23rd overall in her third career trip to nationals. The top 30 finishers among the 253 competitors receive All-American designation. “Carmen ran an outstanding race,” said Columbia head cross country coach Willy Wood. “She beat every other runner from our region and the Ivy League. Carmen shouldered the burden of our tradition of excellence in a remarkable way. This race proved that she is among the nation’s elite.”

**SCORES & MORE:** For the latest news and complete information on Columbia Athletics, log onto the official Web site: www.gocolumbialions.com.

**TRANSITIONS**

**ALUMNI OFFICE:** On November 12, Natalie Miranda joined the Alumni Office in the newly created position of director of alumni affairs. She will assist Executive Director Ken Catandella in providing oversight of the Alumni Affairs unit while also working with the staff on the planning for all reunion classes. Miranda’s most recent job was at NYU’s Stern School of Business, where she was director of alumni affairs. Prior to that, she was the senior director of alumni relations at Goizueta Business School at Emory University in Atlanta. Miranda earned a bachelor’s in management with a concentration in marketing and finance from Tulane.

On December 3, Lara Khan ’01 GS, former director of budget and financial planning for the College, joined the Alumni Office as associate director for data analysis and reporting, where she will work with all units to analyze and report on data. Khan’s role in the College Planning and Administration office was to oversee the entire operating budget for the College, which exceeds $200 million. She designed and implemented database applications, tracked and forecast revenue and created and managed expense budgets with unit managers throughout the College. Khan has been at Columbia since fall 1994 and earned a bachelor’s in mathematics cum laude.

**CCW Mentoring Kickoff**

Columbia College Women held a Mentoring Program launch reception on November 27 in the President’s Room at Faculty House, with about 100 alumnae and students in attendance. Noreen Whyse’l ’90, who co-coordinates CCW with Alumni Affairs Assistant Director Stella Miele-Zanedis, welcomed the attendees and explained the evening’s program, which included discussions designed for alumnae and students to interact during dinner. Attendees were seated according to alumnae profession/student professional interest.

The 2007 program has matched more than 100 junior and senior women with mentors, who share with the students professional as well as personal advice. Spring 2008 programs will feature “Women’s Consortium,” partnered with Columbia Athletics and the Center for Career Education, as well as “Women in Business,” “Women in Sciences” and “Women in the Arts” workshops plus a social networking event.

For more information on CCW or any of the programs, or to join CCW, contact Miele-Zanedis: mf2413@columbia.edu.

**Relay for Life on April 12**

On Saturday, April 12, starting at noon, Columbia’s Colleges Against Cancer will hold its fifth annual Relay for Life. During the past four years, this event has unified more than 2,500 members of the Columbia community in the remembrance of cancer victims, celebration of survivors and declaration of support for the fight against cancer on all levels. The event is a 15-hour walk-a-thon, with participants signing up sponsors and collecting pledges. Walkers may sign up individually or as a team. Non-walkers may donate and/or light a Luminaria in honor or memory of someone.

Registration is $10 online before the event and $20 at the event. Those who register before March 12 will receive an event T-shirt. Columbia students, faculty, staff and friends should meet on Low Plaza. Registration opens at 11 a.m., the Opening Ceremony and Survivor/Caregiver Lap starts at noon, the Luminaria Ceremony starts at 10 p.m. and the Closing Ceremony will be at 3 a.m. on Sunday, April 13.

Columbia has raised more than $326,000 for the American Cancer Society in the past four years, and this year’s goal is $105,000. For more information, visit http://events.cancer.org/RFLcolumbiauniversity or e-mail columbia.relay@gmail.com.
Mark E. Kingdon ’71 Receives 2008 Alexander Hamilton Award

Mark E. Kingdon ’71, a University trustee and investment manager, received the Alexander Hamilton Award at a black-tie dinner in Low Rotunda on November 15. The award, for distinguished service and accomplishment, is presented by the Columbia College Alumni Association and is the highest honor the College bestows.

The dinner raised a record $1.75 million for the College, an amount that University trustee and dinner co-chair Richard Witten ’75 noted dwarfed the $400,000 raised by the College’s two fundraising dinners a decade ago.

“Support for education at all levels is the best answer to the question of how to deal with growing income inequality in our society,” observed Kingdon. “A recent IMF study suggested that globalization is not the cause of such inequality; it is technology, which favors the educated. Funding for financial aid to promote need-blind admission is part of the solution.”

Other dinner co-chairs were Philip Milstein ’71, co-chair of the University Trustees, and Leon Wagner, a fellow investor and longtime friend of Kingdon. A highlight of the program was a dance performance by members of the Harlem Children’s Zone, on whose Board of Directors Kingdon serves.

In presenting the Alexander Hamilton Medal, President Lee C. Bollinger praised Kingdon for his intelligence and compassion and said, “There is an inner steel to Mark that when it comes to doing right for the world, you can always, always count on him.”

Dean Austin Quigley, who was introduced by Senior Class President Neda Navab ’08, noted how the 60th annual dinner was the biggest event on the College’s social calendar and was particularly important this year because it coincided with the 100th anniversary of the opening of Hamilton Hall on the Morningside Heights campus. Quigley spoke of the College’s “twin pillars of inclusiveness and excellence” and said, “For us, our excellence depends in large part upon, and derives directly from, our inclusiveness.” Regarding the honoree, Quigley called Kingdon “a man who has achieved remarkable things, but has never forgotten those who are needy.”

Kingdon, an economics major who graduated Phi Beta Kappa, served as sports editor and features editor of Spectator. He earned an M.B.A. at Harvard, and in 1983 he founded Kingdon Capital Management, where he serves as president, chief portfolio manager and strategist. In 1998, Kingdon endowed the C. Lowell Harriss Professorship of Economics in honor of his undergraduate teacher and mentor, whom he saluted at the dinner. He also was instrumental in financing the renovation of Butler Library, and in 2006, along with several other alumni, sponsored the Institute for Israeli and Jewish Studies and the Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi Chair in Israel and Jewish Studies.
A Wintertime Soldier

Clarence Jones ’53: Lawyer, speechwriter, adviser and confidant to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

By Evan J. Charkes ’82

In April 1960, Clarence Jones ’53 was cozily ensconced in the American middle class. A young attorney in a small Los Angeles firm, he was married and had one daughter. His wife, Anne, was pregnant with their second child, and the family lived in a suitable house in Altadena, Calif.

All that changed with a phone call.

Earlier that year, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. had been indicted in Alabama for felony tax evasion, for committing perjury by signing tax returns that did not report all of his income. A conviction of King in an Alabama state court would have meant a long prison term and might have permanently derailed the Civil Rights movement.

King sought legal help from NAACP Board members, including a New York City judge, Hubert T. Delaney, who wanted an African-American lawyer to help the trial. “They had lots of white lawyers who wanted to volunteer, from the ACLU. But Judge Delaney wanted a Negro lawyer who would be responsive to the needs of the [civil rights] movement. Little did he know,” Jones says, chuckling.

Delaney, who had gotten Jones’ name from a mutual friend and attorney in New York, Arthur Kinoy, called Jones in his Altadena home one evening. With a wry smile, Jones, who wears tinted glasses and a single hoop earring, recounts the conversation.

“‘Clarence, I know that you are just starting out, but Dr. King has been indicted for tax evasion and we need someone to essentially be a law clerk and go down to Montgomery and work for maybe six weeks, do the research, write the motions and so forth.’” Though flattered, Jones declined, and continued to decline when Delaney restated his request.

Later that day, Delaney called Jones again and told him that King was coming to Los Angeles to speak at the World Affairs Council. He thought it would be a good idea if King stopped by Jones’ house to talk. Jones agreed.

“The house that we lived in at the time had a retractable ceiling. You pressed a button and the ceiling opened and you could see the Sierra Madre mountains and the stars. So it was into this setting that Martin Luther King came to my house. He said to me, ‘Pretty nice house you have here, Mr. Jones.’ We sat down. My wife, Anne, was very accommodating, putting little things out to eat, getting drinks. Dr. King started telling me about things going on in the civil rights movement. So I sat there and listened.

“He said: ‘I know you come from the North and not from the South. We have a lot of white lawyers but we don’t have any Negro lawyers. We need Negro professionals who can help us.’ I said, ‘Dr. King, I really would like to help you, but I really can’t go to Montgomery.’

“Martin looked straight at me and said: ‘Tell me something about yourself.’ So I told him that my mother was a cook and a maid, my father was a chauffeur and gardener, that before the age of 6 I was put in two different foster homes because there was no place for my parents to keep me, and then put into a Catholic boarding school.

“And then, he leaves. My wife is really angry at me. She says, ‘What are you doing that’s so important that you can’t go down there? What are you doing?’ My response was, ‘Anne, just because some Negro preacher got his hand caught in the cookie jar, that’s not my problem.’”

Jones pauses for a moment to let the words sink in. Then, he picks up the story. “I got a call the next day from Judge Delaney. He said that Dr. Jones was a political science major who played football and was politically active during his time at Columbia.

PHOTO: DANIELLA ZALCMAN ’09

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008
Jones takes notes at a press conference given by civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. regarding an agreement reached on a "limited desegregation plan" outside the Gaston Motel in Birmingham, Ala., February 1963.
King wanted to invite me to hear him preach at the Baldwin Hills Church in Los Angeles. Dr. King was going to be a guest preacher. My wife said to me, ‘You’re going to church. You are going.’

“When I got to the church, I was ushered to my seat toward the front. Martin gets up at the pulpit. Now, I had never heard him preach before.” Jones then begins a spot-on impression of King.

‘The text of my sermon today is the role and responsibility of our professional Negroes to help the masses of our people.’

“I thought that was an interesting subject. King goes on and gives the most eloquent description of what he was trying to do in the South.” Jones then returns to his King-voice. “And for example,’ he says, and then pauses. Now, Martin Luther King was the most erudite, most brilliant orator that I had ever seen. But at the Baldwin Hills Church, he went into this feigned theatrical stutter.

‘Now ... now ... now ... my friends in New York, they tell me that there is a young man, a young man sitting in this church this morning. My friends tell me that the Good Lord has touched this young man’s brain. That when this young man goes into the law library and does research that he can go all the way back to 1066, to the Magna Carta, and find anything there is to find. And when he finds them, he writes them down, and the words are so ... compelling. And this is a brilliant young lawyer I am told.’

“And King pauses before adding, ‘But this young man has forgotten from whence he came.’

“Now, I am sitting there wondering who he might be talking about. But then he starts telling the congregation about my life — things that I had told him in my house a couple of days before.”

Jones’ voice softens. “Then Martin begins to quote a poem by Langston Hughes [‘25], Mother to Son. The poem is about a Negro woman washing the staircase in a white folks’ house, and as she pauses at each level, she says, ‘I am doing this for you, son, life ain’t been no crystal stair.’

“As King begins to tell the woman’s story through the poem, I began to cry. Like a video, I could see my mother in her uniform. It was very moving.

“Then the service is over. Martin is standing by the steps near the pulpit. He looks at me, and he has this look on his face, like a Cheshire cat. And I don’t say anything. I walk over to him.”

Jones continues in his King-voice. “‘You know, Mr. Jones, I never mentioned your name. But preachers, we need examples to prove our point.’

“I extended my hand, and simply said, ‘Dr. King, when do you want me to leave?’ “

Jones looks up again, a broad smile across his face. “That was the making of a disciple.”

During the next eight years, Jones would become a lawyer, speechwriter, adviser and confidant to King and an integral part of epochal moments, including King’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” the “I Have a Dream” speech at the March on Washington and King’s famous speech on the Vietnam War delivered at Riverside Church. Their close relationship lasted up to King’s assassination on April 4, 1968.

After King’s assassination, Jones’ business career flourished. He was a partner with the Wall Street firm Carter, Berlind & Weil (a Citigroup predecessor) and the first African-American Allied Member of the New York Stock Exchange. As an investment banker, he served in the late 1960s and early 1970s as an adviser to the governments of Jamaica, Zambia and the Bahamas. Jones was an executive with Inner City Broadcasting, which was owned by Percy Sutton. He also was publisher of The Amsterdam News, and, at the request of Governor Nelson Rockefeller, helped negotiate an end to the Attica prison inmate rebellion.

Jones now is an executive adviser to Marks, Paneth & Shron, a New York-based financial services firm. Since September 2006, he has been a scholar-in-residence at Stanford’s Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute. Jones is a frequent lecturer on King, speaking at public events as well as at corporations such as Citigroup, General Electric and Pfizer, and has completed a book about King that will be published later this year.

Born in a North Philadelphia hospital in January 1932 at the height of the Great Depression, Jones grew up an only child. His father, Goldsboro Benjamin Jones, had a fourth-grade education and was a chauffeur and gardener for a wealthy family, the Lippincotts. His mother, Mary Tolliver Jones, who had an eighth-grade education, was a maid and cook for the same family. Jones’ parents lived in the Lippincotts’ home in Riverton, N.J., during the week and stayed with friends and relatives on their days off. Without a home of their own, they placed their son in a foster home soon after he was born.

When Jones was 6, his parents sent him to Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored People, a Catholic boarding school in Cornwall Heights, Pa. “I was raised by these Catholic nuns,” remembers Jones. “If I had been in a public school in New Jersey at that time, it would have been segregated. This was different. The nuns grounded me in Latin and English grammar. I can still remember going to the chalkboard in the front of the classroom and diagramming a sentence. And, of course, I became a Catholic. I was an altar boy and went to midnight Mass.”

When he was 15, Jones’ parents secured a home of their own, so he returned to Riverton. At Palmyra H.S., he graduated near the top of his class, was selected as class speaker at graduation and was president of the Honor Society. “I was also voted the ‘Person Most Likely to Succeed’ and the ‘Most Outstanding Student.’ There’s a picture of me in the class yearbook next to a globe that says ‘Tomorrow, the World.’ ”

There was one problem about conquering the world: Jones was too poor to go to college.

Instead, he enlisted in the Navy at the beginning of his sen-
“Columbia will always be special in my heart because of what Dean Coleman, the professors and my friends did for me when my mother was sick.”

ior year of high school, thinking that the Navy would pay for his education. But his misrepresentation of his age was discovered by the recruiting officer. “My principal went bananas. He then got some of my teachers together — I remember specifically my science and speech teachers — and they raised some money for my college applications. They sent away for the applications: University of Pennsylvania, Columbia, Syracuse, Yale and Princeton. I was able to get into all of these schools. Syracuse offered me a music scholarship, but Columbia gave me the most financial assistance. That’s how I ended up selecting Columbia.”

When he got to Morningside Heights in fall 1949, the 17-year-old Jones was one of a handful of African-American students. “The College had about 3,300 students, and there were very few African-Americans. And I had nothing in common with them — they were all middle class, the sons of lawyers, doctors, a university president.”

Jones lived in Hartley Hall his first year and played football, as a halfback, under legendary coach Lou Little. “I loved Lou Little. I remember his gravelly voice; he would say to me: ‘Jonesie boy, you’ve got to play football, at least you’ll get one good meal [from the training table].’” Jones also ran track and Little told him that “the only way you’re not going to get hurt playing football is to run as fast as possible.”

Jones was a political science major; his favorite professor was Charles Frankel, and his favorite course was on British constitutional history. He also remembers taking a chemistry class with Nobel Prize-winner Linus Pauling, who “terrified me. I was the only black in his class, and I would try and sit in the middle to the back of the class. Pauling would say: ‘Mr. Jones, we would like to see you, please come nearer.’ And I would end up moving to the front of the class.”

During the middle of his junior year, Jones’ mother was diagnosed with rectal and colon cancer. “I remember it was January 8, my birthday. I was taking an exam and the proctor told me I had a call. It was my mother’s doctor, and he told me that my mother had an operation and they found cancer. The doctor said I should come to see my mother, who did not have money for my college applications. They sent away for the applications: University of Pennsylvania, Columbia, Syracuse, Yale and Princeton. I was able to get into all of these schools. Syracuse offered me a music scholarship, but Columbia gave me the most financial assistance. That’s how I ended up selecting Columbia.”

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“Columbia will always be special in my heart because of what Dean Coleman, the professors and my friends did for me when my mother was sick. She died in May. I don’t know if what they did was legal, but they made it work.”

Jones also was politically active at Columbia, a member of the local chapter of the NAACP and the Young Progressives of America. “The YPA got mad at me because they would go out on Saturdays and hand out leaflets on 116th and Broadway, and I couldn’t be there because I was playing football. I remember meeting Paul Robeson at a party. Robeson said to me: ‘Young man, you go back and tell those students that you spoke to me. You tell them that if a Negro scores one touchdown on a Saturday afternoon at Baker Field, that has more impact than anything they could possibly do with their leaflets. Even segregationists and white racists applaud good sports performances.’

“I never forgot that. Of course, I never scored a touchdown, but he had a good point,” Jones says, laughing.

Three months after graduation, Jones was inducted into the Army — the Korean War was in full swing. He refused to sign any papers during his induction, however, and was given “Holdover” status when he reported to Fort Dix, N.J., with other inductees. He ultimately served 21 months but the Army discharged Jones, for, among other reasons, failing to sign the Loyalty Oath. “I was prepared to serve the country once the country was prepared to treat me with all of the rights and privileges of any other citizen,” Jones says. With the ACLU’s help, he gained a reversal from the Army Discharge Review Board and turned it into an honorable discharge.

Jones then went to law school at Boston University and received financial assistance through the Korean GI Bill. A love of copyright law was further fostered by a BU professor who encouraged him to go into entertainment law and helped land him a job in Los Angeles. He had only been at the law firm for four months when he got Delaney’s call.

One week after Jones heard King at the Baldwin Hills Church service, he said goodbye to his family and flew to Montgomery, Ala., to help King’s legal team prepare for the trial, which took place in May 1960. In a shocking decision, the all-white Alabama state jury acquitted King of perjury charges.

Jones became committed to the civil rights movement full-time. He left his Los Angeles law firm, moved his family to New York — they settled in Riverdale — and became a partner in Lubell, Lubell & Jones, as well as the general counsel for the Ghandi Society for Human Rights, the nonprofit organization set up to aid King in his ongoing litigation. One of the first legal matters he worked on was The New York Times v. Sullivan, a seminal First Amendment case that arose out of an advertisement in the Times designed to raise monies for King’s defense in the Alabama perjury trial. Jones also began to do more day-to-day work for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference’s Harlem office, working closely with Stanley Levison, a King confidant.

While traveling with King, the two young men began to form a close bond — King was just three years older than Jones, and also had young children. Jones remembered one trip in 1962 to Albany, Ga., in particular.

“We were sharing a room in the home of the leaders of the Albany Movement, Martin was sitting on one of the beds in the room, untying his shoes. He looked up at me and said: ‘You know, Clarence, you and Stanley (Levison) are like win-tertime soldiers.’

‘I looked at him quizzically, and before I could speak, Martin continued. ‘Anyone can stand with you in the warm sum-mer sunlight of August. Only a wintertime soldier stands with you at midnight in the alpine chill of winter.’
King, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, addresses thousands of civil rights supporters during the March on Washington, August 28, 1963. Jones helped write King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech and copyrighted it, to the lasting benefit of King's estate.

PHOTO: AP PHOTO
'Anyone can stand with you in the warm summer sunlight of August. Only a wintertime soldier stands with you at midnight in the alpine chill of winter.'

"When I finally understood what he had said, I began to choke up and I said something to the effect that I didn’t know whether or not I measured up to that description. Years later, I concluded that Martin, as well-read as he was, must have been thinking about Tom Paine’s famous words in 1776: ‘These are the times that try men’s souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman.’"

As the civil rights movement pushed ahead, Jones played an important role for King, first as a lawyer, then as a fundraiser, mixing easily with the moneyed classes in New York and Los Angeles, and then as one of King’s inner circle of advisers. When King was arrested in Birmingham in April 1963, during the infamous demonstrations involving Sheriff Bull Connor, it was Jones who went to see King and smuggled newspapers into King’s jail cell. The Birmingham News, in particular, carried stories of white clergymen rebuking King and the protestors.

"The first time I saw him in jail, I could see he was very agitated. There was writing on the edges of his newspaper. I asked, ‘What’s that?’ He said: ‘Clarence, we have to answer this.’"

Jones, however, thought the “letter” was just an “indistinct jumble of biblical phrases wrapped around pest control and garden club news,” a “distraction” from the legal issues and money woes that he wanted to discuss with King, who spent most of the visit explaining to Jones how to decipher the various arrows and loops in the margins. Jones gave King some yellow sheets of paper and then smuggled the “letter” under his own shirt and out of the jail.

King continued to write on the yellow sheets that Jones had provided. These words were then typed up and returned by Jones to King, who ultimately wrote a 20-page document known as the “Letter from Birmingham Jail” in which he eloquently and forcefully answered the white clergy. More than 30 years later, Jones was honored by President Bill Clinton with a citation for his role in bringing forth the historic document.

By July 1963, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had taken notice of Jones. Hoover sent a memorandum to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy asking that wiretaps be placed in Jones’ law office, at the Gandhi Society and at his home. These wiretaps were not subject to judicial request or approval. Hoover’s stated rationale was that Jones had “recently been in frequent contact with Communist Party, USA, leaders in New York City concerning racial matters.” Kennedy signed the wiretap request on July 23, 1963. Jones keeps a copy of the order, which he obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request.

For more than four years, the FBI kept continual 24-hour wiretaps on Jones, something he now counts as a blessing since he is using those wiretaps to confirm his recollection of events for the book he is writing on King. “I want to give a note of public gratitude to the FBI,” he says. “How do I know something happened? I just read the transcripts.”

Jones played another critical role in perhaps King’s most famous speech, “I Have a Dream,” delivered on August 28, 1963, at the March on Washington — an event for which Jones helped King prepare.

“So on August 27, we were sitting in the lobby of the Willard Hotel, and Martin asked us for some ideas of what he should say,” Jones recalls. “Everyone gave him some ideas. (People in the lobby included, among others, Ralph Abernathy, The Reverend Bernard Lee, Walter Fauntleroy and Cleveland Robinson.) I was asked to take notes. Martin asked me to go upstairs and prepare a draft for his reference. I left the lobby and went upstairs to my room to organize my notes and then prepared a comprehensive summary draft. I crafted an analogy of people coming to the March to redeem a promissory note or check for justice and freedom, which had been returned, marked ‘insufficient funds.’

“Four months before, I had met Nelson Rockefeller at the vault room of the Chase Manhattan Bank to collect $100,000 to post bail for 100 or more children who had been arrested for participating in demonstrations. When they opened the large vault, I was given the money, and then a promissory note to sign. Later, the note was cancelled by Rockefeller. It was his way of quietly helping the movement. This action made a large impression on me.

“I then went downstairs and began to read a summary of the various points made earlier. People started throwing around more ideas. Martin got up, somewhat exasperated, and he said: ‘Gentlemen, thank you for your help, I am going upstairs and counsel with the Lord. I will see you in the morning.’

“I got up at 5 a.m. on August 28. Dora MacDonald, who was Martin’s secretary, told me that Martin’s speech was being mimeographed for insertion in envelopes as part of the press kits. When I got to the press tent, I looked at the speech — about 40 percent was what I had written, and the rest was Martin’s. Then I noticed that there was no copyright notation on the speech. I always said to Martin: ‘You just give things away, people come and take advantage of you.’

“Now, I can’t take any claim for any brilliance, but the light bulb went on: This could be an important speech. I made some people take the speech out of all of the envelopes, and on every page of the speech, with some assistance, I put a little © on every page, with a ballpoint pen. The concept was that you have your common law copyright unless you lose it by some form of mass distribution.”

With the copyright © on each page, Jones then went to the site of the speech. “There had been a dispute about the order of who was going to speak. Many people didn’t want Martin to go last. I had been the heavy, his negotiator. I said if Martin Luther King does not speak last, then he does not speak. At which point, I got a call from Martin, and he told me that I shouldn’t say that. ‘You’re going to make them think we have some kind of ego.’ I said to him, ‘But I know why they are coming to Washington. They’re here to see you.’

“Now, at the time that Martin was delivering the speech, I was about 15–20 yards away to his rear upper left. And as I listened, I heard him cover the parts that I had written, includ-
ing the promissory note not being redeemed. Then Martin paused. He grabbed the podium, leaned back, turned the text over and looked out at those hundreds of thousands of people. And I said to the person next to me: ‘These people don’t know it, but they are about to go to church.’ And that’s when Martin did his peroration about ‘I Have a Dream.’ After he had finished, I walked up to him and said: ‘Martin, you were smokin’, just smokin.’”

Soon after the speech, Jones filed an application for a copyright of the “I Have a Dream” speech. Jones has a copy of the actual copyright certificate, granted October 2, 1963, and the letter he wrote to MacDonald, enclosing the certificate. Jones looks at the letter’s last paragraph and reads: “If ‘I Have a Dream’ is as significant as the press and general public acclaim has indicated, the total value of these rights reserved, measured against the potential market for their economic exploitation, is conservatively, in the thousands of dollars.”

Today, Jones smiles at that estimate. “The touchstone of the King Estate, by far their biggest moneymaker, has been, and is, the ‘I Have a Dream’ speech. I sometimes think if I made no other contribution, then at least I did that for Martin. I feel very proud of that one.”

One month after the March on Washington, four young girls were killed in Birmingham’s Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. Recalls Jones: “I thought that the bombing was the Klan’s answer to the March on Washington. After the March, everyone was on such a high. Martin was on such a high. Martin said to me: ‘Everybody is talking about the great speech I made.’ I said to him: ‘We haven’t seen the backlash yet.’ After the bombing, I told him this was their answer to the March, that they wanted to send a message. When Martin spoke at the funeral for those girls, it was the first time I saw him cry in public.”

Jones continued to write speeches for King. “I got so I could hear his voice in my head. I knew the cadence in which he spoke, and I would write to that cadence.” Jones knew he was in an unusual place. “Martin told me once that he had gone to an academic retreat and someone came up to him and said, ‘I understand that you have a young lawyer from New York writing your speeches, who you rely on. You need a professional speechwriter.’ Martin replied, ‘Clarence would be the first person who would agree with you. Clarence may not be a professional speechwriter, but he has one characteristic that the people you recommend for me don’t have.’

‘What’s that?’ asked this person.

‘I trust Clarence,’ Martin answered.

‘I never forgot him telling me that,’” Jones says softly.

Jones also got to know Malcolm X, and often acted as an emissary between him and King. “During one of my several meet-

ings with Malcolm X, he would rhetorically ask me, ‘Brother Jones, don’t you know the way in which the white power structure deals with an authentic revolutionary black leader? First, they try to show you the errors of your ways. And as part of their process they may give you goodies, like appointments to government agencies. If that doesn’t work, then they try and discredit you, showing your alleged transgressions, personal deficiencies and lack of integrity. If either of these two measures don’t work, then they will kill you.’”

Jones was on his way to the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem to hear Malcolm X speak on February 21, 1965, the night Malcolm was assassinated. “I had pulled off the highway and was headed over there when I heard the reports on the radio. I couldn’t believe it.” Jones says.

As for how King felt about his personal safety, Jones says: “There wasn’t a day that Martin Luther King didn’t wake up and think it was his last day. You and I walk down the street and a car backfires and we wouldn’t pay it attention. He would walk down the street and a car would backfire and he would go like this [ducks his head]. Martin never believed he would live to be an old man. He just didn’t know when it would happen. Martin was afraid, but he was fearless. There’s a difference.”

On April 4, 1968, King was assassinated by James Earl Ray in Memphis. King had called Jones the night before to make sure he was coming to Memphis. Hours before his death, King called Jones at his office but Jones was on another call and didn’t speak with King. “I often said to Sandy [Weill], ‘What was I doing that was so important that I could not take a call from Martin?’ That really bothered me.”

After more than 40 years, Jones now is telling his story, deliberately having waited until the death of Coretta Scott King, who died on January 30, 2006.

“In my book, I make judgments about certain African-American leaders and I did not want them to call her up and talk about it,” he explains. But he also cites the trust he had with King, who he believes did more to achieve social justice than almost any other person in American history.

“When he and I were together, he had reason to believe that this was going to stay between us,” says Jones. “There are still topics I won’t talk about, such as Martin’s personal life. However, if you want insight into the man, read my book.”

Jones’ book, currently titled What Would Martin Say? Reflections on the Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr., is due to be published by HarperCollins in April.

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A Mighty Talent

Dan Futterman '89, actor and Capote screenwriter, keeps his balance in high-pressure Hollywood

By Michal Lemberger '94 Barnard

Hollywood is notorious for its preening and oversized egos, and yet what comes across about Dan Futterman '89 is how unpretentious he is. So unpretentious that he slips unnoticed into a small restaurant in the Los Feliz section of Los Angeles, home to hipsters and beautiful people, wearing a comfortable-looking, no-longer-navy FDNY T-shirt, narrow wale red cords and sneakers, a boxy backpack secured over both shoulders. The first thing he does is ask his interviewer, "How've you been?"

The past few years have been busy ones for Futterman. After a successful acting career spanning 15 years, during which he appeared in movies such as The Birdcage with Robin Williams and television shows such as Judging Amy, he wrote his first screenplay. Most writers in Hollywood, even the successful ones, have a screenplay or two in a drawer somewhere, early attempts that may have helped them get a foot in the door but that never saw the light of day again. Futterman wrote Capote. Not only did it get made, it was nominated for five Academy Awards in 2005, including Best Adapted Screenplay for Futterman's work.

Because this is a Cinderella story, it has made the rounds of magazine profiles by now: Futterman had wanted to tackle the story of how Truman Capote came to write his genre-defining 1965 non-fiction novel, In Cold Blood, for a while. When he had a presentable draft, he took it to his childhood friend, Bennett Miller, director of the 1998 documentary The Cruise as well as dozens of television commercials and music videos. Miller decided to direct the film, and once they enlisted another longtime friend, actor Phillip Seymour Hoffman, to star as the title character, they were up and running.

After an intense 35-day shooting schedule, the film was edited and given a limited release in September 2005. By the time it was widely released, in February 2006, it was on its way to garnering awards and nominations for Futterman; Miller; Catherine Keener, who played Harper Lee; the film's producers; and of course, Hoffman, who won the Academy Award in the Best Actor category.

In the wake of his sudden acclaim, Futterman could have accepted any number of projects. What he chose — and was chosen for — was to play murdered Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl in A Mighty Heart, which required that he travel back and forth to Pakistan and India three times in the course of the film's shooting. All the while, he was working on his next screenplay, an adaptation of Jonathan Tropper’s comic novel Everything Changes.

A summary like that, though, does not really get at the sea-change that can occur when going from an actor with a solid reputation to becoming a celebrity screenwriter to co-starring with Angelina Jolie in a high-profile film project. And yet, Futterman's friends and colleagues all emphasize that success has not gone to his head.

Miller, who has been close friends with Futterman since they were 16 and enrolled in the same theater class at Mamaroneck (N.Y.) High School, says about him, “The first word that comes to mind is ‘considerate,’ whether with his family, his children, his wife, his friendships, his work. He’s pretty steady. I think he's able to remove himself from the passions of whatever it is that's happening, look at a thing and get his perspective on it.”

Caroline Baron, one of the producers of Capote, agrees. “I've never met anyone like him, who has his head on straight, especially in this business. He hit it out of the ballpark [with his screenplay for Capote] his first time out, but it didn't go to his head. I don't know how he got that way, whether the fame early on from being an actor helped, but most actors aren't that way, so that's not really good training. Maybe it was his upbringing.”

Early in his career, Futterman was a typical struggling actor, taking any job he could get — including a play at the WPA theater, a pilot that never got picked up and a Liz Claiborne fragrance commercial in which he played a lover enchanted by a woman's scent. But he was blessed with "ridiculously proud parents [Stanley '61 and Linda (née Roth) '62 Barnard] who would, when I started acting, just as proudly bring their friends to see me in plays as they would to have me
Futterman was nominated for a 2006 Academy Award in the Best Adapted Screenplay category for Capote.
Inset, Angelina Jolie and Futterman on location in Mumbai during the filming of A Mighty Heart, November 13, 2006.
MAIN PHOTO: STEVE GRANITZ/WIREIMAGE; INSET: SAJJAD HUSSAIN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES
serve them burritos at Cantina restaurant.” It was his parents who ultimately convinced him to matriculate at Columbia. As a high school senior, he wanted to join his friends and future collaborators, Miller and Hoffman, at NYU, but in time he came to see that he had been steered in the right direction.

“It took me a while to find my way [at Columbia],” he says. “You start with the Core Curriculum, so you’re not only finding your way socially, but academically, too, because you’re not directing yourself all that much. But I grew to really love my experience at Columbia. Growing up in Larchmont (Westchester County), New York City was Mecca. I wanted to be in Manhattan. I loved being in the city. I also loved the opportunity to get interested in something and study it.” Which is why, along with some classes in his English major, such as Edward Taylor’s Shakespeare lecture, Futterman names David Helfand’s “Physics Without Mathematics” as one of his favorites. “I loved that class,” he emphasizes. He even thought about majoring in physics, but decided that, since he had always thought about majoring in physics, but realized that there was no way around calculus. And no way, for him, through it.

Futterman’s time at Columbia wouldn’t necessarily presage a career in theater and film. He repeatedly took theater classes with Aaron Frankel ’42, who gave him the space to do scenes, and was exposed to what he calls “semi-alternative ways of doing theater” with the Columbia Players. But he never embraced that stereotypical image of the aspiring actor, hounding the stage doors of Broadway or Off-Broadway plays every chance he got. “It’s a little hard when you don’t have spending money. I took advantage enough to know that I wanted to stay there.” Instead, he somewhat sheepishly admits to spending “too much time” on Frat Row, at the co-ed Alpha Delta Phi house. He never officially joined, but it was a place to meet pretty, smart, artistic girls, which, as he says with a small smile, was good.

Futterman was prepared to study for a graduate degree in English at Columbia, but decided that, since he had always liked acting, he might as well give it a shot. Some luck, his talent and the warm support of his family saw his career in acting rise steadily. Ultimately, in addition to landing significant roles on Broadway and in film, he became a series regular on Judging Amy, a family drama starring Amy Brenneman and Tyne Daly that ran on CBS from 1999-2005. His portrayal of Vincent Gray, younger brother to Brenneman’s Judge Amy Gray, garnered him a legion of fans. But Futterman’s interest in literature never disappeared, and it resurfaced when he adapted a small section of Gerald Clarke’s biography to write Capote. Even then, his connection to Columbia remained: Parts of the screenplay were written in Butler Library.

“As anyone knows, normal people in NYC can’t afford apartments with office space,” explains Futterman. “Having a free office (actually, a daily choice of a few of them) up the road from our place on 105th Street was an enormous blessing. If I wanted solitude, I’d go hide at a desk in the Butler stacks. If I wanted to people-watch while I wrote (which I often do), I’d go to Avery or the East Asian Library — each attracts a different crowd. Or, if I wanted caffeine and the background noise of caffeinated conversations, I’d go to the Hungarian Pastry Shop on Amsterdam.”

Although he’s lived in Los Angeles for the past three years, Futterman remains a New Yorker. He hasn’t gotten used to the slower pace of Los Angeles, or to the fact that it’s a city that has been described as a loose collection of suburbs with no center. He misses the energy of New York and the fact that he always felt he was meeting someone new and that his world was expanding, not to mention the two million books in the Columbia library system.

Even with all his interest in literature, the only thing Futterman wrote before tackling Capote was some “horrendous poetry” in college. Ultimately, the restrictions of a screenplay — the three-act structure, length requirements and number of scenes, among others — helped see him to the finish. That, and meeting his wife, Anya Epstein, who already was a working writer for the television series Homicide: Life on the Street. He credits her with teaching him how to corral his ideas into the demanding format of a screenplay.

“I’m not someone who could write a novel,” he says. “I don’t really think I could write a play. It just seems too open-canvas, and I like rules. Back in school, when they said, ‘Write anything you want,’ I was lost.”

One aspect of writing that appeals to Futterman, who maintains a small group of close friends rather than an extensive social circle, is the privacy of writing dialogue, which requires him to ponder all the questions that he’d previously asked as an actor: What does the character want? How is he going to get it? What are you really saying that you’re not saying? For all that, he says that writing and acting are separate processes, which is why it never occurred to him to write a part for himself in Capote. Even so, this was a project he was very serious about from the beginning. In fact, Miller remembers Futterman “semi-bullying” him and Hoffman into committing to the project: “He was very confrontational. He said, ‘You’ve wanted to make movies your whole life. Why don’t you commit yourself to this?’ I’d never seen that side of him, that willful side.”

Futterman’s willfulness paid off. Shortly after he finished his first draft, word got out that another Capote film project, covering much of the same material, was in the works (it would eventually be released as Infamous, but it came out after Capote and never garnered the attention that the first film did). Knowing someone else might beat him to the punch after he had worked so long and hard to write his screenplay, Futterman galvanized the momentum that led to Capote being filmed. And although the making of the film had its challenging moments, it brought Futterman and his friends closer together.

In some ways, the same can be said of the critical and popular reception of the film, which catapulted its major players into a sphere of fame and celebrity they had never known. But Miller and Baron are quick to point out that though the experi-
ence inevitably changed them, even the newfound renown didn’t seem to affect Futterman as it could have. Miller notes, “During award season, I recall there being a number of times he had to choose between some fancy event and being with his family, and more often than not he was with his family.” Says Baron, “Being nominated and winning some of these awards is difficult — wonderful, of course, but intense, there are so many intense emotions. He was able to walk through it in a really graceful way.”

Since the writing of Capote, Futterman has penned a script with his wife and finished his adaptation of Everything Changes, a romantic comedy told from a guy’s point of view. Although he hasn’t given up on acting, he’s ready to focus his career exclusively on writing for now because of the pressures acting places on family life. His wife gave birth to their second child right before A Mighty Heart began filming, so each time he traveled to Pakistan or India, he had to leave his wife alone to care for two small children. For another thing, he got to see Hoffman and Jolie — whom he considers gifted actors — in action, and in his modest way, he now thinks that he should stick to what he’s better at, though fans of his acting might disagree.

In A Mighty Heart, he plays journalist Daniel Pearl, who, while researching a story about the “shoe bomber” Richard Reid, was abducted and murdered by militants in Pakistan. Although the movie shows discrete moments from Pearl’s last day of freedom, it focuses primarily on his widow, Marianne, and her experience after his kidnapping.

To prepare for the role, Futterman read a collection of Pearl’s journalism, talked with Pearl’s wife, parents and colleagues, and thought about the circumstances of the life he was about to portray. He has been repeatedly asked about having to inhabit the role of a man who became famous for his death, but Futterman sees it differently. “It was joyful. That part of his life was a really great part of his life, until what happened did. We were doing mostly the story of a happy couple. They were expecting a baby, doing work they wanted to do, exploring the world together. To me, I was almost in a different movie from everybody else.” So although Futterman missed his family during filming, he could return to the time of his wife’s pregnancies, which, he says, were wonderful and full of excitement. In instilling his performance with memories of those times, he was able to honor Pearl, a man whom he greatly admires and of whom he says, “Everybody loved him. It was impossible to find anyone who had a bad word to say about him.”

On the day he sat down for this interview, Futterman was in a celebratory mood. He had handed in the final draft of his latest screenplay only four days before and declared, “I am currently unemployed and completely thrilled.” With no projects planned, what would he do with all this newfound free time? The past few years had been full of writing, acting, promoting and caring for a baby, but now he seems open to whatever comes his way. His older daughter wants to go camping, an activity he hasn’t been able to pursue in recent years, but which he considers good for the soul. So maybe that’s what he’ll do. Sleep on the ground. Recharge his soul.

Michal Lemberger ’94 Barnard is a freelance journalist and editor in Los Angeles. Her work has appeared in publications ranging from LA Weekly to Publishers Weekly. She also teaches courses in poetry and poetics at UCLA Extension.
In March 2007, Michael A. Lerner ‘89, associate dean of studies at Bard High School Early College, published what is to date the only comprehensive history of Prohibition in New York. Dry Manhattan: Prohibition in New York City (Harvard University Press) is the story of the 18th Amendment in America’s most liveliest city — New Yorkers’ first partial embrace of the temperance measure, then their increasingly vehement resistance to the ban on alcohol.

For Lerner, this is more than a struggle over the right to order a martini. The 18th Amendment was an unprecedentedly strict attempt by the government to regulate the private lives of adults, and it set off one of the century’s most fiercely fought “culture wars.” Rather than improve the morals of the city, Prohibition spurred New Yorkers, especially, “to devise new, more creative ways to evade the law.” Alcohol consumption soared, speakeasies and nightclubs flourished, and booze was imaginatively smuggled, in planes, schooners and even in the bellies of emptied-out torpedoes.

In this excerpt from Dry Manhattan, Lerner describes the wild club scene of the ’20s and the young magazine that covered all the action.

In February 1925, a new magazine landed on New York City’s newsstands. It was The New Yorker. In its first issue, a columnist writing under the name “Van Bibber III” asked, “Have you observed, of late, how fastidious everyone has become in the matter of liquor? Not only a particular brand, but a definitive vintage and especially shaped bottle are now almost always demanded.” Drinking had become not simply an act of defiance in New York, Van Bibber noted, but a mark of social status. “We sniff and scrutinize with the utmost care,” he added. “What a change from the first year of the Eighteenth Amendment, when cocktails were manufactured out of anything liquid, and whatever had a kick passed muster.”

Brash, sassy and humorous, The New Yorker came onto the scene in the middle years of the Prohibition era as a magazine uniquely in tune with the changing city and its rebellion against the noble experiment. Famously pronounced by its editor Harold Ross as “the magazine which is not edited for the old lady in Dubuque,” The New Yorker was meant to be “a reflection in word and picture of metropolitan life.” As Ross phrased it, The New Yorker would be published expressly for a “metropolitan audience” and speak the language of city life.

While Ross clearly wanted The New Yorker to attract a sophisticated readership, accomplishing this task proved harder than anticipated. The first issue of the magazine was met with stinging criticism by publishing industry insiders, who found it provincial and insular, as if written for an audience so “in the know” that it may as well have numbered in the dozens. The magazine’s small staff struggled to come up with material to fill the publication, and by August 1925, The New Yorker’s circulation had plummeted from an initial 15,000 to a mere 2,700. At that point, publisher Raoul Fleischmann planned to cease publication of the magazine, but spared it after a last-minute change of heart.

Part of The New Yorker’s problem was that it had not yet found its identity or its audience. Ross paradoxically wanted The New Yorker to have the feel of a village newspaper while at the same time reflecting the smart, sophisticated, urban culture of 1920s New York. If the challenge for the new magazine was to find a way to connect with New Yorkers, Ross stumbled onto the answer, or at least part of the answer, as the magazine cemented its reputation as a chronicler of New York City nightlife.

In November 1925, The New Yorker published a piece by the young socialite Ellin Mackay entitled, “Why We Go to Cabarets: A Post-Debutante Explains.” In it Mackay, the 22-year-old daughter of American Post and Telegraph Company president Clarence Mackay, raised eyebrows by explaining why young society women like herself were so enthralled with the city’s
The Police Department estimated the number of illegal drinking establishments in the city to be as high as 35,000.

Under police orders, workmen tip a cask of wine into the New York sewers.

PHOTO: © BETTMANN/CORBIS
Irving Berlin (whom she would involve with the composer Irving Berlin) in New York society circles for her romantic involvement with the composer. Having already earned notoriety in New York society, Bethune shocked society by pronouncing society parties and young society men in particular, unbearably dull, and voicing her preference for the more unpredictable cabaret, where she could dance and talk (and drink) with whomever she pleased.

Ellin Mackay’s piece on cabarets captured exactly the tone The New Yorker had been striving for — iconoclastic, honest, sophisticated and funny. The issue sold out on the newsstands, and Mackay’s article gave the fledgling magazine a badly needed commercial boost. Some staffers credited it with saving the magazine, and as a token of his gratitude Harold Ross gave Mackay a lifetime subscription to the magazine.

More important, Mackay’s piece paved the way for what would become a central part of The New Yorker’s appeal in the mid-1920s: its unflinching coverage of what went on in the city after dark. After Mackay’s success, Ross assigned staff writer Charles Baskerville to “report [on] what you think amusing.” The result was a weekly column entitled “When Nights Are Bold,” which gave New Yorkers a cheeky look into New York’s nightclubs, speakeasies, and cabarets, the people who ran them, and the unpredictable nature of their locations. Whether these gathering places were tucked away in construction sites, hidden in apartment back rooms, disguised behind receptionists’ desks in office buildings, or brazenly situated across from police precinct houses, New Yorkers delighted in discovering the locations of speakeasies as if it were all part of a game. The journalist Stanley Walker recalled an apocryphal case in which a well-to-do young man slowly realized that the speakeasy he had been drinking in for hours one evening was “vaguely familiar.” It slowly dawned on him that the bar in which he found himself was in fact located in his childhood home, and that he was standing in what had once been his nursery.

“The town is night club mad,” Baskerville wrote in one of his 1925 columns, and reporting on the city’s nightclub madness proved to be a task for which The New Yorker was ideally suited. With its weekly quota of pages to fill and its desire to cater to the “metropolitan interest,” The New Yorker was uniquely positioned to capitalize on the city’s nightlife. It quickly became the must-read publication in New York’s “smart” circles, and by the end of the decade sales of The New Yorker grew to constitute 35 percent of all weekly magazines sold at newsstands in neighborhoods like Greenwich Village. The city’s nocturnal amusements on Harold Ross’s dime. A few months later, Baskerville’s duties were transferred to Lois Long, a 22-year-old theater critic and editor hired from Variety. Renamed “Tables for Two” and printed under the byline “Lipstick,” Long’s column gave readers spirited accounts of city life between dusk and dawn and set The New Yorker’s standard for nightclub reporting.

“Night club mad” New Yorkers were fortunate to have a resource like The New Yorker. Without it, navigating the city’s nightlife would have been impossible. Even with it, probably no more than a fraction of the nightclubs, speakeasies, cafes, cabarets, bars, lounges that provided the backdrop for the city’s nightly revelries were covered. Though Baskerville or Long might mention 10-20 establishments a week in their columns, by some estimates there were more than 5,000 illegal speakeasies in Manhattan at the height of the Prohibition era, and another 10,000 at least in Brooklyn. At one point, the Police Department estimated the number of illegal drinking establishments in the city to be as high as 35,000, with 2,200 in the Wall Street area alone. No one knew for certain. Given what Baskerville described as the “mushroom-like” proliferation of speakeasies and nightclubs in the city, even the most skilled observers of New York nightlife had trouble keeping track.

The variety of New York’s Prohibition-era drinking spots was mind-boggling. The most prolific form, however, was the speakeasy. Likely derived from the “speak-softly shops” of 19th-century England, where smuggled, untaxed liquor could be bought cheaply, the term “speakeasy” served in New York as a catch-all phrase for illegal bars ranging from cellar dives peddling 25-cent beers or 50-cent glasses of “smoke,” to fancy townhouses in midtown outfitted with multiple bars, dining areas, game rooms and live entertainment. Speakeasies could easily be hidden in storefronts, office buildings or apartment houses. An early survey of speakeasies published by Variety in 1921 noted that “they nest in empty lofts, former dancing studios, the lower floors of old English basements and high stoop houses, in flats and wherever one can imagine.” Another article noted that they could be “found in every conceivable place, from a cellar to the fashionable blocks of the 50s and 70s.” They could be found high, like the exclusive Cloud Club nestled at the top of the Chrysler Building, or low, like the basement speakeasies that dotted the business district. In fact, part of the appeal speakeasies held for New Yorkers seemed to be the unpredictable nature of their locations. Whether these gathering places were tucked away in construction sites, hidden in apartment back rooms, disguised behind receptionists’ desks in office buildings, or brazenly situated across from police precinct houses, New Yorkers delighted in discovering the locations of speakeasies as if it were all part of a game. The journalist Stanley Walker recalled an apocryphal case in which a well-to-do young man slowly realized that the speakeasy he had been drinking in for hours one evening was “vaguely familiar.” It slowly dawned on him that the bar in which he found himself was in fact located in his childhood home, and that he was standing in what had once been his nursery.

New York’s speakeasies were as remarkable in their mood, tone and décor as they were in their location. Unlike old-fashioned saloons, which had always been comforting in their familiarity, speakeasies were full of surprises. Some evoked the fancy cocktail bars of the previous generation. As if witnessing a mirage, The New Yorker columnist Morris Markey described...
entering one Wall Street speakeasy and being transported back in time by the apparition of “six white-coated fellows ... flinging the shakers up and down lustily to the tune of rattling ice ... while the faintly sweet aroma of gin floated back through the crowd pressed against the rail.” It was, he rejoiced, “the most friendly sight.”

Others went far beyond mere “friendly sights.” The Park Avenue Club, one of the city’s grandest nightclubs, boasted an interior by the famed Viennese designer Joseph Urban and featured an octagonal bar and floor-to-ceiling mirrors. The Country Club featured a miniature golf course. The Marlborough House, described by some as the “crème de la crème” of New York’s speakeasies, sported a pearl entry buzzer, silver leather banquettas, and a hammered brass ceiling in its upstairs cabaret room. Symbolically, their excess catered to New Yorkers’ desire for spectacle as it simultaneously rejected the dry movement’s desire to foster an American culture based on respectability, sobriety and restraint.

At the other extreme were speakeasies that completely lacked charm or any sense of taste. These were barebones affairs devoid of ritual or feeling, and only modestly equipped to dispense liquor until the law caught up with them. Given the high costs of bootleg liquor and “protection,” such places offered none of the generosities — meaning no free lunches and no free drinks — that had been mainstays of working-class saloons. Even these low-end speakeasies charged two to ten times more for drinks than pre-Prohibition saloons had, and the quality of the booze they served was far inferior. Their “gin” was often industrial alcohol mixed with glycerin and oil of juniper, while their “scotch” was made from grain alcohol colored with prune juice, creosote or Moxie. Further, as one European observer noted, the food, if they served food at all, was “almost always poor, and the service deplorable.” Still, even in their ramshackle squalor, they served as a rejection of the dry movement’s ideals just as effectively as did the high-end nightclubs.

Whether high-end or low-end, all speakeasies were vehicles of self-expression for the individuals or groups of patrons who frequented them. The owners supplied the decor, the bartender, and the booze, but the patrons provided the character. The New Yorker’s copy editors, for example, seeking refuge from their tight deadlines, would take over John Peron’s early in the morning to curse their editor, Harold Ross. Their presence, and their drinking schedules, gave the place its personality. Catering to college students, bars like the Pre-Catalan and Matt Winkle’s enjoyed a popularity with visiting Ivy Leaguers that was boosted by favorable mentions in the Yale and Harvard student papers. For artists and writers, there was the aptly named Jack Bleeck’s Artists and Writers, located conveniently next to the offices of the New York Tribune. Other speakeasies catered to lawyers, judges, teachers, songwriters, musicians, politicians, or criminals, each accommodating the drinking habits of its patrons. In short, whether seedy or sophisticated, a speakeasy was available in New York for everyone. Taken together, they represented a wide cross-section of New York and a collective statement that the city refused to abide by the dry agenda.

The variety of experiences to be found after dark in New York increased exponentially as one moved from speakeasies, where the emphasis was primarily on drink, to nightclubs and cabarets, where the emphasis was on a combination of entertainment and drink. Though the difference was subtle, nightclubs and cabarets occupied a different place in the city’s nightlife. Unlike speakeasies, which were illegal in a theoreti-
cally dry nation, and were therefore forced to maintain a level of secrecy in their operations. Nightclubs and cabarets could brazenly claim to be legal entertainment ventures because the revues and musical performances they presented nightly helped legitimize their existence. Still, illegal liquor could be had in them just as easily as in speakeasies, depending on whom you asked and how.

Because they were legal, nightclubs and cabarets tended to be harder to shut down and, thus, lived longer than did speakeasies. This allowed their owners to invest more in entertainment and décor, which produced a dazzling array of venues scattered throughout the city, each offering a unique nightlife experience and a bold statement against Prohibition. As "Lipstick" and "Top Hat" mapped out the terrain of the city's nightclubs and cabarets for The New Yorker, they illuminated a world ranging from bohemian haunts in Greenwich Village to gaudy party palaces in midtown to mixed-race "black and tan" in Harlem to exclusive Fifth Avenue social clubs. Their variety was a critical part of their appeal. By stepping into one of New York's nightclubs, one could suddenly be transported to an ocean liner, a Hungarian village, a pirate's den, an antebellum plantation, an old-fashioned Parisian cafe, an ultra-modern European casino, a bohemian tearoom, or a luxurious country club. Some, like the Mayfair Yacht Club, offered propriety, while the Club Pansy offered female impersonators. The entertainment could range from Fred and Adele Astaire dancing at the Trocadero, to scantily clad dancing girls at the Club Richman, to "filthy" songs at the Nest, to the Drool Inn in Harlem, where, it was said, "the fun was excruciatingly lowdown."

In terms of themes and décor, club names alone indicated that nothing was too over the top or too esoteric for a New York nightclub. There was the Aquarium with its giant fish tank, the Club Alabam, Baghdad-on-the-Roof, the Circus, Frau Greta's, Cowboy, and the Cave of the Fallen Angels. There was the Wing Club on Fifty-second Street, a favorite with airline pilots. Some clubs were living monuments to the celebrity of an owner or entertainer: Jimmy Durante had his Club Durant, Harry Richman had Club Richman, Helen Morgan had Helen Morgan's, and racketeer Larry Fay had in succession El Fey, Del Fey, and Fay's Follies. Raids, renovations and a steady stream of openings and closings kept the mix constantly changing. In spite of their variety, most of New York's nightclubs and cabarets still shared a few common characteristics. Because high-end establishments undoubtedly set the standard for the nightclub trade, nearly all clubs participated in a culture within which lavish displays of wealth, profligate spending, and conspicuous consumption were the norm. The most reliable indicators of this excess were the prices charged by nightclubs, which ranged from high to astronomical. At a time when the average American earned about $100 a month, membership fees at New York City nightclubs ranged from $10 at the Embassy Club to $100 at the more exclusive Regent Club. At Charlot's Rendezvous, the cover charge was $5, while the Lido and Heigh-Ho both charged $15, and the Montmartre $20. A bottle of ginger ale in a nightclub might cost a dollar, and a pitcher of water two dollars. A pint of whiskey cost $10 at many clubs, and at Larry Fay's clubs a quart of champagne ran $20. Patrons, however, hardly batted an eye at these prices, as paying ungodly sums of money to be entertained while drinking bootleg liquor was part of the experience. As Stanley Walker explained it, paying exorbitant sums was to some an aphrodisiac, and to others "a form of exhibitionism." Many professionals simply brushed off the expense of nightclubbing as part of city life, a necessary expense in the course of courting clients and entertaining associates. No one seemed to complain, as it was all part of the "smart" culture of the mid-1920s. After a particularly lavish night spent in Larry Fay's club, one patron explained to Walker, "It was $1,300 for the evening for me and my four or five friends. But I was glad to pay it. It was worth it. I had a hell of a good time."

The level of spending in 1920s nightclubs presented one of the greatest contrasts to the pre-Prohibition drinking culture of the city. Before the Eighteenth Amendment, nickel beers and ten-cent whiskies in saloons had been the norm, and there had been nothing pretentious or extravagant about them. While the elite had cultivated a taste for more elaborate cocktails during the Gilded Age, their tastes had by no means set the standard for the drinking culture of the city. But to New Yorkers of the 1920s, the newest nightclubs, cabarets, and speakeasies defined urban sophistication, and if New Yorkers had to spend large sums of money to be a part of the scene, many were willing to do so.

In spite of the expense, or perhaps because of it, New Yorkers gravitated to the nightclub culture as a way to leave their everyday lives behind and reinvent themselves. The spectacular decor, the entertainment, and the exhilarating experience of breaking the law in a nightclub or cabaret attracted a mixture of people from all levels of society.
nations and races,” de Casseres, for example, in American Mercury, characterized Joel’s an “ultra-democratic, ultra-New York, ultra-cosmopolitan” refuge from the dry experiment. Calling it “the melting pot of all American cultural pluralism,” de Casseres declared Joel’s the embodiment of a new democratic society. In the magazine Smart Set, de Casseres described Joel’s, a favorite mid-town café well known for its defiance of the Volstead Act, as the embodiment of a new American cultural pluralism. Calling it “the melting pot of all nations and races,” de Casseres declared Joel’s an “ultra-democratic, ultra-New York, ultra-cosmopolitan” refuge from the dry experiment. In New York Harbor, Prohibition agents look at a few of the 3,000 bags of liquor found in a coal steamer. PHOTO: © BETTMANN/CORBIS

...ans of Harvard College.

...nality of a sport.” Q


Whether midtown clerks, Fifth Avenue socialites, Irish politicians, street toughs, plumbers, or housewives, patrons were transported by the sense of freedom and possibility brought about by dancing and drinking in an unregulated environment with unfamiliar people.

As a cosmopolitan atmosphere was critical to a nightclub’s success, the primary challenge for nightclub owners was to maintain the appearance of exclusivity while still drawing an interesting mixture of people. Nightclub owners knew very well that absolute exclusivity was boring. Without a daring mix of people in their clubs, their patrons might as well drink at home. From a commercial standpoint as well, total exclusivity was a financial impossibility. There were simply not enough wealthy New Yorkers to keep the city’s thousands of clubs in business. Savvy club owners realized, as columnist Helen Lowry noted in a 1922 profile of clubs in the New York Times, that “Woolworth money is quite as good as Cartier’s.”

The best (and most profitable) nightclubs were the ones that somehow achieved the right mixture of people and spectacle, bringing together the ritziest and grittiest elements of the city in the right proportions. One such place, described in a 1929 Ladies’ Home Journal article as a “typical, smart night club in New York,” collected a dazzling range of New Yorkers under its roof. They included “cool, cruel faces, gray with the night-club pallor. Red, bloated faces, indicative of overstrained hearts. Brown faces of outdoor men and alabaster faces of indoor ones. Faces of women...young faces and old ones, ugly and beautiful, stupid and daring. Keen, sophisticated faces beside blandly innocent ones.” The resulting environment was “a rich and shaded brilliancy, a hard confusion of sounds, an atmosphere tense and expectant.” It was a chaotic mixture that was at once unnerving and electrifying. But it was also successful.

The nightclubs’ most ardent champions, New Yorkers were not merely entertaining themselves but also taking part in something unprecedented in the history of American society. A 1927 article on New York’s nightclubs in the magazine Smart Set claimed that “never before has there been such a meeting ground of the very highest and lowest of human society.” Some went as far as to argue that nightclub culture was easing social barriers in a manner that would ultimately result in a more democratic society. In the American Mercury, for example, journalist Benjamin de Casseres described Joel’s, a favorite midtown café well known for its defiance of the Volstead Act, as the embodiment of a new American cultural pluralism. Calling it “the melting pot of all nations and races,” de Casseres declared Joel’s an “ultra-democratic, ultra-New York, ultra-cosmopolitan” refuge from the dry experiment.

In their exuberance, those who sang the praises of the democratic nature of New York’s nightclub culture may have gone too far. Nightclubs may have brought together a cross-section of the city, but the scene was hardly as democratic as de Casseres and others imagined. The high prices charged in most clubs, for example, ensured that many New Yorkers had only fleeting access to the most cosmopolitan playgrounds of the Prohibition era. And while nightclubs and speakeasies were indeed remarkable for the different types of people they brought together, in reality their social interactions were often fraught with tension. The different classes of New Yorkers who came together in clubs and speakeasies may have shared the same desire to drink and be entertained, but in the end they often shared little else.

After observing the culture of the speakeasies, clubs, and cafes of 1920s Greenwich Village, sociologist Caroline Ware concluded that the interactions between their various groups of patrons produced more contempt than empathy. In Harlem, African-American locals often resented the well-heeled outsiders who saw their patronage of the neighborhood’s speakeasies and clubs as “slumming.” The tension was also present in the interaction between the working-class employees and wealthy patrons of nightclubs. While well-to-do clientele were often thrilled to be in the rough and exciting environment of an Italian speakeasy, waiters, Ware noted, were as likely to curse their presence, muttering insults such as “May you drop dead, signor” in Italian and under their breath.

If New York’s nightclub culture fell short of the new “ultra-democratic” environment that de Casseres envisioned, it nevertheless altered significantly the social character of the city and the sensibilities of its citizens. New Yorkers from various walks of life and social strata may not have completely embraced one another, but they had come in closer contact and been made aware of one another’s presence. In regard to their attitudes toward alcohol, the effects of the exuberant nightclub scene had left no ambiguity. Nightclub culture in the mid-1920s served as a powerful antidote to years of dry propaganda, attaching to drinking a newfound cachet that made highly unlikely the probability that New Yorkers would ever abide by the Prohibitionists’ moral crusade. As one English observer noted, the rebellious culture of the Prohibition era had “raised drunkenness in America from a vice to the dignity of a sport.”
Robert K. Kraft '63 (second from left), chairman and CEO of the Kraft Group and owner of the New England Patriots, received a framed jersey at halftime on Homecoming, October 13, when Columbia's football playing field was renamed in his honor as Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium. Joining him were (from left) his wife, Myra; President Lee C. Bollinger; and Trustees Chair William V. Campbell '62.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
Augustus H. Griffing, retired minister, professor and librarian, Granville, N.Y., on September 16, 2007. Born December 24, 1906, in Orange, N.J., Griffing did graduate studies at the Princeton Theological Seminary and earned a bachelor’s in theological studies. In 1959, he earned a master’s in English from the University of Hawaii. Griffing began his professional life in 1930 as student pastor at the Grand Street Chapel in Rahway, N.J., where he stayed until 1932. From 1935–42, he was pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Amelia, N.Y., and from 1942–46 he was an Army chaplain. In 1947, Griffing and his wife, Maryon Frances Douglass, whom he married in 1935, moved to Harford, N.Y. She died in June 2005. Griffing also was predeceased by his adopted son, Lynn.

S. Richard “Punch” Silbert, attorney, Longboat Key, Fla., on July 26, 2007. Formerly of Great Neck, N.Y., Silbert earned a degree from the Law School in 1935. He also was a builder, artist and sculptor. Silbert was predeceased by his wife of more than 50 years, Amy, and is survived by his children, Michael, Jimmy and Betsy Tanjeloff; daughter-in-law, Liz Horton; son-in-law, Jorge Tanjeloff; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Florida Studio Theater, 1241 North Palm Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236; Circus of Sarasota, 8251 15th St., East B, Sarasota, FL 34243; Temple Beth Israel, 567 Bay Isles Rd., Longboat Key, FL 34228.

William T. Strauss, physician, Damariscotta, Maine, on August 6, 2007. Strauss was born in New York City, graduated from Poly Prep Country Day School in Brooklyn and earned a degree from P&S in 1937. He completed a residency in internal medicine at Meadowbrook Hospital (now Nassau County Medical Center). After two years in private practice, Strauss became assistant medical director for Hoffman-La Roche and subsequently was medical director for other major pharmaceutical companies. While at CIBA Pharmaceuticals, he is credited with coining the term “triquanilizer” for its new A&D drug, Serpaasil. Strauss developed and produced Medical Horizons on ABC, the first nationally broadcast medical program, from 1955–57. In 1964, he joined Albany Medical College as an associate professor of postgraduate medicine. In 1968, Strauss moved to Hampton, N.H., and became editor of medical textbooks for the PSC Group. He is survived by his wife of almost 67 years, the former Sylvia Dickey; twin children, daughter Nona and son W. Theodore (Ted II) and his wife, Janice; and nieces, Diane Fraser, Marilyn Guddat and Janet Cage. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lincoln County Animal Shelter, 27 Atlantic Highway, Edgecomb, ME 04339, or to a charity of the donor’s choice.

Mordecai H. Bauman, singer, New York City, on May 16, 2007. Born on March 2, 1912, Bauman’s leading roles in productions of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and a gold medal in the New York Music Week Competitions convinced him to make music his vocation. Bauman was granted a fellowship to Juilliard during his first year at the College (1930) and was the first student to attend both institutions concurrently, graduating from Juilliard in 1934. Bauman starred in The Varsity Show every year and sang leading roles in Juilliard operas. While an undergraduate, he sang in the Broadway play Within the Gates. Bauman returned to Columbia for starring roles in Morning Side Players productions and narrated the 1941 premiere of the opera Paul Bunyan in New York. Among its cast members was Irma Commandary, whom he later married. In 1953, a fellow Juilliard student introduced Bauman to composer Hanns Eisler. He toured with Eisler and was chosen to record the first group of songs by Charles Ives for Henry Cowell’s New Music Recordings. Bauman introduced many important works of the 20th century, such as songs by Ives, Eisler, Blitzstein and Copland. A WWII Army veteran, he served in the European Theater of Operations and later was hired to head the opera department at the Cleveland Institute of Music. In 1952, Bauman and his wife founded Indian Hill Institute of Music. In 1952, Bauman and his wife founded Indian Hill Arts Workshop, in Stockbridge, Mass., and in 1976 donated the property to Brooklyn College. In 1978, he was invited to a symposium in Berlin in honor of Eisler. While there, Bauman was so moved when he entered Bach’s church that he was inspired to create a documentary about him and collaborated with his son, Marc. The Stations of Bach was the first documentary about a musician funded by the NEH and was televised on PBS in 1990. Two of Bauman’s early recordings were among the 50 selected for inclusion in the National Recording Registry at the Library of Congress, and his archive is in the Tamiment Collection at NYU. Bauman is survived by his wife and son as well as his other son, Joshua; and stepchildren, Charles Israels and Elisabeth Israels Perry.

Graham S. McConnell, retired physician, Spokane Valley, Wash., on September 24, 2007. Born on Valentine’s Day in 1915 in Minneapolis, McConnell was educated in New York public schools. He enrolled in the Law School but switched to pre-med at Washington State College and earned a B.S. McConnell received his M.D. from the University of Oregon Medical School in 1942. He served as battalion surgeon in the 69th Infantry Division from 1942–43 in Europe during WWII and was discharged in 1975 but was a reservist with the Washington National Guard for 32 years, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. After WWII, McConnell worked in numerous towns but returned to Spokane, where he had worked prior, and was elected county coroner in 1986. He served two terms before retiring in 1994. McConnell was a 60-plus-year member of the American Legion and a member of many charitable and service groups. He was preceded in death by two sisters and his first wife, Laura May (Brown), from whom he was divorced. He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Lois Haines Dempsey; her sons, Tom Dempsey and his wife, Kathy, Matt Dempsey and his wife, Barbara, and James Dempsey; her daughter, Kate Pedersen and her husband, Stan; his daughters, Sara Louise Johnson and her husband, Val; Susan Walker and her husband, Bob, and Molly Lessard and her husband, Aaron; son, Jo and his wife, Debbie; brothers, David and his wife, Pat, and John and his wife, Peal; nine grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and five step-great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Spokane, PO Box 2215, Spokane, WA 99210-2215, the Shriners’ Hospital for Children—Spokane Unit, PO Box 2472, Spokane, WA 99210-2472 or to a charity of the donor’s choice.

Henry S. Galbraith, lumberman, Paul, Wise Valley, Ariz., on February 7, 2007. A prominent community leader, Galbraith worked in the family business and was a founding member of All Saints Episcopal Church. He is survived by his wife, Alma; 11 children; 27 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and two sisters. Memorial...
al contributions may be sent to the Heard Museum or All Saints Episcopal Church, 6300 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85012.

1944

Ignatius J. Stein, physician, Sharpsburg, Ga., on July 26, 2007. Stein was a physician and surgeon for more than 60 years. He earned his medical degree from NYU College of Medicine. While in the Air Force, Stein served in several Air Force hospitals, including in Oklahoma, Texas, Bermuda and Japan. He served in the Air Force for 20 years and then lived in the Atlanta area. Stein retired from surgery in the late 1980s and started treating his patients for weight loss; he was one of the first physicians in the Southeast to establish a physician-supervised weight loss program. Stein retired from his first program in 1991. He was retired and raising his three younger children in the Coweta County area. Because he did not know what to do with all of his extra time, he volunteered to cover for a physician who had had a heart attack. When the physician recovered, he offered to sell Stein his rural practice. Stein bought the practice in 1993 and practiced there until he and his son, Sam, moved the practice to Tyrone in 2003 to be closer to his home. Stein is survived by his 11 children and 16 grandchildren.

1958

Theodore S. Lynn, attorney, New York City, on October 17, 2007. Lynn earned a degree from Harvard Law School and at the time of his death was a partner in Stroock & Stroock & Lavan. He was a member of Central Synagogue and The Jewish Center of Atlantic Beach as well as a trustee of the Jewish Home & Hospital, where he was on the Bronx Division and Lifecare Community Services Boards as well as the finance and compliance committees. Lynn is survived by his wife, Linda; children, Jessica, and her husband, Tucker Lee, and Douglas, and his wife, Jamie; two granddaughters; and mother, Sydelle. Memorial contributions may be made to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, 383 Main Ave., 5th Fl., Norwalk, CT 06851. [See the 1958 Class Notes for more on Lynn.]

Louis C. Stamberg, USAID official, volunteers Washington, D.C., on October 9, 2007. Stamberg was born in Allentown, Pa., and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the College. He earned a law degree from Harvard in 1961. Stamberg worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development for 34 years as a program officer for the India, Thailand, Afghanistan, Gabon, Chad, Central African Republic and Congo-Brazzaville desks. In the mid-1960s, he spent more than two years at the USAID mission in New Delhi. After retiring from government work in 1995, Stamberg volunteered extensively: He read newspapers for the blind at the Washington Ear, served on the community council of public radio station WAMU (88.5 FM), worked the Ward 3 polls every Election Day and served on the board of directors of Pact, an international nongovernmental organization of which he was briefly chairman of the board. Stamberg’s traveled to a broad range of developing countries in Asia and Africa, and recently traveled to the South of France. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Susan; and son, Joshua.

1960

Martin G. Groder, psychiatrist, Chapel Hill, N.C., on October 12, 2007. Born on November 15, 1939, Groder graduated from Forest Hills H.S. and P&F in 1959. During his psychiatric residency, he was mentored by Dr. Eric Berne, in whose San Francisco Social Psychiatry Seminar — at which time the theoretical structure of Transactional Analysis was developed — he thrived. In 1968, Groder became the psychiatrist at the United States Penitentiary at Marion, Ill., where he founded the Asklepieion. As warden of the Federal Center for Correctional Research at Butner, N.C., he developed the psychiatric program and the four research units. Groder resigned in 1973 and entered private practice in Chapel Hill, N.C. He lectured and wrote articles on transactional analysis, business, self-improvement and health for Boardroom, Bottom Line/Person and other publications and international organizations. He wrote Business Games with John Von Hartz (1980) and, with Pat Webster Ph.D., Second Chances: A Love Guide for Alpha Males (in publication). Groder is survived by his wife, Leslie Ann Myers; children, Andrew Mia Groder-Sternfeld, 58, Eric Strausz and Marc; stepsons, Peter and Paul Glasspoole; three grandchildren; and one step-granddaughter. [See the 1960 Class Notes for more on Groder.]

1964

Abbot H. Rudolph, retired human resources executive, New York City, on October 15, 2007. Born in Cleveland on June 27, 1922, Rudolph attended John Adams H.S. before moving to New York in 1960. At Columbia, he received the Van Am Prize Medal and the Herpers Memorial Prize Room. Rudolph was president of the Citizenship Council during his senior year. After receiving his M.B.A. from the Business School in 1965, he served as an officer in the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve, attaining the rank of lieutenant commander. Upon completion of active duty military service, Rudolph held positions at McKinsey & FMC Corp., Chicago, before beginning a 30-year human resources career in the cosmetics industry. He was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease in 2001 and retired from Estée Lauder, most recently as v.p., global management resources. Before joining Estée Lauder, he was v.p., personnel, at Revlon. Rudolph is survived by his partner, Stephen Fleming; daughter, Danielle Rudolph ?'91 Barnard and her husband, Richard Cohen; son, David, and his wife, Chitomi; one grand¬son; and brother, Stephen, and his wife, Alice. Memorial contributions may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson’s Research, PO Box 4777, New York, NY 10163; www.michaeljfox.org.

Abbot H. Rudolph ’64

Martin G. Groder 60

Martin G. Groder, psychiatrist, Chapel Hill, N.C., on October 12, 2007. Born on November 15, 1939, Groder graduated from Forest Hills H.S. and P&F in 1959. During his psychiatric residency, he was mentored by Dr. Eric Berne, in whose San Francisco Social Psychiatry Seminar — at which time the theoretical structure of Transactional Analysis was developed — he thrived. In 1968, Groder became the psychiatrist at the United States Penitentiary at Marion, Ill., where he founded the Asklepieion. As warden of the Federal Center for Correctional Research at Butner, N.C., he developed the psychiatric program and the four research units. Groder resigned in 1973 and entered private practice in Chapel Hill, N.C. He lectured and wrote
OBITUARIES

1971

Roy A. Rosenzweig '71

Roy A. Rosenzweig, professor, historian, and digital technology and new media pioneer, Arlington, Va., on October 11, 2007. Rosenzweig was born on August 6, 1950, in New York and was raised in Bayside, Queens. After graduating magna cum laude from the College, he received a fellowship to study history at St. John's College at Cambridge and earned his Ph.D. in history in 1978 from Harvard. After teaching at Wesleyan and Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Rosenzweig joined George Mason University in 1981, where he was the Mark and Barbara Fried Professor of History and New Media and director of the Center for History and New Media at the time of his death, having founded CHNM in 1994. He was involved in a number of digital history projects, including Web sites on U.S. history, historical thinking, the French Revolution, the history of science and technology, world history and 9-11. Among Rosenzweig's many honors and awards were in 1999 receiving the Outstanding Faculty Award, Virginia's highest college faculty honor; in 2003, the second Richard W. Lyman Award for his work with CHNM, particularly the "History Matters" project and the September 11 Digital Archive; in 2005, the James Harvey Prize of the American Historical Association for "History Matters"; and in 2007, the Distinguished Service Award from the Organization of American Historians. Rosenzweig received a Guggenheim Fellowship, an NEH Fellowship, lectured as a Fulbright professor, authored and co-authored numerous books and was v.p. for research of the American Historical Association (2004-06). Survivors include his mother, Mac; his wife of 26 years, Deborah Kaplan; and his sister, Robin Schkrutz. Memorial contributions may be made to the George Mason University Foundation, 4400 University Drive, MS 1A3, Fairfax, VA 22030.

1978

Keith E. Law, information technology expert, Hartsdale, N.Y., on November 22, 2003. Law was born on March 13, 1956, in Los Angeles. He graduated from the American School in Paris, received his B.A. from Columbia and pursued graduate studies at UC Berkeley's School of Journalism. Law was a writer and stand-up comic in California in his early career and later pursued an IT career. He was published in technical journals and was a presenter at industry conferences. Law became the director of IT for the Stanford region of ADP Benefits Services. He is survived by his wife, Toby; daughters, Melissa and Erica; brother, Arthur; and sister, Rosalind Liebenthal.

1968

Paul S. Wolfish, physician, Calabasas, Calif., on September 20, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Toby; daughters, Melissa and Erica; brother, Arthur; and sister, Rosalind Liebenthal.

1971

Rick Johnson, finance professional, New York City, on November 3, 2007. Johnson grew up in Oberlin, Ohio, and earned a joint law degree and M.B.A. from Harvard. He had experience in law, investment banking, private equity investing, and financial and management consulting. From 2004 until his death, Johnson was founding partner at FORS Capital Partners, one of the first private equity funds targeting the U.S. Hispanic market. Earlier positions included financial consultancies, managing partner at Phoenix Venture Partners, general partner at Kelso & Co., v.p. of Chase Merchant Bank, v.p. of Salomon Brothers, and starting his career as an associate at Sullivan and Cromwell. Among Johnson’s interests were classical music, jazz, theater, the arts, fine food and wine, travel, boxing, basketball dancing and skiing. He was active in alumni affairs, especially the Black Alumni Council, and was a mentor to many alumni and friends. Johnson established a scholarship fund at Columbia to honor his father, Lee. It has been renamed the Rick and Lee Johnson Memorial Scholarship; contact the Alumni Office to make a contribution. Among Johnson’s survivors are his wife, Weiwei DU; brother, Ted ’81; and nephew, Wesley.

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today has learned of the deaths of the following alumni (full obituaries will be published if information becomes available):


1934 Kenneth W. Cooper, Riverside, Calif., on August 8, 2007. Cooper earned a Ph.D. in biological sciences in 1939 from GSAS.

1935 Martin E. Manulis, stage, television and film producer, Los Angeles, on September 28, 2007.

1937 William B. Tarpley Jr., Coatesville, Pa., on October 27, 2007. Tarpley earned a master’s and a Ph.D. in chemistry from GSAS, in 1948 and 1951, respectively.

1939 Everett K. Deane, Port Jefferson Station, N.Y., on November 24, 2005.


1944 Ralph Lane Jr., professor emeritus, Burlingame, Calif., on October 9, 2007. Lane earned an M.A. in sociology in 1947 from GSAS.

1935 Martin E. Manulis, stage, television and film producer, Los Angeles, on September 28, 2007.


1944 Ralph Lane Jr., professor emeritus, Burlingame, Calif., on October 9, 2007. Lane earned an M.A. in sociology in 1947 from GSAS.


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1944 Ralph Lane Jr., professor emeritus, Burlingame, Calif., on October 9, 2007. Lane earned an M.A. in sociology in 1947 from GSAS.

Thomas B. Upchurch III, retired chemical engineer, Yarow Point, Wash., on September 9, 2007. Upchurch entered with the Class of 1944 but earned a B.S. in 1943 from the Engineering School.

1945 Alfred Tanz, ob/gyn, New York City, on November 14, 2007.


1968 Paul S. Wolfish, physician, Calabasas, Calif., on September 20, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Toby; daughters, Melissa and Erica; brother, Arthur; and sister, Rosalind Liebenthal.

ISScapades: The Crippling of America’s Space Program by Donald A. Beattie ’51. This insider’s history of the International Space Station describes the program’s struggle to survive in an environment of political and managerial conflicts (Apogee Books, $23.95).

Spiced: Recipes from Le Pré Verre by Philippe Delacourcelle, translated and with a preface by Adele King and Bruce King ’54. The French chef is famous for his dishes’ freshness, originality and ease of preparation. More than 100 of his recipes are adapted in this translation for American measurements and markets (University of Nebraska Press, $29.95).

Hudson Valley Voyage: Through the Seasons, Through the Years photographs by Ted Spiegel ’54, text by Reed Sparling. Rich color photographs of the region accompany first-person accounts and historical documents (Involvement Media, $36.95).

What, Exactly, Is the Answer? An Educator Examines the World of Fact and the World of Faith by Donald R. Thomas ’54. The author examines these two approaches to life: living based on science and facts or theology and faith. He argues that this is ultimately not an “either/or” question, but rather one of “both/and” (Vantage Press, $8.95).

Broken Justice by Kenneth C. Edelin ’61. The author’s true story of being indicted for manslaughter by a secret Grand Jury; the victim was the aborted fetus of a 17-year-old on whom he performed the abortion. Edelin describes the conflicts he endured during this mid-1970s trial as a young black man against a zealous pro-life prosecutor and an all-white, male, predominantly Catholic jury (Pond-View Press, $17.95).

The Way Into Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World) by Elliot N. Dorff ’85. A comprehensive introduction to the Jewish beliefs and laws that are the basis of the Jewish commitment to improve the world (Jewish Lights Publishing, $24.99).

Travels in the Scriptorium by Paul Auster ’69. In this novel, an old man awakens to find himself locked in a room being recorded by a camera and with no memory of who he is or how he got there (Henry Holt & Co., $22).


Good News, Bad News: Evangelization, Conversion, and the Crisis of Faith by Fr. C. John McCloskey III ’75 and Russell Shaw. The authors, well-known Catholic evangelists, use first-hand accounts of conversions, personal testimony and theology to encourage evangelization (Ignatius Press, $12.95).

Forgetting Lot’s Wife: On Destructive Spectatorship by Martin Harries ’87. The author examines the modern fear that the sight of a historical catastrophe might destroy the viewer, as it did in the Biblical story of Lot’s wife (Fordham University Press, $24).

The Messy Self edited by Jennifer Rosner ’88. An anthology of essays and poems by writers such as Diane Ackerman, Arthur Danto and Wendy Wasserstein, designed to challenge the idea of the self as a coherent, harmonious entity (Paradigm, $21.95).

Snowbound photographs by Lisa M. Robinson ’90 and text by Mark Strand, professor of English and comparative literature. For five winters, the artist captured images of landscape and everyday objects covered in snow. She uses the many states of water — ice, snow, fog, liquid — as metaphors for life and transience (Kehrer Verlag, $60).

Songs of Innocence by Richard Alan ’91. In this crime novel — written by Charles Ardai ’91 under a pseudonym — investigator John Blake probes the apparent suicide of a beautiful student with the sight of a historical catastrophe might destroy the viewer, as it did in the Biblical story of Lot’s wife (Fordham University Press, $24).

Political Indoctrination in the U.S. Army from World War II to the Vietnam War by Christopher S. DeRosa ’91. The author explores the program of U.S. soldiers’ formal political indoctrination (to generate patriotism and contempt for the enemy), how its techniques evolved through time and how this mode of training interacts with American political culture and individualist thinking (University of Nebraska Press, $49.95).

Framing Iberia: Maqamat and Frametale Narratives in Medieval Spain by David A. Wacks ’91. The author looks closely at medieval Iberian culture, with particular attention to classic Castilian “frametales” such as El Conde Lucanor and El Libro de buen amor (Brill Academic Publishers, $134).


Hotel: An American History by A.K. Sandoval-Strausz ’94. The author recounts the exciting development of the hotel in America — a place where all people, from politicians and celebrities to tourists to prostitutes, rubbed elbows (Yale University Press, $37.50).

The Hip Hop Reader by Tim Strode and Tim Wood ’96. An anthology of essays directed toward composition students about the origins, composition, politics of identity, and racial and gender issues of hip-hop and rap music (Longman, $20).
Jerome Charyn ’59 Looks Back to the Days of King’s College

By Maryam Parhizkar ’09

In a sense, Jerome Charyn ’59 has been writing his most recent historical novel since he was 9, growing up on the streets of the South Bronx, "where you couldn’t even get The New York Times," he says, and where George Washington "not only represented the country but also a kind of education, a kind of possibility that the Bronx just didn’t have. All we had was Yankee Stadium and the Bronx Zoo."

Because there was little else, he says, "I always saw Washington as a kind of father and I always wanted to write about him," even though, at that age, writing a novel was not yet feasible.

Now a long-established and much-praised writer, Charyn has found the opportunity to write about Washington. His newest work, Johnny One-Eye (W.W. Norton, $25.95), is a picaresque novel based on the events of the Revolutionary War as they unfolded in 18th-century Manhattan. The story is told through the one eye of John Stocking, a 17-year-old, brothel-raised double-agent whom Washington spares from the gallows. Soon afterward, the reader is following Stocking through a comic adventure in which he tries to help the Revolutionary Army keep hold of its territory while the British attempt to wrench it away.

Publishers Weekly, in an early review, called the book "remarkable," claiming that it "deserves to be spoken of in the same breath as E.L. Doctorow’s Ragtime."

As a historical novel, Johnny One-Eye is in no way short of a colorful cast of characters. Washington’s character is especially surprising, as Charyn humanizes one of American history’s legendary figures. Charyn also portrays British general William "Sir Billy" Howe, a wonderfully scheming Alexander Hamilton [Class of 1778] and, especially important, Benedict Arnold ("the one hero I’ve ever had," Stocking states).

Charyn’s attention to detail in the novel benefits from extensive research. For example, Stocking is a former King’s College (which became Columbia College) student, which in the novel’s context has suspended instruction. "I read many history books about New York during the 18th century, so I knew exactly where the College was placed," says Charyn about the arduous research process, which involved researching the entire Revolutionary War. "There was an area near it, bordered on a street called Robinson Street, where ‘Holy Ground’ was, which was a street of whorehouses. That was all very well researched."

At the College, Charyn studied history and comparative literature with a focus in Russian literature. "I lived at home, so I really didn’t have much of a life at the school ... I was very much like a hermit, just reading books," he says. Charyn recalls some of his most admired professors, however, listing among them history professor James P. Shenton ’49. "Each class that he taught was almost like a kind of play because he would act out various historical characters. And an English professor, Andrew Chippe ’33, used to speak in a kind of poetry. He was like a poem that could walk and dance. It was amazing just to have these teachers; they were extraordinary, and I began to admire them."

At 25, after publishing his first short story, Charyn attracted attention from literary agents, which led to offers from various publishers. "It was exactly at the time, the first time, that universities were opening up to writers of fiction."

Charyn taught at Stanford from 1965-68, after which he held several professorships and lectureships in writing and comparative literature at universities including CUNY, Rice, NYU, the University of Texas and Princeton. Charyn also has received recognition for his writing, as a finalist for the Faulkner/PEN award, recipient of the Rosenthal Award from the Academy of Arts and Letters and Officier des Arts et des Lettres by the French Minister of Culture.

Charyn now is distinguished professor of film studies at the American University of Paris and travels between New York and Paris. His current project is a book on Charlemagne, which he calls his "9-11" novel. "I feel that after 9-11, the language of most American writers changed," he says. "A kind of hysteria enters the language, a kind of sadness."

As he reflects on his career in fiction, Charyn harkens back once more to his Columbia education, which contributed largely to his development as a writer. "Without that sort of swimming in the language," he comments, "I don’t think I would have had the courage to write."

Maryam Parhizkar ’09 is majoring in English and is a former editorial assistant for CCT.

One Day the Soldiers Came: Voices of Children in War by Charles London ’02. The author, once a research associate for Refugees International, traveled the world to gather the stories of children who have lived through war (HarperPerennial, $13.95).

Unnatural Wonders: Essays from the Gap Between Art and Life by Arthur C. Danto, Johnsonian Professor Emeritus of Philosophy. The author reflects upon the conceptual evolution of art and argues that the definitive works of our time are those that bridge the gap between art and life (Columbia University Press, $22.50).


Democracy Past and Future by Pierre Rosanvallon, edited by Samuel Moyn, professor of history. The first English-language collection of this leading European political thinker’s essays on the history, development, contemporary difficulties and future prospects of democratic life (Cambridge University Press, $24.50).

Democracy and Legal Change by Melissa Schwartzberg, associate professor of political science. In this volume, the author argues that the ability to change existing laws is a fundamental democratic activity (Cambridge University Press, $80).
Class Notes

Columbia College Today 475 Riverside Dr., Ste 917 New York, NY 10115 cc@columbia.edu

Arnold Beichman ’34 writes: “I’m still columnning for the Washington (D.C.) Times. We live in a 30-acre paradise in British Columbia where my wife, Carol, runs a commercial apple orchard and a cherry orchard. In winter — brrrrrr — we flee to Pasadena, where my elder son, Charles, an astrophysicist, runs a lab at Cal Tech. I am writing this from Pasadena, where there is a Chinese supermarket that sells pig snout and fish I’ve never seen or heard about.”

No other news to report. Please let us know what’s new with you!

Seth Neugroschl 1349 Lexington Ave. New York, NY 10028 sn23@columbia.edu

No news this time. Please send in an update, and let us know what’s new with you!

Stanley H. Gottlieff 245 Lake at Litchfield Dr. Pawleys Island, SC 29585 cct@columbia.edu

My thanks to Arthur Weinstock for ghost-writing the last two Class Notes entries while I was recuperating from my illness. I am now essentially recovered, although needing a cane for steady walking.

Two classmates died in September; Bob Witten and George Lutjen. Bob, who ran his own manufacturing company, had been a naval officer during WWII. A memorial for him was held in his home on September 23, attended by Len Shayne and Ray Robinson and their wives. Also present were Phil Hobel ’42, his wife and a number of Bob’s friends and neighbors from Fire Island, where he had a summer home. He left a wife, stepson, three children and four grandchildren.

George, who was a graduate engineer, resided in Southbury, Conn. [An obituary will be published in the March/April issue.]

Our deepest sympathies are extended to their families.

Melvin Hershkowitz 3 Regency Plaza, Apt. 1001-E Providence, RI 02903 DRML23@cox.net

Your correspondent and his wife, Leslie, were in an automobile accident on August 24 here in Providence. Leslie sustained serious injuries, requiring a 10-day hospital stay and a month in a rehab nursing facility. She returned home on October 2 and is improving slowly.

I have been involved in her ongoing care, and thus was unable to attend our Homecoming reunion on October 13. This was the first Homecoming I have missed in many years. Bob Kaufman and Gerry Klingon gave me their reports on the proceedings, for which they have my thanks.

Our loyal attendees included Lois and Anthony Ventriglia; Judy and Gerry Klingon; Sue and Bob Kaufman and their dynamo granddaughter, Maddie Kate; and classmate Phil Hobel with our mutual friends, Ray Robinson ’41 and Arthur Weinstock ’41. I hope to be able to continue our Class Notes during the coming year, depending upon my responsibilities in helping care for my wife, who at the time of this writing was not yet fully recovered.

Unfortunately, the Homecoming football game was another bad loss for our valiant Lions, who succumbed to Penn 59-28. We will continue to have 13 members of the current class, which is filled with freshmen and sophomores, and we can therefore hope for improvement next year. Sources tell me that our players like and respect coach Norris Wilson.

On September 26, Leo Reuther III sent me an interesting letter from his home in Flat Rock, N.C. Leo was a fighter pilot in WWII and was honored with 630 other members of “the greatest generation” in his community through a program called Honorair. These veterans were flown free of charge from Asheville, N.C., for a visit to the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C., as well as visits to the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery. Leo included a reminiscence about his aviation career, which began in 1943 in Atlantic City. Syracuse and Corisca, Texas, where his aircraft fell into an unrecoverable spin and he was forced to bail out at 500 feet. His only injuries were facial cuts, and he advanced further in training in Independence, Kan., and Moore Field in Texas, from which he graduated in March 1944 for further training in P-47 Thunderbolts.

Leo had a night training flight with a combat veteran instructor, who took Leo up the Hudson River at less than 1,000 feet, flying under the George Washington Bridge (!!!) and over his parents’ apartment on the East Side of Manhattan, continuing on to Atlantic City for a flight at 500 feet over the boardwalk. In June 1944, Leo was ready for overseas combat duty. His wife, Galen, recently wrote three books on the history of Flat Rock, Hendersonville and the Carl Sandburg Home, called Connemara. Leo sends his kind regards to all classmates.

Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development Derek Wittner ’65 sent me information on this year’s recipient of the Charles F. Hoelzer Jr. Memorial Scholarship, which was established in 1978 by this correspondent and Charles’ widow, the late Dorothy Hoelzer Fields, as a permanent tribute to Charles F. “Chic” Hoelzer after his tragic and untimely death in that year. Chic was a decorated Marine Corps officer in WWII, after which he graduated from Cornell Law School and had a successful career as an attorney in Washington, D.C.

This year’s scholarship recipient, Rebecca Salley ’10, is studying French and is an active ballet dancer and is a Dean’s List honors student with a GPA of 3.9 while also performing as a leading member of the Columbia University Equestrian Team.

I am especially delighted to report that Dean Wittner also notified me that the newly established Herbert Mark Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to its initial recipient, Rebecca Tropp ’10. Rebecca is majoring in history and theory of architecture, studying French and is an active ballet dancer and modern dance performer.

Our distinguished classmate, Dr. Herbert Mark, was sports editor of Spectator, and after medical school and service as an Army medical officer in occupied Japan had a long career as a prominent internist, cardiologist and public health advocate as a regional V.P. of the American Heart Association.

Our lifelong friendship with Herb began when I met him in front of Hamilton Hall in 1938 and roomed with him in Livingston Hall in 1939; it ended 68 years later with his death in January 2006.

Herb’s widow, Avra ’45 Barnard, and sons, Peter, Thomas and Jeremy, worked tirelessly with me and with Susan Birnbaum, executive director of the Columbia College Fund in our Alumni Office, to raise the necessary funds for Herb’s memorial scholarship. I thank them, and all friends and classmates, who contributed to this successful effort to establish a permanent memorial to Herb at Columbia.

On October 22, I said good-bye to Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs Christina Liu, who has become engaged to be married and has left our Alumni Office to start a new career in the financial world at Merrill Lynch. Christina was invaluable to me in helping create our unique Class of 1942 newsletter in recent years. She edited the written content, did excellent work on layout of photographs and made timely contacts with the printer and mailing services so that classmates received their issues without undue delay.

We will miss Christina’s cheerful presence and many talents, and we wish her much happiness and fulfillment in the years ahead.

I welcome news from you. Call, write or send email. Kind regards to all.

CITICORP SMITH BANKEY

Connie Maniatty Citicorp Smith Barney 787 Seventh Ave., 36th Fl. New York, NY 10019 connie.s.maniatty@citi.com

William Urich ’43E writes: “I would like to report to you my part in designing and constructing the world’s largest and most powerful dual frequency instrumentation radar. It is located in the Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands, in the western test range. It is now used for military and civilian tracking of airborne objects and satellites and scientific studies of meteor...
"My purpose in making this contact is both my advanced age and onset of Alzheimer's, making whatever knowledge I possess only available for a few more years. If you have any interest in this matter, you can contact me at wurich80@aol.com (note it is not spelled the same as my name), at 1010 American Eagle Blvd., Apt. 213, Sun City Center, FL 33573 or 813-634-7564.

"Here are some photos showing the actual equipment: www.pbase.com/hrhl5/glassworks/somewhere/image/62738708."

No other news to report. Please let us know what's new with you!

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**Class Notes**

**Henry Rolf Hecht**
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We mourn the loss July of Ignatius (Bud) Stein (see Obituaries), whose vibrant joy of life and interest in history and his native Georgia physician was so evident in last May/June's Class Notes. Our condolences to his large family, including 11 children and (as of last count) 16 grandchildren.

Dr. Bob McInemey '46 P&S is "happy married to a Pittsfield nurse, Marion" with his wife, Gloria Monahan. '44 Barnard, whom he met at a freshman mixer. He practiced internal medicine in Pittsfield until 1995. Bob's in "reasonable health." On the sad side, friend and classmate (College and P&S) Clem Curd, who married Bob's sister, Patricia, and practiced surgery in Pittsfield, is now afflicted with Parkinson's.

Bob feels he can now reveal his long-secret role in defeating the Axis (I first accepting an investigation by the FBI, I was hired as a night man in a secret lab on the second floor of Havemeyer in October 1942. The lab had a latticed metal door that was kept locked at all times. Inside the lab were four 20-foot lab benches, each with a cylinder of hydrogen at the end. The hydrogen was piped through a series of reactions, which included bubbling the gas through a water bath [after which it] exited through a common window tube. The function of the lab was not discussed. My job two nights a week was to keep the reactions running from midnight to 8 a.m., checking the benches every 15 minutes. In between, I could read or study.

One day (another night man in a secret lab on the whatever knowledge I possess) came to NYU — and still a friend) came by — luckily when Bob was not on duty — and managed to engage the lab workers in conver-sation through the barred steel door. "When John suggested that they were making heavy hydrogen, they became upset but he escaped before they could unlock the door. This incident heightened my conviction that my humble job was vital to the war effort."

Bob continues: "It was not a bad job. The sound of the hydrogen bubbling away was peaceful, a good atmosphere for study. Then, one night in December, the bubbling stopped. The saturated hydrogen had formed an ice plug in the exhaust pipe. I knocked off the plug and was rewarded by the soothing sound of the resumed bubbling. It was a cold night and I had to knock the plug out every 15 minutes or so.

Then I remembered that in my Chemistry 3-4 class, Professor Carpenter had demonstrated the explosive power of hydrogen when mixed with air. But he also showed that pure hydrogen exiting a tube could be lit and would burn steadily like a Bunsen burner.

"After I had knocked out four plugs only to see them reform quickly, it seemed reasonable to repeat Dr. Carpenter's demonstration. Success! A steady flame and no interruptions of the bubbling. I had demonstrated my ability to keep the lab running during a frigid Morningside night."

But when the regular staff arrived at 8 a.m. and learned of Bob's ingenious effort, there were no medals or commendations. "I was summarily fired." Oh, well. Many a hero stays unappreciated for 65 years.

**Clarence W. Sickle**
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Dr. Albert J. Rothman wrote about Engineering graduates not teaching themselves as part of Columbia College. Albert graduated in 1944 with a degree in chemical engineering but thought more engineering. "The latter were fine to learning about engineering, and the former exciting."

Albert said lasting friendships were made at the College, but there were no medals or commendations. "I was summarily fired." Oh, well. Many a hero stays unappreciated for 65 years.
next time are Anthony J. Borgese of Niskayuna, N.Y.; Jack Greenberg of New York City; Walter A. Long of East Berne, N.Y.; and Robert A. Shimm of Bronx, N.Y. May I hear from you about these distinguished honorees?

I caught the tail end of an NPR broadcast in which Dr. Albert Starr appeared with host Leonard Lopate. What I did hear was intriguing and groundbreaking. Dr. Albert Starr received a visit from a 65-year-old electrical engineer in rumpled clothes who wanted help building an artificial heart. It was a pipe dream, but Starr took Lowell Edwards seriously. Less than two years later, the unlikely collaborators produced an artificial heart valve that allowed Starr’s surgical team to perform the world’s first successful valve replacement.

“Starr is one of four owners of this year’s Lasker Awards, widely considered the nation’s most prestigious medical prize. Since the inception of the awards in 1946, 72 recipients have gone on to receive the Nobel Prize.”

Al emphasized the necessity of being decisive and bold. “In surgery, either you operate or not: There’s no horsing around,” he said.

From the College, Al went to P&S and then served as a combat battalion surgeon in Korea. After stints at Bellevue and Presbyterian hospitals, he joined the University of Oregon Medical School, where he launched Oregon’s first open heart surgery program in 1957.

The first successful valve replacement, mentioned above, was on a person who survived for 10 years after the implantation and died after falling from a ladder. Currently, approximately 300,000 people worldwide receive new valves annually.

Congratulations, Al.

Richard Lincoln had a highly successful exhibition of his paintings at Atlantic Gallery in Manhattan. This is a second career for Richard now that he has retired. Although he was a “Sunday painter” during his busy professional life.

Hamilton Hall’s 100th year celebration, reported in CCT (September/October), prompted a note from Lawrence Jukofsky, living on Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Larry recalls his memorable teachers: Jacques Barzin ’27, Knobbe, Von Nardor, Edman, William Casey, Dawson, Hickey. “At the time we did not know the caliber of teachers we had,” he notes. Some of the schoolmates he remembers are Tan, Kittle, Cohen, Wald, Zentner, Wedeen, Foa, Fusco, Goldberg, Mathes, Apel and Gehrk. He concludes that he is bewildered trying to recall Professor William Casey’s teachings.

Larry, it was his own special brand of sociology, which the campus dubbed Caseology. If you remember his famous lecture on the Stoker in the King’s Navy? As a V-12er marching every Saturday, Larry recalls being the shortest and having to race back and forth for each about-face since he was the only one in the last line. Larry is a retired ophthalmologist and enjoys golf, fishing and spending time with his three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Baruch Jacobson touched base from Kennnewick, Wash. Although he no longer has his 36-piece orchestra, he recently completed a statistical study of eye cataract patients in retired radiation workers. Like many of his classmates, Barry volunteers his time — he works with children who have reading problems. His also is the proud grandfather of six, one born in 2006 and one married in 2006.

Paul Barentzen had a successful and satisfying career as a psychiatrist, devoting his work to children. He observes that good psychiatrists produce an artificial heart.

Dr. Morton Wagman ’48 is devoted full-time (“seven days a week”) to research and writing in the areas of artificial intelligence and cognitive psychology.

research was limited then, due to the absence of today’s technology, insufficient genetic studies and the attempt to apply unquestionably relevant/adapted psychology theory to disorders. When he became director of the children’s unit of Longview State Hospital in Cincinnati, he immediately discontinued the use of lobotomy. The Columbia tradition carries on with his son, Paul (one of four children), who is a professor at the Law School. Fritz Stern, University Professor emeritus, was awarded the American Philosophical Society’s Jacques Barzin Prize in Cultural History on November 9 for his most recent book, Five Germans I Have Known. He also received the annual prize for reconciliation and tolerance from The Jewish Museum in Berlin on November 17; co-recipiant was ex-chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Hannah, he continues to climb up on the roof of their Washington, Pa., home for such chores as fixing the flashing around the chimney. He uses a tractor mower on three acres of lawn, including a stretch his neighbors know as Suicide Hill. And he continues to use a chainsaw, with deadly effect, on a wooded area he wants to turn into a park. Charlie brags about cutting down, despite his 84 years. To the consternation of his wife, finish in the 80–84 division in the 400 meters. He passed up an invitation to run in Utah in October because the meet conflicted with his 65th high school reunion in Leominster, Mass.

Charlie also reviews books at the local library. A recent one was Flags of Our Fathers — James Bradley’s epic about the Iwo Jima flag raisers. Charlie, who was a quartermaster/navigator aboard a landing craft infantry — “we went through seven typhoons” — has his own Iwo Jima stories.

Among the most colorful: the time he went ashore on Iwo to get a troublesome appendix taken care of. He found a couple of Navy doctors not only willing to do the operation but anxious to time themselves to see how fast they could do it. Charlie says they took his appendix out and sewed him up in 14 minutes. They left him a seven-inch scar as evidence.

John Steeves wound up in Savannah, Ga., where he wanted to be in 1980 as v.p. for administration at Ted Bates Advertising in Manhattan. He has since played a lot of bridge and indulged in various retirement activities, the culmination of which came in 2003 when he became founding president of the Savannah Concert Association. Four years later, with John still at the helm, the association is in the midst of an eight-concert season, fulfilling its goal of presenting top-quality performances of classical masterworks. We note that John listed band as one of his activities at Columbia.

Dr. Morton Wagman, who taught graduate and undergradu- ate courses in cognitive psychology and supervised doctoral theses at the University of Michigan and the University of Illinois, is now devoted full-time (“seven days a week”) to research and writing in the areas of artificial intelligence and cognitive psychology. He has authored and published 17 books, among them Scientific Discovery and Scientific Discovery Processes in Humans and Computers: Theory and Research in Psychology and Artificial Intelligence, and is working on another 10. Morton lives in Urbana, Ill.

Did his undergraduate work at Columbia College play a role in his career? Absolutely, says Morton. He had a strong major in mathematics and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with special distinction in mathematics. Math, he explains, is the basis for cognitive psychology and artificial intelligence. He feels especially indebted to Columbia’s Professor Osgood.

Dr. Salvatore Stivala has been living a life of retirement in Englewood Cliffs, N.J., since 1993. That’s when he stepped down as profes-
In the chill of a January, let me hear back to Homecoming on a warm October Saturday. Fred Berman, Al Koska, Bob Rosencreans, Bill Lubic, Mary Lipman and yours truly gathered at our 49 table and shared experiences of the past year. It is always a vitalizing experience, and the years seem not to have shaved off any of the enthusiasm and interests that emerge in these gatherings. A voice not heard from in quite some time made a welcome "sound" in my e-mail inbox only a few days before writing these notes. The former scribe of this very column shares his more recent "doings." Yet again, a classmate of whom we are justifiably proud demonstrates a devotion to service, in this case a co-founder for young Columbia generations. From Joe Russell: "It’s been too long since I last wrote you, and I occasionally wonder how you are doing personally and professionally (for you never have mentioned the latter at all). So consider this a twofold letter, for I’d like to read about you one of these days and thus now suggest that you tell us all a bit of what you’ve been up to lately.” As for myself, 2006 contained several milestones. The first was the end of my 15 years of editing R.R. Donnelley Financial’s SEC Handbook, thereby freeing up a great part of my time to think about what to do in its place. The second was my concurring in my wife’s decision to sell the Fire Island home that we bought some 36 years ago, a decision that we followed up by putting it on the market as the market began to tank, but we have found a buyer and expect to sign a contract soon. However, as we were no longer to be residents of Ocean Beach, it seemed to me unfair to run again for reelection to the post of Village Justice — which I had held for more than 16 years — for another four-year term, so I declined the invitation to stand and brought my robe and gavel home to the city at the beginning of July 2006. "I continue to serve the NASD and the New York Stock Exchange (whose regulatory functions were continued this fall by the Financial Industries Regulatory Agency) as a securities arbitrator, very much enjoying the work and its challenges, and to do a bit of pro bono community service as an arbitrator at the Harlem Small Claims Court.

"I resigned as a part-time administrative law judge at the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission, after about 17 years there, and have been appointed a part-time hearing examiner at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, an agency having an unimaginably broad range of authority that amazes me regularly. I have been learning things that well bear out the comment that "There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy." Did I get that quote right? In any case, I have a lot to learn now."

"Anyhow, I keep moving, jangling the juices around gently, as we all must at our age, no? In answer to Joe’s request to share more of what I have been up to, I’ll have more to write in the next issue. I have mentioned the work I have been doing with the nonprofit foundation PortSide New York in restoring the retired oil tanker Mary Washington, promoting the community programs being initiated by PortSide along the Brooklyn waterfront. At this writing, we are preparing an event at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, a book launching, the second novel by Gabriel Cohen, a murder mystery set along the waterfront and in the Navy Yard. We anticipate a number of exciting events and programs for spring/summer 2008, and you will hear of them in this place next time. Check out www.portsidebwny.org.

Mario Palmieri
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Joe Adamczyk announced the publication of his autobiography, a story that starts pre-WWII in his native Poland. Joe describes his boyhood life in a small Polish city; awakening to the sound of artillery fire on September 1,1939; his escape from the Nazi occupation, first to Italy, then to Britain and finally to the United States; and eventually joining our class at Columbia College.

Joe titled his book In Search of a New Home: My Journey Through Life, and it is, he says, primarily for his family and friends but is available to others. The book can be obtained from Long Dash Publishing, 49 Jefferson St., New Jersey, NJ 07601 (www.longdash.com).

All downhill skiers (no doubt a substantial number of us still participate in that sport) who visit the Stowe ski area in Vermont this winter should be aware that Bud Kassell is an "ski host" there, so ask for him and look for him on the slopes. Ski-hosting is an activity that Bud has been enjoying for several years and, nearly 60 years after college, continues to do so.

Irving Kushner received the first Teaching Excellence Career Achievement Award bestowed by the Department of Medicine of Metropolitan General Hospital, a major teaching hospital of the Case-Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland. Irv has been on the Case faculty since 1958. He still teaches, sees patients and does research, and feels fortunate to be able to do all that although at what he calls "a substantially lesser tempo." Irv was formerly head of the division of rheumatology at the Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital, where his research dealt with C-reactive protein and the systemic response to inflammation. He is a master of the American College of Rheumatology.

Bernie Prudhomme, who in this column has extolled the joys of travel, continued in 2007 to practice what he preaches. Bernie and his wife, Jacqueline, returned to their favorite destination, Europe, this time since 2003, won consecutive Ivy League games. However, success is a fleeting thing, and as our loyal Homecoming classmates discovered, the Penn Quakers ruined the party with a decisive victory.

There was certainly room for optimism at the beginning of the 2007 football season. Last year, the Lions led the Ivy League in scoring defense (16.3 points allowed per game), retained the Liberty Cup in their victory over crosstown rival Fordham, and for the first time since 2003, won consecutive Ivy League games. However, success is a fleeting thing, and as our loyal Homecoming classmates discovered, the Penn Quakers ruined the party with a decisive victory.

The New York Times reported the death of Donald J. Rapson on October 7 in Deal, N.J. In his autobiography, which appeared in our 50th Class of 1951 Reunion Book, Don wrote: "I went on to Columbia Law School and pursued dual and complementing legal careers: practice and teaching. First, after a semester as a teaching associate at Columbia, I spent 3½ years as an Army judge
advocate in the Pentagon and then 26 years in private practice in NYC and New Jersey. In 1984, I went into corporate practice and became Assistant General Counsel of the CIT Group, a national commercial financing company, until my retirement. While at Columbia Law, I was fortunate to become involved in the study and writing of the new Uniform Commercial Code, which is still in force in all states. This became my primary practice specialty and resulted in my teaching commercial law as an adjunct professor at Columbia, NYU, Cardozo and Rutgers Law Schools.”

Don is survived by his wife, Ellen, and sons, David ’80, ’83L and Jeffrey ’84.

“Do I need a will? Is a will all I need?” These are questions posed in the recent issue of Legacy, Columbia University’s news and notes about planned giving. If you have not received this valuable publication concerning the future disposition of your assets and property, you can contact me. Informal information from Fred Hartwick, Executive Director of Gift Planning, 475 Riverside Dr, MC 7718, New York, NY 10115.

World traveler Gerald Evans and his wife, Anne, earlier this spring spent two weeks aboard the QE2 going around the globe. Among the places they visited were Tahiti, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, India, Turkey, Italy and Spain. Although no pirates were encountered, the ship stopped at sea when a freighter requested help to save the life of an injured seaman. In today’s world of terrorism, it required several hours to get clearance for the QE2’s doctor to board the freighter. Unfortunately, the injured man could not be saved. The Evanses’ next cruise, in January, will be aboard the Holland American line’s Amsterdam. The QE2 was sold to Dubai to become a floating hotel.

Advertisements in The New York Times have been hinting at the “One Day University.” Those who register pay as much as $299 to hear lectures from Ivy League professors. Compare this program to our Columbia Dean’s Day, which will again take place in late spring on the Morningside campus. For a fraction of ODU’s cost, you can join a congenial group of SCI classmates, have a continental breakfast, an enjoyable luncheon and select from a wide range of interesting lectures offered by Columbia’s leading academics, followed by a reception. Your decision to be at this year’s Dean’s Day should be a “no-brainer!”

[J. save the date: Saturday, April 12.]

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1
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What’s new with you? Please send us an update!

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Our 55th reunion: Luckily, George Lowry, who successfully spearheaded our 50th reunion celebration, has agreed to lead our 55th celebration. If you would like to join in the fun of planning another wonderful event, please contact George at lowry@gmu.edu.

In the May issue of CCI, I plan to write about Albert Belksie, Sidney Gladstone, Wendell Hatfield, Jeh Johnson, Kenneth Lande, Peter Lewis, David Miller, Dennis Nicholson, Walter Nitardy, Don Olander, John Plate and Jack Stokes. If you have fascinating anecdotes or information about these classmates, please send their stories via e-mail.

Kaz Zaremba: Until I recently read an article in the Mobile Alabama County Neighbors newspaper, I knew nothing about Dick Kleine.

Harry Rice and I lunched with Kaz almost every day during our freshman year, we never knew that sitting in the John Jay Dining Hall represented an unusual “triumph of the human spirit” for Kaz and his family. The newspaper’s headline summarized the amazing details of Kaz’s early life. “From Poland to Siberia and then from Siberia to Mobile. A boy’s struggle to survive the hardships of World War II led him to freedom.”

According to the story, on a frigid morning in 1940, Soviet bayonets forced 6-year-old Kaz, his 11-year-old brother and his parents to leave their farm in Poland and travel in a packed freight train 2,000 miles to a labor camp in Siberia. Kaz told the reporter the his family lived in one room. The temperature was well below zero degrees Fahrenheit, and they mainly ate rationed bread. There were no inside toilets, and there was no soap. During the day his father made coffins for the two or three people who died every day, and during the night, he guarded the bakery. After two years, the family was allowed to leave Siberia, and in 1943, they went to a work camp outside of Tehran, where his brother died. As a 13-year-old, Kaz traveled to the United States alone and joined his mother in New York City in 1946. He attended a public boarding school near Buffalo, N.Y. In 1949, Kaz’s father arrived in New York City, two weeks before Kaz graduated from high school. Kaz lived with his family and commuted to Columbia. As a freshman, Dick, Harry and I only knew that our modestclassmate’s parents were Polish. We had no idea that Kaz and his family had a truly courageous and unusual story to tell.

The Mobile Alabama County Neighbors article also mentioned that Kaz came to Mobile in 1971 and was a chemical engineer for Union Carbide until he retired. In September 2006, Kaz’s wife, Jean, died of cancer. They had been married for 50 years. Today, Kaz’s son, Mark, and his wife, Sonya, live in Huntsville, Ala. The article quotes Kaz saying, “In Siberia, we starved. We got cold. We didn’t know if we would survive. Things have turned out good. I’m alive. I have a home, a dog and pickup truck, and I play tennis at least twice a week.”

John Marchesi is happy to report he is alive, well and living with Joan, his wife of 53 years, in Spring Lake, N.J. He has been retired from the money management business for 11 years and is delighted that he doesn’t have to compete in today’s turbulent markets. With fond memories of our great 50th celebration, he and Joan are planning to attend our 55th reunion.

Frank Kafker and Serena ’53 Barnard will celebrate their 55th anniversary in December. Frank received a doctorate in history from Columbia in 1961 with a dissertation on an aspect of the French Revolution that was directed by the legendary Professor Jacques Barzun ’27. From 1962-78, Frank was professor of modern European history at the University of Cincinnati, where he co-edited textbooks and articles on the French Revolution and the age of Napoleon.

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Our classmates have been active as usual celebrating life events. Dr. Martin Corwin and his wife, Rellye, celebrated their 50th anniversary with a party their children hosted. Attending the happy occasion were a number of ODU classmates, including John Marchesi in Mobile Alabama County. The Corwins live in Verona, N.J., happily retired after practicing ophthalmology for 42 years.

Among our world travelers, Ed Cowan and his wife, Ann Louise, spent several weeks visiting Berlin and the Baltic republics. Ed and Ann Louise always have enjoyed local color, and he writes, “On a Helsinki dock one midday, we ate fried sardines with our fingers at an outdoor table, getting down, as it were, with the Finns.” Continuing the chain, their daughter, Rachel Cowan Jacobs ’90, gave them a granddaughter, their fourth grandchild. Ed does some independent editing and writing in Washington, D.C., and New Hampshire.

Ed Raab received the 2007 Hobart Lerner Award given by the New York State Ophthalmological Society for "outstanding contributions to the medical profession and the practice of oph-
“Saturday’s hero,” Bob Mercier). Other classmates who participated in one way or another were Stanley Lubman, Larry Balfus, Jim Berick, Allen Hyman, Bob Pearlman, Jack Freeman, Bob Bernt, Anthony Viscusi and Toni Coffee for the late Donn Coffee.

There is a big drive to raise money for athletics and undergraduate education as part of Columbia’s $4 billion capital campaign. Major renovations and upgrading are being planned for the Baker Field Athletics Complex. This should rekindle the excitement for fearless warriors — Al Ginepra, John Nelson, Neil Hamburger and Denis Haggerstine (maybe even Paul Zimmerman). The school has also added men’s and women’s squash teams to its list of intercollegiate sports — Peter Chase, take note!

A good portion of the monies raised for undergraduate education will be for the important area of financial aid, which will keep us competitive with the other Ivy League schools.

In keeping up with the needs and desires of the student body, the Office for Career Education hosted a couple of widely-attended career fairs — one for College and one for Engineering students. Held throughout Lerner Hall, the undergrads were able to make contact with a variety of employers (more than 200) at one shot. Reps from a host of employers and industries were able to meet one-on-one with students at the fair.

As for the happenings with our classmates, we heard from Ralph Tannen, who will return to New York shortly to become a true bicoastal person. Ralph also will live in Saratoga, Calif. He wants to get involved in Columbia’s alumni activities — done! Aaron Hamburger has moved back to New York (Roosevelt Island), leaving Abbe Leban as our sole classmate in Wilmington, Del. Hal Rosenthal informed us that he couldn’t be at the Great Teacher Award dinner this year due to surgery. He definitely will be back in ’08. Also recovering from an ailment is Bill Epstein, whose bad back has slowed him down somewhat (no more high hurdles, Bill!).

The famous Class of ’55 “Zagat’s Club” had its bimonthly dinner in Greenwich Village (or Soho) a couple of months ago — the group reconvened after a summer and early fall respite. Attendees (not looking a day older) were Don Lauffer, Bob Schiff, Mort Rennert, Al Martz, Ron Spitz and the other reliables: Messrs. Gollomp, Balfus and Hyman. The dinner is open to all — just let your dining reporter (who makes his appearance) know about your interest and the information will be passed on to the appropriate classmates. There is always a lot to talk about the “good old days” and the “good new days.”

Bob Brown was espied on the Columbia campus recently taking part in a tour conducted by one of the terrific student guides. He was shepherding his niece’s daughter around Morningside Heights as she was considering where to spend the next four years of her life. She would be in the Class of 2012 (See how fast time flies, etc., etc.).

Wondrous members of the Class of 1955. You are the best in everything you do. As we get older, do we get to wiser. Stay well and of course, exercise. Get ready for the 55th. Love to all! Everywhere!

Gerald Sherwin
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There’s nothing like a little controversy to make the Columbia campus alive with activity. Unless you have been living on Mars or in a cave, you would have heard or seen that the president of Iran spoke to an overflow audience in Lerner Hall’s Arledge Auditorium in September. There were throngs of people on campus and outside the gates giving their points of view. Alfred Gollomp attended the proceedings and was able to give a “bird’s eye” point of view. Other world leaders spoke during that week at Columbia but did not generate the same excitement as the man from Iran.

Following up on this event a few weeks later was a talk by controversial author David Horowitz ‘59. It makes for very interesting times to be a student at the College.

The annual Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner was held in Low Library in mid-November. The honoree was Mark Kingdon ’71, a valued member of the Columbia community. Another happy event that occurred just before the Hamilton affair was the Dean’s Scholarship Reception, where students met their scholarship benefactors. Although some of our classmates could not be there, you should know that our guys are involved with giving more scholarships than any other class in the College (except for John Kluge ‘37, who dwarfs everyone). The Class of 1955 Scholarship this year went to Charles Stenglin ’10 from Phoenix (home of gigantic fires we had in San Diego County. While the fires didn’t hit my house and property, they were close enough for my daughter and her family to insist that my dogs and I come to their house. I was away for two days and then decided to return. The house was (and is) fine, although the pool was filled with soot and the air was pretty foul. Oh well, such is life. I received telephone calls of concern from a number of our classmates, for which I am deeply appreciative.

Enjoy life … stay well and stay in touch.

Ed Raab ’54 received the 2007 Hobart Lerner Award for “outstanding contributions to the medical profession and the practice of ophthalmology.”
created in the first half of the 15th century for the Baptistery in Florence. They have undergone 25 years of conservation and after reENTRY. They have undergone 25 century for the Baptistry in Flo¬

...Jacob, and David and Goliath were...

...in honor of his 100th birthday. It was a great video of his life prepared for the Society of Columbia Graduates.

...in early November, our active classmate and one dear to our hearts, Bob Siroty, was one of the 10 Columbia Alumni Medals for 2007, and the only one from the College, honored at Low by the Columbia Alumni Association.

...in October, I joined many others in celebrating Jacques Barzun ’s 27 Great Teacher Award in honor of his 100th birthday.

...who could not make it.

...who, as always, wishing you and yours health, happiness, longevity, a little wealth — do push the stock market up harder or easier, or does it lie somewhere in between? — a little wisdom and long life, and yours health, happiness, and love.

...Lou is survived by his wife, Susan Levitt Stamberg, a broadcast journalist on National Public Radio and former host of All Things Considered; and their son, Joshua, an actor. [See Obituaries.]

...Another classmate who went on to Harvard Law School, Ted Lynn, died of multiple myeloma on October 7. As a Columbia Alumna, Ted was chairman of the Student Board. After law school, he became a member of the NYC law firm of Webster & Sheffield, where one of his partners was New York City mayor John Lindsay. He then moved on to Stroock & Stroock & Lavan and was a member of that firm until his death. Ted was the author (with his law school classmate, Harry Goldberg) Of Real Estate Limited Partnerships; he shifted from tax to corporate law later in his career. Also active in civic affairs, Ted had been a member of Manhattan Community Board #6, vice-chairman of Birn Warthen School and a director of the Manhattan School of Dance, and was a trustee of the Jewish Home & Hospital and of boathip Warthen. He was a member of the Citizens Union. He is survived by his wife, Linda; children, Jessica and Douglas; two grandchildren; and his mother, Sydelle. [See Obituaries.]

...Barry, who practices law in Dallas, spent most of his career at HUD until his recent retirement. [See November/December Obituaries.]

...Barry Zisman’s wife, Maureen, died on October 14 after a long battle with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In addition to Barry, who practices law in Dallas, she is survived by two children, two stepchildren and six grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

...Turner to happier news, Joe Dorinson’s media have become even more multi, now that he will be appearing in a movie (probably headed for a TV showing): a docu-

...Lavrakas, who accompanied me to these events, really liked this one. I broke down and wore a suit and a tie, something I do less frequently since retirement.

...we are continuing our roughly monthly class lunches and would love to have more classmates join us. Now that it is cooler, we have them at the Faculty House on campus or at the Columbia Club rather than the country clubs Dan Link and Maurice Klein were gracious enough to offer us in the warmer tennis and golf weather. We usually have 7–10 at a round table, eating, drinking and very talkative, as you would expect from Columbia guys. Regulars include Steve Easton, Dan Link, Lou Hemmerdinger, Peter Klein, Maurice Klein, Bob Siroty, Mark Novick, Jerry Fine and, when they can make it, Lenny Wolfe, Ron Kapon, John Garnjost and, on rare occasions, a few others such as Ed Botwinick, when he is flying in for other purposes.

...as I am getting questions about the timing of the DVD you are preparing about our great 50th reunion.

...I asked Lou to try to arrange another Florida class lunch for when I go to Florida to see my mother and cousins on January 18–27. We had a fun lunch last time with about 14 attending, although I missed my elementary school and high school classmates, Stan Manne, as well as Mike Spett’s charming wife, Lisa, among others who could not make it.

...So guys, as always, wishing you and yours health, happiness, longevity, a little wealth — do push the stock market up harder or easier, or does it lie somewhere in between? — a little wisdom and long life, and yours health, happiness, and love.
mentary about Catskills comedians, When Comedy Went to School. Joe is one of the “talking heads” commenting on the humorists who got their start in the Belt.

John Munyan has provided us with an update on the years since Columbia. He started out as a systems engineer for IBM and then received an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago. His next job was as a management consultant in New York City, followed by five years with TWA. His last migration, in 1981, was to Seattle, where he has worked for Weyerhauser, Security-Pacific Bank and Nordstrom. In 2000, John returned to consulting; his most recent assignment was as a product manager for Microsoft on content management. John comments, “In a sense, I got on the computer train when they switched from tubes to transistors [and ...] stayed on when they switched away from big mainframes. The cargo in the boxcars has been changed out a number of times but I am still riding.” He and his wife, Anne, hope to make our 50th; she has a Skidmore reunion at the same time.

Catch up, with Ron Szczypkowski. Asked what he had been doing since graduation, Ron said he had once tried to count all the paying jobs he’d done, but stopped at 77!! Narrowing it down, he has mostly worked in educational evaluation; he sold his company to a public corporation several years ago, but has since launched a smaller one. Ron was the head TV statistician for the Jets and Giants for many years and still does TV stats for the Giants. He is also a director on cruise ships, owns a golf course and a golf-ball collecting business and more. Ron will be glad to supply the complete list to anyone who is interested.

Save the date: The planning committee continues to work on our 50th reunion, which will take place on and around campus Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. More details to come.

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Grill Room of the Princeton/Columbia Club, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). E-mail Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

Norman Gelfand
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Paul Kantor has been very busy of late. “Carole and I celebrated our 45th anniversary this year. The plan was for me to join her in London, where she was on a business trip. But the pilot ‘smelled smoke in the plane,’ so I spent the whole time flying to from where I had started.”

“Make up for it, we did a bit of a tour at the end of the spring, first to Dubrovnik for a conference. It was a chance to see an entirely fabulous medieval city, badly bruised during the Serb-Croat war but well-recovered now, and soon to be too expensive for conferences of anything but doctors.

“Then on to Israel for a conference on terrorism and the World Wide Web, sponsored by NATO. We pulled this together because of the problems of limiting the use of the Web as a tool for recruitment and radicalization have social and technical aspects and there has not been enough opportunity to bring the groups together.

“The conference was workable and had some interesting insights, and there will be a NATO book once everyone has edited his talk. We also spent several wonderful days with my aunt in Jerusalem, seeing the total energy and diversity of the country.

“And then to Istanbul for a conference on global democracy and security, a gigantic affair with a leadoff talk by the London police commissioner. After that, a typical conference, with 95 percent of the real action taking place in halls and over excellent Turkish food. We had a chance to see the key political concerns of the country, which currently is assessing its relation to Europe, its relation to Islam and its relation to the separation of church and state. We also witnessed the small amount of news that makes its way through the great American trivia machine far better now.

“For those who are curious, we made zero headway in mastering the language. But we did bring home several grams.

“I continue to work as a professor of information science at Rutgers and am writing this from a conference in Amsterdam. This time, Carole could not join me, as the New Jersey Center for Biomaterials, where he is associate director, is gearing up to launch a major initiative on polymers, tissue engineering and radicalization have profoundly the particularities of the body, and especially the hands, are woven into the wonders of the human brain and mind. Cognitive psychologists and educational psychologists have managed to badger legislators and the public into believing that learning begins and ends in the brain, and they’re dead wrong.

“That’s what the next book has to be about, if I live so long.”

Clive Chajet writes, “The good news is my life is filled with more of the same, which is exactly what I want. We have a second granddaughter; my wife and I remain together after 41 years and are still active in business — Bonnie as a resident real estate broker in New York City and me as a branding consultant to several corporations and not-for-profits. I serve on four boards — two for profit, two not-for-profit continue to make a fool of myself almost every weekend on the tennis court, and remain in touch with several classmates, including Alan Gelb, Ira Freilicher and Mike Bronberg, to name just three.

From Peter Rosenfeld we hear, "Marty Janis and my family had dinner at Hyatt on Hudson in Jersey City on September 8. Vivian and Ira Freilicher, Frank Wilson and his son, Jeff, and Carmen and I dined in New York on September 11 (of all days!). We agreed that the current administration could not be more corrupt, but Marty and Ira Freilicher thought about solving the problems of the world by starting a new church. Jeff recently bought a church during the course of his city planning business, although he may have learned more from a trapeze act. We all thought some great special effects could be developed for the opening services in the new church, tentatively named 'The Church of Infinite Options.' That was Ira’s idea, but Frank and I thought this name too California. (Ira adds, 'I hope to convert President Ahmadinejad to the new church, if he can afford the entrance fee.')

"Carmen and I went to a professional meeting in Savannah, Ga., in November for her daughter’s wedding. We went to NYC again on December 13 to hear Norma at the Met. Not that Chicago’s Lyric is chopped liver. On October 10, we heard the great and beautiful Angela Geogiu as Mimi in La Bohème.

Jay Brandstadter reports, ‘Don’t have much news other than the marriage (finally) of my darling daughter. I also had another birthday — don’t we all one year? I do have a thought for our upcoming 50th reunion. We went through a milestone period (‘55—’59) in American popular music — early rock ’n’ roll mostly. It seems like our 50th should highlight that music somehow; sort of a soundtrack for our Columbia years. Let me know if you and others think about that. Also, let me know if any fellow alumni would like to work with me in researching the song list.’

Stephen Joel Trachtenberg wants us to know that a resolution
Red Neck from NY, a self-portrait by the late Martin Groder '60. [See Obituaries.]

honoring his accomplishments as president of The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., passed the U.S. Senate by unanimous consent (S. Res. 210).

Warren C. Falberg writes, "I have spent the last 45 years, after completing my master's in hospital administration at Columbia, in hospital administration, and the past eight years as president of a home health agency.

"My wife, who is a nurse, and I have three children plus a 1-year-old grandchild. We have resided in Cincinnati since 1976. I have had the privilege through those years to have faculty appointments at six universities as an adjunct teaching planning, management, decision making and healthcare policy.

"The years since Columbia College have been, as I am sure for all of our classmates, an extraordinary time in our personal and professional, in what now appears to be an increasingly global environment.

"We have lived in New Jersey and Cincinnati, and I have occupied several positions of responsibility including e.p. and director of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, president of the Jewish Hospital of Cincinnati and my current position with the Visiting Nurse Association. I have had the privilege to author more than a dozen articles published on a national basis and serve on several commercial as well as non-profit boards of trustees.

"Our college days represent both a meaningful period of growth as well as, frankly, a distant memory as we approach the 50th anniversary of our graduation. My best wishes are extended to our classmates for good health and satisfaction in what they have impacted."

From Bernie Pucker we learn, "Time passes, and we all get a bit older with our 50th reunion coming up soon. [I am] grateful to still be active and involved. Columbia and its education remain an important part of my life and existence."

The Pucker Gallery, an art gallery Bernie and his wife, Sue, run in Boston, "is celebrating its 40th anniversary; it opened in early October 1967, and it seems like yesterday in many ways! We have been fortunate to allow ourselves and our journey to be shared with others.

"It has been an extraordinary journey... I will forward to you a 40th anniversary 'Fine Choices' catalogue along with the catalogue for our present 'Brother Thomas' exhibition. 'Fine Choices' does respond to the 40-year journey, and the 'Brother Thomas' catalogue responds to an artist who shaped the core values of the gallery during these past two decades."

Harris Brodsky, long after retiring from his 30-year career as a nursing home administrator, is continuing to make a difference for nursing home patients. Harris teaches hospital administration, nursing home administration, home care administration and a business course in gerontology at Hofstra, in Hempstead, N.Y. He was named "mentor of the year" in the Village of Great Neck Plaza, based on his work with a student whom he encouraged to become a licensed home administrator. Harris, who two years ago was named a life fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives, for- or me (nmeg59@gmail.com) know your e-mail address. All contributions to our Class Notes are welcomed and encouraged. Please share what you are doing with your classmates.

60 Robert A. Machleder 330 Madison Ave., 39th Fl. New York, NY 10017 rmachleder@aol.com

Neither fanfare nor ceremony accompanied the announcement in September that your correspondent had just become a grandfather. Indeed, the news arrived without the slightest forewarning or preparation. The tidings was itself surprising but its unanticipated nature was completely overshadowed by the staggering number of progeny. And the news was delivered not by a son or daughter, but by Richard Friedlander. "You have 1,021 grandchildren," he declared; "490 grandsons and 531 granddaughters, and they hail from every state and many foreign countries."

Lest you think this oddity is no concern of yours, be advised that you share this status with your correspondent. We are all newly-minted grandfathers. Congratulations. How came we by this extraordinary distinction? The Class of '60 has had the honorific "Grandfather Class" bestowed upon it by the Class of 2010 (which, formerly, had been referred to simply as our "bridge class"). Of this Richard was informed by Valerie Sapozhnikova '10 and A.J. Pascua '10, the student-alumni coordinator and class president, respectively. Richard, who has acted as our class intermediary, urges that more of us sign on as mentors to these, our grandchildren. As mentors, we will not be providing career counseling but we will try to give such guidance as years of ruedful meditation on our dissolute ways and moments rejoicing in the profits of occasionally following our better instincts may enable this younger generation to avoid our missteps and walk in the path of enlightenment. It would be desirable to pair up members of our two classes who reside in the same areas. Here are a few FAQs (actually none has been asked yet, but surely they will cross your mind, and in this day and age, FAQs seem to be de rigueur): Q. As a grandparent, am I expected to create Roth IRAs to cover the educational expenses of this, my 1,021 grandchildren? A. No. But, wouldn't it be a nice thing to do? Q. If I become a mentor, do I receive any benefit? A. Yes. You achieve the status of bedhistrive, sage, savant or bodhisattva (the choice of designation is yours). Q. Will it ease my passage in the afterlife? A. Most assuredly. Those interested in joining the ranks of mentors are invited to e-mail me and I will forward name, e-mail address and area of residence.

We now have the pleasure of being joined more often by members of the Class of 2010 at our First Thursday of the Month Class Lunch. On October 4th, Jill Larson '10 and Enrique Triana '10 graced our table. [See photo.] Jill hails from Minnesota and plans to major in history. Enrique is from Florida and will major in economics. The luncheon conversation turned to the then-roiling controversy over the appearance on campus of Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinijad. Jill and Enrique dismissed the criticisms of Columbia and President Lee C. Bollinger leveled by commentators on the right and the left of the political spectrum. They shared the opinion that the University community benefited from the opportunity directly to see Iran's spokesperson and hear him speak without the filter of the media or the exposition of the spinmeisters and to witness his responses as well as his evasions to the challenging questions that were put to him. They regarded the campus discussion generated by the event as rewarding educational experiences, and reflected that the dignity, civility and intelligence with which those discussions were held exemplified the best qualities of the Columbia experience.

I do hope that this issue of CCT arrives in time for those in the vicinity of the Heller Theatre in Tulsa, Okla., to attend a performance of playwright Bill Borden's work, Dancing on Air. Performances will run from January 31—February 9. As with so many of Bill's acclaimed theatrical productions, Dancing on Air was a competition winner. Bill describes its premise as follows: "Einstein and Kafka meet — well, they're not sure where. Maybe it's in an afterworld. Maybe it's in their imaginations. Maybe it's in our imaginations. Kafka and Einstein assess their lives, confront mis-

George Erdstein '60's first novel, Mountain Rat, is set in the late '50s, when the need to pay tuition brought many a Columbia student to work at the Catskill Mountain resorts. As the 40th anniversary 'Fine Choices' exhibition. 'Fine Choices' does respond to the 40-year jour-
takes and debate whether it is science or literature that explains the universe and our place in it.

If you see a picture in a performing media that we should know,

Ivan Koota has completed several new paintings to extend his collection as memoirist extraordinary of a bygone Brooklyn. This past summer, Ivan’s rendition of that Coney Island landmark and world famous hotdog stand, Nathan’s, was on display at the Roberson Museum in Binghamton, N.Y., as part of a juried show. Mark your calendar for May, when Ivan will have a solo show at the Upper Catskill Art Association Gallery in Oneonta, N.Y.

For those who have not seen the Brooklyn places Ivan recalls so vividly and has recreated so brilliantly, his Web site is the easily remembered www.brooklynplaces.com.

Summer in the Catskills has a special resonance for many members of our class. Ivan added a painting to his oeuvre this summer, Go! To The Catskills. Accompanying the work is an almost audible sigh of a reminiscence: “Vacations in the Catskills. Getting away from it all, including the suburban sprawl of the New York area.”

Bob Machleder ‘60.

In 2005, Ivan Koota published his first novel, Summer Accommodations, describing the coming-of-age experience of a busboy in the dining room of a Catskills resort hotel. Now George Erdstein, who practices architecture in Michigan, submitted the entry in a blink of an eye — a picture by which he was personally identified.

A new generation had discovered the Catskills. More and more, people were discovering this North American island of enchanted places, where the fresh country air (said my father). And the food ... as much as you could stuff in. Those were the days ... and now it’s sadly just about gone.”

In 2005, Ivan Koota published his first novel, Mountain Rat, also set in the late 50s, when the need to pay tuition brought many a Columbia student to work in the Catskill “mountain rat” summer and is imbued with Holocaust remembrances.

A decade later, Bill Host was featured in a Sunday edition of The Times Leader (Wilkes-Barre, Pa.). Bill is in his seventh year as president and CEO of the Wyoming Valley Health Care System, the largest health care provider in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Bill’s career in medicine has traversed an unusual path, propelled by inexhaustible energy, a multiplicity of talents, steely determination and broad vision.

Bill married Joan while still at Columbia. After completing his medical studies, and shouldering a burden of debt that he and Joan had accumulated to complete their educations, Bill passed on an OB/GYN residency and opened a solo medical practice in Laceysville, Pa. After several years, he decided to pursue a surgery residency and began his surgical practice in 1973. He introduced techniques using fiber optics at the four hospitals where he performed surgery. At the same time, Bill became interested in the administrative side of health care, taking on administrative responsibilities and becoming CEO of Tyler Hospital in 1989. In 1991, Bill returned to Columbia to pursue degrees simultaneously in business administration and public health, hiring a driver to transport him between Pennsylvania and New York three times a week, while he studied in the back seat of the car. With M.B.A. and M.P.H. degrees, Bill moved forward in the administrative, culminating in his being selected to lead the Wyoming Valley Health Care System, where he turned an annual loss of more than $20 million a year into a profitable operation. Bill had planned to retire when his contract was to expire in 2006, but the death of Joan in April 2005 was a devastating loss that left a huge hole in Bill’s life. To ease the pain of that gaping void, Bill extended his contract for three years and, with a major hospital expansion underway, has only thrown himself with greater energy into his commitment to the delivery of health care in northeastern Pennsylvania. For respite from the taxing demands of work, Bill spends time visiting his four children and eight grandchildren, who live up and down the east coast, and enjoying the company of his 93-year-old father.

We have two sad notes to report. On September 19, the class lost Jim Ayers, Jim, an accountant, resided in St. Petersburg, Fla. We would appreciate remembrances for publication in CCT from those who were in touch with Jim. [See November/December Obituaries.]

When Marty Groder was diagnosed with colon cancer six years ago, he knew that it was terminal but he was determined that it would never conquer his spirit. He treated it as an adversary and defied it mightily and courageously. As he wrote to us in 2004, “It tries to kill me and I kill it first.” One of the most potent weapons in Marty’s arsenal was his sense of humor. He wielded it with a laugh so robust and spirited that his daughter, Andrea, when asked what first came to mind when she thought about her father, responded, “His outsized laugh that seemed somehow out of place in Chapel Hill, N.C.” where he lived. It was a laugh probably cultivated by Marty in the 50s in the more raucous ambience of New York; a laugh to prevail over the metal-on-metal clatter of the subway, the incessant honking of taxis in gridlock, the pneumatic wheeze of buses shifting gears; a laugh too embedded to lose its timbre and integrity in the gentility of Chapel Hill.

Marty’s career as a psychiatrist and an academic is related elsewhere in this issue of CCT [See Obituaries], but he continued to maintain his office when he retired and, as he informed us, “invented a new profession — Comic Conversationalist.”

It was there that Marty renewed acquaintanceships, and one can only imagine that its walls shook with laughter. Marty later informed us that he and his wife, Leslie, had entered self-portraits in an exhibition open to all the citizenry of Chapel Hill. Leslie, “a true artist,” had two displayed in each of two local town halls; Marty, “a non-artist,” had his self-portrait, Redneck from NY, prominently featured in the lobby of the local public library. “[See photo.] Its placement undeniably was a decision well-considered, as it must have evoked generous and cathartic laughter from all who entered the lobby — echoing Marty’s own hearty guffaws — and left them purged of the necessity to utter a sound as they proceeded into the silent sanctum of the reading room.

As Andrea further remembered him, Marty “loved storytelling, which sometimes went on and on but was always with a sense of humor, as he had a great joy in sharing. He was a student till the end, always reading fiction, non-fiction, professional journals and his favorite subject — investing. He collected masks from around the world; they spoke to him and reflected many of the personalities he helped treat as well as the masks he himself wore.”

Marty died on October 12. Perhaps his self-portrait provides a key to how he would want to be remembered. Redneck from NY, in its untutored, primitive style, lends itself to many impressions of its subject: feisty, hip, a “Noo Yawk” sensibility, defiant in the face of death, spirit unconquered, confronting his nemesis and staring it down. It is an image one is not likely to forget. And Marty, the collector of masks, might well have known that by its very lack of sophistication yet striking boldness the picture he had created would be etched in the mind’s eye — a picture by which he would long be remembered.

The class sends its condolences to the families of Jim and Marty.
On Top of His Game: James Melcher '61 Feints, Invests

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE '01

James Melcher '61, chairman of New York's august Fencers Club, says the sport keeps his mind "cool and calculating."

PHOTO: PAUL ORATOFSKY


The tenets of Olympic fencing, or the guiding principles of a successful hedge fund?

The answer, according to James Melcher '61, is both.

"Fencing instills a certain high degree of self-discipline, much like the financial world," says Melcher, founder of Balestra Capital and a member of the 1972 U.S. Olympic team in Munich. "Fencing is a very unnatural sport. In most sports, when you hit with a racket or fist, you hit hard; in fencing, in those crucial moments, you actually have to relax."

"It doesn't take strength, it takes discipline," he says. "And then, when the moment is right, you strike, and you strike quickly."

As chairman of the Fencers Club, arguably the country's most successful fencing club, and head of a highly regarded hedge fund, Melcher often will go straight from the boardroom to the fencing floor, carrying the lessons of one realm into the other. His strategy seems to be working: Balestra has had a compound annual growth rate of 28 percent since it was formed, almost nine years ago, as a global-macro hedge fund.

"In both fencing and investing, you get an instinct to go for something — and, if you do, you're going to lose. You need to stay calculating, cool and in control of your mind," Melcher says.

The parallels between fencing and investing were so obvious to Melcher that he named his firm after one of the sport's shrewdest tactics — a "balestra" is a compound attack, usually comprising one quick, short move, followed by a longer, more severe thrust. And it sometimes dictates a strategic retreat, much like Balestra's in the first quarter of 2000. The firm pulled its money out of the tech market then, even though the market was booming, only to bust a short time later.

"Sometimes a small defeat leads to a greater victory. It's clear to those who really understand the nature of investing: Most people make investing decisions emotionally, and that's what trips them up," he says. "It is no surprise that the world's greatest fencers have no emotions while they compete."

Melcher's journey to the top of both fields began on Morningside Heights — by necessity, he freely admits.

"It was the only school that accepted me," he recalls with a chuckle. "It was just good luck, since it was also my first choice. I had lousy high school grades, but good college boards, so Columbia took a chance on me."

Within weeks of arriving at the College from his family's home in western Massachusetts, Melcher began his decades-long love affair with fencing. "Every young guy wants to try to save a sword," he says. "I took to it immediately."

But there was a problem: Though enthusiastic about his new sport, Melcher wasn't all that good at it. "Many of the top fencers had been doing it since childhood, so starting your freshman year is tough," he says. "I had no notable successes at Columbia, but I liked it very, very much."

Staying in New York after graduation, the former English major logged long hours in the financial world while cramming in all the practice time he could at a local fencing club. Most of his nights and weekends were spent at the Fencers Club on W. 25th Street, the oldest fencing association in the nation. After several years of lessons from Hall of Famer Michel Alaux, Melcher made the stunning leap of becoming a World No. 1 Summer

Adjust. Attack.

The parallels between fencing, or the guiding principles of a successful hedge fund, and the sport keep his mind "cool and calculating."

The parallels between fencing, or the guiding principles of a successful hedge fund, and the sport keep his mind "cool and calculating."

"Many of the top fencers already range from as young as 7 to as old as 80, Melcher says. And, he added, a steady flow of fencers annually follow in Melcher's footsteps from Columbia.

"We have would-be Olympians and a proud Olympic tradition but we also have those who simply use it to stay sharp mentally and physically," says Melcher, 67, who lives on Manhattan's Upper West Side with his wife, April Benasich, a prominent neuroscientist. The couple has two children and two step-children, including Elizabeth Melcher Luckett '90.

"I had stopped fencing for a time, but I came back to it three years ago and it instantly made me feel 10–15 years younger," says Melcher. "Now, I have to fence two or three times a week — I don't want to feel that old again."

"It keeps my mind cool and calculating, and I'm making tactical decisions at lightning speed. I'll never stop."

Jonathan Lemire '01, a frequent contributor to CCT, is a staff writer for The New York Daily News.
From the invitation announcement, the following is provided.

"The indictment was sought by an overzealous, anti-abortion prosecutor and because of the racial, political and religious climate, which existed in Boston, the indictment received national and international attention. In January of 1975, Ken's sensational six-week trial began before a jury which was all white, predominately male and overwhelmingly Catholic. The dynamic confluences of race, sex, and revenge played out in a Boston courthouse. The book reveals, for the first time, the maneuverings and conflicts which went on behind the scenes during the time leading up to the trial and during the trial itself.

"The bitter determination of the prosecuting attorney to impose his personal religious beliefs as the law of the land provides important lessons as we struggle to achieve a social compact for the 21st Century; equal rights for people of both sexes and all races remains central to the national debate."

After graduating from Meharry Medical College in Nashville and a tour of duty in the Air Force, Ken received his specialty training at Boston City Hospital and was the first African-American to become chief resident in the history of the department. Five years after completing his residency, he became chair of the ob/gyn department at Boston University School of Medicine, a position he held until 1989. Ken was associate dean of students and minority affairs at the medical school from 1989 until his retirement in 2006. He then sat in the office of ob/gyn at Boston University. Ken was chair of the board of Planned Parenthood of America from 1989–92. In addition, he chaired the committee on health care for underserved women of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and was a member of the Committee on Ethics and Discipline of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He is a member of the board of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Ken was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the honor medical society, and has been listed in Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the World and Who's Who in American Medicine. He received the Good Guy Award from the National Women's Political Caucus, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Medical Association and was named "One of America's Leading Black Doctors" by Black Enterprise magazine.

Stuart Sloane participated in the Konrad Adenauer Foundation exchange program in Germany in October. The program's purpose is to improve relations between Germans and the American Jewish community. Stuart is a member of the National Council of the American Jewish Committee and is v.p. of the Washington chapter and chairman of its International Relations Committee and Energy Task Force.

In July, Stuart retired from the practice of law and joined The Israel Project as v.p. TIP is a non-profit whose mission is to impact world opinion to help protect Israel and the global Jewish family. Its focus is to strive for an accurate portrayal of Israel in the American and international press, as well as to counter threats from Israel's enemies such as Iran, Hezbollah and Hamas. TIP uses sophisticated public opinion research and media relations to help win the war of words and images. Stuart would be happy to discuss its work with classmates: 202-857-6655 or stuart@theisraeliproject.org.

Stuart's wife, Ellen, is an administrative judge, the most senior member of the U.S. Trade Institute's Trial Appeals Board. Their daughter, Joanna '09, is double majoring in history and creative writing. She plans to be in Spain for the spring semester.

A book party was held at Saks Fifth Avenue in October for Tartan: Romancing the Plaid, written by Philippe de la Chapelle's wife, Doria, and Jeffrey Banks. The book contains great information on the impact of tartan worldwide, and on relations between England and Scotland, fashion, architecture, and literature. The book contains rarely seen magnificent ancient pictures from museums in Edinburgh and London to current offerings from Ralph Lauren, Burberry, Brioni, Linda Evangelista, Madonna et al.

As reported in Yahoo! News, Andrew Firestone, son of Brooks Firestone, Santa Barbara County supervisor, became engaged to model-actress Ivana Bozilovic and they plan to marry in the spring. Ivana has appeared in films including "Wedding Crashers" and National Lampoon's "Van Wilder." Andrew appeared on ABC's dating show "The Bachelor" in 2003. He manages the family's Paso Robles winery.

The New York group fishing trip had a small turnout this year. Only Tony Adler, Stu Newman and Fred Teger attended, along with Stu's friend and son. The group caught more than 50 blues each, throwing most back.

Tony saw Mark Franklin, who was in New York on business, in October. Mark's daughter and son-in-law are graduate students working on their Ph.D.s in philosophy at Columbia, and both are CC instructors at the College.

While the Sun Shines: Farms, Forests and People of the North Quabbin. This is Allen's third book about the area and people near Massachusetts' huge Quabbin Reservoir. He also is the author or editor of 12 other books. In this photo-illustrated volume, Allen has chosen and updated 30 of his favorite pieces about the North Quabbin region. As Amazon.com states: "If you love New England, and especially if you share his affection for the farms, forests, wildlife and people of the unique North Quabbin community, you'll enjoy his insights."

In case you did not know — or can no longer recall — Allen grew up on a poultry farm in the Catskills. After editing Spectator, he received a master's from the Journalism School. Following several highly successful years in conventional journalism, Allen turned toward political writing, first about the war in Vietnam and then about other matters of social justice, especially gay rights and the environment. In 1973, he moved to Royalston, Mass., where he lives in a charming octagonal house he helped build, part of an intentional community called Buntworth Farm.

Now semi-retired, Allen worked for 10 years as reporter and assistant editor at the Athol (Mass.) Daily News and 10 years as director of community relations for Athol Memorial Hospital. In 2004, he received the Writing and Society Award from the University of Massachusetts English department honoring "his distinguished career of commitment to the work of writing in the world."

In 1998, Allen was the first recipient of the North Quabbin Community Coalition's Barbara Corey Award "in honor of his passion.
for life, his values and his love for the citizens of our regions.”

The controversial appearance of Iranian president Mahmud Ahmadinejad at Columbia and the nomination of Michael Mukasey ’63 as U.S. attorney general encouraged Allen to engage in some lively e-mail exchanges with about 10 Columbians from the Classes of 1961, 1962 and 1963, and other friends. Allen reported that “the Columbia alumni, even those of us who are Jewish and who are concerned about the dangerous violence in the Middle East, were unanimous in defending the ‘free speech’ argument as it relates to Ahmadinejad.”

Allen reports that Tony Wolf, whom he sees often, is a child psychologist specializing in adolescent development. Tony sees patients at his office in Longmeadow, Mass., and is sought after as an author and speaker. Several of Tony’s books are still in print. He recently launched a weekly column in the Toronto Globe and Mail on issues concerning the parenting of teenagers. Tony and his wife, Mary-Alice, live in Suffield, Conn.

A week before writing this column, Allen e-mailed me that “We got a killing frost here two days ago — amazing that it came this late in the fall. As a watchful gardener, I used to expect this the second week in September. My house is filled with flowers picked before the frost — zinnias, nasturtiums, dahlias — and they soon will be gone too. I’m planning two winter getaways, nothing very exotic: January to California and February to Florida. My partner, Doug, and I are driving to Florida for three weeks. We have numerous friends we can stay with, thus a low-budget vacation (and he won’t fly post-9-11, and I go along with it rather than argue).” Allen had hoped to see Michelle and Dave Tucker during Thanksgiving weekend.

“Thanks to Marty Erdheim (marty@lmail.com) for responding to my request for news. After college, Marty joined the Marines and served as an officer for three years. Since then, he accumulated three master’s (Columbia, NYU and Fordham), taught and coached for a while and then gravitated to the diamond business. He deals in diamonds, fine colored stones and upper-end period and contemporary jewelry. His business is in New York City. For 13 years, Marty also had a store in New Canaan, Conn., until he and his family decided they wanted to spend more time in Idaho.”

Marty’s wife, Joan, is a Ph.D. psychologist and psychoanalyst. She is in private practice and teaches at the Free University of Berlin. Marty and his wife live in Manhattan but get to Idaho often. “We used to travel a great deal,” Marty writes, “but now spend most of our spare time there. I bicycle, hike, work out and read the books I should have read in college. Joan does the same but adds golf to her agenda.” Their daughter, Cara (29), is completing her Ph.D. in American literature at Fordham, where she also teaches. In 2006, she won the national ladies adult figure skating championship. Anna (24) works in her father’s successful and mortgage business owned by her mother’s family. Anna captained the Colby College tennis team and has become a very good golfer. “All four of us are a bit obsessive with our fitness regimens,” says Marty. “Joan and I were in Idaho last week, and I’m still in withdrawal.”

Marty and his family have been close to Bart Nisonson and his family for many years, even though they barely knew each other in college. Marty remains best friends with Herb London ’60 and has stayed in touch with Al Wax, Larry Wein, Fred Portnoy ’63 and Murray Melton ’61.

Marty provided the following news about Bart and Al. Bart practices orthopedic surgery in New York. He and his wife, Nancy, have two daughters. Leigh recently graduated from the law school at the University of Virginia; Nathania ’03 works for Sotheby’s. Al lives in San Francisco, where he is a criminal lawyer in private practice. His wife is modern dancer Margie Jenkins. Marty writes that Margie’s dance group, which bears her name, occasionally performs in New York: “Modern dance is a bit inaccessible for a philistine from Brooklyn like me. But I do see her.”

In May, the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion honored Burt Lehmann at an extraordinary dinner where it awarded him an honorary doctor of humane letters. HUC-JIR is the academic center for Reform Judaism and the institution at which Don Sphinsky and his daughter were trained and ordained as rabbis. Burt recently completed 10 years as chair of the Board of Governors of HUC-JIR, which has schools in New York, Los Angeles, Cincinnati and Jerusalem. During his tenure, HUC-JIR made enormous strides in building its endowment and expanding its facilities. The endowment raised more than $1.2 million to endow a program to foster faculty interaction across HUC-JIR’s four sites. Several classmates, and Columbians from other classes, were generous donors to the fund in Burt’s honor.

Tony Wolf ’62 is a child psychologist specializing in adolescent development and is sought after as an author and speaker.

Burt is of counsel to Schulte Roth & Zabel, the 450-lawyer New York and London law firm of which he was one of the eight founding partners in 1969. From 2003-06, Burt was senior advisor and general counsel to Tishman Speyer, of which Jerry Speyer is chairman and CEO. Burt and Jerry have worked closely for 30 years.

Burt and his wife, Brenda, who have been married for 45 years, have two sons, Stephen and Doug, and four grandchildren, all of whom live in the New York area. The family is in close and frequent contact, which allows Burt and Brenda to dote on their grandchildren.

Joe Romanelli (romazzaid@romazzaid.info) writes from Jerusalem: “Used to be our Class Notes were at the end of CCT. With time, I’ve noticed that the redactors have pushed our notes further and further toward the middle. It occasionally takes me as much as two or three ends to find them. I simply don’t have that kind of time to waste. Is this some insidious plot to make us feel older? Please talk to the editor, and see if she can’t move us back to the back where we belong.”

Ah, those good ol’ days!

John Boatner’s Cantata for Gospel Singers, Negro Baptists, and Episcopalians had its premiere on November 4 at the 139th Annual Festival of Music in Memphis. In April, Bob Lefkowitz and two of his colleagues were awarded the Albany Medical Center’s $50,000 2007 Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research. The annual Albany Prize recognizes extraordinary and sustained contributions to improving health care and promoting biomedical research with translational benefits applied to improved patient care. The Albany Prize is the largest prize in medicine in the United States.

Two months later, the Shaw Prize Foundation in Hong Kong awarded its $1 million Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine to Bob “for his relentless elucidation of the major receptor system that mediates the response of cells and organs to drugs and hormones,” according to the foundation. The Shaw Prize is an international award that honors individuals for distinguished breakthroughs in academic and scientific research or applications who have made outstanding contributions in culture and the arts, or whose domains have achieved excellence. The award is dedicated to furthering societal progress, enhancing quality of life and enriching humanity’s spiritual civilization.

Bob received this prize at a September ceremony in Hong Kong. Bob’s work with G protein-coupled receptors, the largest and most pervasive family of cell receptors, began in 1982 with the identification of the gene for the β2-adrenergic receptor, which helps regulate heart rate, blood pressure, sight, smell, and taste, and in regulating hormonal, neural and immune functions. Bob was awarded a $1 million Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine for his “pioneering research elucidating the mechanism of receptor activation by β2-adrenergic receptor, leading to a new paradigm for understanding the cellular mechanisms of signal transduction.”

Bob is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator at Duke University and James B. Duke Professor of Medicine and of Biochemistry at Duke University Medical Center. As a child growing up in the Bronx, Bob read medical fiction and detective stories and decided in third grade that he wanted to become a physician. After graduation, he went to...
P&G, where he finished first in his class. In addition to three decades of discoveries in the laboratory, Bob is widely recognized for his dedication to mentoring and his tireless devotion to his students. Through the years, he has trained more than 200 graduate and postdoctoral students in his laboratory. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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Our 45th reunion will only be four months away by the time you are reading these notes. Your class reunion committee has been hard at work lining up events, selecting venues for our dinner and banquet and lining up speakers. By now, you will have received correspondence that will tell you more than I know as I write these notes. You should also know by now whether Michael Mukasey was confirmed by the Senate as the new attorney general [he was], whether George W. Bush was re-elected, whether Michael Mukasey was confirmed by the Senate as the new attorney general [he was], whether the Columbia Lions won their season opener at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, whether Michael Mukasey was confirmed by the Senate as the new attorney general [he was], whether anyone in our class has already reached out to reunioneers to consider donating to the reunion gifts committee, which may already have reached out to you to make a donation to the College Fund or a larger gift for the Columbia Campaign for Athletics: Achieving Excellence [not yet].

Thank you, Bob, for a great kickoff to this ambitious program. We all hope that it dramatically improves the facilities for our student-athletes.

And thank you for accepting the reunion committee’s invitation to be our honorary chairman. Phil Satow is the chairman of our reunion gifts committee, which may already have reached out to you to make a donation to the College Fund or a larger gift for the Columbia Campaign for Athletics: Achieving Excellence [not yet].


I was sorry not to see more of you at the Society of Columbia Graduates annual Great Teacher Award dinner. This year, Jacques Barzun '27 was honored with the award just before his 100th birthday. Although he was unable to attend, it was a fascinating event. In the Low Library Rotunda, Jane and Jerry Dwyer were there to see daughter-in-law Elizabeth Dwyer '92 as she was welcomed as one of a group of new members (including me).

Larry Litt writes, "Please let me register a big thanks for telling the Class of '63 of my longing for a copy of our yearbook. One of our classmates responded and graciously reunited with me with the Columbia of 1963. It meant a lot to me and my family to be able to look through those pages. A curious discovery occurred within moments of my handing the book to my daughter. She opened up to a random page, paused for a second, and then said, 'Look, there's my U.S. attorney general!' Amazingly, she was pointing to a photo of Michael B. Mukasey, sitting with the other editors of Spectator." Annie Barkman sends greetings from the Lone Star State, "It's not just you folks up north who get together every so often at Einstein Bagels for lunch and conversation," says Arnie Barkman. From left to right: Barkman, Mike Bumagin (faculty member at Texas Christian University) and Bruce Miller. "We attended our 30th reunion and are in the thinking stages about the 45th," Barkman notes. PHOTO: COURTESY ARNIE BARKMAN '63

Three members of the Class of '63, native New Yorkers who now live in Fort Worth, Texas, "get together every so often at Einstein Bagels for lunch and conversation," says Arnie Barkman. From left to right: Barkman, Mike Bumagin (faculty member at Texas Christian University) and Bruce Miller. "We attended our 30th reunion and are in the thinking stages about the 45th," Barkman notes. PHOTO: COURTESY ARNIE BARKMAN '63

will be here. So let me wish each of you and your families a very happy and healthy New Year.

Barry Bley writes that in May he will bring a 42-year teaching career to an end. Barry spent 32 years teaching in a New York City public school, "I don't know of too many people who can say, as I can, that he has enjoyed every day of his working life. I'm happily living with my wife, Cindy, whom I met at Columbia in 1963, and between us we have five children and four grandchildren. Now I'm ready to retire and enjoy spending time with my grandchildren and my antique model train collection. I'll also be doing some volunteer work for the Colorado Civil Liberties Union." We wish you a happy well-deserved retirement.

Richard Daynard has been a law professor at Northeastern University School of Law in Boston since 1969. In 1984, he started the Tobacco Products Liability Project, which encourages lawsuits against tobacco companies. Richard heads the project as well as the Public Health Advocacy Institute, which addresses legal and policy approaches to tobacco, obesity and other public health issues.
health matters. He has lectured on public health issues in 40 countries. Several years ago, Richard's wife, Carol, retired as a school administrator and is a full-time art student.

In September, John Burger and his wife, Paula, went fishing for silver salmon on Kodiak Island, Alaska. John reports that "the fishing was spiced by the occasional presence of Kodiak bears around the camp and the fishing areas."

In October, I attended a dinner held in Low Library by the Society of Columbia Graduates to honor Jacques Barzun '27. The dinner was held the same week as a New Yorker piece on Professor Barzun.

Nick Rudd is back from a trip to China. We've all read about the pollution in China, and how it has become an issue that may affect Alaska. John reports that "the fish were so bad this year that we had to change our strategy."

At the end of October, Paula Burger went fishing for silver salmon on Kodiak Island, Alaska. John reports that "the fish were so bad this year that we had to change our strategy." The fish were missing from our Columbia days was the post-meeting dinner at V&T.

Some of our class leaders would like to start a bimonthly class luncheon at the Columbia Club. If you are interested in this initiative, please notify Zachary Howell, our class development officer: zh2134@columbia.edu or 212-870-2766.

No other news this month. Please do write.

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China expert Ken DeWoskin was featured in a great one-page profile in the last issue of CCT (November/December). The profile mentions Ken's daughter, Rachel '94. Rachel and her husband, Zayd Dohrn, presented Ken and his wife, Judith, with a grandchild, Light Ayli, on November 4. Anticipating the new arrival, Ken and Judy came to New York, only to find that there were no hotel rooms available due to The ING New York City Marathon. Happily, I had them stay in my home and was one of the first to learn of Light's birth.

No other news from any classmates this issue. In part, this is a result of my not having beaten the bushes with my customary vigor, but it is also attributable to the fact that no one in the Class of 1965 has shared information about himself with CCT or me. Let's hear from you!

There is always one stand-by topic: myself. In September, I was diagnosed with prostate cancer. According to Dr. Peter Scardino's prostate book: 'The Complete Guide to Overcoming Prostate Cancer, Prostatitis, and BPH', in 2004, more than 230,000 new cases were diagnosed in the United States, making it the second most common cancer in American men (after skin cancer). And the second leading cause of male cancer deaths after lung cancer. The risk of the disease is greater than that of breast cancer in women. One man in six will be diagnosed in his lifetime, while a woman's risk of developing a malignancy is one in eight. Of relevance to the Class of 1965, there is a direct correlation between prostate cancer and age. The disease is relatively rare before age 50. After that, the numbers begin to spike dramatically. The key to survival is early detection and treatment, which have led to a 20 percent decrease in mortality from the disease in the United States since 1992. While early prostate cancer offers no warning by way of symptoms, widespread prostate specific antigen screening has enabled early detection and treatment resulting in a 25 percent reduction in prostate cancer deaths since the screening began in the late 1980s.

So, like former Mayor Rudy Giuliani, I urge you all to make a habit of regular physical examinations, including a digital rectal exam and a PSA blood test. And, as always, I urge you to send me news for my next column.

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Your correspondent spent 10 glorious autumn days in New York in mid-October, revisiting many of the familiar sites and becoming acquainted with new ones, particularly the Hudson River Park area and other new developments in the Battery part of Manhattan. The weather during my visit was spectacular, but let's not dwell on this — by the time this issue comes out, most of you will be complaining about the cold and snow, and I, residing closer to the northern edges of the planet, will be suffering with the heat and humidity.

Walter von Saal sent us his news. "I recently wrote a book, co-authored with Arthur F. Dauria, called Life After Work: Six Retirement Stories That Can Change Your Life. It is on Amazon.com. Focusing on 'the personal side of retirement' rather than finances, it tells the fascinating stories of six famous people and how they dealt with retirement, and draws insights for all of us on how we can make our retirement years positive and satisfying. "I recently retired after 37 years in higher education. I taught psychology at Princeton, then at Millersville University in Pennsylvania and finally at SUNY Oneonta. I also spent some time as a college administrator, including five years as academic v.p. at SUNY Oneonta and a period as interim president at SUNY Plattsburgh before returning to teaching for the last 10 years of my career. I'm looking forward to more time for tennis, visiting my three children and six grandchildren, camping and canoeing with my partner, Suzanne Miller, spending time with friends and doing digital photography." Contact Walter at vonsaaaw}@oneonta.edu.

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The 90th Managing Board of Spectator conducted an impromptu and fully electronic editorial board meeting to discuss its "editorial position" on the visit by President Ahmadinejad of Iran. Manny Andrucci, Chris Hartzell, Jeff Newman, Dean Ringel, Mark Minton and I had an excellent e-mail conversation, which Chris eventually turned into a cogent position. The only thing missing from our Columbia days was the post-meeting dinner at V&T.

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had a reunion meeting there. In addition to being a superb medicinne man, Ken clearly is a knowledgeable baseball fan. Unfortunately, he was, as you would expect, rooting for the Cleveland Indians and I for the Red Sox. His memory of the Yankee teams of old was amazing. I can see he hardly ever went to school — probably played hooky and went to the reunion meeting at his new apartment. Possibly played hooky and went to the reunion meeting at his new apartment — but I heard no invitation for the class to visit him there. I suspect when this magazine arrives he will be enjoying some warm sun and I, hopefully, will be in Saratoga for some snowmobiling and the like. I heard from Paul Brosnan around Homecoming and hope to see the Arlington star pitcher at reunion. I think we should try to arrange for a three-inning baseball game on South Field at reunion time.

When this column was written, Seth Weinstein had just finished moving into his new apartment on lower Central Park West, in time to take off for Europe and Bermuda for a much-needed vacation. Seth reported that the credit crunch and real estate market have definitely increased stress levels in his real estate development business, and an opportunity to get away and recharge was much needed. (Hopefully the time this magazine is out the world will be more serene.) “The weather in Bermuda was wonderful,” he wrote to me. “We stayed at Elbow Beach and had a fantastic time. I spent a lot of time in Bermuda while I was sailing in the early ’70s and then again in the ’80s when I had some business there, but this was the first time I really had a vacation week on the island. Truly a great place to get away and relax.” Seth plans to host at least one reunion meeting at his new apartment and looks forward to the spring get-together. “In many ways I feel just as good as I did 40 years ago, and in other ways better! I think the reunion will be great fun and I hope we get a fabulous turnout,” he writes.

As I was finishing the column, I spoke to Andy Herz. He and a friend were hiking in the Berkshires, and the day before I was writing this, I had an instant message from the wonderful Peter Chernenoff, who lives part-time in the Berkshires. We could have had a reunion meeting there. I had a busy last year at work, possibly my best professional year in a decade. My son, Sam ’08, seems to be enjoying his last year at Columbia, and his sister, Hannah ’06, is working hard in the city. She and I ran into each other with friends at Lucia at The Met two weeks ago — that was fun. As I write this, tomorrow is the ING New York City Marathon. I have run it a number of times and wish I were doing it again. To my surprise, I have been told even with my event of a few years ago, I could run — so maybe next year. Tonight there were fireworks out my window celebrating the night before the race and the traditional pasta dinner at Tavern on the Green. I am looking forward to the fireworks of good cheer and warm feelings at our reunion, a squash match with Bill McDavid and I, hopefully, will be in Saratoga around Homecoming and see lots of good news from you. Happy New Year again.

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This month’s column, like most recent columns, shows us that some classmates continue along a chosen path, some are considering life changes and some have made a major change. David Rosen writes: “If I have not been one of your more frequent or more interesting sources of news over the years, it has probably been because my post-Columbia life has not been marked by many (or even any) twists and turns. I have been in my current position as executive v.p. of Bluerock Media, a commercial television production and post production company in NYC, since 1990. Prior to that I practiced law in NYC for 18 years. Actually, I am looking forward to working something less than full-time beginning in January. I remain married to Susan McLaughlin Rosen, my first and only wife. We have one daughter, Nicole, and one grandson, Harrison, named after my late father-in-law, who was a professor of surgery at P&S. We have lived on the Upper East Side for many years and also spend time on Taunton Lake in Newtown, Conn. I was pleasantly surprised to see my name mentioned by Alex Sachare ’71 in his editor’s column in the last issue of CCT. Alex, who does a great job in that position, mentioned that he got his start in journalism working with Andy Crane and me in the sports department of Spectator. I also recently caught up with my old roommate, Robert Gastel, after a lapse of 35 years or so. He is a stockbroker in the Pittsburgh area but as a sideline runs a high-quality candy business, Dorothy’s Candies, www.dorothyscandies.com. Bob was kind enough to send me a generous supply of their product, which is just as delicious now as it was 40 years ago when his late mother (the eponymous Dorothy) was sending regular supplies of the stuff to John Jay Hall.”

Jesse Goldner reports: “I remain employed at Saint Louis University School of Law — the same folks who hired me fresh out of law school 35 years ago. I am the John D. Valentine Professor of Law, and hold joint appointments at our School of Medicine as a professor in the psychiatry and pediatrics departments. Together with co-authors, I published a book, The Ethics and Regulation of Research with Human Subjects. Law school teaching has given me lots of opportunities to
Jesse Goldner '69 is the John D. Valentine Professor of Law at Saint Louis University and holds joint appointments in the psychiatry and pediatrics departments.

"For 20 years, Feldman and family have been going to post in Germany, and the senior timber race at Essen Hunt last month was probably my last... The consolation is that my No. 2 daughter, Emma, at 16, has decided to rejion me in the hunt field, and she rides one of my thoroughbreds. And she does a good job of it, at that. Each day, she reminds me that we have 1½ years until she moves to New York, perhaps to join her sister (No. 1 daughter, Lauren ‘10 Barnard), or to Montreal. This summer, we brought in four ponies, along with the sale horses. My ladyfriend, Monika Dujardin, who trains 'with a German accent,' and I have sold two and have two to go. Wanna buy a pony for a grandchild?"

"Despite the complaints of age, this is the most exciting time of my life. And Lauren worked on Monell Chemical Senses Center, where I am the research dentist. She is first author of the study characterizing immune cells in tongue papillae, which I cut from post-docs and staff. The paper will go to the American Association for Dental Research in April. Early mornings and afternoons, we worked together on oral cancer diagnosis in high-risk populations of VA patients, a novel group for a farm girl from Bucks County, but solid training for the streets of New York. And, best of all news was the publication in July of the American Heart Association guidelines for antibiotic prophylaxis for high-risk card patients, finally revising recommendations 10 years after publication of our study on risk versus benefit, which established evidence-based rationale for no risk and no drug for most all patients. At Penn and Virginia, this work began in 1988 and required almost 20 years to bear fruit. It is further gratifying to note that similar recommendations are now appearing for sore throat, otitis media, upper respiratory infections in healthy folks and sundry other pathologies. The Northeastern Society of Periodontists is the largest regional clinical group and a favorite since my training at the uptown Columbia campus. Allied health professionals, I contend, have much more to offer our patients than we support, and I've organized three successive symposia for staff in concert with our meetings of periodontists. At the next symposium, I'm to receive the coveted "Medal (specially for service to the society) I'm so pleased. I hope to greatly embarrass the daughters at the awards luncheon."

Finally, news of change from Phil Fox. "Sitting in Paris in summer 2004 and seeing the Kerry campaign being swift-boated into chaos, I remarked that I really didn't think that I could stand another four years of Bush II. I realize that this was not a unique sentiment or statement for the time. However, I really couldn't.... and did something about it. After that first offhand remark, my wife, Jeri, and I began to discuss seriously the wisdom of leaving the United States, and we have now done so."

"We had been watching our environment, our community, and our country moving in a self-destructive direction for many years. We didn't see a reversal in outlook in the future. We decided to begin looking in Italy, a place where we had visited often and found to be in harmony with our rhythms and aspirations. We focused on Umbria, in central Italy, which is noted for its agriculture ('Umbria verde') and gentle lifestyle. We stumbled on Spello, a walled hill town of about 5,000 people about six miles from Assisi, it retains its Etruscan/Roman/medieval appearance of stone houses and narrow streets but is within two hours of Rome and Firenze, is on a main train line and has good DSL connections. We fell in love with and purchased a 500-year-old house in the center storico with views of the surrounding hills and a spacious backyard, which we are now transforming into a productive garden. Our base-ment has Roman arches and the back of our yard is an 1,800-year-old wall. We fled George Bush for San Francisco!"

"Life in Italy has certainly met our expectations. We walk everywhere and every day, eat wonderful food with delicious wine and have found a quiet rhythm to our days. It is a challenge learning another culture and language — particularly just shy of 60 — but it is stimulating and exciting. We both have mastered ‘survival Italian’ and are comfortable getting around. Our neighbor, a 71-year-old non-English-speaking Englishman, has been wonderfully welcoming and patient with our feeble communication skills. We are embarking on some renovations to our house, and so I'm learning many new construction terms and techniques. Our days are full. I continue with a small amount of consulting to biopharmaceutical companies, but consider myself primarily ‘in pensione.’ Jeri writes an electronic newsletter/magazine on sustainable living, documenting our new life and efforts to live a smaller existence."

"Living more sustainably is an important consideration for us. It is much easier here than in the States. People in this region are much more conscious of the environment and are more concerned about conserving of resources. Our lifestyle enforces this. For example, we live on a street too narrow and steep for cars, so all deliveries must be made on foot. Having to carry everything you buy at the store makes you buy only what you really need. And you also need to carry everything away that isn’t consumed or composted and needs to be recycled or discarded. There are large bins in the piazza several blocks from the house. No one gets curbside pick-up. It makes a point about unnecessary packaging in a very visceral way. The final — and most important — fact for us is that the Italian people seem to understand what is central to life: good friends, good food and a reverence for the land and living. The United States appears to be becoming increasingly religious, but lacks any spirituality. Italy, which is 99 percent Catholic, is completely secular — not religious — but deeply spiritual. It’s a wonderful life."

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2006, I can faithfully report that there is still hope and plenty of heart left in the old Lions of our class. This heart was proudly on display at the annual football alumni dinner held at Faculty House during Homecoming Weekend. Despite the struggles of the current team, many classmates ventured back to campus and enjoyed a grand evening of revisionist football heroes and camaraderie with each other, teammates from other years and forming Bill “Balsy” Campbell ’62 and Bill “Moose” Corcoran ’66. There was Lennie Hammers (still unable to escape his college moniker: “HH from H” (the Hillbilly Halftime from Aitch, Pa.). Lennie is a prac-ticing physician near the community he grew up in. Fred Suchy is a pediatric surgical specialist in Connecticut. Kudos to Fred for taking under his wing the years current football players who are interested in medical careers. Fernie Dice and the nephew of Brooklyn Dodgers legend Carl Furillo, also was there albeit with-out his alter ego, Jim Wascura.

Bernie Josefsberg, superintendent of schools for the Tenafly School District and a New Jersey legend, continues to see the team’s struggle in Shakespearean terms. Says Dr. J., “In the fall clutches of circumstance, have not wincéd nor cried aloud. Under the bludgeonings of chance, My head is bloody, but unbowed.” Sounds like Bernie will be along for the rest of the ride. Kudos for Bernie too.

You may recall that Bernie was one of the primary movers in the fundraising effort (along with Dennis Graham, whom we all know to be quite forthcoming). I will defer publication of his latest exploits to the next issue) to estab-lish a classroom in the name of our late classmate and teammate Bill Wazevich, a long-time Macy’s executive. As you might expect at any Columbia affair, the lawyers were out in abundance. New York personal injury lawyer Phil “Java Man” Russo; banking specialist Terry Sweeney; and yours truly, a corporate generalist and experienced Class Notes writer (it’s been more than 28 years. Help!). Round-ing out the crew was the ever-pres-ent and ever-spirited Jim Miller, one of WKC’s greatest voices. Jim was able to take some solace in the success of his beloved hometown Cleveland Indians, but it’s clear his heart was in New Jersey. All told, the dinner was a great success. And I hope this will inspire some of you to attend next season’s affair, where we pray the football news will be better.

Are we in for a treat. The May/June issue of CCT will mark the 40th anniversary issue of Spring ’68. To this end, CCT is looking for insights from those of us who were there that will bring those events back into focus. These recollections could be heavy (screaming and bleeding kids being loaded into the paddy wagons outside the Taint, helped along by club-wielding police); light (The Grateful Dead playing on the plaza); or heavy/light (along with Bill’s detailed dragging cops into the Hartley study lounge looking for SDSers and teeing off instead on the pre-med nerds who were boning up for their organic chemistry final).

In any event, please consider how these events impacted your lives in the 40 years that have passed, and tell us: Did Spring ’68 change the way you look at the world, and if so, how? Is there one image or event that sums it all up for you? What was most disturbing about that time? Please send responses to CET Editor Alex Sachure: 71: as801@columbia.edu.

In closing, we may not have the best sports program in the Ivies and perhaps we never will, but no one anywhere else ever had the collective generosity of character we all had. We will always remember “Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh, NLF is gonna win.” And hopefully, we will always remember the College, too. Go Lions!

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Roy Rosenzweig died of lung cancer on October 11. He founded the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. It has produced many projects, including the September 11 Digital Archive. (See http://chnn.gmu.edu.) There was this notice about Roy in The New York Times on October 15: “We mourn the untimely death of a warm friend, scholar, and Columbia ’71 classmate. Paul Scham, Barry I. Leiwant, Bob Meyer, Ed Gartenberg.” Bob Meyer also put it to me this way: “He was too young to leave us. A terrible tragedy and such a great guy.”

Saul Fisher ’86 sent me this note: “I was privileged to work with Roy at several moments in my career. Roy was graceful, witty, insightful, inventive and always clever — a true problem-solver. I am glad to have known him and learned from him, and gladder to know that his contribution to humanities scholarship was great and lasting.”

I knew Roy from our time as high schoolers (in neighboring schools) and at Columbia. From my experience, Saul’s description of Roy is exactly right.

For more about Roy’s achieve¬ments and about him, see Obitu¬aries. Also visit http://thanksroy.org, which includes all the formal notices about him from The New York Times and The Washington Post as well as remembrances such as “Three Things Roy Never Said” by Zach Schrag ’97 GSAS, ’99 GSAS; ’12 GSAS, and this one by Sarah Bernick: “Beyond his genuine sweetness, loyalty, generosity of spirit and daunting work ethic, Roy was a truly principled individ¬ual. He was fascinated by the intrica¬cies and ideological minutia of political groups, but never took the easy route of allowing party poli¬tics to do the thinking for him. His opinions were his own. And when he decided an issue was important, he acted on it.”

During the Vietnam War years, Roy passed, and tell us: Did Spring ’68 change the way you look at the world, and if so, how? Is there one image or event that sums it all up for you? What was most disturbing about that time? Please send responses to CET Editor Alex Sachure: 71: as801@columbia.edu.

In closing, we may not have the best sports program in the Ivies and perhaps we never will, but no one anywhere else ever had the collective generosity of character we all had. We will always remember “Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh, NLF is gonna win.” And hopefully, we will always remember the College, too. Go Lions!

Roy’s memorial details are at http://thanksroy.org.

Rick Johnson died on November 3. His wife, Weiwei DU, writes: “Rick passed away last weekend — probably of a heart attack. He donated his body to Columbia’s medical school. I visited the school and talked to some students. Rick would be glad of his last station: Back to Columbia — science, lifesaving through death, Hudson River view and smart, young students (many females). He is forever a son of Columbia.

“In accordance with his wishes, there will be no memorial service. Remember him as you knew him — your last laugh, your last spirit, your last spirited debate or e-mail exchange. Give him a toast when you drink some good wine. Whatever comments you make on him, he might debate with you — watch out!”

“Rick and I met ballroom danc¬ing at International House when I was studying at Columbia Business School. We were only married a few years. Rick was a good artist and he loved art. His work is available. He was a loving husband, my best friend and trusted life com¬panion. He was one of a kind. I loved him dearly and will miss him very much.

“Let’s all treasure each moment we have in life and get busy living.”

Weiwei’s e-mail address is weivei_86@yahoo.fr.

For more about Rick’s achieve¬ments and about him, see Obitu¬aries.

Irwin Warren: “Rick, Andy Arbenz and I met and became friends at a National Science Foundation program at the Mount Hermon School in Northampton, Mass., after our junior year of high school. ... Rick was one of those rare, impressive individuals who somehow had his act together by the time he was in high school — and he had it together every time I ever spoke with him, over the years. His loss is one we all feel deeply.”

Richard Hsia: “No one can believe Rick is gone, because when I think of Rick, I think of life. His loss is heartbreaking, because when I think of Weiwei and Rick, I think of love.”

Joe Brown ’66: “I have been friends with Rick since he graduated from Columbia. Rick was a fierce and independent thinker and a man of action. He was always ready to talk about issues with the conviction of a person who hadn’t just made up his mind. He was always ready to meet for a drink and a long dis¬
**Spring ’68**

This spring is the 40th anniversary of the campus unrest of Spring ‘68, a series of events that impacted all of us in the Columbia family and especially members of the 1968 through 1971 classes. We would like to mark this anniversary in our May/June issue in your words. Please consider how these events affected your lives in the 40 years that have passed and tell us:

1) How did Spring ’68 change the way you look at the world?

2) Is there one image or event that sums it up for you?

3) What did you learn and how did you apply it to your life?

Please express your thoughts in 250 words or fewer. We will publish responses in the magazine and on our Web site, but may not be able to publish all that are submitted. Please send responses to Alex Sachare ’71 at as801@columbia.edu.

Thank you for your participation.

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Columbia College Today

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Rick loved helping his friends and being the ‘go-to’ guy always available with information, advice, an often controversial opinion, or that critical contact in his vast net-
work of friends and business acquaintances. It was pretty cool
to see a casual conversation of his
evolve into something special
for someone. You could tell by
watching their eyes open up, hear how
the conversation became more
focused, the head bob, and finally
Rick saying he would get them
some pertinent piece of informa-
tion, a contact, or whatever they
needed. And he always did; he
always followed up. He helped
people follow their dreams. For
me, it was helping me obtain my
pilot’s license at far too young an
age, then supporting my career as
an aviation consultant. That was
my brother Rick.

“When he experienced the birth
of my son, Wesley, in 1992, Rick
discovered that playing the good
uncle facilitated meeting women
like nothing you can imagine!

“Rick met and married his
wife, Weimei, with hopes of get-
ting his degree in family, but the
fate gods had a different agenda.
Well, Rick, you helped a lot of
people, so allow us the indul-
gence of giving you an honorary
degree.”

“I love you and will miss you,
brother. I would say rest in
peace, but because of a final act
generosity, the donation of your
body to P&S, you will be busy for
the next year teaching medical
students. In true Rick fashion,
you have even found a way to provide
value to others in your death.

“I am very proud of you, broth-
er. See ya on the other side — but
too soon.”

With respect for Rick’s wishes,
there was no memorial service.
His friends and brother held a cel-
boration of him instead, and
asked all invitees (including the
entire list of your closest friends)
whether able to attend or not, to
raise a toast to Rick at the
appointed hour.

72
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You won’t find “Dr. Louie” in our
class directory, but you really did
graduate with him. Dr. Louie is
Keith Luis, and Jellyroll Records
recently released the nine-song,
extended play CD A Holiday Gift
For You by Dr. Louie with Evan
Johns. “Louie” is the author of
each song, the vocalist on seven,
and a percussionist on four.

While we’re on a musical
theme, composer Joel Feigin
gave a lecture-demonstration at
the Beijing Conservatory last spring
on “Variations on a Theme by
Arnold Schoenberg for Piano: A

Contemporary American Com-
poser’s View of Schoenberg,” His
Lament for solo viola had its pre-
miere in Santa Barbara in June.

Conrad Lung wrote from
Europe that he was headed for
Oxford to his daughter Stephanie
’04’s graduation. She earned a
master’s in financial economics.

And as I write this, I am
pleased to say that earlier this
evening, our first grandchild was
born to our son, Yoni ’03, and
his wife, Emily ’03E. It’s a girl.

On a sadder note, Daniel Jud
Died in Oregon on July 28, 2006.
Also known as Sheikh Ishaq, he
was a longtime follower of Sufi
Islam. According to an account
posted online by his life partner,
Anna Armitai Alekner, Dan was
on a rafting trip with co-workers
from the American Red Cross
when he suffered a cardiac arrest
while swimming, an apparent
complication of the diabetes he’d
had since childhood. You can read
more about Dan’s life at http://
home.earthlink.net/~ishafjul.

Alumni Row in Head of the Charles

For the second year, a
boat of College alumni
competed in the Senior
Master Division of the presti-
gious Head of the Charles
Regatta. The eight oarsmen,
who live in cities around the
country, spent five months
training on ergometers (row-
ing machines) and rowing
with local clubs in prepara-
tion for the October 20 race.
After just one practice ses-
tion, the Lions competed against
44 other boats, a
number of which included
former Olympic oarsmen and
club crews that row together
all year. Columbia finished the
Charles River course in 18
minutes, 40 seconds, almost
two minutes faster than last
year’s time, and came
in 33rd. “It was a great reun-
ion, and we plan to row in the
regatta again next year,” said
Peter Darrow ’72, one of the
rowers. “There aren’t many
team sports where athletes,
at age 57, can participate as
a team, competitively, 35
years later.”

The Columbia crew was (from left) coxswain Helen Woz-
nack, Henry Herfindahl ’72, John Mulligan III ’72, Marc
Binder ’71, Mark Lesky ’72, Walter Brown ’73, Paul Demartini
’72, Peter Darrow ’72 and Al Medioli ’73.

73
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Carter Eltzroth completed a study
tour on Indian broadcasting in
Delhi and Mumbai in October,
building on his work on broad-
casting and development. He is
legal director of the Digital Video
Broadcasting Project; his paper on
DVB’s policy on intellectual prop-
erty rights will appear in an ac-
demic journal in the near future.

James Callanan was named a
managing director of Alvarez &
Marsal IMPART GROUP; he was
a co-founder of IMPART GROUP.
James put his B.A. in economics
to good use; he earned an M.B.A.
from Wharton, was with Liberty
Mutual and spent 20 years as a
partner at DeLoitte Consulting.
He is based in Boston.

Rowther sparse this go-round;
let’s step it up, shall we?

74
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Earlier in the fall I felt it was “déjà
vu all over again” (to once again
quote the great Yog). The late
night news reported that the Sep-
tember 25 temperature had
topped out at a remarkable 85
degrees — and then they added
“but it didn’t beat the record 90
degrees recorded on September 25,
1970.” (Wasn’t that the time
we were getting our kids ready to
row in the Charles?)

Classmates surely will be don-
ing their baby blue bowties and
the Class of ’74 tables (with or
without your spouse) to celebrate
the 2008 John Jay Awards
Festive at the 2008 John Jay Awards
Banquet, president of
Jackson State University, as he is
feted at the 2008 John Jay Awards
Dinner on March 5. The black-tie
dinner, celebrating outstanding
achivement by members of the
College family, will be held at the
clegant Cipriani 42nd St. (near
Grand Central Station). Join us at
the Class of ’74 tables (with or
without your spouse) to celebrate
our classmates! [See “Around
the Quads.”]

A press release made it my way
announcing that Randy Gioia has
been elected to the Boston Bar
Association’s Council (equivalent
to its board of directors). Randy is a
solo practitioner specializing in
criminal defense. While busy with
his regular practice (that recently
included mounting a death penalty
defense), Randy still finds time to
accept court appointments for the
defense of the indigent. Not sur-
prising for one of the two founders
of the Suffolk Lawyers for Justice, a
group providing training and guid-
ance for lawyers in Massachusetts
representing the poor.

Randy and his wife are now
“empty-nesters.” His eldest son is
a first-year law student at the
University of Miami. The middle
son is in Kyoto doing a Buddhist
study course. The youngest son is
a sophomore at Colorado College.
With the boys out of the house,
Randy has more time to pursue
his true addiction — the Boston
Red Sox. And what better timing?

Another press release about
another lawyer came my way
concerning the change of firms by
Vigor Gencin. Calling Vigor, I
found that his former firm (Pavia &
Harcourt in midtown NYC) was
quite cordial but too small
(30 lawyers) to handle the needs
of his European corporate clients.
He moved to Squire, Sanders &
Dempsey, an 800-lawyer firm
with offices in Beijing, Bratislava, Brussels and Budapest (and that’s just the “Be” — you get the idea). He said, “Now I can do the same thing for Korean and Chinese clients that I was doing for my French and Italian clients.” What was that? While Victor has a general commercial litigation practice, he tends to focus on the trademark counterfeiting enforcement cases. In other words, he’s the one falling to rid the New York streets of the fake Prada bags and Rolexes that are counterfeit. He’s able to fail globally rather than merely fail with European goods!

Victor and his wife have three kids, ages 12–16, and live in suburban Larchmont. He says they decided they had to move from his apartment on 112th and Riverside (where all three kids had been reared) to the “burbs” when “the whole family wouldn’t fit in the elevator.”

Arthur Schwartz, Democratic State committeeman for Greenwich Village (and a partner of lower Manhattan, has announced his support for Barack Obama ’08. While Obama happens to be a fellow alum, Arthur’s op-ed piece in The Villager (a longtime lower Manhattan newspaper) explains the real reason for his support. The gist of the column is that he believes that liberal reform has failed to be implemented because “the movement of the 1960s did not march on” in the same way as the more successful feminist movement. He then goes on to say, “Obama’s followers have the potential … to build a new progressive movement in the U.S.”

It really all started as an innocent phone call to Tom Ferguson, in San Francisco, to find out what his daughter, Elizabeth ’07, was up to. It ended up as an explosion of phone calls that revealed some fascinating news about the lives of heretofore unmentioned classmates. (I guess it shows that the phone can sometimes be mightier than the e-mail for personal communication.)

Before getting into the subsequent cacophony of classmates, it is only fair to let you know that Elizabeth is busy looking for a position in arts administration. And I might as well add that Tom’s son, Greg ’03, works at Avery Library and is considering getting an advanced degree in the library sciences. I suggested Greg speak with Dewey Cole and Carl Yirka, who have spent time in this endeavor.

Now back to Messrs. Ferguson and his trip to NYC to attend his daughter’s graduation festivities. While in Brooklyn seeing his son, Tom was at the Brooklyn Museum and bumped into the ever-present Abbe Lowell, whose daughter had just graduated from Cornell. Abbe said that he will be spending a lot of time in New York during the coming year.

While in NYC, Tom got together with Ken Wright, who lives and works in the Hamptons, a beach community on Long Island, building custom homes for the rich and famous. A call to Ken revealed that he has entered the bike race across Iowa four times, once he even picked up Ken Constantine, who hosted Ken at his home in Racine, Wisc. Ken recently pledged a scholarship to the College in honor of his father and uncle (both College alumni) because he felt “as poor Irish immigrants, they would have never fulfilled their destinies of becoming a doctor and an electrical engineer if it weren’t for attending Columbia College.”

More on Ken and the classmates he mentioned will have to wait for another column.

Also at the recent graduates’ reception was Dr. Michael Handler, chief of pediatric neurosurgery at The Children’s Hospital in Denver. I’m trying to catch Mike between surgeries, and will give you more on him in a future column.

The third classmate at the reception was Terry Zaleski, who might have to be the recipient of the “Long and Winding Road” award (named after the song from the Beatles’ Let It Be album that was released our freshman year). Terry graduated with a degree in chemistry. He then got a degree from Teachers College and taught economics and history and is a marketing analyst at Lehman Brothers in NYC. Terry’s daughter, Kim, is an accomplished musician — she has played the flute and piccolo with James Galway and at Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall. Kim recently started further studies at John Hopkins’ prestigious Peabody Conservatory. Let me add a “congrats” to Terry’s wife, Lynn, for being able to hang in on Terry’s “long and winding road.”

I also was proud to be at Homecoming in October. A couple of things struck me. First off, Columbia finally has merchandise with a recognizable logo, and I bought a lot. I especially love my Roar-e bobblehead. (Thank you, CU Athletics.) The usual folks were there — Janet and Ira Malin, Bob Schneider and I. Bob handed me a Spectator from Friday, and I read it in a New Jersey service plaza for four hours at the way home. There were three articles on the front page: swastikas, nooses and Safe Space. For lots of reasons, those three articles together were a contradiction but also a confirmation of why I give to Columbia — the first two because of the hate and bigotry we still see in today’s America, and the last one because we can do things to combat those evils. (Disclosure: I am funding the Safe Space Initiative this year. Anyone wanna help?)

A number of classmates met for an informal networking breakfast, hosted by Bob Katz at his office at Cooper & Dunham. This is the first of several networking sessions your class committee plans to hold regularly. Attending were Barry Berger, Stephen Jacobs, Robert Schneider, Bruce L. Ehrmann, Aron Trauring, Bill Havlena and Ira Malin. Ashaki Charles, our class representative from the Alumni Office, was also there. (Now, gentlemen: if you attended the breakfast, are not mentioned elsewhere in these notes, and have not been mentioned in a year or two, you owe me an e-mail. I will track you down if you don’t write to me.)

Bill Havlena continued at Columbia for his doctorate and then taught at SMU, Fordham and elsewhere. He now is at Dynamic Logic at 903 Third Ave. His wife, Susan Holak, teaches at CUNY. Daughter Elena is 15.

Jeffrey Hon didn’t leave the Upper West Side after graduating from Columbia and swims at the gym three times a week. Freshman year roommate Tom Losonczy and his wife, Audrey Strahl ’75 Barnard, work in children’s friends. They and their very conservative 17-year-old son, Zoltan, spent a rainy week in August with Jeff at Fire Island Pines, in a beachfront house he shares with his other family of nearly 20 years, a crew that includes an attorney at the Department of Justice, a cocktail dress designer and an architect. Tom’s and Audrey’s daughter, Magda ’08, who, like her father, fences, couldn’t make it because she was impersonating the girl from Ipanema in Brazil. Jeff says that watching Magda and Zoltan grow up has been “one of life’s great pleasures, as I will never have children of my own.”

He adds, “Unfortunately, they refuse to learn the lyrics to Drive-In Saturday, a Bowie song that Tom, Audrey and I still love to sing at the tops of our lungs on holidays.”

After receiving his M.D. from UC San Diego, Carl Mendel joined the pharmaceutical industry and has held positions of increasing responsibility at Merck, Knoll, Aventis and sanofi-aventis. Carl recently was named v.p. of clinical development and chief medical officer with Synvista Therapeutics in Montvale, N.J.

Joseph Tato ’75 is a partner of LeBoeuf Lamb’s global project and infrastructure finance group and represents a variety of constituents on projects in Africa, the Americas and Europe.
Bill Minutaglio ‘76: Journalist, Bush Biographer

By Kate Linthicum ’08 Barnard

On the first day of his freshman year at Columbia, Bill Minutaglio ‘76, ’78J and the rest of his class converged on the quad for new-student orientation. One piece of advice stuck.

"A College dean told us to consider all of New York City our campus," Minutaglio recalls. He says he realized then that there was an important education to be had outside of Columbia’s gates.

Minutaglio’s meanderings around the city shaped him as much as or more than the time he spent in the classroom. Those forays into Harlem, the Bronx and downtown Manhattan inspired in Minutaglio an attitude of inquiry that led to a nearly 30-year career as an award-winning journalist. He worked for 18 years as a reporter at the Dallas Morning News, writing about minority communities and traveling around the world when news broke, and he spent almost five years as a regional editor at People. On the side, he penned a well-received biography of President George W. Bush.

First Son: George W. Bush and the Bush Family Dynasty (1999) is an intimate character study of the future president. “He is not complex,” Minutaglio says of Bush, whom he interviewed for the book. "He sees the world in black and white." The book, which portrays Bush as someone who always has struggled to follow in his powerful father’s footsteps, earned Minutaglio extensive national press coverage and critical acclaim. Dan Rather praised it as “fair, balanced, interesting and well-written,” and The Washington Post called it “a deft and convincing portrait.”

These days, Minutaglio is a professor of journalism at the University of Texas at Austin, where he’s able to spend time on his writing while also turning students on to what he calls the “secret” of journalism: “It’s a way to get behind the yellow police tape of life,” he says.

Minutaglio is a Texan now, and he has a soft country drawl to prove it. But his story began in Brooklyn, where he was born the youngest of five sons. When he was a teenager, the family moved to Long Island, and he enrolled at Chaminade, an all-boys Catholic high school. When he applied to Columbia, some were skeptical because of the school’s reputation for radicalism. “The head of my Catholic private school strongly, strongly urged me not to go there,” Minutaglio says. “It made me want to go there even more.”

Minutaglio majored in history and Asian studies. In one of his favorite classes, Ainslie Embree’s “Introduction to Indian Civilization,” he met the woman who would become his wife, Holly Williams ’79 Barnard, with whom Minutaglio has two children.

After graduating from the College, Minutaglio spent a year at SIPA before enrolling in the American heartland,” he remembers.

During the next several years, Minutaglio hopped scotched to the San Antonio Express News, the Houston Chronicle and eventually the Dallas Morning News, where he wrote stories that won awards from the National Association of Black Journalists and the University of Missouri School of Journalism.

Ellen Kampinsky, who is now the news editor at Glamour, worked with Minutaglio at the Dallas Morning News. “He was a wonderfully compassionate and witty writer,” she says. “Part of Bill’s magic was his ability to find stories that were so obvious you’d overlook them because they were right in front of your face, or, conversely, to seek out corners of the world no one else had bothered to explore.”

Eventually Minutaglio moved to Austin to cover state politics. It was there, in the late 1990s, that a prescient publisher asked if he would write a book about then-Governor George W. Bush.

During the next few years, while an editor in People’s Austin bureau, Minutaglio released City on Fire: The Explosion That Devastated a Texas Town and Ignited a Historic Legal Battle (2003) and The President’s Counselor: The Rise to Power of Alberto Gonzales (2006).

Minutaglio is now working on a book about the civil rights movement and on a collection of essays about African-American life in Texas. He says Columbia piqued his interest in issues of race and class, and he praises the school for bringing typically disenfranchised people into the fold. “There’s so much historical evidence to show that Columbia was in the vanguard for really opening its doors to all walks of life and all colors of skin,” he says. “I’m proud to wear my Columbia T-shirt in Texas.”

Kate Linthicum ’08 Barnard is majoring in American studies.
variety of constituents on projects in Africa, the Americas and Europe.

Aron Trauring is CEO of Zote-, ca, an IT and systems integration consulting firm based in New York City, to which Aron has returned after years of living in Israel. He lives on the Lower East Side and loves it. Aron has four children living overseas, so he says he uses his time to enjoy the city.

Dwight Valentine has joined Last & Associates as a partner. Dwight was a second team All-Ivy football honoree in 1973 while playing for the Lions.

Clyde Moneyhun Program in Writing and Rhetoric Serra Mall 450, Bldg. 460, Room 223 Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305 cm131@stanford.edu

Louis Anon retired in May. He sailed in Maine last summer with two friends from the Class of '77, and he and his partner spent the fall in Turkey and Greece. This year, they'll move to their cottage in Shelburne, Nova Scotia (for the summers), but haven't made any decisions on where to spend the winter. "We're going to stay around New Jersey for a few more years before going south somewhere," Louis says. "We're thinking of Tallahassee."

Rick Johnson '71 passed away on November 3. Thomas J. Motley writes, "He was a 20th-century renegade who loved the pursuit of knowledge, exquisite dining, fine wines, and beautiful women. He enjoyed traveling the world visiting different cultures, his exercise regimen included boxing and ballroom dancing, and he sought his fortune in the canyons of Wall Street."

"I met Rick in 1970, when I was an impressive 15-year-old attending the graduation of my brother, Frank Motley III '70, '74L. At that time, Rick had a 'palace guard' Afro hairstyle, wore revolutionary attire, including the red bandanna (think Jimi Hendrix), and there was a beautiful coed playing with his hair. My sisters thought that he was intelligent, handsome and charming; I thought that he was cool — Columbia cool."

"During the next four decades, I observed Rick turn his dashiki for pinstripes. Awarded with his Harvard business and law degrees, Rick returned to New York City and worked for several prestigious financial institutions before starting his own invest-
Peter Low '78 is president and COO of Ensequence, an interactive television company that brings TV to a broad range of devices.

But wait, more music as Paul Phillips, director of orchestras and chamber music and a senior lecturer in music at Brown, writes that he is ready for new observing. A couple of years ago I purchased a Columbia cap and gown so I always have regalia on hand when needed for commencement, and other official university ceremonies, and so now, whenever another Columbia grad spots me in my blue gown, we end up having a mini-reunion on the spot.

Recently, I went to China for the first time — twice, actually. In April 2006, I flew to China with my older daughter, Joanna, and three months later the Brown Orchestra flew to Shanghai for a two-week tour, performing eight concerts in six cities including Shanghai and Beijing. It was wonderful.

"A show I wrote, War Music — a music theater work based on writings by British poet Christopher Logue — was produced in Chicago in November 2006 at the Chicago Humanities Festival. Another work premiered in Providence last fall at the FirstWorks-Prov Festival as part of an Anthology Burgess project that I'm helping to organize, which will include performances of some of his compositions and the U.S. premiere of a play about him. I did a final edit this summer on my book A Clockwork Counterpoint: The Music And Literature of Anthony Burgess. It should be coming out sometime soon."

"If any of our classmates wound up living in Massachusetts and having musical children, I may have worked with their offspring in March when I conducted the 2007 Massachusetts All-State Orchestra. I also guest conducted in Portugal this spring. "These almost 30 years since 1978 have brought me much excitement and much to be thankful for. I look forward to the next 30 with great anticipation for the possibilities yet to come."

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

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James J. Hagan's eldest son is a freshman at Ohio Wesleyan and his other two sons are in high school. James is finishing his 27th year at Bear Stearns. He's still rowing and racing in Connecticut.

Evan Brathwaite is a medical student at Coney Island Hospital and is busy with other activities, including the New York Philharmonic, CUNY Opera Theatre, the College of Fine Arts, and the New York City Opera. He also enjoys the winter.
“Outside of the financial services industry, I am a member of the Board of Directors of Precision Valve Corp., a privately-held manufacturing company, and two philanthropy foundations, The George Link, Jr. Foundation and The Bank of New York Mellon Corporation Foundation.

“I received my master’s from SIPA (1980) and J.D. from The George Washington University (1989). I live with my family (spouse and two children) in Chappaqua, N.Y. I regularly attend Columbia swimming team Homecoming and catch up with my former teammates and participate annually in the Columbia College accepted student/alumni program. I attended the 25th reunion weekend, and while it was some time ago, I can’t say enough about it — we had a great time. I congratulate and commend all who planned and executed the events.”

Jeffrey M. Marks

“Thanks for taking over this column and now that Lorca came to New York in 1929 for nine months and lived in John Jay! Look for the book by the greatest Spanish poet of the 20th century.

Stan Lazusky

I heard recently from our long-lost faux Russian in Moscow, Vladimir Berzonsky Jr. Vlad joined Union Bancare Priveé, a family-owned Swiss bank. He is heading up its Russian operation, which is in bookstores. He notes that Lorca came to New York in 1929 for nine months and lived in John Jay! Look for the book by the greatest Spanish poet of the 20th century.

Jeff Pundyk

“1-800-now I’m a dinner jacket.”

Mike Brown

Michael Brown

We have a light fare of offerings this issue, perhaps the result of middle-age malaise or perhaps just the opposite. Maybe, just maybe, our class is so engaged with world-beating, life-altering activities that there is simply no time to keep us up-to-date. That’s OK, I’ll just Google each and everyone of you for the next issue. Don’t worry, I’m sure the Internet is discreet in what it is willing to share on your behalf. I hope everybody saw the excellent illustration of Rich Ruzika in The Wall Street Journal late in October, a quietly understated rendition of Rich as one of the heads on Mount Rushmore. The article made the point that while the financial services industry is, shall we say, under duress, commodity traders — long living in the shadow of their investment banking and mortgage trading brethren — are now carrying their firms. In the case of Goldman Sachs, Rich has been anointed the head of the firm’s elite investing arm, the “special situations group.” How to top Mount Rushmore? If all goes well, Rich will soon have a sandwich in his name at the Carnegie Deli. Send suggestions for the content of “the Rich Ruzika” to jpunydk@yahoo.com.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and the new year finds you in good health.

We are relying New York City and surrounding boroughs to bring home the title.

Joe Moser

Richard is a urologist and practicing for the Lions basketball team to bring home the title.

Joe Tortorici ’84L checks in from Prague: “I am a partner at the international law firm Weil, Gotshal & Manges — I’ve been with the firm since 1987 — and since 1971 have been based in Europe, where I have been largely responsible for helping establish our European operations. Since 2003, I have had the title of European coordinating partner, which essentially means I spend a lot of time with clients, helping manage folks and traveling around Europe on airplanes. Since around 2005,

80 Michael Brown

I have had the title of European coordinating partner, which essentially means I spend a lot of time with clients, helping manage folks and traveling around Europe on airplanes.
Drop into one of Douglas Sadownick '81's clinical psychology classes at Antioch College in Los Angeles, and you may conclude you're in the wrong building. Instead of a droning lecture on Freudian theory, you'll find students beginning class by dancing to the records of early-'80s disco artists.

"Most instructors would come into the classroom and put a few words on the board," explains fellow Antioch professor Roger Kaufman bemusedly. "Doug comes into the classroom and puts on some Gloria Gaynor." Gloria Gaynor and Carl Jung may sound like strange bedfellows, says Kaufman, who teaches in the ground-breaking program Sadownick founded last year at Antioch, the country's first Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transsexual (LGBT) specialization in clinical psychology. But that's only because psychology isn't all in the head, says Kaufman, especially for gays, who as a result of internalized self-prejudice often feel alienated from their bodies.

"There's a very serious point about getting people to feel their bodies," explains Kaufman. "Doug has struggled because he is a thinking type, and so it's been a struggle for him to get more into his body. But he's embraced that with so much gusto, and he's bringing that to his students." In addition to taking the regular courses required to become marriage and family therapists, students in the specialization must complete a 17-unit program that includes such courses as "LGBT Adolescent and Youth Identity Issues" and "Models of LGBT Self-Esteem."

Courses like these have long been missing from the education of therapists, says Thomas Young, an LGBT therapy expert active with the Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association. "The program is vital, since it teaches things many therapists only learn later in clinical practice," says Young. "For example, the therapist needs to be aware of the pressures of being in a same-sex relationship when there isn't outside affirmation from society, and to recognize the depressive issues associated with coming out." Sadownick echoes the point. "There's very poor training for therapists working with the LGBT community," he says, explaining that it's not enough to avoid pathologizing homosexuality, as psychologists once did. A neutral manner of interaction traditionally has allowed even LGBT therapists to avoid their own internalized homophobia, says Sadownick. The solution is to replace an atmosphere of LGBT "acceptance" with one of active celebration.

That process of self-confrontation began in the late '70s for Sadownick, who didn't visit Columbia until after his acceptance, even after spending his childhood in the Bronx. The product of a family that rejected homosexuality, Sadownick was intensely shy, bookish and closeted when he arrived at Columbia. Almost immediately he joined the Gay Student Union, however, and began to find himself. "I came out with a bang, and became a completely different person," he says.

The first dance Sadownick attended was put on by the Gay Student Union at a Columbia residence hall, and he recalls that the event made him feel as if he were living in his body for the first time. Soon he was hanging out with Allen Ginsberg '48 in Morningside Heights, and heading down to gay bars in the East Village such as the Ninth Circle. "I remember going out and looking at the sky and the stars and feeling like life was beautiful for the first time," he says, still sounding moved by the experience.

But, says Sadownick, he was unable to reconcile his newfound identity as a gay man with the intellectual aspirations that had originally brought him to Columbia. He was never able to talk to Ginsberg about gay liberation, for instance, simply because he met the famed poet within the world of the University, instead of the more openly gay atmosphere of the East Village. "In the end, it was a relationship that caused Sadownick to change his professional course."

"I was going to be an English professor and I was going to write books on English literature, but then I got involved in a 14-year relationship with a performance artist named Tim Miller, who was one of the 'NEA Four,'" says Sadownick, referring to a group of controversial artists whose NEA grants were vetoed by Congress in the early 1990s. "Tim said, 'You've got to live in your body.'"

For Sadownick, that meant dropping out of his English Ph.D. program at NYU and becoming an AIDS activist, a gay-issues journalist and later a novelist. Sadownick's Sacred Lips of the Bronx was nominated for a Lambda, gay fiction's most prestigious award, in 1994. Sadownick followed Miller to Los Angeles, where after beginning therapy under a gay-centered analyst, he realized there might be a place for him in academia after all.

After getting his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Pacifica Institute last year, Sadownick founded his unique specialization at Antioch. He describes himself as a happy single man and "a recent extrovert." It has been a decade since his last visit to New York, but he believes the years have been as positive and transformative for his alma mater as they have been for him.

"I was never able to combine my studies with being gay, and that was a loss," he says. "But what students have today at Columbia and elsewhere — leaders who are gay-identified — is absolutely wonderful."

Justin Clark '04J lives in Los Angeles and contributes to LA Weekly, Plenty and Nerve.com.

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My wife and I have made Prague home again. She is Czech, and although we had previously lived in Paris for a few years when I was helping get our office there going, we decided to move back to Prague (where I have lived on and off since around 1992) when the kids started to grow/arrive. Joseph Philip (5) arrived in April 2002. Our second child, Claudia Christina — how's that for an Italian name? — arrived in March.

Gill Atzman writes from an airport lounge somewhere: "I'm busy marketing the IPO of my company, Zazu Metals Corp. I have been and/or will be in San Francisco, Vancouver, NYC, Montreal, Toronto, London and Boston. If all goes well, the company will be listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange by the first edition is printed."

Erik Jacobs, with whom I recently shared a birthday (within a couple of days) reminds me that it's not so bad turning 36. Right? Erik says, "My wife, Laura Eber's '86, and I have two children — Margo was born March 15 and William is 4! This is what is keeping me young."

And finally, Manny Tirado invites old friends to get back in touch. Write to Manny at mtirado@metropolitan.edu. Manny works for NYC Transit/MTA and teaches at two local colleges. He recently gave up his apartment in

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PHOTO: ROGER KAUFMAN

Douglas Sadownick '81 has founded the country's first LGBT specialization in clinical psychology, at Antioch College in L.A.
Andrew Weisman
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Greetings, gentlemen. At presstime we will have just breached the New Year. I have a suggestion. In the new year, resolve to become more expressive, resolve to communicate with old friends, resolve to write to CCT and kill two birds with one stone.

This cycle, I was very pleased to hear from Matthew Licht. As luck (or rather skill) would have it, Matthew recently was nominated for the Frank O'Connor Short Story Award for his most recent book that consists of a series of short stories, *The Moose Show*. Incidentally, the Frank O’Connor Short Story Award is an annual award of 35,000 euros. As such, it is a rather prestigious award and currently the world’s richest prize for the short story form. For those of you who have not been communicating directly, Matthew, I managed to piller a copy of a bio provided by his publisher Salt (Cambridge, United Kingdom) and a little background on the book itself.

Matthew Licht got an education in New York City. Among other things, he learned that escape is impossible. He has had many jobs, from driving the delivery truck for a VIP liquor store in Beverly Hills to being *The World’s Oldest Copy Boy* (Save One) at the Newspaper of Record. He is the author of the novels *World’s Oldest Copy Boy (Save One)* at the Newspaper of Record.

He is the author of the novels *World’s Oldest Copy Boy (Save One)* at the Newspaper of Record.

The Moose Show: Readers tired of the latest, the hottest, the most expensive will be glad for a look at grubbier times, grittier adventures than virtual reality or Reality TV can supply. What would happen if you were downsized from that stressful job that takes up so much of your time? Life might be not as bad, or a whole lot worse than you think. Either way, you’d have plenty of time to go to *The Moose Show*, and the private life finally begins to understand itself with a cat or two and a VW modified (and evolving, always) for Sports Club Car of America competition. Much about Columbia College remains with me, fondly and thoughtfully, both personally and also as a background against which I evaluate my teaching. The several instructors and professors who taught my Great Books sections, in their several ways, set a tone that I finally began to understand through the courtesy, interest and patience shown later by professors in other and more advanced courses. James Shenton [’49], for instance, who knew me only through the abstract of a massive lecture class, nevertheless subsequently greeted me by name while making sure that my younger brother felt welcome to accompany a summer course’s walking tour of lower Manhattan. And Alan Segal, of Barnard, although he did not mean to, helped to cause me to rethink repeatedly the ‘why’ of an academic vocation and resolve each time on a clearer, more positive conclusion on the same. I remember others, too, from my abrasive and often comically major. In any case, Columbia had great teachers who also were fine people. For them, 1983 was another year. Students from so many years look back upon them, though. What a legacy.

The Moose Show.

Avent Beck: “You make a noble, and by the evidence of each set of Class Notes, also a successful effort to glean from your classmates hints of their lives. It is always enjoyable to read these in the context of those years that surround our 1983. Oddly enough, I graduated having friends from Barnard and Engineering — a gift of Carman 11 freshman year — but not really any from the College. A small irony, but one that does make me scratch my head about writing a Class Note.

“In any case, here is [a] little from mid-life: Left Westchester for the Shenandoah Valley in 1990. Then, while alternately teaching at James Madison University, helping to build a small family business and working for an academic group, earned a Ph.D. in American studies from NYU (2003). Now back at JMU, but also excited to be on the board of the American Shakespeare Center and, in the early-mid-life mode, content with a cat or two and a VW modified (and evolving, always) for Sports Club Car of America competition. Much about Columbia College remains with me, fondly and thoughtfully, both personally and also as a background against which I evaluate my teaching. The several instructors and professors who taught my Great Books sections, in their several ways, set a tone that I finally began to understand through the courtesy, interest and patience shown later by professors in other and more advanced courses. James Shenton [’49], for instance, who knew me only through the abstract of a massive lecture class, nevertheless subsequently greeted me by name while making sure that my younger brother felt welcome to accompany a summer course’s walking tour of lower Manhattan. And Alan Segal, of Barnard, although he did not mean to, helped to cause me to rethink repeatedly the ‘why’ of an academic vocation and resolve each time on a clearer, more positive conclusion on the same. I remember others, too, from my abrasive and often comically major. In any case, Columbia had great teachers who also were fine people. For them, 1983 was another year. Students from so many years look back upon them, though. What a legacy.”

Wayne Root: “FYI, CC now has a second ‘favorite son’ President candidate. I was very pleased to hear of this earlier today with the Federal Election Commission for President of the United States. My speech at the Conservative Leadership Conference was a grand slam home run. I received a rare standing ovation as a Libertarian candidate from the Republican conservative crowd. The link of the speech was sent to Libertarian leaders across the United States, and the response has been phenomenal. I am now convinced that I will be the Libertarian nominee for President of the United States. . . . I’ve watched the Republican and Democratic candidates speak and debate, including Barack Obama. I believe that I bring the most unique qualifications to the race. The country is sending a message that is confused and worried about the future. Never before has there been a more ideal opportunity for a third-party candidate. It’s time for America’s voters to think ‘out of the box’ — to elect a Jewish, Columbia University-educated, Libertarian, small businessman, Las Vegas oddsmaker and professional gambler, S.O.B. (Son of a Butcher) as President!”

John Lovi: “I guess an update every 25 years is not too often. After Columbia, I left for Tulane Law School (’86), where I met my wife, Caitlin Bergmann, a law professor at CUNY Law School. We live in Montclair, N.J., with our children, Alena (13) and Griffin (11). I am a partner at Sptoe & Johnson, where I opened our New York office in 2004. My practice focuses primarily on commercial and securities litigation. I also am the regular outside litigation counsel for the Republic of Korea, having first represented many of its financial institutions facing the Asian financial crisis of 1997. . . .”

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

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We live just up the street from Phil Hirschhorn '84, his wife, Carita, and their three boys. Without a significant retainer fee, however, I will not reveal any more dirt on Phil, such as his skiing injury at Snowbird last year. (That was a freebie.)

"My kids are growing fast, and my oldest is now talking about colleges. I told her that she could go to any college she likes, but I will pay for Columbia.

"Hope to see many of you at our 25th reunion next year."

Fred Schulte: "In 1982, I was a returning student following my withdrawal from Columbia in the mid-’70s. I’d been working for a legal publisher for several years, and I realized that completing my degree at the College was a professional necessity and an important personal goal. The Dean’s Office was wonderful about allowing me to complete enough credits to get into CCNY as a Class of ’83 senior. The faculty members at CCNY were also fabulously welcoming, particularly Professors Miller of the English department and Evans of the philosophy department. Despite the odd work, I found CCNY to be a pleasure to attend that fine, often overlooked institution.

"During my final year at Columbia, I continued to work for the legal publisher. My managing editor was generous, and we worked out flexible work schedules for my two remaining semesters that were built around my class schedules on Morningside Heights. I was commuting to and from classes, but luckily our offices were on Seventh Avenue, so rich lunch and CCNY. It was a pleasure to attend that fine, often overlooked institution.

"Like so many other students, my second home during finals each semester was Butler Library. Late at night, I haunted the offices of three friends who were attorneys to make use of their IBM Selectrics and churn out my English major’s mass of papers. I must say that returning to classes at the College was wonderful. I felt that I had been given a new chance at life, and I was determined to make the very best of it. The intellectual energy of the faculty and the challenge of participating in class with some of the most talented and gifted students anywhere made campus life a delightful and exhilarating experience for me."

"John Lind and I studied together for a few classes, but he’s really the only other student I came to know at all well because of my commuter’s schedule. That is really my only regret about my remarkable final year at Columbia. By the end of the year, I’d written something like 12 pages for each of my 32 credits. Wallace Gray had become my faculty adviser. I took two seminars: Michael Seidel’s ‘Love, Death, and the Realist Novel’ (who could resist?) and Professor Gray’s legendary ‘Joyce, Eliot, and Pound.’ To this day, I return with great pleasure to the poetry of Eliot and Wallace Stevens; and I can recall the soft, guiding voice of Professor Gray, a voice that seemed always on the edge of either laughter or deep concern. I confess with some regret that I also recall his frustration that the genius of Pound seemed either elusively to my classmates and me. I’m afraid several of us couldn’t see the artist for the man.

"After graduation, I returned to working in an editorial position for the legal publisher for a few months before I moved to university publishing, where I spent the next 13 years. During that time I married Julie, and we were blessed with two children. In the late ’90s, we moved to central Florida, where I work for a publisher of elementary school textbooks. We’re awaiting a corporate buyout as our industry continues to contract. New talent is more and more difficult to attract to the world of print publishing. We’ve traded our Selectrics for Mac G-5s and there is more work for typesetters like me. However, they come to be, I have always been a love of mine, and I cherish the illusion that it’s good work done for a good purpose. Maybe there was more to tell than I at first thought."

We welcome participation on the 25th reunion committee. The current list includes Andrew Barovick, Ron Blum, George Bogdan, Tom Bow, Gerard Bushell, Michael Cataldo, Kevin Chapman, Nathaniel Christian, Steve Coleman, Anthony Corbiseri, Dan Dean, David Einhorn, Eric Lee Epstein, Daniel Ferreira, Robert B. Flood, Andrew Gershon, Steven Greenfield, Robert Harding Davis, Ed Harris ’82, David Hershey-Webley, Robert Hughes, Stephen Huntley-Robertson, Ed Joyce, Paul Lerner, Stuart Levi, Stephen Lew, Harry McCreary, Geoffrey Mintz, Mark Momjian, Jim Palos, Nicholas Paone, Stirling Phillips, Roy Pomerantz, Barry Rashkover, Mark Reuter, while still doing the occasional music gig on the side. I’ve recently been appointed an assistant commissioner and charged with building and performing metrics office. How a philosophy major and frat-party musician managed to get into a fix like this is a long and sordid tale ...

In 2005, I married my longtime girlfriend, Ivana Jovic, and in October of that year, our son, Alexander, was born. It has been a wild and joyful two years."

Anthony E. Kaye, assistant professor of American history at Penn State, has written Joining Places: Slave Neighborhoods in the Old South.

Special kudos to the Columbia Alumni Association on the great success of its first international meeting in Paris. Last September, more than 600 attendees, including yours truly, benefited from three days of seminars, superb meals and parties, and awe-inspiring presentations by luminaries in many fields, including former UN
beautiful, healthy kids (Sam, 11; Oliver, 8; Rita, 7; and Nava, 3) and I am thankful every day for that. They are New York City kids through and through but also have a love for the outdoors, which is really fortunate. What is unfortunate is that the family is mourning the silencing of the bats at Shea and Yankee Stadiums. For the Mets side of the family, the death by choking was truly tragic. Meanwhile, I take at work trying to keep the freezer stocked with ice cream. I'm a partner at a media-oriented private equity group, ZelnickMedia. My current gig involves me being the CEO of Take Two Interactive, a leading publisher of video games. The kids think I am doing the Lord's work; I now get all sorts of dispensation to stay late at work to make more video games. I also have the dubious distinction of being one of a dozen or so non-Japanese directors of public Japanese companies, and I think I have a good deal of time in Tokyo trying to keep vibrant one of Japan's most venerable music companies. I get somewhat less dispensation for that one. If I had a hedge fund ... "I am very proud of my wife, Victoria, who founded a not-for-profit focused on the post-9-11 lower Manhattan Jewish community. It is a roaring success." Alva Noe is a professor of philosophy at UC Berkeley, married to a guy named Dylan Vale and has two children with great names: Ulysses (3) and August (6). For the current academic year, they are living in Berlin, where Alva is a guest researcher at the Institute for Advanced Study (Wissenschaftskolleg) in Berlin. His first book, Action in Perception, was published in 2004 and he is finishing a second book due out with Farrar Straus and Giroux called Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness.

Columbia Business Connections
Inviting alumni to advertise their businesses in or near their Class Notes
Contact: Taren Cowan at 212-870-2767, tc2306@columbia.edu

January/February 2008 68
Bill Flick wrote: “Every few years, I somehow convince a group of Phi Gams and/or ex-CU football players to visit with my family outside of Philadelphia on Friday followed by a trek up to Baker Field for Homecoming on Saturday. Making the trip to Philly this year were Jason Pitkin, who lives in San Francisco; John Williamson ’88, Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Tony Augello ’88, Los Angeles; Randy Bessolo, San Francisco; Dave Ortiz ’86, Chicago; and Shawn ”Demo” Demoss ’88, Dallas, and his wife, Esther. Dave arrived with a case of the best Chicago steaks (Meats by Linz), and we had a great time grilling, drinking a few beverages and reminiscing. My wife, Leslie, and Demo’s wife are truly saints for putting up with us.”

“Saturday we made it up to the game and spent a great deal of our time at the football tent that [Athletics Director] Dr. [Dianne] Murphy had reserved for the football team. There we saw at least another dozen ex-CU players, and/or CU football. If I start listing names, I’m bound to offend someone by forgetting them so I’ll leave it at that. After the game it was like we never left school (except for the vacant FFJ house), as we crashed a few party parties, hit whatever The West End is now called and finished up at whatever Cannon’s is now called.”

Claire Turro Styricki was teaching eighth through 12th grade science for seven years before taking an early retirement brought on by the birth of her son, Charlie, now 11. Two years later, her daughter, Maria, kept her busy at home and three years after that, the arrival of Julia happily side-tracked her further. Claire and Tom have been married for 14 years and make their home in Stillwater, Minn. Claire said that Maria wants to go to Columbia to be near her grandma and pops (Sandy and Nick) who work in Chandler and Havemeyer.

In April, Richard Kramer fathered his third child, Lissi, named for the mother of his recently deceased father, Fred ’54.

Steven D. Bloom was married on August 5 to Jennifer Vitale, a graduate of Pomona College, in Westminster Beach. And if that wasn’t great enough, Steven also received the John Peter Mettaper Award for Excellence in Research at Hampden-Sydney College, where he is an associate professor of Economics.

Marya Pollack has been promoted to assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at Columbia.

Karen Walker has been living in Paris since right after graduation and has been active in the Columbia Club there. In September, she said, the Alumni Association had an international alumni gathering in Paris with a forum including speakers Kofi Annan, Joseph Stiglitz, Jeffrey Sachs and President Lee C. Bollinger, a gala reception at the Grande Galerie de l’Evolution at the Jardin des Plantes and many individual school events. The event was a success, and hundreds of Columbia alumni came from all over Europe and the world.

Karen said any Columbians coming to France should feel free to get in touch at kw215@colombia.edu or through the alumni Web site. “We have events about once a month, including the traditional bowling at Montparnasse bowling lanes — Columbia’s won the last two years,” Karen said.

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Natalie Miranda nm2417@columbia.edu 212-870-3768 DEVELOPMENT Marilyn Mullins mm2651@columbia.edu 212-870-3453

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Well, the mailbag was a little light this week, which gives me time to correct an egregious oversight. I forgot to mention in an earlier column that my family spent a lovely summer morning with Lisa Price, her husband, Spencer, and twin babies, Theo and Sophie. They came by for a visit with some of our kids, who were restful and seemed to have made the transition from city to suburban life fairly well. I’ll confess to missing occasionally my old Tribeca neighborhood, but it’s more than compensated by the opportunity to play tennis, barbecue and enjoy the local beaches and outdoors year-round. Nisha and I work in the city, so we have our daily fix of Manhattan. This summer I was pleased to learn that Peter Schnur is a neighbor and a member of my gym. It’s been nice reconnecting with him and meeting his family.

“This year was hectic for us. Nisha took a job as CFO at AOL, which meant we temporarily relocate to Dulles, Va. Fortunately, corporate headquarters is relocating to New York, so we are now firmly reestablished in our home again. My job remains enjoyable. Three years ago, I co-founded an investment bank, Postmedia Media, to make private-equity investments in media and information companies. We are investing in and managing a portfolio of companies with operations throughout the United States, Europe and Asia, and this keeps me in airports much too frequently.

“Homecoming this year was great fun. We decked the children out in Columbia blue and spent the day with lots of old friends. Homecoming is nothing like it used to be. Our school has really made an effort to reach out to alumni and make the day a family-oriented event. There was a carnival for the kids, with rides and clowns, as well as a barbecue lunch. Our class was well represented. I spent time catching up with fellow Carman 8 residents: Lisa Landau Carnoy, who is a Wall Street star as the co-head of Equity Capital Markets at Merrill Lynch, and Chris Della Pietra, who is practicing law in New Jersey. We also had a pleasant surprise. Phillipa Feldman ’86 Barnard.

“Also on hand was Paul Rady, who left the U.S. Attorney’s Office to teach law at Fordham; Alex Margolies, who lives in Manhattan with his wife, Julie, and works at the private equity firm Fortress Investments Group; Mike Hodapp ’90, who lives just across from Baker Field was there with his family; as well as Eric Shuster, who lives in Westchester and is recently engaged. Bo Hansen ’88, who works around the corner from me at a hedge fund, was there as well with his wife and kids. Last minute no-shows included Justin O’Grady, who was enjoying himself on the golf course (it was a beautiful day for golf). Justin is now a scratch golfer when he is not busy with his consulting business. Fellow Carman 8er, Tommy Augspurger, was also a last-minute no-show,
using the excuse of a sore throat or something equally lame. "Tommy has given up his book writing career to return to the law and is practicing with the Chicago office of Dewey LeBouef (aka Dewey Ballantine). He still manages to find time for his triathlons and other athletic pursuits.

"My fellow FIJI brothers made a strong showing, turning out with their families. Among those there were my former roommate Josh Kreveitt, his wife, Marcy Nislow '90; Barnard, a knows three children; Raf Squitieri, his wife, Kelly, and three children; and Rob LaPlaca and Christina Benedetto and their three children (if you include Tony Augello '89, who flew in from California). Josh is a partner at the law firm of Jones Day, where he is head of the intellectual property department. More surprising is that, in addition to being the soccer coach for his son's middle school, he also volunteers as the drama club coach. No, not with the musical Pippin, which he directed, which was surprisingly entertaining. (I kid you not — I was there.) Raf and Rob live nearby in Connecticut. Raf is a cardio-thoracic surgeon and has launched a medical-device company. Rob practices law in Westport, and his free time is a volunteer fireman.

"Other FIJIs there were Craig Nobert '90 and his wife Lisa Dabney '90, who brought their two daughters. (Craig and Lisa live in New York, where they are surgeons; and Dean) their former roommate, I was there.) Raf and Rob live nearby in Connecticut. Raf is a cardio-thoracic surgeon and has launched a medical-device company. Rob practices law in Westport, and his free time is a volunteer fireman.

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Rohit Aggarwala ’93’s relationship with Columbia only began at the College. After completing his B.A. in history, he went on to earn an M.Phil. and Ph.D in history as well as an M.B.A. After earning his last degree in 2002, he has continued his affiliation with Columbia not only by serving on the CC Alumni Association Board of Directors, but also collaborating with faculty in his work.

That work is PlaNYC, Aggarwala’s ambitious undertaking as director of New York City’s Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability. The office works within the Office of Operations of Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who appointed Aggarwala in June 2006 to head the new group.

PlaNYC is a vast project that encompasses initiatives for improving the city’s infrastructure and quality of life. The sweeping plan includes efforts focusing on five key areas of city environment: land, air, water, energy and transportation. The office, currently in the process of expanding from 10 employees to 20, aims to create a higher quality of life for future generations while contributing to a 30 percent reduction in global warming emissions.

“It’s an imperative for the city,” Aggarwala says of the focus on climate change. “Last September, the mayor appointed a sustainability advisory board, and in December he laid out goals. In his speech, he made a commitment that we would undertake outreach, including 11 town hall meetings across the boroughs. Alongside that, we were doing analysis and policy work.”

In addition to public meetings, Aggarwala has met with more than 100 grassroots organizations to gather feedback. He also has enlisted the expertise of specialists from Columbia.

“When I came on board, we knew that we needed the help of scientists and others who could guide us,” Aggarwala explains. He reached out to a number of Columbia faculty, including Director of the Earth Institute Jeffrey Sachs and Cynthia Rosenzweig, a senior research scientist at the Center for Climate Systems Research. “Even Ken Jackson ended up being in a video we made about infrastructure,” Aggarwala says.

Jackson, the Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences, has assisted Aggarwala before. He served as his undergraduate and graduate adviser, then as a member of his dissertation committee, and recalls Aggarwala as “well organized, thoughtful, perceptive and focused.”

Aggarwala has spent his whole life in New York, growing up in White Plains before attending the College. Though he intended to major in political science, he quickly adjusted his plans. “What I appreciated in the first history course I took, with Richard Bushman, was that history was much, much broader,” Aggarwala notes. “Looking at politics alone failed to look at the things that shape politics, such as religious shifts or cultural shifts.”

Along with coursework, Aggarwala broadened his knowledge of history and politics while serving as president of the College Democrats, as a member of the Student Government board at Earl Hall and as a reporter for Spectator.

His graduate work was influenced by Jackson, Bushman and Betsy Blackmar, who made up his dissertation committee. Aggarwala also is proud to have served on the student senate for four years and to have been one of two students representatives on the search committee that appointed President Lee C. Bollinger.

In an uncommon departure, Aggarwala took time off to pursue an M.B.A. between earning his master’s and Ph.D. “It is an unusual combination, but it ought to make more sense together if we thought about business and history more rationally than we do,” he says. “Business people would do well not to assume the current situation is always unique. From the business perspective, it makes sense to look at history, at the long term. From the historian’s perspective, I think they tend to dismiss how business decisions affect history and society.”

Aggarwala combined his interests working as a transportation consultant for McKinsey until he was tapped to work for the mayor’s office. Now he spends his days pushing forward PlaNYC one step at a time, trying to complete as much as possible in the roughly two years left in Bloomberg’s administration.

“In some cases, it is stuff the city has to execute,” Aggarwala says of implementing the plan’s elements. “In some cases it’s legislation, in some cases it’s plans to plan. We’re developing a green building bill, a transit plan and the congestion pricing initiative; we’re analyzing alternatives — ideas that the commission wants to consider — making sure things are moving, and ensuring quality.”

The position also has led him to give more talks than he ever imagined, including a number at Columbia. Speaking on campus is just one of Aggarwala’s ongoing connections to the University. He has been on the CCAA board since 2002 and is currently on its executive committee.

SIPA professor Ester Fuchs, a member of the mayor’s sustainability panel, credits Aggarwala’s “encyclopedic knowledge of environmental policy, his capacity to work harder than anyone else in the room, and his ability to listen to diverse opinions,” for his success. “Rit is always about finding the solution, never just articulating the problem, which made it extremely easy for me to work with him. Rit has been a gift from Columbia University to the City of New York.”

Laura Butchy ’04 Arts is a writer, dramaturg and theater educator in New York City. She is a regular contributor to CCT and American Theatre.
That's it for now. As much as I enjoy my new ability to gather news via my Internet sources, it's much more fun to hear from you directly. Drop me a line and let me know how it is out there. Your classmates certainly want to know.

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With 2008 upon us, I am confident that each and every one of us had an extra-special New Year’s resolution: “I’m going to attend my College reunion.” Say it with me now, and repeat it 15 times. Fifteen years and counting, and the August reunion committee is back at it, planning ways to make our reunion a memorable success.

With the two remaining CCT updates, we are going to offer a one-time free pass to get your name in bold without actually having to divulge facts (or secrets) about your personal life. Please e-mail me if you plan to attend our reunion, and in the May/June issue’s column, we’ll list out all the names and hope to break the 2,000-word limit. We’ll start this issue with the reunion committee (which has reportedly committed to spend every second of reunion in a CC93 advanced base camp on College Lawn): Alan Freeman and Rachael Mintz are co-chairs, with the above-assigned duties (though not in order), Bua, Shira Boss, Deborah Cook, Matt DeFilippis, Addison Golladay, Stephen Morfesis, Jackie Quan, Christine Raker Garcia, Rita Pietropinto-Kitt, Benjamin Sacks, Paul Sangillo, Don Shillingburg, Tahai Tafari, Neil Turitz, Ellen Weinstein, Chris Wiggins and Margaret Wolf. How’s that for a start?! Look forward to hearing from you about your reunion plans.

Lest you think that introduction was an attempt to fill a column without any real news — the e-mail box has been busy with excellent and exciting news — please keep the e-mails flowing. Eric Roston writes from D.C. with a “trifecta of good news to report. The happy news is the arrival of Madeline Libby, who joined us on September 14 (my wife, Karen Yourish, is a ’98 Journalism School graduate). We have started Madeline on a modified Literature and climate change here in Washington, D.C., as a senior associate at Duke University’s Nicholas Institute.”

In the category of as much as things change, some things remain the same: Jennifer Hoffman. Prior to her work in Rome, Jennifer was in NYC for a week of audit work, but also served as boss + tour-guide + club impresario to her five unsuspecting Italian co-workers. Between touring the top of the Empire State Building, closing down Marquee (two nights in a row) and attending a J-E-T-S game (with yours truly), Jennifer managed to run the show and rule the town for a week straight. So, that’s exactly the same. What has changed is that Jenny is a proud mama (in the Italian sense of the word) to William (5) and Victoria (3) and gets to spend wonderful holidays on Cape Cod. Robyn Tuerk was booked through the end of the month but several nights on the town. Robyn is back in New York after several years in L.A. and is general counsel at Phillips International, a real estate company that owns boutique hotels such as the Bryant Park Hotel in NYC and the Shore Club in Miami.

Sascha Liebowitz e-mailed as well, and in order to provide the pure and unadulterated voice of Sascha, I quote: “Sascha Liebowitz ’93 has until now never given an update because she’s been in transition for the last 15 years and figured she’d report in when she got settled. Having realized that she will probably be morphing constantly until her death, and perhaps after that, she figures, now is as good a time as any to fill folks in on her whereabouts and general state of being. Following graduation, Sascha returned to Los Angeles and worked for the then-president of marketing at Columbia Pictures for several years. After that, she returned to New York, where she received her J.D. from NYU and then was a lawyer in mergers and acquisitions at Sullivan & Cromwell. This year, Sascha moved to Santa Barbara, Calif., with her husband, Mike Taigman, whom she met while in Big Sur. She continues to recover from her stint as a lawyer and to create a life filled with joy. Feel free to contact her at Sascha.Liebowitz@gmail.com.”

Mar Wolf ’93 went back to school to Fairfield University School of Nursing and got a second bachelor’s; she is an oncology nurse at Greenwich Hospital.

Betsy Comperz writes from Boston with news: John Trbovich ’93E and his wife, Mary-Curtis, had a daughter, Katherine Grace. John is a general partner of MILCOM Venture Partners, a private equity fund in Florida that invests at the investment banks and commercial banks. Drew Stevens ’93E lives in Vietnam and is an investor in a small restaurant in the kitchen, which is reported to serve the best American food in Hanoi, and has started a shirt company called Drew Shanklin — think a cooler Thomas Pink shirt that is in a slim, contemporary fit, and is made for the guy who needs a versatile look that goes from work to after-work.

I also heard from Mar Wolf, who went back to school to Fairfield University School of Nursing and got a second bachelor’s. She is an oncology nurse at Greenwich Hospital in Connecticut and lives on City Island in the Bronx, which reportedly has the best fried seafood on the Eastern seaboard. I also ran into John Mathews at the local Upper West Side playground. He is the assistant head of the Lower School at Riverside Country School and with his wife, Linda, has two children, Anna (4 — and born two days after our 10th Reunion [HINT]) and Alex (1). Marielena Villar-Sosa was recently hired by Florida International University’s School of Journalism as an assistant professor in the department of advertising and public relations. Maria holds a master’s in public health and a Ph.D. in communications from the University of Miami.

Lara Zielien writes in with great family news — she and her husband, Ron, and son, Charlie (1), welcomed a girl into the family, Lucy Rose, on October 2. All are happy and healthy. Jen (Fetner) Saba and Joe Saba also had a second child, JJ, in June.

Congrats to all!

Ben Sacks has good news to share as well — he is happily married to Carolyn Arpin and has two kids, Daniel (2) and Alexandria (1), and a dog, Pete. They live in Adams Morgan in Washington, D.C., where Ben recently joined The Brattle Group as a principal, specializing in matters estimating damages, particularly those requiring sophisticated statistical analysis. His experience includes damages estimation at securities litigations, product liability and mass tort actions, bankruptcies, breach of contract and lost profit claims, fraudulent conveyance matters and insurance disputes. Prior to joining The Brattle Group, Ben was a v.p. of CRA International and was previously a partner at Bates White, where he helped found the firm’s Corporate Finance and Environmental and Product Liability practices. He has lectured on asbestos liability issues at national and international conferences. Ben holds an M.A. from the University of Chicago in economics, where he is also a Ph.D. candidate.

That’s all for now, but I hope to include YOUR name and your intentions to make our 15th reunion the highest attended yet. Happy New Year!

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I recently exchanged e-mails with Anna Kuchment as she reconnect-ed with Tiffany Ngeo, who was featured in this column a few issues back. Anna lives in New York City with her husband, Mark Lamsted, a book writer, and their daughter, Eliza, who was born in February 2006. Anna has worked at Neotis eek for many years and...
spent some time in Moscow before returning to the New York office as a writer and editor.

I also got a great e-mail from Melissa Lawton, who shared details of a mini-Carman 12 reunion in San Francisco in October, in celebration of the marriage of Jane Doherty ’95 to Rafael Ojeda. “They got married in Paraguay more than a year ago and several of us now in California gathered for a long-overdue celebration at Dave Divita ’95’s home in San Francisco. The Carmanites were Dave, Jane, Derek Fairchild-Coppoletti, Jeannie Kelly, Alex Metzger, Kong-lin Lee Wang ’94E and me.” [See photo.]

Melissa detailed the reunion weekend — which included late-night carousing, Koronet-like pizza slices and Jeannie on a karaoke stage singing Glória. Melissa also offered a wonderful rundown of updates on everyone in attendance:

Jane and Rafael live in Washington Heights. Jane teaches eighth-grade English at a public school in her neighborhood. She recently got her M.F.A. in creative writing at Sarah Lawrence and also has a master’s from Bank Street.

Dave is getting his Ph.D. in Romance languages at UC Berkeley and lives with his longtime partner, Jason Poindexter. He gets to take months-long trips to Barcelona and Paris as part of his research.

Alex, who is married to Ritu Mukerji, is an oncologist in Marin County and lives in San Rafael with sons Lucas and Noah. Ritu is a primary care doctor there. They also have a sweet dog and an incredibly feisty cat.

Kong-lin lives in Menlo Park with her husband, Art, and sons, Jake and Brady. She is selling real estate — she only has to sell a house every couple of years in that market to match what she made as a consultant.

Derek lives in San Francisco with his wife, Leigh, and sons, Theo and Tad, and is CFO of Agraquest, an environmentally friendly biotech company.

Jeannie is busy acting and performing on stage and in television. She lives near Melissa in West Hollywood, and they get together all the time with their kids (Jeannie’s son, Sean, and daughter, Josy, and Melissa’s son, Mick).

Melissa has a new job as a stay-at-home mom, running after her 15-month-old along with her husband, Michael. Before her son was born, Melissa was an attorney, primarily doing early education policy in L.A.

In October, former residents of Carman 12 reunited at Dave Divita ’95’s house in San Francisco to celebrate the marriage of Jane Doherty ’95 to Rafael Ojeda. Front row, left to right: Kong-lin Lee Wang ’94E, Melissa Lawton ’94 and Jeannie Kelly ’94. Back row, left to right: Derek Fairchild-Coppoletti ’94, Doherty, Alex Metzger ’94 and Divita.

PHOTO: RITU MUKERJI ’94

95
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Since we’re too young to have teenagers ourselves, you may not have heard about Megan McCafferty, celebrity author. [See September/October 2006.] She has written the highly successful book series about the character Jessica Darling, who like Megan, is a Jersey girl who ends up at Columbia.

Megan, whose maiden name is Fitzmorris, transferred to Columbia our junior year from the University of Richmond. After years in Manhattan conquering the magazine world, she moved to Princeton, where she lives with her husband of nine years and their four-year-old son. Her love of orange and black, makes the time to interview prospective high school students applying to the College.

I recently caught up with Megan when she was visiting New York for a reading of her latest book, Fourth Comings, the fourth of the Darling series that started with Sloppy Firsts and sequel Second Helpings. Her last two novels, Charmed Thirds and Fourth Comings, hit The New York Times’ hardcover fiction bestseller list.

Jessica goes to Columbia in her third year, and the first page describes College Walk. Keep reading for mentions of Carmine’s, Two Skinny Js (founded, if I remember correctly, by my coop leader, Rob Perle ’92) and references to the authors, artists and musicians we studied as part of the Core Curriculum.

Roxanna Sherwood ’94 won an Emmy for her work on “Conduct Unbecoming,” an investigative series about “big people doing not so admirable things” for ABC’s Nightline. She also produced “The Sandwich Generation” for Nightline, about cancer in adults between ages 20 and 40. It was inspired by the death of Katherine Miller, sister of Nicole Miller ’96 and UVA graduate who died at 26. Read more about the project here: http://abcnews.go.com/Nightline/story?id=3623642&page=1.

When it was published in late October, Francois, a professor of history at the University of Montreal, is the author of In the Name of the Father: Washington’s Legacy, Slavery and the Making of a Nation. Read his piece here: www.nytimes.com/2007/10/28/opinion/28furstenberg.html. If that doesn’t work, try www.nytimes.com and enter keywords into the search box.

96
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Happy New Year, classmates! I hope you have a happy, healthy and peaceful year.

Alex Speck Crowley recently moved to Cape Cod from NYC, where she was a theater actress as well as comedy improviser at Upright Citizens Brigade. She married James Crowley in Cape Cod in June, teaches acting and performs in Woods Hole, Mass. Marissa Heller was a bridesmaid, and Maria Rodríguez also attended. Alex writes that Marissa is now married, has a little boy, Danny, and lives in Boston. She is a doctor and works in dermatologic surgery. Maria is married as well, works in telecommunications and lives in Sydney.

My former Carman 5 floormate and Columbia tennis player, Kelly Koch, lives in Cincinnati. After graduation, she went to Indiana University and completed a Ph.D. in social psychology. From there, Kelly took a job in...
Cincinnati doing custom analysis and primary research for Kroger. She has been in Cincinnati for four years.

Roxanna Sherwood ’95 produced “The Sandwich Generation” about cancer in young adults aged 20-40, to many accolades on September 19 on ABC’s Nightline. The work on young adults with cancer was a project inspired by the death of Katherine Miller, a 26-year-old graduate of UVA and sister of Nicole Miller. Roxanna has been a longtime friend of the Miller family. Nicole and her family helped to advise production of the piece. For the same cause, Nicole has been one of the driving forces behind establishment of the Katherine Miller Symposium for Young Adults with Cancer, which will take place biannually at Des Moines University. Held in a medical school setting, the conference strives to bring together viewpoints and research findings from the medical community along with the vital perspectives of cancer patients and survivors. The combination of voices and experiences allows for vibrant discussion of the vital perspectives of cancer care in young adults. For more information on the symposium or to express an interest in helping along this effort please see www.ulmanfund.org or e-mail Nicole: rememberingkatherine@gmail.com.

Elizabeth Yuan writes that one of the proudest things she did this year was to summon up the nerve to step out of her hotel in a gorilla suit (yes, a gorilla suit). She walked a few blocks on a beautiful Saturday morning in London into the Marble Arch tube station, to the apparently nonplussed London passerbys. Elizabeth ran four miles with a few hundred other “gorillas” later that morning. The cause was to raise money for The Gorilla Organization on behalf of endangered gorillas.

As for yours truly, my firm merged with Epstein Becker & Green, where I am now a partner in the labor and employment group, specializing in representing hospitality industry clients, primarily hotel corporations and restaurant management groups.

That’s all she wrote. I leave you with this thought for the upcoming election year:

“The problem of power is how to achieve its responsible use rather than its irresponsible and indulgent use — of how to get men [and women] of power to live for the public rather than off the public.”

— Robert F. Kennedy

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Karen Venuto has been living in Astoria and working in clinical research at NYU’s School of Medicine for four years. She entered the M.P.H. program at NYU’s Steinhardt School in spring 2007. Karen married Nicholas O’Sullivan on September 23, 2006, in Bayside, N.Y. The couple have been together for seven years, and had a wonderful, fun wedding surrounded by their families and friends, followed by a spectacularly gorgeous honeymoon in Hawaii.

Boris Kachka, a contributing editor at New York Magazine, writes: “Rebecca Braverman married Ryan Olson in Kansas City on October 26. Attending were Erik Laroi, Stephen Krieger, Boris Kachka, Danny Voloch and Matt Sollars. It was beautiful. There was a reception at Boulevard Brewery with an awesome ’80s tribute band.”

Paul Feuer married Kim Baranowski in Warren, Vt., in August. Also attending the small ceremony were Joseph Cairo, Swati Khurana and Jonathan Allen with his wife, Joanna, at whose wedding Kim and Paul met. Paul works at UBS Investment Bank in Stamford, Conn., and he and Kim live in DUMBO, Brooklyn.

Dianne Hemchand-Burrell’s new enterprise, DefineYourselfSalons (DYS) is in its sixth month. It is located at 56 W. 56th St., between Fifth and Sixth Avenues, in the same space the legendary “J Sisters” got their start, according to their favorite neighbor, who has lived there for more than 25 years. DYS is Dianne’s effort to cater to beauty professionals better than any salons have done before by helping them (you) optimize the time you spend getting gorgeous. Columbia alumni enjoy standing out. Consider this a special invitation.


Swati Khurana received a Jerome Foundation Individual Travel and Study award to travel to Gambia and Senegal, where she was an artist-in-residence at the Kartong Village Development Committee. She also is disestablishing a residency at Rotunda Gallery/BCAT and recently participated in exhibitions at the Jersey City Museum, Exit Art, RushArts, Brooklyn Arts Council and University of Miami. Her work can be viewed at www.swatikhurana.com.

John D. Alfone writes, “In his exasperating attempt to be a catalyst of the New Orleans Renaissance, John has become a board member of the Magazine Street Merchants Association (www.magazinestreet.org) through his company, Corsair Media Productions. A collective of small businesses banded together in solidarity, artistry and excellence.”

Marco Capasso tells us that Rushika Richards Connolly and her husband, Dan, celebrated the christening of their son, Nevin Charles (Class of 2029), on November 4. In attendance were Zaharah Markoe, Matt Wang and Marco. Zaharah works at Kobrè & Kim as a white-collar criminal and regulatory defense attorney and calls the Upper West Side home. Matt’s game company. To Be Continued, is doing well. The trading card game his company helped design and develop for 4Kids Entertainment hit the shelves in October; it’s called Chaotic. Marco left the doctor-suing business and now is a contracts attorney for Schering-Plough. He recently attended several Van Halen reunion shows and plans to join the group for its second leg early this year.

Jonathan Jacobs had a son on June 18, Jeffrey Ethan, who joins proud sister Gabriella (4). Jonathan and his family moved back to New York (New Rochelle) after living in Philadelphia for a year while his wife, Shirah Schwartz-Jacobs ’98, completed a fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology at Children’s Hospital. Jonathan had been commuting from Philly to New York every day, and says it’s a pleasure to be back and settled down in their own house in the suburbs.

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1
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Happy New Year, Class of 1998! As always — these past couple of years, anyway — let’s start the column with baby news. Dahlia Jacobs and Ben March were the proud parents of their first child, Jacob Harry, on June 27. “We’re all doing great, and Ben and I love parenthood,” Dahlia writes. The family resides in Manhattan, where mom is an attorney at Davis Polk & Wardwell and dad is busy screenwriting.

Another double-alumni couple is now married. Congratulations to Abeera Chaudhuri and Jose Antonio Aguilar ’98E, who were married on October 21 in Somerset, N.J. According to their Times announcement, Abeera is a senior marketing manager at American Express in Manhattan, and Jose is a v.p. in the management associate program at Citigroup, which is based in Long Island City. Best wishes to the bride and groom.

While the Brass Brothers had their fun on the New York Marathon runners, I bumped into Aaron Unger carrying his 1-year-old daughter. Aaron, his wife, Sophie, and their daughter live in Brooklyn, where
he is a chef and runs a catering business. The foodie blog Umami Mart (http://umamimart.blogspot.com/2007/03/pizza-pizza-pizza-pizza.html) described Aaron as: "Performer/puppet artist/photographer/visual artist extraordinaire. World-traveling Jew from Miami. A man bursting with joie de vivre, a culinary maverick and loving husband and father ..."

I hope to see you in five months at our 10th reunion. Until then, let us all know what you're up to by e-mailing me a note.

Here's to great 2008!

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Greetings, all! Many classmates submitted news this month — work, weddings, kids — you've all been very busy. Thanks for the updates and keep the news coming!

After seven years at Tenet Healthcare Corp., Jacob Kupietzky is starting a new company, Healthcare Transformation. His venture will focus on improving hospital operations service and quality. "I am quite excited about this new professional chapter and believe we will make a strong impact on the quality of care provided in hospitals today." If you’d like to catch up with Jacob some more, he can be reached at jhk34@columbia.edu.

Felix Gillette married Jennifer Hope Gelber on September 29 at the Palm House at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Cantor Irene Failenbogen officiated. The bride is an architectural designer at James Construction Associates, an architecture firm in Manhattan. She graduated magna cum laude from Barnard and received a master's in architecture from the University of Texas. Felix is on the staff of The New York Observer in Manhattan, where he writes about the media and television.

Jeremy Taylor ("JT") and Marisa Medina '99E met in Carman after a late night at Cannon's freshman year. He was a football player — Sigma Chi, senior captain and named to the All-Ivy League team — and Marisa was a cheerleader. In my last CCT column, Marisa claims she is still able to go out at 11 p.m. and stay out until 5 a.m. JT can too, on rare occasions. However, they both admit to staying in and falling asleep during a Late & Order marathon.

Katie Eyer and Kevin Aptowicz '99E live in Philadelphia with their 6-month-old son, Cian. Kevin claims that Cian is in the "golden age" of babymod — very interested in everything, full of smiles and babbling away. In addition to motherhood, Katie keeps busy as an attorney with a plaintiff-side employment discrimination and ERISA law firm. Prior to that, Katie worked for Equality Advocates Pennsylvania (an LGBT legal advocacy organization). Kevin is an assistant professor of physics at West Chester University. Katie has found a few other CC '99ers in Philadelphia, including Andy Newcomer, who recently moved to Philadelphia with his partner, Drew, in order to attend medical school at Temple. And she recently caught up with Esther Chak, who finished a graduate degree at RISD and moved to Chicago with her partner, Adam Felchner. Finally, check out the photo of Jon-Mychal Bowman's wedding. Congratulations!

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Michael Dworck graduated from the Business School in May. While in school, he started a company, VerTerra, which makes "luxury disposable" dishes from fallen leaves using only steam heat and pressure. According to Michael, there are no chemicals, laminates or binding agents, and the products are gorgeous. They have only been selling for six months but have been well-received by the food service industry and are touted to be the best-quality, high-end disposable — and best of all, the products are sustainably produced and biodegradable. Congratulations, Michael!

I attended a birthday dinner party for Omoseode Idehen in NYC's Meatpacking District. Guests included Alex Shapiro '00E, Edgar Lewandowski, Ben Giesmann, Rana Yates and Alicia Dooley.

Omosode Idehen graduated from the Business School in May 2006 and is a senior consultant at Deloitte Consulting. She teaches ballet and choreography for the Brooklyn Music School. Alex Shapiro '00E founded TouchGraph, a company devoted to network visualization, six years ago. Since then, he has been developing and commercializing software for diagramming connections between people and ideas. TouchGraph has been used by Friendster, and now powers a Facebook application. Business uses have included products within the intellectual property, pharmaceutical and media industries. Alex lives and works in Hoboken, NJ, which he feels is just like a borough of New York.

Edgar Lewandowski is a fifth-year associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett in New York, working as a corporate lawyer on capital markets transactions and riding his motorcycle during downtimes — including an excursion to Los Angeles and back last year.

Rana Yates has much to update. She graduated from the Law School in '05, married Ivar Draganja '03L in '06, and has been working in the London office of Shearman & Sterling for the last year. Rana and Ivar recently returned to New York, where she is an associate at Latham & Watkins.

Alicia Dooley is a new mom! Andrew was born on June 21. Alicia, husband Danny Rappaport and Andrew live in New Jersey, where they recently held a mini Columbia reunion. Omoseode, Alex, Edgar, Rana and I trekked out to their lovely home to meet Andrew. We brought baby Columbia gear, wine and a lemon bundt cake. Edgar, of course, rode his motorcycle.

Finally, from the Contra Costa Times — one of our very own makes it into the news: "California Symphony has a new composer in residence. Mason Bates, the 30-year-old Oakland-based composer whose works span orchestral, electronic and cinematic, has signed on with the orchestra for a three-year-term, effective immediately and running until 2010. "Bates, whose appointment was announced last week by music director Barry Jekowsky, will be the sixth composer to participate in the orchestra's Young American Composer in Residence (YACR) program. He succeeds Kevin Beavers, whose tenure with the orchestra expired at the end of the 2005/06 season."
Dave Beatus married Ellie Slivko on December 2, 2006, in Great Neck, N.Y. (see photo). Since the wedding, Dave founded GreenPromosDirect.com, an offshoot of Joy Products, dedicated solely to environmentally friendly and recycled material promotional products. The company's official launch was around Thanksgiving.

Tamer Obied wrote in with a lengthy and welcome update: "I finally decided to leave the Bronx after 28 years and took the big step of moving to Dubai to join Booz Allen. Weather in Dubai was a cool 100 degrees when I got here but since then the beach is again enjoyable."

Tamer reported, "John Wilbeck graduated from Northwestern's Kellogg Business School in May and is living in Chicago, working for Hine.

"Adrian Kachmar quit his high-paying hedge fund job to focus on managing his wealth and is moving to Dubai to join an alcohol brand, VeeV, with his brother. Carter '03. Adrian, Michael and Tamer Obied recently were in L.A. trying to convince Courtney to be their own version of Vincent Chase."

Thanks, Tamer, for the great update!

Matt Porter was married on July 14 to Adrienne Walker, whom he met at NYU Law School and from which they graduated in 2004. Russell Strom and Kirby Mack '00 were groomsmen. Matt and his wife live and work in Chicago, where Matt is a fourth-year associate at Sidney Austin.

Sofia Berger moved to Cambridge, Mass., to pursue her M.B.A. at Harvard. She sits next to Camille Delaite in one of her classes.

Michelle Braun Nayfack and her husband, Aaron, attended the wedding of Nathan Gardner-Andrews to Tara Brennan in October in Bethesda, Md. Also attending from Columbia were Kaushal Kulkarni '01E, Benjamin BenTrei, Seth Kimmel and Efrem Kamen.

Take care, and keep in touch!

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Happy New Year, classmates. I wish you lots of happiness in the coming year, and I want to hear everyone's exciting news! Please e-mail me your updates.

Michael Novelli 205 W. 103rd St., Apt. 4B New York, NY 10025 mjn29@columbia.edu

Happy New Year! 2008 promises to be a great year for our class — and for Columbia! It's time to get excited — only four months until reunion. Now, on to the updates.

Steve Pulimood is finishing his doctoral dissertation at the American Academy in Rome; he plans to return to Oxford in early summer to defend it. Steve writes, "My two years residing in Harltoy Hall often come to mind because I am living in the academy's main McKee, Mead and White-designed campus on the crown of the Janiculum, the highest of the ancient hills of Rome."

Jessica Beard is in her fourth year at Yale School of Medicine. In 2006, she received an NIH Fellowship to study prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV at an urban maternity hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. She writes, "While in Kenya, I became involved with the National Hospital's obstetric fistula project, which was a wonderful experience."

Also in his fourth year of medical school, T. Bram Welch-Horan is at P&S, planning to pursue a residency in pediatrics and is entering his first book, Proust Was a Neuroscientist. According to the October 14 New York Times article by Stuart Miller on the production, "The colorful language, the characters and the play's themes all trace back to Ms. Hall's childhood in the rougher part of Memphis. Ms. Hall's grandmother had been a sharecropper in Louisiana before migrating to Memphis, where she passed on her stories and her vivid dialect to Ms. Hall, for whom migration and displacement have become integral themes."

Hoodoo Love was originally produced as part of the Cherry Lane Theatre Project 2006 with Lynn Nottage and is an AUDIENCE CO award winner. Those interested in learning more can visit www.nytimes.com.

And check out the picture from Janice Shore's wedding!
immersed their daughter in music from an early age. For years they had performed as the Weilerstein Trio.”

Kudos to Alisa! Need another news to report. Please write and let us know what’s new with you!

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In November, I took a weekend trip to California, starting in San Francisco, venturing out to Napa Valley and driving down the coast to Los Angeles, where I met up with Jay Mung ’04E, Michael Lee ’04 and Joyce Kim ’06. It’s nice to get away from the East Coast once in a while, don’t you think? If you are a fan of fruity red wines, you should try The Prisoner, a deliciously rich wine from central California — from Northern California.

Jenn Handorf, who was recently engaged to Dan Martin from London, is on the sunny West Coast getting her M.F.A. at USC’s Peter Stark Producing Program. She recently performed the Cavit Pinot Grigio, “inoffensive at $8 a bottle.” Speaking of getting away from the East Coast, Tracy Bucholski and her boyfriend, John Reuter, moved from New York to San Francisco a few months back. The decision to move and the move itself took just four days! Tracy and John also celebrated five years of being together, having dated since sophomore year. Congrats! Tracy’s favorite affordable wine is Geyser Peak 2006 Sauvignon Blanc. She also recommends the Cakebread Chardonnay. Nigel Campbell and Monica Pasternak are obsessed with the Conradiino Vivace Sparkling Pinot Grigio (aka “Frizante”) courtesy of Trader Joe’s. At $3.99 a bottle, they managed to buy 10 bottles (“with a k”) in Los Angeles all summer long. Sadly, Monica has since left Los Angeles to study medicine at the University of Miami. Nigel sends her Frizante through the mail in dry ice-filled containers on a weekly basis.

Xan Nowakowski, who’s kept busy, writes: “Starting in January, I will attend the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey to pursue an M.P.H. in health systems and policy. At the beginning of the year, I began working as v.p. for Families Joined by Love, an online bookstore, resource center and discussion community for families headed by lesbian, gay, bisexual and/or transgender individuals. We provide a variety of books about parenting, family building, financial planning, social services and much more, all with the goal of helping LGBT individuals lead fulfilling family lives. I encourage everyone to visit us at www.familiesjoinedbylove.com and chime in on the forums.”

Recently, I also began working as director of grants for Zweena, an online aggregated health records company headed by John Phelan ’85. When John mentioned his new project at an ARC meeting last year, I immediately wanted to help out in any way possible. Zweena will offer people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and medical aptitudes an easy, efficient and centralized way to manage their medical records. We are beta-testing our interface with roughly 100 users.

In New Jersey, Claire Snyder is living in Teaneck while getting her master’s in teaching at Montclair State University with plans to be a high school English teacher. She also part of a research team on an oral histories project focusing on teacher education at Montclair from the 1930s to the 1960s. Claire’s favorite wine is red Zinfandel. Matthew Harrison, in Princeton, says he tends to drink Syrah-Grenache blends and other sweet reds, but he and girlfriend Ana Ortiz ’07 have recently been enjoying a great Moscato d’Asti: Tintorio Elvi’s Sori Gramella, a sweet, bubbly and cheap wine that’s perfect with or for dessert.

David Toledano left Giff Real Estate Investment Banking in the fall after more than two years to pursue an opportunity in real estate private equity. He’ll be sticking around in New York but expects to do some work-related traveling in Latin America and the Caribbean. Emily Schwarz, who is working on capital construction projects at the American Museum of Natural History, prefers Sancerre.

Jeremiah Boswell spent last basketball season (2006-07) playing professionally in Brazil. Afterward, he worked at a sports camp in Nicaragua, played on a traveling team that went to Mauritius and then moved back to the Philadelphia area, where she now works for RMMJ Hillier, a global architecture firm in Center City. The projects are multidisciplinary: She is working on a cancer center in Portugal and trying to get all the experience she can before going back to graduate school, hopefully for architecture, this fall. As for sightseeing other Columbus, she bumped into Rebecca Tenney, a Ph.D. student at Penn in biomath, at an alumni happy hour. Jeremy Kotin recently finished producing and editing a 30-minute documentary on artist Lorna Simpson, being televised on Voom Networks. He is producing a music video for Dolly Parton for her first single off her upcoming album. He also created a scene with guests from the Evil City film festival that recently debuted at the Evil City film festival was top notch.”

Emily Tang writes, “I recently took a quick vacation to attend my cousin’s wedding in New York and had a mini-reunion with those who were lucky enough to get away from their firms on Sunday night to dine with me at Dos Caminos. I saw Jamie Chan, Jimmy Mark, Chris Belz, Matt Del Guzzo and Dan Chen ’06E, and snuck Jacob Rubin out of the office long enough today to grab a quick cup o’ joe.” Emily recently was promoted and is relocating to San Francisco. She writes, “If anyone is visiting there, please let me know!”

After graduation, Emily Lo went to China for the summer and then moved back to the Philadelphia area, where she now works for MJ Hillier, a global architecture firm in Center City. The projects are multidisciplinary: She is working on a cancer center in Portugal and trying to get all the experience she can before going back to graduate school, hopefully for architecture, this fall. As for sightseeing other Columbus, she bumped into Rebecca Tenney, a Ph.D. student at Penn in biomath, at an alumni happy hour. Jeremy Kotin recently finished producing and editing a 30-minute documentary on artist Lorna Simpson, being televised on Voom Networks. He is producing a music video for Dolly Parton for her first single off her upcoming album. He also created a scene with guests from the Evil City film festival that recently debuted at the Evil City film festival was top notch.”

On Labor Day Weekend 2007, in the Mission Basilica In San Juan Capistrano, Calif., Lisa Wood ’05 married Peter Ottomannelli ’03E, ’05E. Among the guests were (front row, left to right): Ye Chen ’03E, Keren Mizrahi ’05, Angie Shin ’05 Barnard, Devora Snyder ’05E, Stefanie Chu ’05E, Carrington Lee ’05, Kirstin Ericson ’05, Katey Akeny and Anna Batts ’04. Back row (from left to right): Jason Beattie ’04, Meredith Cosgrove ’03 Barnard, Josh Laurito ’04, Richard Calicoppi ’03, Nancy Lin ’05E, Jeff Fairchild ’05E, Christopher Underwood ’04, Elliott Bundy ’03, Nate Kogan ’04 and Archie Ingersol ’03.

PHOTO: SCOTT NELSON

CLASS NOTES
Emily Conroy ‘06 and Jeffrey Krutz, a GSAS student, were married on August 18. "We were married in NYC at Broadway Presbyterian Church (right across from campus)" the bride notes. "We were married in August 18. "We were married in NYC at Broadway Presbyterian Church (right across from campus)!” the bride notes. Left to right: Jane Parshall ‘06, Jen Allen ‘06, Kate Crawford ‘06 and Liza Horstman ‘06.

PHOTO: JACK BLOMOVITS

...a short documentary on the JFK Center for Peace. Jen Allen ‘06, Kate Jane Parshall ‘06, Emily Conroy ‘06 and Jane Parshall ‘06 attended a short documentary on the JFK Center for Peace. Crawford ‘06 

Emily Conroy ‘06 writes, "Essentially, the group is 

left Morgan Stanley in September to work at a start-up company. Crawford ‘06 

"We do some unbranded venture capital investments but my time is 

primarily spent developing start-up companies in the United States under the Virgin brand. Overall it’s a pretty amazing experience!"

Maya Chard-Yaron is in her second year of graduate school at JTS. She spent July overseas playing softball with the Israeli National Team, first practicing in Israel and working at a new softball day camp for Israeli girls, and then traveling with the team to Zagreb, Croatia, for the European B Championship tournament, where her team finished fourth out of 12 and made the championship round for the first time in her three European Tournament appearances. She finished the tournament with a 0.99 ERA in 30 innings pitched, including two extra inning games (a 10-inning heartbreaking loss to eventual silver medalist France, and a 4-1 eight-inning victory over Belgium).

Winter is upon us, and we’re no longer Columbia College undergraduates. As such, I suspect that we export the most famous winter Columbia tradition to our new lives.

Step 1: Look outside and wait for the first snow. (Sorry to those of you who migrated south; you’ll have to adapt this tradition even further.)

Step 2: Go to the cafeteria of your graduate school, job or whatever, and steal a food tray. (For those ambitious few, you can paint a John Jay logo on the tray.)

Step 3: Find the nearest park and go sledding on the tray.

Step 4: Don’t get caught! Columbia knows about the John Jay trays. Your job/school/etc. might not be as forgiving.

In addition to sledding, members of ’07 have tons of fun and exciting things going on in their lives.

On September 27, many members of ’07 came out to Dave & Buster’s for a CCY AA Happy Hour. Attendees included Jamoki Hamilton, Marcus Johnson, Christopher Liu, Dorian Norton, Jonah Van Bourg, David Chait, Courtney Wilkins and Cesar Cabrera. Keep an eye out for more CCYAA events.

On August 30, John Schneider was featured in an article on "Academic Achievers" in the Rockville Centre Herald. The article reads: "John R. Schneider, a May 2003 graduate of Chaminade High School, graduated in May from Columbia College of Columbia University with a Bachelor of Arts in Earth Science (Geology). His senior thesis was entitled ‘Fold-Induced Faulting in the Shingwakgung Mountains.’ Just after graduation, he started work as a Geophysicist with Petroleum Geo-Services (PGS), a seismic data acquisition company. John is working at the company’s field office in Anadarko, Oklahoma.

Julia Kite writes, "I have settled into life in London and am a research assistant for Professor Martin Knapp, studying the effectiveness of supported employment programs for people with severe mental illness. Meanwhile, I’m also part of the motley bunch called the London School of Economics and Political Women’s Football Club — soccer to you Americans. Our greatest pride lies in the fact that we sometimes actually manage to round up 11 people to form a team. I also have ventured into stand-up comedy. No kidding."

Demetri Blanas was accepted into the Mount Sinai School of Medicine but has deferred for the year. He is working at a health clinic in rural southeastern Senegal. Tao Tan also has recently moved. He writes, "I took a job with Lehman Brothers Australia and moved to Sydney. The first thing I did on landing was join as the fifth member of the Alumni Representative Committee."

Caitlin Shure works in continuing medical education. She misses doing theater and tries to write lyrics in her spare time. Caitlin lives in Hell’s Kitchen with Tom Keenan and Peter Mende-Siedlecki. In an exciting new turn of events, Caitlin has recently "discovered the HBO/BBC sitcom Extras and enjoys watching it over a homemade rum and Diet Coke." She recently went to Boston for business; she is "slightly confused and disturbed" at the fact that she is going on a business trip because it makes her "feel old and disgusting."

Yonatan Brafman shares some great news! "A few weeks ago, I and Ariela Rosenberg ‘09 got engaged. The wedding will be this January, after which we will move to Israel, where I will finish my year in seminary before starting GSAS in religion and she will be on a semester abroad."

Congratulations! More congratulations are in order for Erica Borker and David Soofian ‘04E, who were married on October 21.

Annie Berke shares, "I'm working toward a master's in film studies at Columbia — first year of the program. It's a three-semester track through the School of the Arts, two semesters of coursework and a third semester in which I write an academic thesis... wish me luck on that. The program is challenging, rewarding and just really fun. I live at International House on 123rd and enjoy the lovely drink specials at the I-House pub and the free use of a gym just a few floors down."

Wendy Francois recently attended a tour of the Mississippi Gulf Coast region that was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina with a group of volunteer lawyers that hopes to provide pro bono services to Katrina survivors.

Sonya Thomas attends the Yale School of Medicine. Also in medical school is Matt Reuter. He writes, "I attend medical school at Georgetown along with Jillian Raybould and Kara Steijlen. I'm greatly enjoying life in D.C. dur-
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Challenges on the Horizon

By Brian C. Krisberg '81
President, Columbia College Alumni Association

One of the most interesting people I have ever met is former College Dean Peter Pouncey '69 GSAS. Simply having lunch with Peter was in and of itself an education and a chance to learn from a tremendous intellect. Peter, who served as dean from 1972-76, is credited with beginning the turnaround that has taken the College from the struggles of the early 1970s to the rarefied air it occupies today.

Peter emphasized the need to improve all aspects of the quality of life for College undergrads, from the food to the dormitories to health services. Peter departed Columbia in 1984 to become the president of a small college we all know of in Massachusetts (Amherst). But he continues to show his loyalty to Columbia to this day, teaching in the Core Curriculum this year.

For a few years in the early 1990s, I tagged along to an end-of-year lunch tradition that Peter had with professor and former associate dean Michael Rosenthal and former Alumni Association president Charles J. O’Byrne ’81. Rosenthal and O’Byrne, together with Peter’s successor, former College dean Arnold Collery (now deceased), and former dean of students Roger Lehecka ’67, were intimately involved in the successful implementation of coeducation at the College in the mid-1980s. Each of them, like Peter, deserves credit for their years of service to our school.

Peter liked to tell stories about his experiences being the president of Amherst. To this day, I have vivid memories of listening to Peter talk about what it was like to go to meetings of its faculty and alumni. He said they liked to sit around and discuss how “great” they are at everything, in contrast to the political battles of that era he left behind at Columbia.

I bring that up because I see some of the same risk of complacency that Peter poked fun at seeping into today’s Columbia landscape, as we marvel at the College’s popularity (more than 18,000 applications for the Class of 2011). The pursuit of excellence, rather than complacency, is the only way Columbia will remain competitive with its Ivy peers.

That pursuit is occurring in fundraising. From time to time I attend, in my capacity as president of the CCAA, some interesting functions where information is disseminated. In mid-December, I sat in on a status and update breakfast for the $4 billion Columbia Campaign. The statistics are awesome. Nearly $2.5 billion has been committed less than halfway into the campaign period, including more than 50 percent of the Arts and Sciences’ $1 billion goal. Some $424 million was raised in Fiscal Year 2006-07, placing the University third in the so-called Ivy Plus Group and marking Columbia’s best single-year performance. One could not help but come away from the presentation impressed. As a College alumnus, I walked to work feeling proud to be associated with this fine endeavor being led in dedicated fashion by University Trustees Chair Bill Campbell ’62, Trustees Vice-chair Phil Milstein ’71 and Trustees Mark Kingdon ’71 and Richard Witten ’75, and of course, President Lee C. Bollinger.

I contrast how I felt that cold December morning with how I felt one mid-November morning as I perused my Columbia Daily Spectator e-mail (by the way, if you don’t already get Spec sent to you each day, you really should). The headline read, “University May Merge GS with CC: After Years of Discussion, Integration Appears Likely.” The long article that followed attempted to discuss not so much a merger as a closer administrative relationship between the College and the School of General Studies that might benefit GS, including admissions, financial aid, housing and student life. Analogies were drawn to the successful integration of the College and the School of Engineering and Applied Science in the late 1990s through the creation of a joint Office of Student Affairs led by Chris Colombo.

Most important, what the article did not discuss was whether an integration of the College and GS would benefit Columbia College in any tangible way. As a devoted College alumnus, that is certainly my primary concern. The establishment of a formal relationship between the College and GS in a manner that benefits the College is one of the most important, if not the most important, challenges on the horizon today for the College administration. Such a relationship, which makes GS feel more a part of the undergraduate landscape and cements the College’s role as the central and flagship undergraduate division at Columbia, can ultimately make the University as a whole a better place. How this is handled will affect the College as we know it for years to come. And I know that Dean Austin Quigley is well aware of the challenges as well as the opportunities the College would confront were we to go down this path, and he stresses that task force discussions of such a move are only at an exploratory stage.

I take it as a given, considering the College’s ever-growing applicant pool, that at some point in the upcoming years, pressure will emerge to increase the size of the College (if you’re interested in contributing funds to have the next dorm named after you, please call Dean Quigley now). This growth from the present 4,200 should not be done in a manner that dilutes the University’s commitment to teaching the Core Curriculum to College students in small, seminar-size classes; to offering competitive financial aid; to providing a constantly improving quality of life in residence halls, dining and student services; to finding and recruiting the best faculty that really teach our undergraduates; to offering interesting programs to our alumni that foster development and loyalty; and to finding new and better ways to generate spirit and enthusiasm in the College community.

Administrative logic and cost efficiency arguments may exist for some type of more formal arrangement of the College’s and GS’ operations. The College has come incredibly far in the last three decades, transforming itself into one of the preeminent colleges in the land. Whether this momentum would be furthered through some sort of closer administrative relationship with the distinctly different GS community is a significant question that merits scrutiny and open discussion with College students, faculty and alumni.
An Ivy League Education, Distilled

Care for a drink? How about a Yale, a Princeton or — best of all — a drink named after your alma mater, Columbia? Well, if you’re as smart as they say, you might actually want to avoid the so-called Ivy League cocktails, which are about as easy to get down as three volumes of Hegel. See if you can guess which of these additions to the bartender’s canon belongs to your alma mater, and which belongs to Cornell, Harvard, Yale, Princeton or Brown.

**A**
- 1½ oz. gin
- ½ oz. (ruby) port
- 2 dashes orange bitters

_Shake the gin and bitters with ice and strain into a stemmed cocktail glass. Slowly add the port, so that it slides down under the gin. Garnish with a twist of lemon and serve._

**B**
- 1½ oz. cognac
- ½ oz. sweet (red) vermouth
- Dash Angostura bitters

_Shake with ice and strain into a stemmed cocktail glass. Garnish with a twist of lemon and serve._

**C**
- 2 oz. brandy
- ½ oz. sweet vermouth
- 1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp. grenadine syrup
- Dash Angostura bitters

_Pour ingredients into a cocktail shaker half-filled with ice cubes. Shake well, strain into a chilled cocktail glass and serve._

**D**
- ½ oz. dry vermouth
- 1½ oz. gin
- 1 tsp. Blue Curacao liqueur
- Dash bitters

_Stir ingredients with ice, strain into a cocktail glass and serve._

**E**
- 1½ oz. gin
- ½ tsp. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. Maraschino liqueur
- 1 egg white

_Shake ingredients with ice, strain into a cocktail glass and serve._

**F**
- ¾ oz. light rum
- ¾ oz. gin
- ¾ oz. dry vermouth

_Stir ingredients with ice, strain into a cocktail glass and serve._

 answers on page 78.
can you identify this Columbia cornerstone? Send your answer to cct@columbia.edu.
Toomas Hendrik Ilves ‘76, President of Estonia, says, “We’re Doing Rather Well.”
Come Celebrate Alumni Reunion Weekend 2008
— the reunion that nobody should miss!

In addition to class-specific events throughout the weekend, you can join all Columbians celebrating their reunions on Friday and Saturday for “Back on Campus” sessions, including Core Curriculum mini-courses, engineering lectures, tours of Morningside and library special collections, and more. There is even a unique and intimate Chelsea Art Gallery tour on Friday.

Columbians will be dispersed throughout the Heights and greater Gotham all weekend long, but Saturday is everyone’s day on campus. There will be traditional class luncheons and our newly-christened “Between the Gates BBQ” as well as tri-college wine tasting on Low Plaza, our biggest line-up of class dinners ever and a final tri-college gathering for champagne, dancing and good times on the steps of Low Library. Remember to join us for the Reunion Brunch on Sunday.

Don’t forget, we have “Camp Columbia” for little Columbians, ages 5–12, too!

Dates and Registration Information

* Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2008

* REGISTER TODAY! For more information or to register online, please visit http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

* If you register before Thursday, May 1, you receive a 10% discount on all events, excluding Avenue Q, Curtains and New York Philharmonic tickets.
COVER STORY

14 President Ilves
Toomas Hendrik Ilves '76, president of Estonia, says the Core Curriculum gave him the background he needs to lead his homeland.
By Daniella Zalcman '09

FEATURES

18 "A Knack for Tasty Wordplay"
Playwright Katori Hall '03, who enjoyed a successful Off-Broadway debut, has much more to say.
By Yelena Shuster '09

20 Columbia Forum
The next time you cook with stock or say “no MSG” at a restaurant, think of chef Auguste Escoffier and scientist Kikune Ikeda. In this excerpt from Proust Was a Neuroscientist, author Jonah Lehrer '03 describes the two men’s quest for the culinary grail: deliciousness.

ALUMNI NEWS

26 Booksheat
Featured: Columbia Artist and Professor of Clinical Neurology and Psychiatry Dr. Oliver Sacks' Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain addresses the question, "What is it that makes us such a uniquely musical species?"

29 Obituaries
30 Joshua Lederberg '44

34 Class Notes
Alumni Updates
47 Harley Frankel '63
51 Nicholas Fox Weber '69
63 Michael Dwork '00

72 Alumni Corner
The vice-chair, Parents Fund, of the Columbia College Alumni Association discusses Columbia’s science initiatives and why they deserve alumni support.
By Jess H. Drabkin '79

DEPARTMENTS

2 Letters to the Editor

3 Within the Family

4 Around the Quads
4 Dean's Day 2008
5 Barnard's New President
6 Roar Lion Roar
7 Climate Center
8 Transitions
10 Spring '68 Panel
11 5 Minutes with ... Nicholas Dames
12 Student Spotlight: Daniel Free '08
13 In Memoriam: Garraty
13 In Lumine Tuo
13 Save the Date!
Letters to the Editor

In Lumine Tuo

The story of Clarence Jones ['53] (January/February) honors not only himself for his great achievement in building a career from the poorest circumstances, to giving up a fine position in a big city law firm to be a Wintertime Soldier in the difficult struggle for civil rights — modestly, unassuming but effectively — but it also honors the College and all Columbia alumni and faculty as members of the Columbia community that accepted him, supporting his development as a scholar and enabling his achievements. It also honors the country for providing the structure that made his progress possible.

Evan Charkes '82 did a great job in gathering and organizing all that information and presenting it to us in his illuminating and inspiring article. Please thank him for all of us.

In lumine tuo videbimus lumen.

Sol Fisher '36
Pleasant Hill, Calif.

Your salute to Clarence Jones '53 was interesting in the extreme, as I knew him casually during the early '60s when I too had the opportunity to take part in one of the lawsuits engendered during the persecution of Martin Luther King Jr. by various public officials in the South enraged by his struggle for justice and equal rights. Ours was argued in the U.S. Supreme Court and won as the companion case to The New York Times v. Sullivan that he refers to in his interview with you, and the Times was represented there by Herbert Wechsler, then a professor at Columbia Law School, and his colleague (soon to be a federal judge in the Southern District of New York) Marvin Frankel, two of the wisest men then around. I was not aware that Clarence had been involved in the Times’ case.

But to return to our companion case, Abernathy v. Sullivan — my then senior partner, Harry H. Wachtel '40L, was asked by Theodore Kheel whether our firm might take on the appeal of four Southern Negro clergymen who had been sued by Montgomery’s Police Commissioner Sullivan for libel in Alabama’s state court, which had awarded damages of $500,000 against each of them, and had lost their appeals to the intermediate and highest appellate courts in the State of Alabama. Their names had been appended to a fundraising ad in the Times as warm endorsers of its appeal for legal assistance to Dr. King; they had ignored Commissioner Sullivan’s demand for a retraction or condemnation. At the lunch meeting with Kheel, Harry and I and several others of our partners agreed to take on a proposed appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. I had the laboring oar and was the principal draftsman of the Petition for Certiorari and the subsequent Brief on Appeal, with considerable assistance from several colleagues on both, and the case was orally argued to the Court by former Attorney General William P. Rogers and Samuel Pierce. They, and we too, served pro bono.

I remember that Clarence was present at the oral arguments, and I believe he was also at the brief reception in a local hotel that followed immediately afterward where we all toasted our clients and Dr. King, and I offered a toast to Rosa Parks, whose refusal to give up her seat on the bus led to the Montgomery bus boycott that in turn ignited a far larger protest movement. The case, by the way, resulted in a long and close personal relationship of trust and confidence between Dr. King and Harry Wachtel, who together with his wife was to be an accompanying guest in Stockholm when Dr. King received his Nobel Prize some years later.

I was delighted to read of Clarence's vastly deeper involvement with Dr. King that I had known little about until the story appeared in the January/February '08 CCT, and I compliment him for it. I'm especially pleased to learn of his interesting career as well. But I do regret several needless errors, none of which I would attribute to him — neither Judge Hubert Delany nor his long-lived sisters ever had a second “é” in their name; “Ghandi” should never have seen final print; and, located across Broadway from Columbia Medical Center in Washington Heights, Audubon Ballroom was never in Harlem at all.

Joseph B. Russell '49, '52L
New York City
(continued on page 70)
Dean’s Day Marks a Decade

O

If the many events and programs run by the Alumni Office, one of my favorites is Dean’s Day. It was the first event I attended after coming back to Columbia 10 years ago, and I haven’t missed one since.

Dean’s Day is an opportunity for alumni to return to campus and be students for a day, to sit in the same classrooms and listen to some of the same teachers they had as undergraduates or sample a new generation of faculty. For parents, it’s a chance to experience a bit of what their children are experiencing right now, maybe spend an hour in a sample class taught by one of the same faculty their children are learning from. And if they are really persuasive, they can get their children to join them, as Dean’s Day is open to students as well.

In addition to lectures by some of Columbia’s finest faculty, Dean’s Day includes a welcome breakfast and a “State of the College” address from Dean Austin Quigley as well as a series of information sessions hosted by representatives from the Center for Career Education. There’s even a lunch offered in Low Rotunda, or you can sample the fare along Broadway or Amsterdam Avenue — sometimes there’s even a street fair the same day.

In one of my first Dean’s Days, I was spellbound as one of Columbia’s legendary teachers, James P. Shenton ’49, wove his seminar around his experience as a medic in WWII during the liberation of the concentration camps in Eastern Europe. Though confined to a wheelchair, he spoke with the verve and passion that enthralled so many Columbians and cemented his place in the University’s faculty pantheon.

Another time, I listened as mathematician and physicist Brian Greene explained the basics of string theory. He lost me — and judging from conversations overheard as I left the room, most of the others in attendance — somewhere near the midpoint of his talk, but it was inspiring to see and hear a scientist describe a subject he is so passionate about.

Other highlights of recent Dean’s Days, for me, include environmentalist Don Melnick describing the importance of making sustainability an economically viable issue, and Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz discussing how to make globalization work. It’s not every day you can hear such accomplished educators give their unique perspectives on vital issues — but it is every Dean’s Day.

If you haven’t experienced Dean’s Day but wonder what it would be like to take a class at alma mater, try it out on Saturday, April 12.

O

On April 1 (no fooling!), I will celebrate my 10th anniversary of being back at alma mater after a hiatus of 27 years, during which I spent much of my professional life watching very tall men shoot an inflated leather sphere through an elevated hoop. I’ve learned there is life after basketball, if I had to go back to my roots to find it.

Older readers will remember the saying, “I got my job through The New York Times.” Well, that’s how I got my job, browsing through the Sunday Times one morning, spotting an ad from Columbia College for a magazine editor and thinking (a) I’d be right for that job, (b) It might be fun to work at my old school, and (c) A steady paycheck does have some advantages over life as a freelancer. CCT’s editor, Jamie Katz ’72, was moving on after a distinguished quarter-century at the top of the masthead, and I was fortunate to step in when the College was looking for an experienced editor to expand the magazine and the Alumni Office’s other communications efforts.

It has been a fascinating time. I have come to appreciate the dedication of the professionals whose day-to-day efforts make this College the remarkable place that it is. I have come to respect the devotion of the legions of volunteers who eagerly give of their time and expertise to help guide the College’s administrators, while also giving generously of their money to help fuel the engine. And I have come to marvel at the intelligence of the faculty and the brilliance of the students, who make the campus on Morningside Heights one of the most amazing places in the world.

CCT has come a long way in the past 10 years. We’ve expanded our content, modernized our design and grown into a bimonthly publishing schedule, all aimed at achieving our mission of better connecting our readers — alumni, parents, students and others in the Columbia family — with each other and with the College.

I’m pleased to report that we seem to be achieving this goal. In a recent College-sponsored survey, a randomly chosen sample of alumni was asked, “Which of a list of 25 items (if any) would be of interest to you and perhaps encourage your greater connection to Columbia College?” “Reading Columbia College Today” finished No. 1 on the list. And when asked how often they read at least some of CCT, 78 percent responded “always” or “most issues.”

Such survey results support the anecdotal evidence I gather at events; it always makes my day when an alumnus or alumna walks up to me (recognizable, of course, from the snappy picture above, to say nothing of the gold nametag Alumni Officers wear) and says, “Great job with the magazine, I look forward to reading it.” And I look forward to hearing your ideas for stories or other ways to improve CCT.

Thank you for your support. I hope the next 10 years will be even better.

Ady Sarnace
alumni can relive their classroom days and parents can glimpse their children’s College learning experience by attending lectures by some of Columbia’s finest faculty at Dean’s Day 2008 on Saturday, April 12, on campus. Free to students and offered at a nominal cost to alumni and parents, this is one of the Alumni Office’s most popular events.

This year’s program includes sessions centered around beauty and the Core Curriculum; the ecology of Eden; the arts; international perspectives in the humanities; and offerings in the Core. In addition to the outstanding faculty lectures, there will be information sessions hosted by professionals from the Center for Career Education.

Dean Austin Quigley and Columbia College Alumni Association President Brian C. Krisberg ’81 will open the day with a continental breakfast and welcome address in Alfred Lerner Hall’s Roone Arledge Auditorium. The three-lecture series begins with one class in the morning, followed by lunch in Low Rotunda and two lectures in the afternoon. A closing reception follows the last lecture.

Among the many lecture choices this year are:

“The Increasing Importance of CC at Columbia Today”

“The Great Civilized Conversation — Carrying the Core to Asian Colleges”

“Urban Cultures of Slavery and Freedom: A Case Study from Saint Louis du Senegal”

“Theatre with a Union Label”

“Visual Thinking and Colonial Experience: Some Perspectives from Latin America”

Career lecture choices include “Theories of Career Choice,” “Arts as an Organizational Model for Career Development” and “Networking in Today’s Age: Adding Online Social Networking to Your Tool Box.”

The Lecture Series fee ($40 for alumni and parents; $25 for Young Alumni in classes 1998–2007 who have made a gift to Columbia College between July 1, 2007, and the time their registration form is received) includes three lectures (one from each series) and the continental breakfast. The fee for students is waived, but registration is required.

Lunch offers open seating by class year and is available to all registered participants at $25 per person for alumni, parents and students. Young Alumni (Classes 1998–2007) who have made a gift to Columbia College between July 1, 2007, and the time their registration form is received will have the luncheon fee waived.

For alumni who can’t make it to campus, the Alumni Office coordinates similar College Days throughout the year, bringing faculty and deans to cities around the country. Upcoming College Days are scheduled for San Francisco on Saturday, March 29, and for Los Angeles on Sunday, March 30.

For further information on Dean’s Day or College Days or to register, please refer to the brochures mailed by the Alumni Office, visit the Alumni Office online events pages (www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/deansday or www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events for College Days) or contact Mia Gonsalves: 212-870-2744 or gm2156@columbia.edu.
Barnard Names Spar 11th President

Barnard College has named Deboral L. Spar, a Harvard Business School professor who has written about reproductive technologies and the evolution of the Internet, as its 11th president. Spar will take office on July 1, succeeding Judith R. Shapiro, who has been president since 1994 and announced her intention to step down as president in April 2007.

Spar said in a statement she looked forward to joining “what I already know to be a warm, vibrant and welcoming community of scholars and students. ... Barnard College offers something that is increasingly hard to find in our world, yet increasingly important: an intense and intimate liberal arts environment.”

In announcing Spar’s appointment at a faculty meeting, Anna Quindlen ’74, Barnard, chair of the Barnard Board of Trustees, said, “When I announced this search I told all of you, ‘The 11th leader of the College must be someone with considerable gifts of both mind and heart, a charismatic intellectual deeply committed to the value of single-sex education for women.’ I have no doubt that we have found just such a person in Debora Spar.”

Spar is the Spangler Family Professor of Business Administration and has been a senior associate dean for faculty research and development at HBS, where she teaches courses on the politics of international business, comparative capitalism and economic development. She also has been chair of Harvard’s University Committee on Human Rights and created and led Making Markets Work, an executive education program devoted to developing public and private sector leaders in Africa. Spar won the Student Association Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2000.

Quindlen said Spar’s success in juggling the roles of scholar and administrator at Harvard Business School enhanced her candidacy. “In one role, she epitomizes the teacher-scholar model that is the linchpin of Barnard’s superb faculty. In the other, she has been a stellar administrator who has brought innovative leadership to governance issues. And despite the demands of both, she has also devoted herself to the concerns of social justice, which are so important to our students.”

A native of Rye Brook, N.Y., Spar graduated magna cum laude from Georgetown’s School of Foreign Service and earned a Ph.D. in government at Harvard. She taught briefly at the University of Toronto before joining the HBS faculty in 1991.
Columbia's traditionally strong fencing program added two more Ivy League championships to its ledger when the Lions swept the two-weekend event in February. The Lion women finished 6-0 and the men 5-0 to complete Columbia's first Ivy sweep since the 2002-03 season.

"I've never seen dominance like that at the Ivy championships," said Columbia's 30-year veteran coach, George Kolombatovich. "It was a great showing for our teams."

It was the second straight Ivy crown for the Columbia women, who also were 6-0 last year. The Columbia men shared the title last year, but won it outright for the first time since 2004. Columbia's men have won or shared the title in seven of the past eight years and have won or shared the title 33 times since it was first contested in 1956-57. Columbia's women have won eight Ivy titles since competition began in 1981-82 (Barnard competed for the first two seasons, before Columbia began admitting women).

The deciding bouts took place over the first weekend of fencing at Yale, as Columbia defeated a surprising Penn team that beat its other opponents. Harvard, which was expected to compete with Columbia for the title, bowed before the Light Blue men 18-9 and women 17-10 on the second weekend at Princeton.

Of the 18 Columbia fencers who competed, 16 made either first or second-team All-Ivy, which is based on individual records in the tournament. What's more, in all six disciplines — men's and women's sabre, men's and women's épée and men's and women's foil — the Lions took the top spot in the All-Ivy selections.

"We won every weapon. That's just awesome!" said men's sabrist Alex Diacou '08, one of the team's five captains.

"There is such a good combination of talent, youth and seniority on this team," Kolombatovich said. "It is really encouraging for our future to see such a young group do so well and the other Ivies realize that if we are this good now, how strong we might be in the future."

The Lions are hopeful of doing even better than last year's team, which finished third in the nation at the NCAA championships. This year's NCAAs will be held March 13-16 at Ohio State in Columbus.

Following are Columbia's All-Ivy fencers for the 2007-08 season:

Men's sabre: Jeff Spear '10 and Alex Diacou '08, first team; Alex Rudnicki '10, second team.

Men's foil: Kurt Getz '10 and Sherif Ferrag '09, first team.

Men's épée: Max Czapanskiy '09 and Lorenzo Casertano '09, first team; Brent Kelly '10, second team.

Women's sabre: Emily Jacobson '08 and Jackie Jacobson '11, first team; Dani Gordet '08 Barnard, second team.

Women's foil: Nicole Ross '11 and Aby Caparros-Janto '11 Barnard, first team.

Women's épée: Martyna Urbanowicz '11 Barnard, first team; Tess Finkel '10 and Oriana Isaacson '09, second team.

Alex Sachare '71
University Launches Climate Center

Columbia has established its first center focused on bringing together scientists, engineers, public health experts, foreign policy specialists and others who are working on the challenges of climate change.

The Columbia Climate Center, part of the Earth Institute but encompassing other parts of the University as well, is an outgrowth of Columbia’s leadership in earth and environmental sciences, says its director, Peter Schlosser.

“Climate research always has been a strong part of Columbia and can be traced all the way back to the early work of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory,” says Schlosser, the Vinton Professor of Earth and Environmental Engineering and Applied Science. “The Columbia Climate Center builds on these contributions to move toward a solution-oriented approach to a problem that is so multidimensional.”

The center’s goals are to advance scientific knowledge about climate change, analyze policy and put forward solutions to real-world problems. A key challenge, and one familiar to academia, will be getting out the message, both to educate the public and influence policymakers. On January 31, the center hosted a discussion on climate change showcasing the interdisciplinary expertise at Columbia as part of Focus the Nation, a nationwide day to raise the profile of climate change in the United States.

“We aim to improve the pathways of communication so that the results of our research reach both decision makers and society at large,” says Mary-Elena Carr, the center’s associate director.

Schlosser and Carr emphasize the interdisciplinary nature of the center and its mission and say its success depends on close collaboration among experts from different disciplines, research centers and programs across the University.

“None of the existing climate-related centers at Columbia can address the entire spectrum of climate impacts, yet each center plays a key role,” Schlosser says.

By the end of this year, Schlosser and Carr hope to make the center the hub for climate-related science at Columbia. Five years from now, Schlosser says, “We hope to have established projects in which we have channeled innovative fundamental research into specific strategies ready for implementation.”

John Jay Awards on March 5

Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City will be the setting on Wednesday, March 5, as the College honors five of its most accomplished alumni for distinguished professional achievement. Accepting awards will be Barry Bergdoll ’77, professor of art history and archaeology at Columbia and Philip Johnson, Chief Curator of Architecture & Design at MoMA; Alexandra Wallace Creed ’88, executive producer of NBC Nightly News; Robert L. Friedman ’64, senior partner and chief legal counsel at Blackstone; Jonathan S. Lavine ’88, managing director at Bain Capital; and Ronald F. Mason Jr. ’74, president, Jackson State University. For more information, contact Jennifer Shaw, associate director, alumni affairs: 212-870-2743 or js3417@columbia.edu.

Carr hopes to make the center the hub for climate-related science at Columbia. Five years from now, Schlosser says, “We hope to have established projects in which we have channeled innovative fundamental research into specific strategies ready for implementation.”

Many graduates say that Columbia—with its distinguished faculty, exceptional students and tradition of excellence—transformed them into who they are today. The impact often seems to grow stronger over the years.

Alumni who are 60 or older can give back to their life-changing alma mater with a gift that benefits both them and the University. When you create a charitable gift annuity, you receive a quarterly income—from 5.5% to 11.3%, depending on your age—through your lifetime, with the remainder going to Columbia. Please contact the Office of Gift Planning for more information about this and other gift options.

An income you can count on today. An impact on Columbia into the future.

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475 Riverside Drive, MC7718 New York, NY 10115
Phone: (800) 338-3294 gift.planning@columbia.edu
TRANSGITIONS

■ ALUMNI OFFICE: Jennifer Shaw joined the Alumni Office on December 20 as associate director, alumni affairs, with primary responsibility for the office's two black-tie fundraising dinners. She also will handle other special events and work with the department on major events, such as Alumni Reunion Weekend. Shaw has extensive experience in event management gained in her almost 20 years at the University of Chicago, where she moved from being a public relations professional in the Office of Special Events to the director of that office. For the past four years, she was the administrative coordinator for Chicago's Study Abroad in the College Program. Shaw completed her bachelor's degree at Roosevelt University while working full-time.

■ FURDA: Eric J. Furda '94 TC, v.p. for alumni relations and former executive director of admissions for the College and SEAS, will become dean of admissions at Penn, his alma mater, on July 1.

A 1987 Penn alumnus, Furda began his career in university admissions there, as regional director from 1987–91. He then joined Columbia's Admissions Office and was executive director of undergraduate admissions from 1995–2004. Furda is credited with guiding a historic rise in undergraduate admissions at Columbia, leading and managing the merger of the admission processes of the College and SEAS. During his tenure, College applications increased more than 70 percent and SEAS more than 67 percent, while yield increased more than 20 percent.

As v.p. for alumni relations, Furda worked to create a new alumni association, increase annual alumni engagement and implement online resources to connect alumni with Columbia and with one another.

1911 – Ivy Explained

The January/February issue featured this photo on the back cover, and we asked readers to tell us where it is. Four readers responded correctly that it is at the southwest corner of Hamilton Hall. Congratulations and thank you to John Carr ’72, Dr. Kenneth Heisler ’71, ’75 P&S, Javed Basu-Kesselman ’11 and David Dewhurst of the facilities department.

But there's more to the story. Last fall, the College celebrated the 100th birthday of Hamilton Hall, complete with a birthday cake and visits from an actor portraying Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) and Hamilton biographer Ronald Chernow. Construction on Hamilton Hall was begun in 1905, when a cornerstone with that date was laid, and completed in 1907. So, if this is not the building's cornerstone, what does it and 1911, represent?

The clue is in the word, not the date. According to University Archivist Susan Hamson, the stone commemorates the year that ivy was planted near the building. Heisler had this correct as well, indicating in his answer, "There was a thick root below the inscribed stone, giving rise to a luxuriant growth of Ivy that covered much of Hamilton."
Support the Columbia College Fund this academic year.
Help maintain our tradition of excellence by sending your gift today.

To make a gift, call 1-866-222-5866 or give online at www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/giving/

THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND  OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT
Conference, Photo Exhibit To Mark 40th Anniversary of Spring ’68

The proposed gym in Morningside Park, protests over the war in Vietnam, students occupying campus buildings and then being cleared from those buildings—for one week in April 1968, the eyes of the world were on Columbia.

To mark the 40th anniversary of those historic events, a group of alumni, working with students and faculty, is organizing a three-day conference, scheduled for April 24–27, to reexamine the protests in the context of what was happening in 1968 in the country and around the world. The University is not sponsoring the conference, but it is permitting the use of campus venues for the event.

Meanwhile, there will be an exhibition of archival photographs from Spring ’68, “1968: Columbia in Crisis,” in the Chang Octagon Exhibition Room of the Rare Book & Manuscript Library on the sixth floor of Butler Library. The exhibition will run from March 17-June 6 during RBML’s normal business hours, Monday 9:00 a.m.-7:45 p.m. and Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:45 p.m. The exhibit is closed on weekends.

Planners of the conference say it will “provide a chance for people to reconnect, reconcile and reflect. And it will engage current students in discussions about issues of war, race and the role of the university—issues that still resonate 40 years later.”

Among the events planned for the conference, according to organizers, are a “living history” of the occupation and strike, with participants from all sides offering first-hand accounts; a reading by writers who were at Columbia in 1968, including Paul Auster ’69, ’70 GSAS, Thulani Davis ’70 Barnard, Mary Gordon ’71 Barnard, Hilton Obenzinger ’69 and Ntozake Shange ’70 Barnard; panels on race, feminism, the ethics of protest, and the legacy of 1968; and an opening session featuring Kathleen Cleaver, Tom Hayden, Tony Judt and Nicholas von Hoffman. Other confirmed speakers include Ti-Grace Atkinson ’90 GSAS, ’91 GSAS; Akeel Bilgrami; Ray Brown ’70; Lewis Cole ’68; Juan Gonzalez ’68; Peniel Joseph; Michael Klare ’63, ’68 GSAS; Manning Marable; Frances Fox Piven; Mark Rudd ’69; Catharine Stimpson ’61 GSAS, ’67 GSAS; and Kendall Thomas.

For more information, log onto the conference Web site: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CU68-08Event.

Finally, CCT is compiling reminiscences from alumni and others who were on campus during Spring ’68. Submissions should center around three themes:

- How did Spring ’68 change the way you look at the world?
- Is there one image or event that sums it up for you?
- What did you learn, and how did you apply it to your life?

Please express your thoughts in 250 words or fewer. CCT will publish them in its May/June issue and on the CCT Web site, but may not be able to publish all that are submitted. Please send responses to CCT editor Alex Sachare ’71: as801@columbia.edu.

BUSY DYING
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL BY HILTON OBENZINGER

No one tells the story of the Columbia University variation of Apocalypse 1968—its prelude and its up-to-date fallout (e.g., This Is Your Life)—better than Hilton Obenzinger.... In deft, benign, deep and often hilarious prose, he has kept the faith. BILL BERKSON

Hilton Obenzinger is an American original. His lost histories are acts of legerdemain and cunning—mixing truth and imagination in ways rarely seen before.... PAUL AUSTER

ISBN 978-0-925904-73-7 312 PP. $19.95
At bookstores or direct from CHAX PRESS: www.chax.org

Hundreds of students filled the rooms and ramps of Alfred Lerner Hall on February 7 for the fourth annual Glass House Rocks, a night-long celebration featuring music, food, dance and assorted other activities. PHOTO: MIRA JOHN FOR THE COLUMBIA DAILY SPECTATOR
Nicholas Dames, a specialist in 19th-century British fiction, is Theodore Kahan Professor in the Humanities. He received his B.A. from Washington University and his Ph.D. from Harvard. Dames’ latest book, The Physiology of the Novel, will be published by Oxford this year. In 2005, he received Columbia’s Presidential Teaching Award. CCT caught up with him recently to find out more.

Where did you grow up?
I was born in Chicago proper, but I mostly grew up in a town called Wilmette. It’s a suburb along Lake Michigan.

What did you want to be when you were growing up?
I spent weeks in a state of fantasy, pretending to be a private detective. Not terribly practical, but that was probably my first job ambition.

How did you get interested in your subject?
I wasn’t interested in Victorian literature until graduate school. I majored in English and went to school thinking I was going to do modernist literature. I was a terrible snob in high school and college about Victorian novels. And then I had a conversion experience in graduate school.

I came to this realization where modernism began to feel more and more like a junior high-school clique. It felt like a bunch of self-involved, narcissistic inside jokes — a lot of who’s in, who’s out, who’s the avant-garde and who’s not. And suddenly Victorian literature began to seem really acute about the things that I was finding myself fascinated with — particularly class and the relationship of the self with social structures like class. It began to remind me of the world I lived in much more acutely than anything I was reading in modernist literature.

How did you come to Columbia?
This is the only job I’ve ever had, actually (laughs). I was terribly lucky.

How do you like the city?
I always wanted to wind up in a large city, so this was just fantastic for me. I like the urban environment, I find I kind of need it. The density. The way in which you never feel lonely but are also allowed to be alone. That combination just works well with me.

Which classes are you teaching right now?
Lit Hum, and a Theory of Fiction Seminar, “The Victorian Novel in Theory.”

What’s your favorite kind of class?
My favorite courses that I teach are the ones that attract people from a lot of different majors. There’s a course I teach called “The 19th Century European Novel.” That, for whatever reason, attracts a lot of the science majors, math majors ... so there’s this great kind of energy in the room. People from outside the English major can be very inventive about ways of approaching a novel analytically, and less reluctant to learn new ways of doing it.

What are you working on right now?
I’m working on a book that’s a history of the chapter as a form, all the way from the Bible and early manuscripts to the modern-day novel. It’s kind of a huge — unwieldy — project.

What’s something your students would never guess about you?
That I often consider myself incredibly lazy.

Who would play you, in the movie of your life?
(Laughs) I would really hope it would be Jeremy Irons, for the voice. I would love to hear my words coming out of his mouth.

If you could go anywhere in the world right now, where would it be?
Coastal Maine. I love to go there in the off-season. It’s incredibly foggy, you have miles and miles of beach to yourself.

What’s your favorite food?
Noodles. Every culture has a noodle, and they’re all good.

Coffee or tea?
Why choose? Coffee in the morning, tea the rest of the day, constantly.

Interview: Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard

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College Broadens Daniel Free '08's Horizons

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

Although Daniel Free '08 did not stray too far from his hometown of Stratford, Conn., when he chose to attend college in New York City, his 55-mile trip to Morningside Heights has propelled him much farther and in directions he had not initially anticipated.

Free, the oldest of four siblings, is the first member of his family to attend college — following in the footsteps of many who were family pioneers at the College.

"I always had the desire to go to an Ivy League university. I knew those schools would offer the best opportunities later in life, and I really wanted to break the mold that has surrounded my family. We do not have much money," he says.

Free, who is half Native American, was accepted to the College as a Kluge Scholar, and after visiting Morningside Heights, decided Columbia was the best fit for him.

"New York City and the opportunities here made me very excited. I also thought the campus was absolutely amazing. I remember the feeling when I first stepped onto it and thought: 'This is just right,'" recalls Free.

"If it wasn't for the Kluge grant, I probably wouldn't be here," he adds.

According to Free, his mother — who undertook most of the responsibility of raising him and his siblings after she and his father divorced — has embraced the opportunities the College has afforded him.

"My mom was supportive of me going to [college in] another state. In fact, I have always been very independent. I worked 20-30 hours a week during high school and didn’t rely on the family for money. She realizes that this is the best situation for me," he says.

Despite juggling several responsibilities as a teenager, Free compiled an impressive high school résumé that allowed him to achieve his dream of obtaining an Ivy League education. He was captain of the varsity outdoor track and field team, president of the debate team and founder of the Model United Nations Club at Bunnell H.S., where he graduated summa cum laude.

In September 2004, Free arrived at Columbia intending to double major in political science and economics. However, after taking several Spanish courses with Professor Marissa Garland, he opted to replace economics with a concentration in Spanish literature and language. He took courses with Garland for three semesters and credits her teaching style for his change of trajectory.

"I became a Spanish concentrator because of the way she taught the language and her passion for it," Free says. "She always came into class with new and interesting ways to teach.

"The great thing about studying languages is that once you have the skill, a whole new culture opens up to you in a way that it wouldn’t have before," he adds.

Currently, Free is furthering his passion for languages by learning Japanese. "I love the Japanese department here. They teach you about the entire culture. That has helped open my mind. It’s one of the most difficult languages to learn, and it really challenges me," he notes.

Free has taken advantage of his college years to immerse himself in other cultures and learn about foreign governments. In summer 2006, with the help of two scholarships from The Council on International Educational Exchange, he made his first trip abroad and spent a month studying in Seville, Spain. That year, he also spent the fall semester in Sydney, Australia, through a study aboard program. He took courses at the University of New South Wales and analyzed voting trends as an intern with the Democratic Party of the New South Wales Parliament. His findings were published in several Australian newspapers.

Although some of Free’s best experiences of his undergraduate years have taken place abroad, he has not relinquished his relationships and commitments back in Morningside Heights.

After his first year in the College, Free decided to help the next wave of incoming students in their transition to college life by serving as the Transfer, Visitor and International Students Programs coordinator for the New Student Orientation Program. He also serves as secretary of the 2008 Columbia College Student Council and is helping his classmates transition from students to active alumni as a member of the Senior Fund.

"Being a member of the Senior Fund gives me an opportunity to start current students on the path to becoming alumni who will give back to Columbia, whether it’s time or money," says Free, who enjoys heading to the Bronx to watch his favorite baseball team, the New York Yankees, play at Yankee Stadium.

After graduation, Free plans to spend a year in the Land of the Rising Sun through the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme, which would allow him to teach English while simultaneously holding a job with the Japanese government. While in the Far East, he plans to apply to law schools and is also considering returning to Morningside Heights to pursue a degree at SIPA.

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Sunnyside, Queens is an American Studies major, a freelance reporter and an avid New York Yankees fan.
IN MEMORIAM
Remembering John Garraty
BY YANEK MIECZKOWSKI ’89 GSAS, ’95 GSAS

Editor’s note: This is a condensed version of Mieczkowski’s tribute. To read the complete text, please go to www.college.columbia.edu/alumni.

The historical profession lost a giant with the passing of John A. Garraty [’48 GSAS], the Gouverneur Morris Professor of History emeritus. The author and editor of numerous American history books, Garraty was one of the most prolific historians of his generation. I worked as his last research assistant, and I once asked him the secret of his prolificness, as if expecting him to reveal some mysterious formula or regimen. In addition to his writing, he had a family, taught classes, vacationed at a Paris apartment and even ran the New York City marathon. Amidst all this activity, he still wrote copiously. “Where do you find the time?” I asked.

“Time?” he responded. “Time is a question of priorities. Only the dead have run out of time. They’ve met their final deadline.”

I began to laugh, because it seemed a curious way to answer my question. But when I laughed, Garraty put up his hand. “No, I’m serious,” he said. “If something ranks high enough as a priority, you’ll find the time.”

Time ran out for Garraty on December 19, when he died at his Sag Harbor, N.Y., home of heart failure at 87. But he leaves a wealth of work for readers to contemplate. The New York Times obituary on Garraty focused almost exclusively on a project he completed during retirement, the massive American National Biography. His textbook, The American Nation, was first published in 1963 and is in its 12th edition. It became a best-selling college text, and Garraty published a version for high school students, too.

In 1989, Garraty began the “1001 Things” series with 1001 Things Everyone Should Know About American History. The series has grown to comprise titles on the Civil War, the South, Women’s History and Irish-American History. In addition to describing biography in The Nature of Biography, Garraty wrote volumes on the lives of Henry Cabot Lodge, George Perkins, Woodrow Wilson and Silas Wright. He also wrote The Great Depression and, with Eric Foner [’63], edited The Reader’s Companion to American History.


Garraty received his undergraduate degree from Brooklyn College in 1941 and worked during WWII as a Merchant Marine swim instructor. In 1948, he earned his Ph.D. from Columbia and then taught for 12 years at Michigan State University before returning to Columbia, where he was a professor for 31 years until his retirement in 1990.

Yanek Mieczkowski ’89 GSAS, ’95 GSAS chairs the Department of History at Dowling College in Oakdale, N.Y.

IN LUMINE TUO

William V. Harris, the William R. Shepherd Professor of History, has received the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Distinguished Achievement Award. Amounting to as much as $1.5 million for a three-year period, the award honors three scholars for their significant contributions to "humanistic inquiry.” Harris, who was cited for his studies of ancient Rome and Greece, directs Columbia’s Center for the Ancient Mediterranean, which brings together faculty and students interested in the cultures of the region.

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The Core Curriculum helps Toomas Hendrik Ilves ‘76 serve his homeland of Estonia

By Daniella Zalcman ’09

When David Luther ’76 arrived at his office one Monday morning, he barely noticed that he had received an e-mail from Tom, an old college friend. The subject line contained a mild expletive, which was vaguely alarming, but the Oppenheimer senior officer was swamped and his inbox was filled with more urgent, work-related missives.

A few hours later, he checked the message and immediately began to laugh. It read: “I’m the president, I was just elected president of Estonia!”

Luther reached for the phone.

“I called him up and congratulated him,” he says. “And then he invited me to go to the inauguration, so I did. How many people do you know who are going to be president of a country?”

On September 23, 2006, Tom — more formally known as Toomas Hendrik Ilves ’76 — became the fourth president of Estonia.

“And,” Luther adds, laughing, “you’ll be happy to hear that he’s cleaned up his language substantially since he’s gotten into politics.”

Reclining in an overstuffed booth in the Café Carlyle almost a year later, a glass of Sam Adams at his fingertips, Ilves’ first words are a compact expression of affection for his alma mater.

“Anything for Columbia,” he says as he begins the interview, adjusting the signature bow tie that accompanies him to all public appearances.

Ilves is in New York for his annual address to the United Nations General Council on September 27, but his visit also includes a stop in Morningside Heights to participate in a discussion one day earlier with President Lee C. Bollinger and Mikheil Saakashvili ’94L, president of the Republic of Georgia, as part of the World Leaders Forum.

Ilves’ dialogue with Saakashvili and subsequent Q&A session with students and others in attendance begins with an outline of the state of each country’s relationship with the Russian Federation and the possibility of and barriers to European integration. But gradually, the conversation turns to more lighthearted reminiscences of their college years by the two heads of state.

More than 31 years after his graduation, Ilves in particular credits Columbia for providing the liberal arts background that prepared him to become the leader of an Eastern European nation. He echoes a thought from an essay published more than a decade earlier, in the Fall 1993 issue of CCT, when he was Estonia’s ambassador to North America: “My hope is that in 20 years, a large part of Estonia’s political, economic and cultural elite ... will be as familiar with Hobbes and Locke as our graduates are, and that they will consider that knowledge simply part of being an educated adult.”
“I firmly believe that the world would be much better off — at least the democratic world — if everyone did the Core as an undergraduate. The Enlightenment is the foundation of what modern democracy is.”
What most attracted Ilves to Columbia was the Core Curriculum. “I always thought that every undergraduate should have that foundation. I consider it the sine qua non for being an educated person.”

“Columbia was a time of intellectual discovery,” he says. “That’s what I liked. And I also liked the fact that if I didn’t want to discover anything intellectually, I could just hop on the subway and go downtown.”

But more than the pull of New York City, what most attracted Ilves to Columbia was the Core Curriculum. “At that time, there was only Columbia, [the University of] Chicago and St. John’s University that had a core, and that was very important to me,” he says. “I always thought that every undergraduate should have that foundation. I consider it the sine qua non for being an educated person.”

Ilves’ love of the Core stayed with him long past his college years. At one point, he even tried to bring a similar program of study to the national university in Estonia, with the help of Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis. Though it has yet to catch on, Ilves says he’s determined to try again.

“Take the Core seriously,” Ilves admonishes. “When I talk to people who are graduates of the College, the older you get the more salient the Core and Contemporary Civilization and Literature Humanities become as part of your undergraduate experience. The other stuff all changes. Whatever you studied 30 years ago may not be the same at all in the present unless you stayed in that field and kept up on it, but all of that philosophy is still significant.”

The Enlightenment texts from Contemporary Civilization particularly appealed to the son of Soviet exiles. Though Ilves had never been to his parents’ homeland and would not travel to Estonia until 1984, from an early age he would rapidly listen to visiting family friends discuss Estonian politics.

The effect was profound. According to an interview in a local New Jersey paper with his mother, Irene, the future president would march through his house as a young child, chanting, “We’re going to free Estonia and kick all the Russians.”

Ilves’ father, Endel, encouraged his son’s budding patriotism. He insisted that both parents speak Estonian to Toomas and his brother, Andres, at home. “He said it’s a small nation, there aren’t many of us and we must not forget the homeland,” Irene told The Record.

And indeed, both brothers returned to Europe to work as journalists, writing extensively about the democratic world as the USSR slowly crumbled. Andres also worked for Radio Free Europe as the head of the Afghanistan bureau in Prague, and now heads BBC’s Persian and Pashto World Service.

Ilves has applied his Contemporary Civilization readings to Eastern European politics in the wake of Soviet disintegration, citing Politics and The Republic along with his favorite Enlightenment texts as being a vital foundation on which to build a democracy.

“I firmly believe that the world would be much better off — at least the democratic world — if everyone did the Core as an undergraduate,” he says. “The Enlightenment is the foundation of what modern democracy is. There are too many countries, especially in the post-communist world, that don’t understand that the state is there only at the behest of the citizenry.”

Ilves pauses to reflect, hands clasped in front of him.

“And of course the undemocratic world would be even better off, I think,” he says, laughing.

Classmates remember Ilves as being fiercely outspoken as an undergraduate, but few foresaw his political career. Luther met Ilves while taking a class with the future president’s first-year roommate. Ilves spent many evenings in Luther’s seventh floor cinderblock Carman suite, and the two became fast friends. “What quickly struck me about him is that he had a great sense of humor, and he loved debating and talking politics,” Luther says. “He also had extremely conservative views, which were aligned with my opinions. But mostly, he was a lot of fun to be around.”

Ilves and Luther spent the next two years living across the hall from each other in Plimpton and spending much of their free time together. “He was very immersed in his studies, to say the least,” says Luther, “but that doesn’t mean he wouldn’t also take time to go out and have a beer at the Campus Dining Room on 119th Street.”

But after his studies and lab research, “his real second passion in those days was music,” Luther says. “He introduced me to Bruce Springsteen, Lou Reed, Kinky Friedman — I guess they’re common names now, but in ’74 they were new performers. I can remember spending a lot of time sitting in his room while he played disc jockey, saying, ‘You gotta hear this guy.’ ”

After earning his M.A., Ilves taught English in Englewood, N.J., for a couple of years, and in 1981 became the director of art at the Vancouver Arts Center in Canada. Then, in the first of many steps that would bring him closer to his Baltic roots, he began lecturing on Estonian literature and linguistics at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

Ilves enjoyed teaching, and says that academia always has been an important part of his life. “I’ve been teaching all along, I’d say. The fact that I’m constantly giving speeches, lectures, it’s all sort of pedagogy.”

Those who knew Ilves best as a college student never would have predicted a departure from the academic world. For example, “I would have thought that he would be a professor of psychology teaching in a college or university,” Hood says.

Luther agrees, adding that Ilves would never shy away from any debate on any subject, always expressing his views in a manner that would befit either a professor or a politician. “He had very strong opinions about the Soviet Union and we knew that his family was from Estonia, but to us he was just Tom from Leonia. I would have thought that he would become a professor, or at the very least someone in academia.”

But while lecturing in Canada, Ilves became more and more involved in Estonian current events.

“I went to graduate school, and I realized I’d been in school
Ilves enjoyed teaching, and says that academia always has been an important part of his life. "I’ve been teaching all along, I’d say. The fact that I’m constantly giving speeches, lectures, it’s all sort of pedagogy."

for too long,” he says. “Then I started writing about Estonia and the Baltic and Soviet stuff and eventually it caught the eye of some people who offered me a job at Radio Free Europe.”

Ilves moved to Munich in 1984 to work as an analyst and researcher, focusing his writing on developments in the Baltic region. By 1988, he was asked to take over Radio Free Europe’s Estonian desk.

Once immersed in Eastern European politics, the switch from journalism to diplomacy was seamless.

“Estonians have always been fairly active in what is going on in Estonia,” says Ilves. “The dissident writer Lennart Meri became foreign minister, and I would write speeches for him in English. Then he became president — and since I was one of the few people who knew anything about foreign affairs, he asked me if I would become the ambassador to the United States [and Mexico and Canada], because he needed someone who had a feel for the West.”

Estonia was in a period of transition, struggling to create a national identity in the turmoil of Soviet dissolution. For Baltic leaders, breaking ties with the former USSR meant strengthening their connection with the western world — and with America in particular.

By then, Soviet occupation had ended and Estonia had declared independence. So in 1993, Ilves quit his job at Radio Free Europe, renounced his American citizenship and moved to Estonia.

After serving as the Estonian ambassador to North America for three years, he became the minister of foreign affairs. Ilves became instrumental in Estonia’s induction to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union in March and May 2004, respectively. For him, last fall’s trip to address the entire U.N. assembly was the culmination of years of hard work.

“I devoted five years of my life to getting Estonia into those organizations,” Ilves says. “I consider that the most important part of what I’ve done until now.”

Once the Luxembourg European Council outlined the accession and negotiation processes in 1997, Ilves helped to initiate a series of negotiations regarding Estonia, Cyprus, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and the Czech Republic’s inclusion in the EU a year later. In 1999, the group expanded to include Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania and Slovakia. Ten countries acceded along with Estonia in 2004, and Bulgaria and Romania joined after prolonged negotiation on January 1, 2007.

Ilves’ rapid political ascension didn’t stop there. From minister of foreign affairs, he went on to join the Estonian Parliament in 2002 and the European Parliament in 2004.

But for all his accomplishments and all his work in helping Estonia to acclimate to its post-communist existence, it never occurred to Ilves to consider the presidency. Once he even told a Baltic publication, City Paper, “I definitely am not interested! And I hope that all speculation on the topic will cease.”

But when the communist then-president of Estonia, Arnold Ruutel, came up for reelection in September 2006, it became clear that Ilves was the only realistic opponent.

“I asked was asked by lots and lots of people [to run],” says Ilves, shrugging cheerfully. “I was basically the only theoretical contender who ranked higher than the incumbent, who at the time was challengerless. All the Western-oriented political parties in Estonia encouraged me: the social democrats, the conservatives and the liberals.”

Weeks later, Ilves defeated Ruutel by a 174-162 vote in the Estonian electoral body to become the second youngest head of state in the EU. His executive role in the Estonian parliamentary democracy is defined mostly by his representation of Estonia in international affairs, while Prime Minister Andrus Ansip is the head of government.

Ilves lives with his wife, Evelin, and daughters, Juulia Kristine, 15, and Kadri Keiu, 4. His son, Luukas, is a junior at Stanford in its directed studies program, which, according to Ilves, is much like Columbia’s Core.

Today, the president’s vision for his country is simple.

“Taking small country in northeast Europe, that’s what I’d like. It’s getting there, having surpassed Portugal in terms of GDP per capita this year, so we’re doing rather well, I’d say,” he offers with pride.

Recent Estonian history hasn’t been without its share of hitches, most notably including a series of cyberattacks last April and May that crippled Estonian Web sites and cell phone networks. But by most accounts, Estonia is indeed thriving. According to the International Monetary Fund, with a population of 1.3 million in a country roughly four times the size of New York City, Estonia has the 37th highest GDP per capita of the 179 countries included in its survey, and is growing at a robust annual rate of 11.4 percent. The unemployment rate — 4.2 percent as of July 2006 — is one of the lowest in the European Union.

The main industries in Estonia, which is almost entirely energy independent, are engineering, information technology and telecommunications. An article in the August 2007 issue of Wired Magazine called Estonia “the most wired country in Europe.”

“Every day is different, alas … or thank goodness, as the case may be,” the president says wryly. “I would just hope that those trends would continue.”


MARCH/APRIL 2008
A "Knack for Tasty Wordplay"

By Yelena Shuster ’09

Growing up in one of three black families in a mostly white Memphis neighborhood, Katori Hall ’03 often was called an “Oreo” (black on the outside, white on the inside) and occasionally a “ni—er” behind her back by her white classmates. Ever since then, the now-26-year-old has grappled with what she calls her “double-consciousness” as a Black American, struggling to define the hyphenated identity that ties the past of her African roots to the present of her American existence.

The exploration has paid off. Inspired by her rich past, Hall penned her Off-Broadway debut, Hoodoo Love, which ran to critical acclaim at NYC’s Cherry Lane Theatre October 18–December 9.

Based in 1930s Memphis, Hoodoo Love tells the haunting story of young Toulou finding love and chasing her dream of becoming a blues singer after escaping the Mississippi Delta cotton fields. She tempts fate with Hoodoo, a form of African-American folk magic, taught to her by the Candy Lady, an elderly former slave who believes nothing can keep your man by your side like a good old incantation — and perhaps some “ministration in his coffee.” Most striking in the play is Hall’s ability to capture the melody of the Southern African-American vernacular. Her characters’ everyday speech mimics the poetry of the blues without a single note necessary.

Critics praised Hall’s original voice. Time Out New York noticed her “knack for tasty wordplay” and called Hoodoo Love “a major debut.” The Village Voice said, “Hall’s ear for unusual language makes her a new writer worth watching.” The play was nominated for three AUDELCO Awards and received the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award.

Hoodoo Love, directed by Lucie Tiberghien, originally was produced in 2006 as part of the Cherry Lane Theatre’s Mentor Project, which engages three renowned dramatists in one-on-one mentorships with three chosen playwrights for an entire season. Lynn Nottage, the acclaimed playwright of A Stone’s Throw and Crumbs From the Table of Joy, chose to mentor Hall from among five candidates. “Instantly, when I read the play, I felt she was the real deal,” Nottage says. “The language was rich and evocative. She had an amazing ear for dialogue. It’s rare that someone’s language leaps off the page when you read it.”

Hoodoo Love began as an assignment in a creative writing class with Professor Austin Flynn during Hall’s senior year at the College. Students were asked to write about two people in a room fighting over an object. At the time, Hall was reading Zora Neale Hurston’s Their Eyes Were Watching God, where she first heard the folk magic concept of a “mojo hand,” a sack full of remnants of former loves. That scene was the basis for Hoodoo Love, which debuted five years later. Hall credits Flynn for his early support of her writing. “We need more teachers who look at what we do have to offer. He saw something in me, and that made the Creative Writing Program a wonderful experience for me,” she says.

But Hall’s first training ground in creative writing came from her family. Listening to the way her grandparents spoke was her linguistics research. “It was a way of speaking I had always been around. My parents had wonderful sayings. I grew up in a family that spoke in wonderful similes and metaphors,” she says.

Hall’s maternal grandmother was “Big Momma” when Hall was a child and her grandmother’s house acted as a day care center for all of her siblings in downtown Memphis. Not surprisingly, her play’s characters have a basis in her childhood. Candy Lady is based on many older women Hall grew up with who would give treats to kids in the neighborhood. “It’s my umbrella term for the matriarch in the black community,” she says. “The character’s coming from a very real, authentic place.” The play’s roots in superstition also stem from her childhood. For example, Hall notes, “I don’t allow my hair to be thrown away. I get rid of it myself. If a bird comes and finds your hair, and uses it to make a nest, it will drive you crazy. I got that from my family.”

Hall’s family descended from sharecroppers and she describes her parents as “hard-working, blue-collar people.” She is the youngest of four sisters and the only one who finished college. Hall spent the first five years of her life in Orange Mound, “not the best part of Memphis,” she notes. “But we didn’t know we were struggling.”

Her mother, Carrie, cut corners by making house decorations, not going “the fashion designer way,” and selling hand-sewn floral arrangements and gift baskets to get by. “I worked as much overtime as I could to bring in extra money. For a long time, we didn’t have a computer. We went to the library every other day, because she [Katori] was serious about her homework,” Carrie says.
Before Hall began kindergarten, her family moved to Raleigh, a wealthier part of Memphis. They were one of three black families that moved in, and integration wasn’t easy. “Sometimes I got called a ‘ni—er’ at school, from kids I grew up with from kindergarten. I asked a kid why he called me that and he said his dad said we came from Niger. That was a turning moment in my life, because I didn’t know enough about my history to refute that,” she says.

This sparked Hall’s exploration of her black roots in her writing: “It’s a constant mental struggle, this double-consciousness of being a Black American. At the same time, it’s great fodder for my writing.” She explains this “double-consciousness” reference to W.E.B. Du Bois as a struggle in defining your identity: “At the end of the day, you are not really African — you are too far-removed from your place of origin, there are no language or cultural ties that can sail you home — and you are not really American — because of your brown skin, you can never truly assimilate into mainstream America. You are forever wading in the melting pot that is America, trying hard to define yourself by your own standards and not by the hackneyed, trite, misinformed assumptions held by white Americans. You are attempting to be, first and foremost, human.”

Hall, the first black valedictorian in her high school, graduated with hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarship money for college. In addition to schools’ individual offers of financial aid, she won national scholarships from various organizations such as Ron Brown, Coca-Cola, Elks Lodge, Target and Wal-Mart. The same kids who called her an “Oreo” growing up now asked her to tutor them in SAT preparation.

At Columbia, Hall majored in African-American studies and concentrated in creative writing. Hall stood out to Professor Farah Griffin, who says, “My first introduction to my students is through their writing. That’s what stood out to me about Katori — the quality of her writing. She had the combination of talent, confidence and discipline. I never had any doubt about Katori at all and I think [her successful play is] just the beginning for her.”

“...You are forever wading into the melting pot that is America ... You are attempting to be, first and foremost, human.”

Though she’s still getting rejection letters from other theaters for Hoodoo Love, Hall has learned not to take it personally. “I try not to concentrate on the negative stuff. I know this is what I’m supposed to be doing. I feel a huge responsibility to tell the stories of Black people from a contemporary world. That’s what keeps me going — I have so much to say.”

Nottage, for one, says Hall is on the right path. “I believe absolutely in her voice,” she says. “I believe that the things she has to say have yet to find a way to the American stage.”

Despite her compelling new life in New York City, Hall has no problems going home to Memphis. She credits the actor in her for being able to interact with everyone in her life on their own terms. “I’m very malleable in terms of who I hang around with. I become a chameleon and speak the way they speak. When I’m in Memphis, I’m little Katori” — here she changes the inflection of her voice to represent a Southern accent — “...just this city-country girl who loves chitlins on Christmas.”

Yelena Shuster ’09 is a staff writer and theater critic for Spectator. Her articles have appeared in CosmoGIRL! and Us Weekly online.
Columbia College Today

Picasso of the Kitchen
AUGUSTE ESCOFFIER AND THE ESSENCE OF TASTE

By Jonah Lehrer ’03

So it happens that when I write of hunger, I am really writing about love and the hunger for it, and warmth and the love of it and the hunger for it ... and then the warmth and richness and fine reality of hunger satisfied ... and it is all one.


In his kitchen, a proper cook was a man of exquisite sensitivity, “carefully studying the trifling details of each separate flavor before he sends his masterpiece of culinary art before his patrons.”

Auguste Escoffier invented veal stock. Others had boiled bones before, but no one had codified the recipe. Before Escoffier, the best way to make veal stock was cloaked in mystery; cooking was like alchemy, a semimystical endeavor. But Escoffier came of age during the late stages of positivism, a time when knowledge — some of it true, some of it false — was disseminated at a dizzying rate. Encyclopedias were the books of the day. Escoffier took this scientific ethos to heart; he wanted to do for fancy food what Lavoisier had done for chemistry, and replace the old superstitions of the kitchen with a new science of cooking.

At the heart of Escoffier’s insight (and the source of more than a few heart failures) was his use of stock. He put it in everything. He reduced it to gelatinous jelly, made it the base of pureed soups, and enriched it with butter and booze for sauces. While French women had created homemade stock for centuries — pot-au-feu (beef boiled in water) was practically the national dish — Escoffier gave their protein broth a professional flair. In the first chapter of his Guide Culinaire (1903), Escoffier lectured cooks on the importance of extracting flavor from bones: “Indeed, stock is everything in cooking. Without it, nothing can be done. If one’s stock is good, what remains of the work is easy; if, on the other hand, it is bad or merely mediocre, it is quite hopeless to expect anything approaching a satisfactory meal.” What every other chef was throwing away — the scraps of tendon and oxtail, the tops of celery, the ends of onion, and the irregular corners of carrot — Escoffier was simmering into sublimity.

Although Escoffier introduced his Guide Culinaire with the lofty claim that his recipes were “based upon the modern science of gastronomy,” in reality he ignored modern science. At the time, scientists were trying to create a prissy nouvelle cuisine based on their odd, and totally incorrect, notions of what was healthy. Pig blood was good for you. So was tripe. Broccoli, on the other hand, caused indigestion. The same with peaches and garlic. Escoffier ignored this bad science (he invented peach Melba), and sautéed away to his heart’s content, trusting the pleasures of his tongue over the abstractions of theory. He believed that the greatest threat to public health was the modern transformation of dining from a “pleasurable occasion into an unnecessary chore.”

The form of Escoffier’s encyclopedic cookbook reflects his romantic bent. Although he was fond of calling sauciers (the cooks responsible for making the sauces) “enlightened chemists,” his actual recipes rarely specify quantities of butter or flour or truffles or salt. Instead, they are descriptions of his cooking process: melt the fat, add the meat, listen “for the sound of crackling,” pour in the stock, and reduce. It sounds so easy: all you have to do is obey the whims of your senses. This isn’t a science experiment, Escoffier seems to be saying, this is hedonism. Let pleasure be your guide.

Escoffier’s emphasis on the tongue was the source of his culinary revolution. In his kitchen, a proper cook was a man of exquisite sensitivity, “carefully studying the trifling details of each separate flavor before he sends his masterpiece of culinary art before his patrons.” Escoffier’s cookbook warns again and again that the experience of the dish —
For Escoffier, cooking was a matter of obeying the whims of your senses. It was hedonism, not a science experiment, so pleasure was your guide.

PHOTO © FOUNDATION AUGUSTE ESCOFFIER-VILLENEUVE LOUBET, FRANCE (06)

what it actually tastes like — is the only thing that matters: “Experience alone can guide the cook.” A chef must be that artist on whom no taste is lost.

But Escoffier knew that he couldn’t just serve up some grilled meat and call it a day. His hedonism had to taste haute. After all, he was a chef in the hotels of César Ritz, and his customers expected their food to be worthy of the gilded surroundings and astonishing expense. This is where Escoffier turned to his precious collection of stocks. He used his stocks to ennoble the ordinary sauté, to give the dish a depth and density of flavor. After the meat was cooked in the hot pan (Escoffier preferred a heavy, flat-bottomed poêle), the meat was taken out to rest, and the dirty pan, full of delicious grease and meat scraps, was deglazed.

Deglazing was the secret of Escoffier’s success. The process itself is extremely simple: a piece of meat is cooked a very high temperature — to produce a nice seared Maillard crust, a cross-linking and caramelizing of amino acids — and then a liquid, such as a rich veal stock, is added.* As the liquid evaporates, it loosens the fronde, the burned bits of protein stuck to the bottom of the pan (deglazing also makes life easier for the dishwasher). The dissolved fronde is what gives Escoffier’s sauces their divine depth; it’s what makes beef bourguignon, bourguignon. A little butter is added for varnish, and voilà! the sauce is complet.

*Escoffier would also use wine, brandy, port, wine vinegar, and — if there was no spare booze lying around — water.

In his well-received first book, Proust Was A Neuroscientist, Jonah Lehrer ’03, a Rhodes Scholar, argues that science alone cannot map out all the mysteries of the brain. Artists such as Proust and Woolf, with their exquisite intuition and penchant for self-study, have foretold the mind’s workings in ways that modern neuroscience would only later confirm. “This book is about artists who anticipated the discoveries of neuroscience,” writes Lehrer. “It is about writers and painters and composers who discovered truths about the human mind — real, tangible truths — that science is only now rediscovering. Their imaginations foretold the facts of the future.”

In this chapter from Proust Was A Neuroscientist, Lehrer, who has worked in the kitchens of Le Cirque 2000 and Le Bernardin, looks at the discoveries of a culinary artist, the French chef Auguste Escoffier.
The Secret of Deliciousness

Escoffier’s basic technique is still indispensable. Few other cultural forms have survived the twentieth century so intact. Just about every fancy restaurant still serves up variations of his dishes, recycling their bones and vegetable tops into meat stocks. From espagnole sauce to sole Véronique, we eat the way he told us to eat. And since what Brillat-Savarin said is probably true — “The discovery of a new dish does more for the happiness of the human race than the discovery of a new star” — it is hard to overestimate Escoffier’s importance. Clearly, there is something about his culinary method — about stocks and deglazing and those last-minute swirls of butter — that makes some primal part of us very, very happy.

The place to begin looking for Escoffier’s ingenuity is in his cookbooks. The first recipe he gives us is for brown stock (estouffade), which he says is “the humble foundation for all that follows.” Escoffier begins with the browning of beef and veal bones in the oven. Then, says Escoffier, fry a carrot and an onion in a stockpot. Add cold water, your baked bones, a little pork rind, and a bouquet garni of parsley, thyme, bay leaf, and a clove of garlic. Simmer gently for twelve hours, making sure to keep the water at a constant level. Once the bones have given up their secrets, sauté some meat scraps in hot fat in a saucepan. Deglaze with your bone water and reduce. Repeat. Do it yet again. Then slowly add the remainder of your stock. Carefully skim off the fat (a stock should be virtually fat-free) and simmer for a few more hours. Strain through a fine chinois. After a full day of stock-making, you are now ready to start cooking.

In Escoffier’s labor-intensive recipe, there seems to be little to interest the tongue. After all, everybody knows that the tongue can taste only four flavors: sweet, salty, bitter and sour. Escoffier’s recipe for stock seems to deliberately avoid adding any of these tastes. It contains very little sugar, salt or acid, and unless one burns the bones (not recommended), there is no bitterness. Why, then, is stock so essential? Why is it the “mother” of Escoffier’s cuisine? What do we sense when we eat a profound beef daube, its deglazed bits simmered in stock until the sinewy meat is fit for a spoon? Or, for that matter, when we slurp a bowl of chicken soup, which is just another name for chicken stock? What is it about denatured protein (denaturing is what happens to meat and bones when you cook them Escoffier’s way) that we find so inexplicably appealing?

The answer is umami, the Japanese word for “delicious.” Umami is what you taste when you eat everything from steak to soy sauce. It’s what makes stock more than dirty water and deglazing the essential process of French cooking. To be precise, umami is actually the taste of L-glutamate (C\textsubscript{5}H\textsubscript{8}NO\textsubscript{4}), the dominant amino acid in the composition of life L-glutamate is released from life-forms by proteolysis (a shy scientific word for death, rot and the cooking process). While scientists were still theorizing about the health benefits of tripe, Escoffier was busy learning how we taste food. His genius was getting as much L-glutamate on the plate as possible. The emulsified butter didn’t hurt either.

The story of umami begins at about the same time Escoffier invented tournedos Rossini, a fillet mignon served with foie gras and sauced with a reduced veal stock and a scattering of black truffles. The year was 1907, and Japanese chemist Kikunae Ikeda asked himself a simple question: What does dashi taste like? Dashi is a classic Japanese broth made from kombu, a dried form of kelp. Since at least A.D. 797, dashi has been used in Japanese cooking the same way Escoffier used stock, as a universal solvent, a base for every dish. But to Ikeda, the dashi was more than a broth. It was, as Ikeda put it, a taste. After years of lonely chemistry, during which he tried to distill the secret ingredient that dashi and veal stock had in common, Ikeda realized that it was glutamic acid, the precursor of L-glutamate. He announced his discovery in the Journal of the Chemical Society of Tokyo.

Glutamic acid is itself tasteless. Only when the protein is broken down by cooking, fermentation, or a little ripening in the sun does the molecule degenerate into L-glutamate, an amino acid that the tongue can taste. “This study has discovered two facts,” Ikeda wrote in 1907. Which he tried to distill the secret ingredient that dashi and veal stock had in common, black truffles. The year was 1907, and Japanese chemist Kikunae Ikeda asked himself a similar question: What is umami, this taste we find so inexplicably appealing? The answer is umami, the Japanese word for “delicious.” Umami is what you taste when you eat everything from steak to soy sauce. It’s what makes stock more than dirty water and deglazing the essential process of French cooking. To be precise, umami is actually the taste of L-glutamate (C\textsubscript{5}H\textsubscript{8}NO\textsubscript{4}), the dominant amino acid in the composition of life L-glutamate is released from life-forms by proteolysis (a shy scientific word for death, rot and the cooking process). While scientists were still theorizing about the health benefits of tripe, Escoffier was busy learning how we taste food. His genius was getting as much L-glutamate on the plate as possible. The emulsified butter didn’t hurt either.

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his conclusion, “one is that the broth of seaweed contains glutamate and the other that glutamate causes the taste sensation ‘umami.’”

But Ikeda still had a problem. Glutamate is an unstable molecule, eager to meld itself to a range of other chemicals, most of which are decidedly not delicious. Ikeda knew that he had to bind glutamate to a stable molecule that the tongue did enjoy. His ingenious solution? Salt. After a few years of patient experimentation, Ikeda was able to distill a metallic salt from brown kelp. The chemical acronym of this odorless white powder was MSG, or monosodium glutamate. It was salty, but not like salt. It also wasn’t sweet, sour or bitter. But it sure was delicious.

Ikeda’s research, although a seminal finding in the physiology of taste, was completely ignored. Science thought it had the tongue solved. Ever since Democritus hypothesized in the fourth century B.C. that the sensation of taste was an effect of the shape of food particles, the tongue has been seen as a simple muscle. Sweet things, according to Democritus, were “round and large in their atoms,” while “the astringently sour is that which is large in its atoms but rough, angular and not spherical.” Saltiness was caused by isosceles atoms, while bitterness was “spherical, smooth, scalene and small.” Plato believed Democritus, and wrote in Timaeus that differences in taste were caused by atoms on the tongue entering the small veins that traveled to the heart. Aristotle, in turn, believed Plato. In De Anima, the four primary tastes Aristotle described were the already classic sweet, sour, salty and bitter.

Over the ensuing millennia, this ancient theory remained largely unquestioned. The tongue was seen as a mechanical organ in which the qualities of foods were impressed upon its papillae surface. The discovery of taste buds in the nineteenth century gave new credence to this theory. Under a microscope, these cells looked like little keyholes into which our chewed food might fit, thus triggering a taste sensation. By the start of the twentieth century, scientists were beginning to map the tongue, assigning each of the four flavors to a specific area. The tip of the tongue loved sweet things, while the sides preferred Sour. The back of the tongue was sensitive to bitter flavors, and saltiness was sensed everywhere. The sensation of taste was that simple.

Unfortunately for Ikeda, there seemed to be no space left on the tongue for his delicious flavor. Umami, these Western scientists said, was an idle theory unique to Japanese food, a silly idea concerned with something called deliciousness, whatever that was. And so while cooks the world over continued to base entire cuisines on dashi, Parmesan cheese, tomato sauce, meat stock and soy sauce (all potent sources of L-glutamate), science persisted in its naive and unscientific belief in four, and only four, tastes.

Despite the willful ignorance of science, Ikeda’s idea gained a certain cult following. His salty white substance, MSG, a powder that science said couldn’t work because we had no means to taste it, nevertheless became an overused staple in everything from cheap Chinese food to bouillon cubes, which used glutamate to simulate the taste of real stock. MSG was even sold in America under the labels Super Seasoning and Accent.* As food products became ever more processed and industrial, adding a dash of MSG became an easy way to create the illusion of flavor. A dish cooked in the microwave tasted as if it had been simmered for hours on the stovetop. Besides, who had time to make meat stock from scratch?

With time, other pioneers began investigating their local cuisines and found their own densities of L-glutamate. Everything from aged cheese to ketchup was rich in this magic little amino acid. Umami even seemed to explain some of the more perplexing idiosyncrasies of the cooking world: why do so many cultures, beginning with ancient Rome, have a fish sauce? (Salted, slightly rotting anchovies are like glutamate speedballs. They are pure umami.) Why do we dip sushi in soy sauce? (The raw fish, being raw, is low in umami, since its glutamate is not yet unraveled. A touch of soy sauce gives the tongue the burst of umami that we crave.) Umami even explains (although it doesn’t excuse) Marmite, the British spread made of yeast extract,* which is just another name for L-glutamate. (Marmite has more than 1750 mg of glutamate per 100 g, giving it a higher concentration of glutamate than any other manufactured product.)

*MSG is often blamed for the so-called Chinese Restaurant Syndrome, in which exposure to MSG is thought to cause headaches and migraines in certain individuals. But as Jeffrey Steingarten has noted (It Must’ve Been Something I Ate, pp. 85-99), recent research has exonerated both Chinese food and MSG.

*Embarrassed food manufacturers often hide the addition of MSG by calling it autolized yeast extract on their labels (other pseudonyms for MSG include glutavene, calcium caseinate, and sodium caseinate).
Chicken Breasts with Oysters

_Suprèmes de Volaille aux Huitres_

Lift out the _suprèmes_ of the two small chickens; poach them in butter and lemon juice, and coat them with Suprême Sauce.

Arrange them around a low, very cold bed of bread, placed on the dish at the last moment. Upon this bed, quickly set a dozen shucked oysters, which should have been kept in ice for at least two hours. Serve very quickly in order that the _suprèmes_ may be very hot and the oysters very cold. Send a Suprême sauce separately.

Supreme Sauce

_Sauce Suprême_

The salient characteristics of Suprême sauce are its perfect whiteness and delicacy. It is generally prepared in small quantities only.

_Preparation_ — Put 1½ pints of very clear poultry stock and one-quarter pint of mushroom cooking liquor into a saucepan. Reduce to two-thirds; add one pint of "poultry velouté;" reduce on an open fire, stirring with the spatula, and combine one-half pint of excellent cream with the sauce, this last ingredient being added little by little.

When the sauce has reached the desired consistency, strain it through a sieve, and add another one-quarter pint of cream and two oz. of best butter. Stir with a spoon, from time to time, or keep the pan well covered.

Of course, umami is also the reason that meat — which is nothing but amino acid — tastes so darn good. If cooked properly, the glutamate in meat is converted into its free form and can then be tasted. This also applies to cured meats and cheeses. As a leg of prosciutto ages, the amino acid that increases the most is glutamate. Parmesan, meanwhile, is one of the most concentrated forms of glutamate, weighing in at more than 1200 mg per 100 g. (Only Roquefort cheese has more.) When we add an aged cheese to a pasta, the umami in the cheese somehow exaggerates the umami present elsewhere in the dish. (This is why tomato sauce and Parmesan are such a perfect pair. The cheese makes the tomatoes more tomatolike.) A little umami goes a long way.

And of course, umami also explains Escoffier’s genius. The burned bits of meat in the bottom of a pan are unraveled protein, rich in L-glutamate. Dissolved in the stock, which is little more than umami water, these browned scraps fill your mouth with a deep sense of deliciousness, the profound taste of life in a state of decay.

T

he culture of the kitchen articulated a biological truth of the tongue long before science did because it was forced to feed us. For the ambitious Escoffier, the tongue was a practical problem, and understanding how it worked was a necessary part of creating delicious dishes. Each dinner menu was a new experiment, a way of empirically verifying his culinary instincts. In his cookbook, he wrote down what every home cook already knew. Protein tastes good, especially when it’s been broken apart. Aged cheese isn’t just rotten milk. Bones contain flavor. But despite the abundance of experiential evidence, scientific research continued to deny umami’s reality. The deliciousness of a stock, said these haughty lab coats, was all in our imagination. The tongue couldn’t taste it.

What Ikeda needed before science would believe him was anatomical evidence that we could actually taste glutamate. Anecdotal data from cookbooks, as well as all those people who added fish sauce to their pho, Parmesan to their pasta, and soy sauce to their sushi, wasn’t enough.

Finally, more than ninety years after Ikeda first distilled MSG from seaweed, his theory was unequivocally confirmed. Molecular biologists discovered two distinct receptors on the tongue that sense only glutamate and L-amino acids. In honor of Ikeda, they were named the umami receptors. The first receptor was discovered in 2000, when a team of scientists noticed that the tongue contains a modified form of a glutamate receptor already identified in neurons in the brain (glutamate is also a neurotransmitter). The second occurred in 2002, when another umami receptor was identified, this one a derivative of our sweet taste receptors.*

These two separate discoveries of umami receptors on the tongue demonstrated once and for all that umami is not a figment of a hedonist’s imagination. We actually have a sense that responds only to a real stock, steak and dashi. Furthermore, as Ikeda insisted, the tongue uses the taste of umami as its definition of deliciousness. Unlike the tastes of sweet, sour, bitter and salty, which are sensed relative to one another (this is why a touch of salt is always added to chocolate, and why melon is gussied up with ham), umami is sensed all by itself. It is that important.

This, of course, is perfectly logical. Why wouldn’t we have a specific taste for protein? We love the flavor of denatured protein because, being protein and water ourselves, we need it. Our human body produces more than forty grams of glutamate a day, so we constantly crave an amino acid refill. (Species that are naturally vegetarian find the taste of umami repellent. Unfortunately for vegans, humans are omnivores.) In fact, we are trained from birth to savor umami: breast milk has ten times more glutamate than cow milk. The tongue loves what the body needs.

* Molecular biology has also revealed how we taste spicy foods. In 2002, researchers discovered that the mouth contains a modified pain receptor — its name is VR₁, which binds capsaicin, the active ingredient in chili peppers. Because the VR₁ receptor also detects foods that are hot in temperature, the brain consigns the sensation of excessive heat to any foods that activate our VR₁ nerves.
The Scholars’ Lion near the entrance to Levien Gym was sculpted by Greg Wyatt ’71 and unveiled on Dean’s Day in 2004.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
The Fourth Creation: God's Solution for the Devil's Dilemma by Norman Lauchlin MacLeod Jr. '35. The language and meanings of the Bible are examined in order to develop an understanding of God's plan and intentions for mankind (self-published, $25).

Geriatric Bioscience: The Link between Aging & Disease by Dr. David Hanerman '46. The author sheds light on the links among biology, natural aging, longevity and disease by translating geriatrics into concepts for clinical application (Johns Hopkins University Press, $45).

Hello Bones and Other Poems by Robert DeMaria '48. The author's first collection of poetry offers a range of topics from personal to philosophical, and satirical political observations (Vineyard Press, $19.95).

Shadow World by Robert DeMaria '48. In this novel, there exists a parallel Earth in another dimension. As the true Earth moves closer to extinction, the government launches a top-secret plan to migrate to this new, unexplored world (Vineyard Press, $19.95).

Positive Parenting: Raising Healthy Children from Birth to Three Years by Dr. Alvin N. Eden '48. A revised edition of the classic parenting book, with new discussions of current parent concerns — from vaccines to videogames (Hatherleigh, $15.95).


Producing & the Theatre Business: Working in the Theatre edited by Robert Emmet Long '56. A collection of insight from more than 100 top producers, advertising and marketing executives, union officials, critics, writers and actors on the business aspects of the theater (Continuum, $14.95).


Levels of Consciousness by Mark Sicherman '56. The author, a psychotherapist and specialist in mind-body medicine, investigates the ways in which characters cope with illness and pain in this first collection of short stories (iUniverse, $12.95).

Happiness: Classic and Contemporary Readings in Philosophy by Steven M. Cahn '63 and Christine Vitrano. A gathering of classic and contemporary readings on how happiness has been regarded in ethical theory (Oxford University Press, $20.95).

The Meaning of Life: A Reader edited by E.D. Klemke and Steven M. Cahn '63. This collection of philosophical essays explores this topic in three parts: section one defends the view that without faith in God, life has no meaning or purpose; section two defends the idea that life without theism can be meaningful; and section three asks whether the question of the meaning of life is itself meaningful (Oxford University Press, $29.95).

Busy Dying by Hilton Obenzinger '69. In April 1968, during the Columbia protests, Obenzinger was one of the students who occupied the president's office in Low Library. Now associate director of honors writing at Stanford, he revisits the days of '68 — and remembers his Polish Jewish family — in an autobiographical novel (Chax, $19.95).

The Best American Poetry 2007 edited by Heather McHugh and David Lehman '70. The 20th edition of this series includes works from established poets such as Louise Glück and Robert Hass, as well as younger talents such as Ben Lerner and Matthew Harvey (Scribner, $16).

Visions of Awakening Space and Time: Dogen and the Lotus Sutra by Taigen Dan Leighton '71. The author explicates the worldview of the Zen religion through the writings of Zen master Eihei Dōgen (Oxford University Press, $35).

The Unknown Black Book: The Holocaust in the German-Occupied Soviet Territories edited by Joshua Rubenstein '71 and Ilya Altman. A compilation of testimonies from Jews who lived in hiding, forcibly moved to ghettos, survived concentration camps and experienced other atrocities of the Germans and their allies (Indiana University Press, $34.95).


Critique for What?: Cultural Studies, American Studies, Left Studies by Joel Pflister '73. The combined perspectives challenge the academic idea of critique-for-critique's sake and consider new, creative possibilities for using and developing critiques so that cultural studies will not lapse into cynicism studies (Paradigm Publishers, $28.95).

Strategic Intuition: The Creative Spark in Human Achievement by William Duggan '74. A necessity for
Oliver Sacks Explores the Allure of Music

By Maryam Parhizkar '09

"What an odd thing it is to see an entire species — billions of people — playing with, listening to, meaningless tonal patterns, occupied and preoccupied for much of their time by what they call 'music.'” Columbia Artist and Professor of Clinical Neurology and Psychiatry Dr. Oliver Sacks begins his preface, describing a situation in which the cerebral alien overlords of Arthur C. Clarke’s Childhood’s End attend a concert on Earth. The aliens ultimately leave in confusion, unable to comprehend what they hear. “This thing called ‘music’ they would have to concede,” writes Sacks, “is in some way efficacious to humans, central to human life. Yet it has no concepts, makes no proposition; it lacks images, symbols, the stuff of language.”

What is it that makes us such a uniquely musical species? Throughout his latest book, Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain (Knopf, $26), Sacks addresses this question, exploring a spectrum of mysterious experiences from patients, musicians and everyday people and the ways in which music affects them.

Take the case of Tony Ciciora, a surgeon who at 42 survived a stroke of lightning. One month later, Ciciora, who had little interest in music prior to being struck, became obsessed with playing the piano. “Something started happening in this man’s brain and mind, turning it toward music,” says Sacks in an interview, describing how Ciciora then began taking lessons in piano and composition. Within several years, he became a talented amateur musician. “There are parts of the brain, especially in the temporal lobes, where if they get excited, can give rise to musical feeling, and mystical and religious feeling,” explains Sacks, posing the possibility that effects from the lightning stroke had somehow stirred Ciciora’s lobes.

Musicophilia describes several other phenomena involving music and the brain, from mentally handicapped savants with extraordinary musical talent to “amusics,” people who hear symphonies as though they were clattering pots and pans. Sacks devotes an entire chapter to the musical “brainworms” that infect our minds after hearing a catchy tune; from there he segues into the musical hallucination, a strange phenomenon that affects more people than one might expect.

Sacks also delves into the miracles music can produce. In a way that recalls his widely acclaimed book Awakenings, he describes Parkinsonian patients who become temporarily reanimated by the mere mention of Chopin’s Polonaise Fantaisie. He also shares the poignant story of Clive Wearing, a once-eminent conductor who developed a severe case of retrograde amnesia from viral encephalitis. For more than 20 years, Wearing has woken up as though it were 1965, but has retained all his virtuosic talents. “It may be that Clive, incapable of remembering or anticipating events because of his amnesia,” writes Sacks, “is able to sing and play and conduct music because ... [r]emembering music, listening to it, or playing it, is entirely in the present.”

What makes Sacks’ Musicophilia unique, however, is his presence in the book. Personal experiences intertwine with those of his subjects, whether it be the musical dreams evoked from listening to Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto or, after an aunt’s death, the emotions let loose upon hearing an obscure Czech composer’s lamentations. In this way, he reminds us that we too are sometimes like the patients of dementia he describes, who depend on music for emotional revival. “Music is a part of being human, and there is no human culture in which it is not highly developed or esteemed ... [it] is no luxury to them, but a necessity, and can have a power beyond anything else to restore them to themselves, and to others, at least for awhile.”

Maryam Parhizkar '09 is majoring in English and is a former CCT editorial assistant.

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Psychotherapy and Medication: The Challenge of Integration by Fredric N. Busch and Larry S. Sandberg ’79. An informational volume for psychoanalysts on the use of medication, how attitudes toward medication have changed and the issues and questions of combining medication with psychodynamic treatment (The Analytic Press, $39.95).


Joining Places: Slave Neighborhoods in the Old South by Antho ny E. Kaye ’84. The author shows how slave men and women in the South opened paths from their owners’ plantations to neighboring farms, creating a neighborhood where slaves could cultivate family ties, build alliances, socialize, work and find spouses (University of North Carolina Press, $34.95).

The Thumpin’: How Rahm Emanuel and the Democrats Learned to Be Ruthless and Ended the Republican Revolution by Nafshi Bendavid ’85. Key races and national strategy-making that led the Democrats to victory in the 2006 midterm elections — largely thanks to Emanuel, the colorful head of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (Doubleday, $23.95).

Pot Politics: Marijuana and the Costs of Prohibition edited by Mitch Earlegoine ’86. The various ethical, religious, economic, psychological and political arguments for marijuana policies, which range from firm prohibition to unrestricted legalization (Oxford University Press, $45).

Taking Away the Distance: A Young Orphan’s Journey and the AIDS Epidemic in Africa by Miles Roston ’86. The inspiring story of Kevin, a young orphaned African boy suffering from AIDS, and his journey (with the author) to the world’s major cities to confront policymakers and grassroots activists in the hope of bringing about change (Carroll & Graf, $15.95).

The Drama of Masculinity and Medieval English Guild Culture by Christina M. Fitzgerald ’91. In this new interpretation of the late-medieval biblical plays of York and Chester, England, Fitzgerald argues that these works are concerned with the fantasies and anxieties of being male in an urban, mercantile world (Palgrave Macmillan, $65).

Modernist Aesthetics and Consumer Culture in the Writings of Oscar Wilde by Paul L. Fortunato ’91. This book portrays playwright Wilde as a consumer modernist, working in the very heart of 1890s London’s mass-culture industry (Routledge, $110).

Black on the Block: The Politics of Race and Class in the City by Mary Patillo ’91. Conflicts arise between poorer and middle-class blacks when the more affluent members of the black community on the south side of Chicago work toward lifting historically impoverished neighborhoods out of abject poverty (University of Chicago Press, $29).


All Roads Lead to Congress: The $300 Billion Fight Over Highway Funding by Costas Parasopoulos and Joshua Schank ’97. A step-by-step examination of the legislative process, which shows how a transportation bill is gradually made into law (CQ Press, $26.95).

Racing the Dark by Alysa Dawn Johnson ’04. In this debut fantasy novel, heroine Lana becomes the apprentice to a one-armed witch. When she uses a dark spell to save a life, she is set on the path of becoming a creature beyond her wildest dreams (Agate Publishing, $24).

Semites: Race, Religion, Literature by Gil Anidjar, associate professor of Middle East and Asian languages and cultures. This book delves into the now-mostly-extinct notion of “Semites,” invented in the 19th century and strangely united Jew and Arab under one term, and the circumstances that led to the term’s disappearance (Stanford University Press, $19.95).

State Death: The Politics and Geography of Conquest, Occupation, and Annexation by Tanisha M. Fazal, assistant professor of political science. To explain why the disappearance, or “death,” of countries has become a rare occurrence since 1945, the author looks at reasons why some states survive and others die, and analyzes the military invasions and occupations of the last 200 years (Princeton University Press, $27.95).

Escaping the Resource Curse edited by Macartan Humphreys, assistant professor of political science; Jeffrey D. Sachs, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, professor of health policy and management and director of the Earth Institute; and Joseph Stiglitz, University Professor. Leading economists, lawyers and political scientists examine the major decisions a country must make when it possesses an abundance of a resource, and identifies possible problems and solutions to the “resource curse” (Columbia University Press, $29.95).

Desiring Arabs by Joseph A. Massad, associate professor of Middle East and Asian Languages and Culture. The author looks at the ways in which Arabs have represented their sexual desires, in a diverse selection of Arabic writings from the 19th century to the present (University of Chicago Press, $35).

At Home and Abroad: The Transcendental Landscapes of Christopher Pearse Cranch (1813-1892) by Nancy Stila, with foreword by Barbara Novak, Professor Emerita of Art. Cranch was well known as a poet, but he also devoted many years to landscape painting and exploring transcendental concepts through visual means. This book studies how he portrayed the continual shifts he saw in nature (Lyman Allyn, $35).

Music at the Limits by Edward W. Said, former University Professor (deceased). An anthology of three decades of the author’s essays that address music’s social, political and cultural contexts. He also assesses the works of a variety of composers, musicians and performers (Columbia University Press, $29.95).

Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard, Carmen Jo Ponce ’08
1927
Robert C. Schnitzer, actor, producer and educator, Stamford, Conn., on January 2, 2008. Schnitzer was born on September 8, 1906, in New York City and attended the Horace Mann School for Boys. In college, he was a Shakespearean actor and spent 10 years with the Walter Hampden Co. From 1936-39, Schnitzer was head of production for Boys. In college, he was a theatre Guild at the request of the general Theatre Program and also was artistic director of the Ahmanson Theatre from 1987-89. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Barbara (nee Salt); their children; and nine great-grandchildren.

1933
Frederick H. Burkhardt, educator, Bennington, Vt., on September 23, 2007. Burkhardt was born on September 13, 1912, in Brooklyn. He studied philosophy and earned a Ph.D. from GSAS in 1940. Burkhardt earned a fellowship to Oxford, where he met his first wife, Margaret Ross, and earned another bachelor’s in 1935. He began his career teaching in the philosophy department at the University of Wisconsin in 1937 and in WWII served in the Navy and with the Office of Strategic Services. Burkhardt took over the American Council of Learned Societies (A.C.L.S.) in 1947. He played an influential role in the establishment of the National Endowment for the Humanities, testifying before Congress. Prior, Burkhardt was the third president of Bennington College. Hired in 1947, his 10-year tenure was interrupted from 1950-51, when he was deputy director of the Office of the High commissioner in Germany. Burkhardt was a member of the New York City Board of Higher Education from 1966-73 and its chairman from 1969-71. Working with CUNY’s chancellor, he helped start the open-admissions policy, and during his tenure, several new colleges were established. When Burkhardt retired from A.C.L.S. in 1974, he founded the Darwin Correspondence Project and had been editing the complete works of philosopher William James. After his wife died, Burkhardt married Anne Slabach in 1972. In addition to her, he is survived by his daughters, Jane and Susan; son, Ross; and two grandchildren.

1935
Martin E. Manulis, stage, television and film producer, Los Angeles, on September 28, 2007. Born in Brooklyn on May 30, 1915, Manulis attended Broadway plays with his mother. An English major, he was a stage director and producer in New York before and after WWII. Manulis became managing director of the Westport (Conn.) Country Playhouse in 1945, after serving as a Navy press liaison officer in Europe. In the 1950s, he began producing plays for CBS-TV’s Best of Broadway series as well as the dramatic anthology series Suspense; Studio One; and Climax! before taking on Playhouse 90. Manulis was sole producer of more than 60 Playhouse 90 segments. The show, which debuted in 1956, won six Emmy Awards in its first season. The show won five Emmys the next season and was honored as outstanding drama all four years of its regular run. In 1958, Manulis became head of production at Twentieth Century Fox Television and was executive producer of The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis. In the ‘60s, he moved into film, producing The Days of Wine and Roses. He returned to TV, producing such ‘60s miniseries as Chiefs and Space. Manulis was director of the American Film Institute’s West Coast operation in the mid-1970s and was artistic director of the Ahmanson Theatre from 1987-89. He is survived by his son, John; daughters, Laurie Harmon and Karen Manulis Cohen; a grandchild; and two great-grandchildren. His wife of 44 years, actress Katherine Bard, died in 1983. Memorial contributions may be made to the Motion Picture and Television Fund or the Alzheimer’s Association.

1936
Arthur J. Lockhart, retired physician, Hillsborough, N.C., on August 8, 2007. Lockhart graduated from Horace Mann School in 1932 and from P&S in 1940. After completing his training in internal medicine at New York Hospital, he joined the practice of Roger J. Lee on Beacon Street in Boston, where he remained until his 1980 retirement. He also was the medical director at Arthur D. Little in Cambridge, Mass. Lockhart is survived by his wife of 65 years, Barbara (nee Salt); sons, Arthur J. III, Bruce and Peter; daughter, Cynthia; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

1937
Harry M. Wheaton Jr., retired business executive, Ogdensburg, N.Y., on May 30, 2007. Wheaton was born on March 20, 1916, in Wheaton, Ill., which was named after his great-grandfather and great-great-uncle, who were among the first settlers in 1838. Prior to WWII, Wheaton worked for Joanna Western Mills in Chicago and Rochester as branch manager. He served in WWII as an officer in the Adjutant General’s Department. Wheaton returned to work in 1957 for the Augustus Corp. in Ogdensburg. He became president of that corporation, a large gasoline and fuel oil distributor in Northern New York and Northern New England, in 1967. He also held other positions, such as v.p. of the National Oil Jobbers Council and Empire State Petroleum Association; president of Northern Barracks Corp.; and director of Hall Corp. of Canada. He retired in 1979. Wheaton served on a number of boards and advisory councils and also held a leadership position with his church. In 1959, he married Doris Jean Green. She survives him, as do his children, Katharine, John and Paul; five grandchildren; and sister and her husband, Jean and John Hopkins.

John W. Wort, retired chemical engineer, Basking Ridge, N.J., on July 28, 2007. Born on Staten Island on October 15, 1915, Wort was a 1933 graduate of Poly Prep Country Day School in Brooklyn and earned a B.S. in chemical engineering in 1938 from the Engineering School. He was a Merck research administration director for 32 years, retiring in 1973. Wort was a member and an elder of the Liberty Corner Presbyterian Church and active in the Stephen Ministry of the church. He was a member of the Executive Ministries Men’s Bible Study and an avid ham radio operator; he was a member of the Ham Radio Sunrise Builders Study Net. Wort was a founding member of the American Driving Society and was involved in restoring and driving horse carriages. He was predeceased by his wife, Jean Johnston Wort, in 1989, and is survived by his son, Jonathan; daughters, Pamela W. Jones, Joan W. Lindquist and Grace; sister, Mavis W. Lupon; 10 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the American...
Joshua Lederberg ’44, Nobel, Presidential Medalist

Joshua Lederberg ’44, one of the 20th century’s leading scientists, died on February 2, 2008. He was 82 and lived in Manhattan, where he was Rockefeller University professor and president emeritus.

Lederberg was just 33 when he won the Nobel for Physiology or Medicine for discovering that bacteria can mate and exchange genes. He was one of the youngest Nobelists, sharing the 1958 prize with Edward L. Tatum and George Beadle for their discovery at Stanford in the 1940s that genes act by regulating specific chemical processes. Lederberg’s discovery that bacteria engage in sex created new understandings of how bacteria evolve and acquire new traits, including drug resistance. A founder of the field of molecular biology, he helped lay the foundations for many biological revolutions, including biotechnology.

Lederberg was born on May 23, 1925, in Montclair, N.J., to Zvi Hirsch Lederberg, a rabbi, and the former Esther Goldenbaum, who had emigrated from what is now Israel two years earlier. He was raised in Washington Heights and graduated from Stuyvesant H.S. in 1941, at 15. At Columbia, Lederberg studied zoology and earned a bachelor’s with honors at 19. He took some classes at P&S and in 1943 enrolled in a special Navy medical training program, working at St. Albans Naval Hospital in Queens, examining servicemen returning from war in the Pacific for parasites that cause malaria.

After two years in medical school, Lederberg transferred to Yale and helped pioneer the field of bacterial genetics. He received his doctorate there in 1948 and then went to the University of Wisconsin, where he founded the medical genetics department. At Wisconsin, Lederberg helped prove that genetic mutations occurred spontaneously, confirming a long-held belief.

Lederberg began his federal advisory career in 1957, when he joined President Eisenhower’s Science Advisory Committee. He advised nine White House administrations over a half-century. From 1966–71, Lederberg wrote a weekly column for The Washington Post, “Science and Man,” commentating on science education, scientists’ roles in society and divisive topics like population control, intelligence testing and regulating recombinant DNA technology.

From the start of the space age, Lederberg was fascinated by the possibility of extraterrestrial life; he coined the term exobiology, or the study of this possibility. He collaborated with astronomer Carl Sagan in establishing exobiology as a scientific discipline and in educating the public on the biological implications of space exploration.

Lederberg was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 1957 and was made a charter member of its Institute of Medicine. In 1959, he joined the Stanford School of Medicine, where he chaired the genetics department and was a professor of biology and computer science, working on research in artificial intelligence, biochemistry and medicine. In 1978, he became Rockefeller’s fifth president, serving until 1990. Lederberg was a member of the Advisory Committee for Medical Research of the World Health Organization; an elected foreign member of the Royal Society, London; an honorary life member of the New York Academy of Sciences; and an honorary fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.

The College presented Lederberg with the Alexander Hamilton Medal in 1961, and he was the speaker at his class 50th reunion luncheon in 1994. In 1989, Lederberg received the U.S. National Medal of Science, and in 2006, President Bush awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor.

Lederberg’s first marriage, to Esther Lederberg, a microbiologist, ended in divorce in 1966. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; children, James (Finn), Greg and Kat; and sister, Evelyn Griffin. For more on Knight, see the 1940 Class Notes.

Leonard B. Meyer, musicologist, New York City, on December 30, 2007. Meyer’s 1956 book, Emotion and Meaning in Music, remains one of the most significant scholarly works in the field of music cognition. Born in New York City and raised in Westchester County, Meyer studied at Bard College before enlisting in the Army in WWl, during which he earned a Bronze Star for service in Normandy and at the Battle of the Bulge. After the war, he transferred to Columbia and earned a bachelor’s in philosophy and a master’s in music (1949, GSAS). In 1946, Meyer joined the University of Chicago’s department of music and taught there for 29 years; at Chicago, he earned a Ph.D. in history of culture. In 1967, Meyer was named Benjamin Franklin professor of music and humanities at Penn. In 2006, he was the subject of a symposium organized at Northwestern in honor of the 50th anniversary of Emotion and Meaning in Music, which remains in print and has sold more than 60,000 copies. Meyer expanded on his early ideas in several books. He is survived by his daughters, Carlin, Muffie and Erica; two granddaughters; and his first wife, Lee. His second wife, Janet Levy, died in 2004.

George P. Lutjen, retired editor and publisher, Southbury, Conn., on September 25, 2007. Lutjen was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on June 23, 1921, and earned a B.S. in mining engineering in 1943 from the Engineering School. After college, he was a mining engineer in Fort Sulphur, La., but took a leave of absence to serve in the Pacific with the Marine Corps from 1944–46. In keeping with his love of reading and writing, Lutjen entered the publishing world in 1949. He worked at McGraw-Hill Publications in New York City, where he held a variety of jobs for a total of 28 years. Between stints at McGraw-Hill, Lutjen worked for the McLean-Hunter Publishing Co., American Metals Market and the United States Atomic Energy Commission. Ten years before his retirement from McGraw-Hill, he was publisher of its Newsletter Publishing Center. In 1984, Lutjen founded the Lutjen Corp., which offered consulting services in newsletter publishing. He was a

John W. and Joan Johnston Wort Fund, Wheaton College, 501 College Ave., Wheaton, IL 60187 or the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, PO Box 1270, Charlotte, NC 28201-1270.

William J. “Jim” Knight, writer and journalist, New York City, on December 30, 2007. Born on June 4, 1918, in Atlanta, Knight graduated from Boys H.S. with a scholarship to Columbia. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force in Africa and Europe during WWII, which changed the expected course of his life. After the war, having been discharged in Marburg, Germany, Knight found his way to Paris, where he worked at the Paris edition of the Herald Tribune as night editor. He returned to the States in 1960 and decided to put his journalistic skills to work in the cause of peace and social justice. Knight worked for the International Labour Organization in New York and then, as assistant director, at its headquarters in Geneva. After retirement from the U.N. system, he wrote an anti-war novel, The Master of Chambord (1994). Knight is survived by his wife, Pamela; children, James (Finn), Greg and Kat; and sister, Evelyn Griffin. For more on Knight, see the 1940 Class Notes.
frcker of the Newsletter Association, its director for eight years and its president from 1982-83. Lutjen is survived by his children, George Jr. and Ann Kearney; stepchildren, Barbara Besser and Lorraine Besser Ward; seven grandchildren; and one great-grandson. His first wife, Barbara Anderson Lutjen; and second wife, Lynn Besser Lutjen, predeceased him. Memorial contributions may be made online: www.firstgiving.com/100MilesforPKD.

1942

Jules Glenn, psychoanalyst, Nashua, N.H., on February 13, 2008. Glenn practiced in New York City and Great Neck, N.Y., for more than 50 years before retiring to Nashua three years ago. A graduate of the NYU School of Medicine, he was Clinical Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry of the NYU School of Medicine and former president of the Psychoanalytic Association of New York, the Long Island Psychoanalytic Society and the Association for Child Analysis. During his career Glenn was a faculty member at NYU's School of Medicine and its Psychoanalytic Institute for more than 20 years and previously had been on the faculty of the SUNY Downstate Medical Center. Upon his retirement, the Psychoanalytic Institute cited him for his "commitment to educating and inspiring a new generation of psychoanalysts." Glenn was the associate editor of the journal of the American Psychiatric Association and the author of more than 70 articles and reviews on subjects such as twins, masochism, applied analysis and countertransference. He was the editor and a contributor to the textbook Child Analysis and Therapy and worked on four other books on aspects of psychoanalysis. Glenn cited his wife, Sylvia; children, Russell, Mel, Laura and Janet; sister, Harriet Feziger; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

William H. "Hank" McMaster, retired CPA, Naples, Fla., on November 4, 2007. McMaster was born in Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland, and grew up in Queens. As a Boy Scout, he won the Charles Atlas Trophy in 1936 and became an Eagle Scout; his love of wildlife and the outdoors continued throughout his life. McMaster served in WWII as a lieutenant in the Navy in the Pacific and Atlantic theaters. Prior to retiring, he was co-owner and CFO of Viking Sewing Machine in Minneapolis and controller of Gorham Silver. McMaster was a life member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, New York State Society of Certified Public

1943

E. Robert Wassman, business executive, Greenwich, Conn., on January 21, 2008. Wassman entered with the Class of 1943 but earned a degree in engineering and applied science from SEAS in 1948. He earned a Silver Star for his heroism during WWII on board the U.S.S. Franklin aircraft carrier. For many years, Wassman was a senior executive of Rockefeller Center. He is survived by his children, Diane Wassman Darst, E. Robert Jr. and Debra Wassman Lamm; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Larchmont Avenue Church; the Naval Order of the U.S. Navy Corservancy; or The Adirondack Council.

1944

Ralph Lane Jr., retired educator, San Francisco, on October 9, 2007. Born on May 8, 1923, Lane spent his whole life, except for three years in WWII and three years in the foreign service, in a school environment. During the war, Lane worked nights on his brigade's newspaper. After receiving his bachelor's, a master's in sociology (1947, GSAS) and a Ph.D. from Fordham, he entered foreign affairs. As a cultural attaché to the U.S. embassy in Kabul, Lane compiled a library of cultural resource material. In Kabul, he met Joan Solari. After getting married, they settled in San Francisco. Applying to join the sociology department at the University of San Francisco, Lane discovered it did not have one. He started one and spent the next 30 years as an educator and department chair. When Lane retired from USF, he enrolled in a creative writing course, beginning two decades as a poet. He published two volumes: Do I Grow Old? and Peripeteia. Although his poetry revealed theological doubts, Lane did parish work in hospital ministry, fundraising and altar service. He served his classmates and the College as the 1944 CCT Class Notes correspondent from 2004–2005. Lane is survived by his wife: daughter and son-in-law, Margaret Lane and Jack Colford; son and daughter-in-law, Ralph III '83, '86l, and Ana Gonzalez-Lane; and eight grandchildren.

1945

Herbert L. Erlanger, retired physician, Yarrow Point, Wash., on September 9, 2007. Born in Brooklyn, Upchurch entered with the Class of 1944 but earned a B.S. in 1943 from the Engineering School and an M.B.A. in 1948 from the Business School. During WWII, he was involved with the development of the atomic bomb as part of the Manhattan Project at Los Alamos, N.M. Upchurch later worked for Exxon in New York and in 1970 was transferred to Bellevue, Wash., with others to begin Exxon Nuclear. He enjoyed traveling the world professionally and leisurely with his wife of 57 years, Caroline. She died in 2005. Survivors include his children, Ben, Chris, and Lyndsay Upchurch and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Medcine One Foundation, 325 9th Ave., MS 359-7477, Seattle, WA 98104.
John Procopi '46

John Procopi, retired business executive, Mahwah, N.J., on July 14, 2007. Procopi was a first lieutenant in Europe during WWII, serving as a B-17 navigator with the 91st Bombardment Group. He was awarded a Rockefeller Fellowship to study architecture in 1949. He later worked for the United Nations and the United States Department of Labor. Procopi holds a Ph.D. in sociology from Rutgers and a law degree from Yale. He was a consultant to the United Nations and a professor at the National Cathedral School. He is survived by his wife, Sonya Rudikoff, in 1997; and four children: Sara Tanz, Sarah and Ron Rich, Larry and Sara Tanz, and P.J. and Brian Somovitz; and six grandchildren.

Robert Gutman, architecture professor and critic, Princeton, N.J., on November 23, 2007. Gutman was born on August 3, 1926, in New York City and raised in Long Beach. He earned a Ph.D. in sociology in 1957. Gutman was a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation to study the focus of his research since the 1960s was architecture. Gutman taught sociology at Dartmouth starting in 1948 before moving to the Rutgers sociology department in 1957. He received a grant from the Russell Sage Foundation to become a special student of architecture at Princeton and at the Bartlett, in London, in 1965. Gutman joined the Princeton architecture faculty in 1969, recruited by its architecture school's dean, and was a faculty member there at the time of his death. He retired from Rutgers in 1996. Gutman held visiting professorships at several schools and was an honorary member of the American Institute of Architects. Among his published work was Architectural Practice: A Critical View (1988) and many articles in scholarly journals. He was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth Duffy; daughter, Elizabeth; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Architecture School's Dean's Fund. In his later bass section of several New York City choruses. Eralanger was a first lieutenant in Europe during WWII, serving as a B-17 navigator with the 91st Bombardment Group. He was awarded a Rockefeller Fellowship to study architecture in 1949. He later worked for the United Nations and the United States Department of Labor. Procopi holds a Ph.D. in sociology from Rutgers and a law degree from Yale. He was a consultant to the United Nations and a professor at the National Cathedral School. He is survived by his wife, Sonya Rudikoff, in 1997; and four children: Sara Tanz, Sarah and Ron Rich, Larry and Sara Tanz, and P.J. and Brian Somovitz; and six grandchildren.
He also wrote a selection of such anecdotes, Prima Domus and Other Wild Bosits (1961). Wagner hosted the show until 1948. As CBS’ East Coast v.p. of programming from 1976-82, he was in charge of developing and overseeing shows such as All in the Family, Kojak, M*A*S*H, The Bob Newhart Show, The Waltons and The Mary Tyler Moore Show. In 1982, Walt Disney Co. hired Wagner to oversee the development of what was then a novel idea, a cable channel dedicated to children and family programming. The Disney Channel, starting as a 16-hour-a-day cable service, premiered in April 1983. Wagner was president for about a year. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, the former Martha Dreyfus; daughters, Susan and Elizabeth; son, David; and five grandchildren.

John B. “Jack” Armstrong ‘55

John B. “Jack” Armstrong, retired business executive and football coach, Woodcliff Lake, N.J., on December 19, 2007. Armstrong was born on December 8, 1932, and graduated from Xavier H.S. He played football for the Lions, a tackle under Lou Little, and was on the wrestling team. While studying for his master’s at Teachers College (earned in 1958), lightweight football had just come to Columbia and earned his doctorate at Harvard in 1964. Feldman went to UC Berkeley as an assistant professor in 1963 and taught there for 44 years. At the time of his death, he was director of its Institute of European Studies and held the Jane K. Sather chair. Feldman wrote 12 books, edited 15 and wrote 130 scholarly articles. His first book, Army, Industry and Labor in Germany, 1914-1918 (1966), explored how heavy industry and socialist labor had collaborated to exploit opportunities provided by WWI. The Great Disorder: Politics, Economics and Society in the German Inflation, 1914-1924 (1993) analyzed the stupendous inflation that followed WWI, and Allianz and the German Insurance Business, 1933-1945 (2001), told how Allianz, a large German insurance company, had given money owed to Jewish beneficiaries of life insurance policies to the Nazi authorities instead and had insured concentration camps. Feldman held Guggenheim and Droysen and the Prussian Academy of History fellowships; daughters, Susan and Eliza; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Project Inductis, a consulting firm. Fisch was an avid figure skater throughout his childhood and adolescence and won a United States Figure Skating Association gold medal in 1997. He enjoyed rock music, the novels of Kurt Vonnegut and following professional sports. Fisch is survived by his wife, Lynda (née Daniels); chil-

Robert F. Southard ‘66

Robert F. Southard, professor, Liberty, Ind., and Oxford, Ohio, on November 6, 2007. Southard was born on July 27, 1945, in Baltimore and was raised in New Jersey. He graduated from Teaneck (N.J.) H.S. and earned a B.A. in history and then a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, in 1974. Southard completed post-graduate work in Jewish languages and literatures at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and had been a professor of history and Jewish studies at Earlham College since 1971. At Earlham, he advised the presidential commission on Holocaust education from 2001–06 and also regularly taught general education and interdisciplinary courses and held various administrative posts. Southard’s publications include a book, Dreyfus and the Prussian School of History (1994) and numerous articles and presentations on German and Jewish intellectual history. He was a member of Beth Boruk Temple in Richmond. Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Edna; sons, David and Jared; brother, John; and two nephews. Memorial contributions may be given to a fund in Southard’s name at Earlham College, 801 National Rd. W., Richmond, IN 47374.

1958 Gerald D. Feldman, historian and author, Berkeley, Calif., on October 31, 2007. Feldman was born on April 24, 1937, in the Bronx and grew up there. He graduated magna cum laude from Columbia and earned his doctorate at Harvard in 1964. Feldman went to UC Berkeley as an assistant professor in 1963 and taught there for 44 years. At the time of his death, he was director of its Institute of European Studies and held the Jane K. Sather chair. Feldman wrote 12 books, edited 15 and wrote 130 scholarly articles. His first book, Army, Industry and Labor in Germany, 1914-1918 (1966), explored how heavy industry and socialist labor had collaborated to exploit opportunities provided by WWI. The Great Disorder: Politics, Economics and Society in the German Inflation, 1914-1924 (1993) analyzed the stupendous inflation that followed WWI, and Allianz and the German Insurance Business, 1933-1945 (2001), told how Allianz, a large German insurance company, had given money owed to Jewish beneficiaries of life insurance policies to the Nazi authorities instead and had insured concentration camps. Feldman held Guggenheim and Droysen and the Prussian Academy of History fellowships; daughters, Susan and Eliza; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Project Inductis, a consulting firm. Fisch was an avid figure skater throughout his childhood and adolescence and won a United States Figure Skating Association gold medal in 1997. He enjoyed rock music, the novels of Kurt Vonnegut and following professional sports. Fisch is survived by his parents, Gary and Barrie; children, Jonathan and Jennifer; children from his first marriage, Aaron and Deborah.

Robert F. Southard ‘66

Robert F. Southard, professor, Liberty, Ind., and Oxford, Ohio, on November 6, 2007. Southard was born on July 27, 1945, in Baltimore and was raised in New Jersey. He graduated from Teaneck (N.J.) H.S. and earned a B.A. in history and then a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, in 1974. Southard completed post-graduate work in Jewish languages and literatures at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and had been a professor of history and Jewish studies at Earlham College since 1971. At Earlham, he advised the presidential commission on Holocaust education from 2001–06 and also regularly taught general education and interdisciplinary courses and held various administrative posts. Southard’s publications include a book, Dreyfus and the Prussian School of History (1994) and numerous articles and presentations on German and Jewish intellectual history. He was a member of Beth Boruk Temple in Richmond. Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Edna; sons, David and Jared; brother, John; and two nephews. Memorial contributions may be given to a fund in Southard’s name at Earlham College, 801 National Rd. W., Richmond, IN 47374.

1979 Albert A. Byer, attorney, Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J., on December 19, 2007. Byer earned an M.S.F.S. from the Georgetown School of Foreign Service and a law degree from Syracuse. He was a partner with Sitterlein, Stephens, Burke & Burke Law Firm in New York City, Byer influenced the lives of many young people in the community, as he was actively involved in coaching youth programs for many years. He is survived by his wife, Lynda (née Daniels); chil-

2002 David B. Fisch, consultant, New York City, on February 14, 2008. Fisch was raised in Indianapolis and graduated from Park Tudor H.S. He had lived in New York City since graduation from the College, working first at Hunton & Williams law firm, then at International Biometric Group, and at the time of his death Inductis, a consulting firm. Fisch was an avid figure skater throughout his childhood and adolescence and won a United States Figure Skating Association gold medal in 1997. He enjoyed rock music, the novels of Kurt Vonnegut and following professional sports. Fisch is survived by his parents, Gary and Barrie; brothers, Mark and Adam; sister-in-law, Kate; and grandmother, Margot Katz. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Beth-El Zedeck. To place an online message for the family, visit www.cemartory.com.
Norman Lauchlin MacLeod Jr. '35 writes: "I put in my four years at the College and received my campus two years ago for my wall). When I returned to campus two years ago for my 70th reunion, there were three of us there, although I understand several others in our class are living. I guess it's because of the old saying 'Only the good die young' that I am still around. Look forward to making my 75th."

Norman writes about the book he self-published this year, *The Fourth Creation: God's Solution for the Devil's Dilemma* [see Books], "The book grew out of a Bible class (50-60 members) that I taught for 3½ years here in the retirement community where I live. Not wishing to have the results of my arduous studies (needed to prepare the lessons) die with me in my probable early demise, I have written, and self-published, this book. It is written for intelligent Christian laypeople, who probably having never read the Bible through, do not know what it really says. I encourage all who might be interested to obtain a copy and read ($25 postage-paid in the United States)."

Interested parties can reach Norman through his Web site, www.factsandthoughts.com. He would also be delighted to hear from classmates.

Seth Neugroschl
1349 Lexington Ave.
New York, NY 10028
sn23@columbia.edu

Lloyd Ulman has been an emeritus professor (since 1990) of economics and industrial relations at UC Berkeley. In addition to teaching and writing, he was the director of the university's Institute of Industrial Relations (IIR) from 1964–80. Last October, Lloyd was honored with an all-day symposium on "New Labor Market Institutions and the Public Policy Response." Held at the renamed Institute on Labor and Employment, it attracted 100 people from Germany, Japan and England, as well as the United States.

Several Class of 1941 "Young Lions" recently celebrated Joseph D. Coffee's 89th birthday at his apartment in one of their more-or-less monthly gatherings. Clockwise from left: Robert D. Zucker, Arthur S. Friedman, Robert G. Dettmer, Arthur S. Weinstock, Leonard M. Shayne, Raymond K. Robinson and Coffee. Says Weinstock: "Not the beverage used for the toast may be attributable to all this longevity!" PHOTO: CYNTHIA FRIEDMAN '44 BARNARD

Founded in 1945, the institute's first director was UC President Emeritus Clark Kerr. IIR, an "Organized Research Unit" of the university, brought together faculty from several academic departments and supported multidisciplinary research about labor and employment relations. It sponsored many faculty-run research centers and numerous community service programs.

Lloyd, who will be 88 in April, continues with activities on campus. He's organizing a conference on German and American trade and described himself as "in OK health." He married Lassie after returning from Navy duty in North Africa and the Pacific, and then went on to Harvard for his economics Ph.D.

I deeply regret having to report that William J. "Jim" Knight died on December 30. A proper appreciation of Jim as a friend, active classmate and important contributor to our Class Legacy effort will have to wait for the next issue of CCT. Pamela, his widow, e-mailed me this (slightly edited) bio: "William J. "Jim" Knight was born in Atlanta on June 4, 1918, the son of William T. Knight and his young wife, Leona, who was just 19 when Jim was born. His father went on to become an alderman and deputy mayor of Atlanta. Jim graduated from Boys H.S. in 1936 with a scholarship to Columbia. In New York, he developed a lifelong passion for jazz — he was lucky enough to hear Billie Holiday.

"The years at Columbia (his closest friends there were Thomas Merton '38 and Edward Rice), followed by service in the U.S. Army Air Force in Africa and Europe during WWII, changed the expected course of his life. At the end of the war, having been discharged in Marburg, Germany, he found his way to Paris, where he worked at the Paris edition of the *Herald Tribune* (as night editor). Art Buchwald was just starting his career there, too. Jim returned to the States in 1960, and decided to put his journalistic skills to work in the cause of peace and social justice. He worked for the International Labour Organization in New York and then (as assistant director) at its headquarters in Geneva. After retirement from the U.N. system, he wrote an anti-war novel, *The Master of Chantford*, which was published in 1994. "Jim is buried at the Calverton National Cemetery, Long Island, alongside other friends who fought for freedom."

Leonard B. Meyer, described as a pioneer musicologist and scholar of music's meaning (in an extensive obit in The *New York Times*) died on December 30 at 89, at his home in Manhattan. After serving in the Army — earning a Bronze Star for service in Normandy and the Battle of the Bulge — he returned to Columbia for a master's in music. Aaron Copland referred him to the University of Chicago for a music department position, and there he also received a Ph.D. in the history of culture. His first book, *Emotion and Meaning in Music*, adapted from his Ph.D. thesis, "placed him at the forefront of the emerging field that connects music theory and aesthetics to psychology and neuroscience... Fifty years later, the book — considered his most important — remains in print, and has sold more than 60,000 copies," noted the *Times*. [See Obituaries.]

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Early in December 2007 a group of classmates gathered in Joe Coffee's Upper East Side apartment to help celebrate his 89th birthday. Bob Dettmer, Arthur Friedman, Ray Robinson, Leonard Shayne, Arthur Weinstock and Bob Zucker. The cake was supplied by Joe's daughter, Barbara. [See photo.]

Len recently remarried, to longtime friend Trolid Onsberg. Congratulations and much happiness to them.

Milton Kerker, retired from Clarkson University, has relocated to a retirement community in California. His new address is 3492 Wild Lilac Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360.

Melvin Hershkowitz
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On October 19–20, John E. Smith, Clark Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Yale, was honored at the Yale Divinity School with a conference on "William James and His Influence." After John's introductory remarks, several prominent philosophers from academic centers around the nation discussed the work of James and John's many contributions to the field of American philosophy. I had two very nice letters from John on October 27 and November 7, in which he informed me about this conference, and reported that he had been in touch with Bill Mazzarella, now in California, who lived around the corner from John in Brooklyn before they entered Columbia. John and I also remembered our former track and cross country coaches, Carl Merner and Bob Pitkin.
Baker Field football stadium. The Columbia pitcher was Hector Dowd '40, who later became a prominent lawyer. Bob went to Yale Law School after naval service in WWII and rose to become v.p. and legal counsel to ABC-TV, where he worked with the late Roone Arledge '52, who revolutionized the techniques of news and sports broadcasting. Roone Arledge inaugurations and Presidential dinners, and weddings. Allan was president of the American Rental Association and chairman of the Virginia Retail Merchants Association before his retirement. Allan's most recent trip was a cruise on the Great Lakes, where he and Louise found themselves in the midst of 200 German tourists, with only 85 passengers speaking English.

John E. Smith '42, Clark Professor Emeritus of Philoso-
y at Yale, was honored at the Yale Divinity School with a
conference on “William James And His Influence.”

This reminded me of my mili-
tary linguistic adventures. When I
finished pre-overseas training at
Fort Sam Houston, Texas, with
several hundred other medical
officers, I still spoke fluent Ger-
man, and could also read and
write the language, as a result of
my years of study at Horace
Mann and Columbia. I requested
duty in the ETO, hoping to use
my linguistic skills in one of the
occupied zones. However, in its
wisdom, the Army assigned me to
Japan, where I served as Regi-
mental Surgeon with the 27th
Infantry Regiment in the 25th
Division. I learned some Japan-
suilk skills! I never did learn to speak
Japanese very well after 18
months in General MacArthur’s
occupation, and I still do not like
sushi or Suntory whiskey. The
beer from the Asahi brewery was
pretty good, though.

Send me your e-mail messages,
regular mail comments and pic-
tures if you have any, or call me
at home at any time (401-831-
5464) with your news or reminis-
cences. Kind regards to all. Hail
Columbia!

The first three of the last seven
years since we spent traveling to
Puerto Rico one week each month,
helping Maria’s family refurbish a
shopping center they inherited
from their father. The last two
years, we have finally retired from
the board and now go to our
beach house, 25 meters from the
Atlantic, on a secluded cove, only
once a year for a two-month stay.”

Hope you’ll be able to join
your classmates at our class
reunion lunch this year, on Sat-
urday, May 31.
Not only earned a master’s but parental home in Tigard, Ore. bringing him closer to the Town Committee and a member as chairman of the Democratic Orange, Conn., John had become Donohue’s 38-year stay in Europe, John J. Donohue head¬ also known as “Mr. Democrat,” serving as chairman of the Democratic Town Committee and a member of the Board of Education.

Now John and Mildred “are fortunate” to live in a retirement community in Hamden, close to their son, a chaired law professor at Yale, and not far from their daughter. John, however, is not fortunate to live in a retirement “quarters” — which, however, “has yet to be locked.” These days Alan is “still reasonably active” and hoping to repair a homemade nine-foot-long “so I can get back on the salt water again.”

Peter Kaskell ’44 has spent the last 20 years promoting alternatives to litigation, primarily mediation with the CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution.

Last summer, the Rev. Louis Pitt celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination as an Episcopal priest. We hope to run some of his stories in a later Alumni News. The two families “share a large house out in the woods, with a lockable door between our respective quarters” — which, however, “has yet to be locked.” These days Alan is “still reasonably active” and hoping to repair a homemade nine-foot-long “so I can get back on the salt water again.”

George T. Wright, of Tucson, Ariz., plays doubles in tennis three or four days a week year-round, and plays poker weekly with neighbors during the winter. A diverse group of retirees meet weekly for a discussion session. An Army colonel, a Canadian surgeon, an architect, executives from GE and Caterpillar, a chemistry and English professor (George), a State Department official (once kidnapped in Guatemala) and a pharmaceutical company executive make up the group. Although some members are lifelong conservatives, all except the Caterpillar executive deplore the Iraq War and the Bush administration. George writes poetry, does research on Shakespeare and recently gave the annual Eliot Memorial Lecture to the T.S. Eliot Society in St. Louis. He attends the annual Shakespeare Association meetings, the T.S. Eliot Society meetings and the biennial Interna¬ tional Shakespeare Conference. For three years, George has trav¬ eled to Vermont to do genealogical research, to Florida and Kentucky for family visits, and to England in 2004. He probably will visit friends and attend conferences. We regret to learn of the death of wife, Jerry, in April 2006 after 51 years of marriage.

Many activities and good health help George cope with this loss. Special faculty reminiscences include Jacques Barzun ’27 and Lionel Trilling ’25 for a colloqui¬ um class, and Professors Harrison Steeves, Mark Van Doren, Ray¬ mond Weaver and Alan Brown in English, as well as Irwin Edman ’17 in philosophy. Faculty mem¬ bers are included in George’s memoir about College days.

George sang baritone in St. Paul’s Chapel Choir under the direction of Lowell “Bevy” Bevridge. Choir friends at Columbia were Bob Wilder ’44, who married George’s sister, Norma), Joe Schaaf ’49, Mike Manheim ’49, Steve Ochs ’43E, Willis Stevens ’48, Tom Tamlyn ’44 and many Barnard students. Eng¬ lish classmates were Grover Smith, Roman Bernaut (George asked who was supposed to him) and Charles Simmons ’48. Fraternity friends were George Cook and Lou Pitt ’44, a pre-theological student. Other friends were Walter Wightman ’47, Thaddeus Carn¬ nomski, Irwin Nydick ’46, Milton Kravitz (who married George’s sister), Tony Weiskopf ’48, and Ted Hoff¬ man ’44, a Columbian discovered in Tucson after George retired.

After two years and an accelerated two terms of a third year, George was drafted into the Army. Three years later, he returned to the College to earn a B.A. degree in one summer. George attained a Ph.D. at UC Berkeley, then taught at the Universities of Kentucky and Tennessee, and at Minnesota for 25 years. George followed Fulbright lectureships at Aix-en-Provence, France and Salonika, Greece, and wrote several books about English and American poets. He expressed appreciation for information about classmates in the 1945 column. And, now, we know all about George.

Jack Greenberg of New York City served from 1949–61 as the assistant counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and from 1961–84 as LDF’s director-counsel. While at LDF, Jack argued 40 cases in the U.S. Supreme Court, including one case constituting Brown vs. Board of Education. Jack was dean of the College from 1989–93; his current title is Alphonse Fletcher Professor of Law, at the Law School. Jack’s legal scholarship and contributions have been major, and he co-authored a cookbook, Deau Cuisine, with James Vorenberg, dean of Harvard Law School.

Jack’s eldest granddaughter, Jessica Greenberg, recently graduated from Montclair (N.J.) H.S., where math and English grades were won. Jessica was admitted to the College but is taking a “gap year” to study Hebrew in Israel followed by Spanish study in Spain. She served one week in the Israeli Army and participated in a demonstration calling for better housing for Palestinians. Jack’s special remembrances of faculty at Columbia were Bur¬ dette Kinney (Humanities), Ray¬ mond Weaver and Irwin Edman ’17 (Colloquium). Jack’s close friends were Alex Heller ’44 and Joseph Heller.

With regret, I inform you of the death of two classmates. Dr. Her¬ bert L. Erlanger, a retired physi¬ cian, died on September 27. Her¬ bert emigrated with his parents from Berlin in 1939 as an M.D. from P&S in 1949. Herbert served in the Air Force as an offi¬ cer-physician and was regarded as a distinguished academic anesthesiologist at New-York-Presby¬ terian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical College, where he served for more than 40 years. He was a gifted and compassionate cli¬ nician with expertise in anesthesiol¬ ogy, pre-anesthesia evaluation, and the anatomy and physiology of the heart and lungs. Herbert became active in the medical community, medical practice and medical societies. He was a devoted member of the New York City choruses.

Herbert is survived by his wife, Jane Katz, who earned a Ph.D. at Teachers College; son, Robert ’76, 78 SIPA; daughter, Holly Knight, a noted songwriter; and five grandchildren. Our condolences are expressed to Herbert’s wife and family. [See Obituaries.]

Dr. Alfred Tanz, a retired physician and graduate of New York Medical College who resided in New York City, died on November 14. Our condolences are expressed to his wife, Judith, and children, Steven, Sarah and Lawrence. [See Obituaries.]

In regard to our class giving record, the 2007–08 Columbia College Fund reports a 1945 partic¬ ipation rate of 17.5 percent and a gift amount of $11,310 as of Jan¬ uary. As an act of charity, I will not tell you how low on the finan¬ cial giving totem pole this places the Class of 1945. Our small class size can account for the money amount but not the participation rate. Often it is not realized that the graduate needs to support alma mater to maintain a sense of value for the education received.
As the Good Book says: “Where your treasure is there will your heart be also.”

The honorees at this time are Nicholas Antoszyk of Charlotte, N.C.; Haldon M. Chase of Paso Robles, Calif.; Henry W. Decker of Riverside, Calif.; and Albert F. Sciorra of Tenafly, N.J. May we hear from or about these honorees?

To honor his accomplishments and contributions as a faculty member of Wayne State University Medical School, the James W. Gell '[46] lectureship was established.

As I look over these Class Notes, I am struck by the prominence of doctors. Approximately 30 percent of our class are M.D.’s, and earlier Class Notes reflected the diversity of professions and livelihoods. With sadness we note the passing of Robert Gutman and John Procopi. [See Obituaries.]

Bernard Sunshine
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Bramwell Anthony wrote from San Luis Obispo, Calif. Retired from medicine, he clearly continues to have a full plate of activities. Bramwell cites travel to Alaska, Australia and Antarctica (AAA travel poster) among his trips, singing in his church choir and serving on the peace and justice committee of church. Proudly he told of his 15 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. In CCT (May/June 2007), I passed the grandfather crown from Dave Kelton to Bob Sandroni, but Bob, you have to relinquish it to Bramwell.

Arnold Zentner, living in Sarasota, Fla., enjoys his retirement as a doctor. The warm, sunny climes of Florida are perfect, he writes, for playing golf and tennis, reading and attending concerts.

Richard Heffner interviewed Bernnie Goldman’s daughter, Janlori, as part of the 50th anniversary observance of his renowned television program The Open Mind. Janlori, on the PS&S faculty as an attorney, is one of the creators of the field of privacy and technology. Dick says he has received many compliments on the interview, which highlighted the way technology has adversely intruded into the relationship between patient and physician.

Teacher, broadcaster, producer and television personality, Dick reflected on his Columbia experience, saying “It helped me to be comfortable in the world of ideas. It helped me to look forward to learning, thinking, questioning ever and ever more, and hopefully conveying an abiding enthusiasm and respect for right reason.”

Dick, I would love to be a fly on the wall of your classroom at Rutgers.

To honor his accomplishments and contributions as a faculty member of Wayne State University Medical School, the James W. Gell lectureship was funded and established by former colleagues, residents and students. An annual “ski meeting” is always held at a resort in northern Michigan, and

Jim notes, “Hopefully global warming will not end this meeting.” Jim and his wife, Sally, spend four months a year in Hilton Head, where golf is high on his list. He does bear an steady rising handicap. It can’t be that bad, Jim ... you were a sharpshooter on the rifle team at Columbia.

As an attorney, is one of the creators of the diversity of professions and livelihoods. With sadness we note the passing of Robert Gutman and John Procopi. [See Obituaries.]

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No updates this time. Please send us your news!

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1
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James Avery is long retired from Exxon, where he held a position of high-level positions, but continues under gubernatorial appointment as a member of the New Jersey Higher Education Student Assistance Authority and as a member of the state’s Educational Opportunity Fund, which he chaired for a number of years. He has also authored a book on his experiences, Others Thought I Could Lead, which has stirred up interest, especially in the black community.

Jim was one of the meager handful of African-American members of the Class of ’48. After graduation, reflecting the difficulties minorities had at the time in landing jobs in private industry, he got his master’s in education and returned to Cranford (N.J.) H.S., where he’d been student council president and an all-state athlete, to teach. He became chairman of the social studies department and adviser to the student council. In 1956, he was approached by the father of one of his students, an executive of Esso, forerunner of Exxon, who recruited him to do educational and race relations work for the company. Jim remembers that he

was enjoying teaching so much that it took him three or four months to accept the Esso offer. Esso at the time had no other blacks in managerial roles, no blacks in sales and only a few black service station dealers. Jim was instrumental in beginning the recruitment of minority employees and made presentations to company headquarters that led to Esso advertising campaigns in Ebony Magazine and other minority publications.

Jim rose rapidly in the company, becoming manager of public relations for the Northeast region and branching out into public affairs and government relations. He became president of the New York State Petroleum Council and chairman of the Energy Committee of the Business Council of the State of New York. On loan from Exxon, he was executive v.p. of the Council on Municipal Performance and, with John Tepper Marlin, co-authored The Book of American City Bankers, which ranks the country’s top 100 cities along environmental, economic, demographic and social lines.

On the civic side — “truly to give a little bit back” — Jim was vice-chairman, then chairman of V.P. Hubert Humphrey’s Task Force on Youth Motivation. He was national campaign vice-chairman for the United Negro College Fund, chaired the Union County (N.J.) Coordinating Agency for Higher Education for 12 years, and helped found the Union County Community College.

The blur for his autobiography on the Wheatmark Bookstore Web site says, “As a corporate executive, James S. Avery did not simply open doors for black people in this country; he changed marketing strategy throughout the corporate world. Now ... Avery shares the secrets of his success — his strong work ethic, his moral values, and a belief in himself that allowed him to persevere in the face of adversity.” The Web site contains a heartwarming excerpt centered on Jim’s father and mother and the roles they played in preparing him for life.

Jim still has a goal: to get the book to more high school libraries in the South, to demonstrate his belief that hard work can make a difference. As for the high positions he’s held, he says, “I felt that I earned them.”

Another high-achieving classmate is Denver architect Edward D. White Jr. In addition to earning plaids in the fields of architecture and historic preservation, Ed has a special distinction. He was a longtime friend of Beat Generation writer Jack Kerouac ’44. The Kerouac Scroll, which has been touring the country, confirms that the

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.
School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

Arts
School of the Arts

Barnard
Barnard College

Business
Graduate School of Business

CE
School of Continuing Education

Dental
College of Dental Medicine

E
Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science

GS
School of General Studies

GSAS
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

J
Graduate School of Journalism

L
School of Law

Nursing
School of Nursing

P&S
College of Physicians and Surgeons

PH
Mailman School of Public Health

SIPA
School of International and Public Affairs

SW
School of Social Work

TC
Teachers College
**CLASS NOTES**

character Tim Gray in *On the Road* was modeled on Ed.

Ed is retired from architecture, but at 82, still plays tennis. And he is assembling a book based on his correspondence with Kerouac and is putting together a collection of his correspondence, including a description of how "Blessed in the Louvre." A postscript added, "You started whole new movement of American literature (sponsoring prose & poetry) when (1951) in that Chinese restaurant on 129th street one night you told me to start SKETCHING in the streets." A few months later, Kerouac published *On the Road.*

Among Ginsberg's contributions to Ed's literary archives: a letter to Ed about Kerouac's funeral, including a description of how Kerouac looked in his coffin.

Is class pianist Dick Hyman slowing up? You be the judge. He tells us he's stepped down as artistic director for the 92nd Street Y Jazz in July Festival in New York. The 92nd Street Y is famous for its programing of American Music in August. But he's continuing to perform "occasionally" at both venues. Dick opened the month of March 2008 with performances at the Naples, Fla., Philharmonic Center, the Sarasota Jazz Festival and the 92nd Street Y. His string quartet, *Dances and Diversions,* will be performed at LaMusica in Sarasota on April 4. And you can catch him on April 12 at the 92nd Street Y, April 29 and 30 at the Gilmore Keyboard Festival in Kalamazoo and May 2 at the University of Miami's Gusman Hall.

Dick also has been busy composing. His "Tom Sawyer Ballet" was premiered by the Eugene Ballet last May. A piano-violin-cello trio premiered late last year at Bargemusic in Brooklyn. And he's working on another string quartet for fall.

Charles Ballard is professor emeritus at Hudson Valley Community College in Troy, N.Y., where he taught transportation and distribution management for 22 years. He lives in Poestenkill, N.Y., where he is elder emeritus in the local church of the Disciples of Christ. He remains active in the Nisswa Railway Historical Society as a director of the society's Mohawk & Hudson Chapter. He also has been active in the Grange at local, county, state and national levels and, as a past master, is chairman of the local Grange's scholarship committee.

Jean Turgeon of Westmount, Quebec, sends us this missive: "In the November/December CCT, you asked, 'Who remembers the peanut vendor on Broadway?' Well, I didn't think of him for almost 60 years, but when I read that, it suddenly came back to me: a wizened little man, maybe from the Eastern Mediterranean, and one day some kids stole some peanuts from his stand and he went running after them.'

John Weaver 2639 E. 11th St. Brooklyn, NY 11235 wuschpr@optonline.net

Writing this in the deep chill of an eight-degree morning in Northeast Connecticut where we rang in the New Year, I am certain that reading this in the "pre-spring" of early March will be a warmer occasion!

Yours truly can report that our president, Fred Berman, has been in touch, and we are anxiously looking forward to starting the planning process for our 60th reunion. Please let us hear from you. Reunions have a deeply special meaning for any of those sports. The sum total of camaraderie, a couple of good meals and the genuine warmth that we feel as we tread the paving stones that were so welcoming in those extraordinary years of 1945-49. They remind us that we are still here and we still have something to offer to our school.

Add to the list Paul Tanner. The following letter was so personal in feeling, and warm, I could not think of editing or cutting a word or phrase. Teaching always has been a pursuit for which I have had the greatest respect and admiration. Paul has been, and continues to be, a teacher. He writes:

'Just now I read the July/August '97 CTT column, and also the November/December one. [My wife] Hannelore and I feel somewhat melancholy about not experiencing the changing seasons. There is no letting up of summer in California. Though contrary to common belief, we do have frost and fall-colored foliage of a very deep red. Next month and perhaps January and February, an hour's drive from Ocean Side, in Laguna Niguel, we might have snow. In the meantime, Hannelore's creative environment of the changing seasons, and now especially, I practically freeze in a maze of wintertime."

"Cross country skiing and snow-shoeing are off the agenda this year. I am now 84, having WWll make my postone move start at Columbia until June 1946. Hannelore is somewhat on the delicate side, definitely not the image of a German statuesque woman, she'd have to build up her thin ankles for any of those sports. The summertime, I am sure, was filled with some boating, lots of pool time and protection under the umbrellas. As mentioned before, the eternal summers are not conducive to productive work. We've attended some very nice dances and we do the quick step, a fake tango, as well as ragtime dancing. Hey, we even do a meat cakewalk."

I am now building my Web site, the domain name will be Math Methods Menu and then I feel forced to build one for Hannelore with the domain name: 

MARCH/APRIL 2008 38
Mario Palmieri

Ray Annino is not allowing his watercolor brushes to dry out. He has posted on his Web site a showing of his most recent paintings, which include landscapes, tall ships at sea, beach scenes and lighthouses. Log on to http://rayannino.com and take a look at Ray's creations. The new showing comprises 10 works, but you can browse through more than 100 of his pictures. You might find something that you would like to have in your home.

Ashbel Green has retired after a 43-year career with publisher Alfred A. Knopf, where he was a v.p. and senior editor. Among the writers he edited were David Brinkley, Walter Cronkite, Richard Hofstadter, Gabriel Marciaco Marquez, Andrei Sakharov and Fritz Stern. Ash filled an important role in Columbia's 250th anniversary celebration with his editing of My Columbia, a collection of descriptions of the Columbia experience, published in connection with the anniversary. His current passion is holding partnerships in thoroughbred race horses. One of them, Seattle Fitz, a grandson of Seattle Slew, won three stakes races in 2005.

Add to our compilation of Golden Wedding Anniversary celebrants Fama and Howard Hanson.

Nolan Lushington '50 has published his fourth book on the subject of libraries: Libraries Designed For Kids. His career has encompassed consulting with more than 220 libraries.

George Koplanka

The Delta Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau, founded on the Columbia campus in 1904, was fortunate to have a distinguished group of College graduates in 1951. Among their number was Alan Wagner, who died on December 18. At our 50th anniversary class reunion, Alan quipped, "With two Columbia degrees in hand I tried unsuccessfully to avoid the Korean War, wound up in the Navy and did stand-up comedy on TV's Ed Sullivan show, using Borscht Belt jokes that would have been rejected by the annual College Varieties Show!"

Following a long career in TV program development with CBS, Disney and HBO, Alan founded Boardwalk Entertainment to produce movies, daytime TV programs and animated features. In later life, he admitted to teaching at Syracuse and NYU, doing intermission appearances on the Metropolitan Opera broadcasts and forever working on new shows because as he said, "I was too dumb to quit." In 1983, the Writers Guild honored Alan with its prestigious Evelyn Burkey Award; in 1999 he was cited for "lifetime achievement" by the National Academy of TV Arts and Sciences.

Andrew Siff, a ZBT brother, remembers Alan as fun-loving and talented. They used to write and perform skits together with others living in the fraternity house. After completing Law School in 1953, Andy spent two years with the Army's Judge Advocate General's Department at Fort Ord, Calif., and later at Fort Bliss, Texas, specializing in courts and boards. He continues to practice law, often working five days a week. Would you believe that Andy and Elliot Wales have known each other since grammar school?

Nolan Lushington also were ZBT classmates of Alan's. Nolan's career in the library field has encompassed consulting with more than 220 libraries. He works with architects to tell them what librarians need, and for librarians he interprets architectural plans for libraries. Nolan consults on libraries of many types — public, school, academic and special.

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George Koplanka

The Delta Chapter of Zeta Beta Tau, founded on the Columbia campus in 1904, was fortunate to have a distinguished group of College graduates in 1951. Among their number was Alan Wagner, who died on December 18. At our 50th anniversary class reunion, Alan quipped, "With two Columbia degrees in hand I tried unsuccessfully to avoid the Korean War, wound up in the Navy and did stand-up comedy on TV's Ed Sullivan show, using Borscht Belt jokes that would have been rejected by the annual College Varieties Show!"

Following a long career in TV program development with CBS, Disney and HBO, Alan founded Boardwalk Entertainment to produce movies, daytime TV programs and animated features. In later life, he admitted to teaching at Syracuse and NYU, doing intermission appearances on the Metropolitan Opera broadcasts and forever working on new shows because as he said, "I was too dumb to quit." In 1983, the Writers Guild honored Alan with its prestigious Evelyn Burkey Award; in 1999 he was cited for "lifetime achievement" by the National Academy of TV Arts and Sciences.

Andrew Siff, a ZBT brother, remembers Alan as fun-loving and talented. They used to write and perform skits together with others living in the fraternity house. After completing Law School in 1953, Andy spent two years with the Army's Judge Advocate General's Department at Fort Ord, Calif., and later at Fort Bliss, Texas, specializing in courts and boards. He continues to practice law, often working five days a week. Would you believe that Andy and Elliot Wales have known each other since grammar school?

Nolan Lushington also were ZBT classmates of Alan's. Nolan's career in the library field has encompassed consulting with more than 220 libraries. He works with architects to tell them what librarians need, and for librarians he interprets architectural plans for libraries. Nolan consults on libraries of many types — public, school, academic and special.

Nolan Lushington has published his fourth book on the subject of libraries: Libraries Designed For Kids. His career has encompassed consulting with more than 220 libraries.
There is wonderful news about our 55th reunion! Henry Graff has accepted an invitation to speak at our reunion luncheon on May 31. He is a political consultant and a well-known academic. Dear Lew, I look forward with lively greetings, Henry Graff.

Considering that this is an election year, Professor Graff’s comments are bound to provide fascinating insights regarding Presidential politics. In addition, Graff remembers members of the Class of 53 and has promised to tell one or more anecdotes about classmates. Having Graff at our reunion luncheon is a considerable “coup” and is bound to make the luncheon a memorable event.

If you have any comments and/or ideas about the plans for the 55th reunion, please send an e-mail with your thoughts.

On November 3, Ernie Chambers was granted an honorary degree by the School of Creative & Performing Arts, Humber Institute of Technology & Advanced Learning, in recognition of his distinguished 45-year career in the entertainment industry and in acknowledgement of his many contributions to film, television and theater.

Since 1995, Ernie has developed, produced and supervised the writing of television series and specials, movies for television and feature films. He has written and produced for Frank Sinatra, Carol Channing, Bill Cosby, Doris Day, Tony Randall, Bobby Darin, Leslie Uggams, Barry Manilow, Alan King and Sid Caesar. He lives in Los Angeles and the Périgord Region of France.

Congratulations, Ernie! We’re all hoping to see you at the 55th luncheon reunion.

Gordon Henderson sent along an e-mail proudly announcing the birth of his sixth grandson on November 2. In addition to being Gordon and Mary Ann ’53 Barnard’s grandson, Emory Wyatt is the son of Martha DuCommon Henderson Bennett ’57 Barnard and the cousin of Stephanie Bostic ’06 Barnard.

Donald Olander: Talking to Don on the phone, I learned that in July he will retire from UC Berkeley after 50 years of teaching. During his first three years, Don taught chemical engineering, and for the last 47 years, he’s been teaching nuclear engineering specializing in determining how nuclear materials behave in core nuclear reactors. He’s the author of a book called General Thermodynamics that was published by Taylor and Francis, and after retiring, he plans to finish a new book called Materials of Light Water Reactors, which will be published by the American Nuclear Society. As one of America’s leading experts on Don and his committee in France that reviews the French atomic program (France uses nuclear power to generate 80 percent of its electricity) He also serves on a committee at the Idaho National Laboratory that is working to do the worldwide use of weapons-grade uranium in nuclear reactors that generate electricity. In 2000, Don had the honor of being elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

Don also revealed the fascinating work that his three children are doing. One son works with a children’s AIDS awareness program in the Congo that is funded by the State Department. A second son speaks fluent Mandarin and manages the largest Chinese TV station in Los Angeles, while his daughter works for the Department of Agriculture and is America’s expert in ways of disposing of animal carcasses.

Our 55th reunion luncheon on May 31 should be a fascinating event, and Don indicates that he and his wife will make every effort to attend.

Howard Falberg: 13710 Paseo Bonita, Poway, CA 92064 westmontgr@aol.com

No news this time — the well is dry. Please send me an update!

Gerald Sherwin: 181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A New York, NY 10021 gs481@juno.com

For those who thought that applications to the College and SEAS would slow down or decline in the face of all the activities on- and off-campus over the past several months — forget about it! This year, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions reviewed nearly 2,600 early decision applications, a 5 percent increase over last year. It is likely that there also will be a significant increase in regular decision apps for the Class of 2012. The word is that the overwhelming majority of applicants are incredibly strong students.

In other news, the Columbia University Libraries and Google have recently partnered to digitize a large number of the Libraries’ collections, making them searchable through Google Book Search. On the athletics front, a celebration will be held during the last part of 2008 to celebrate the silver anniversary of the Columbia-Barnard Athletic Consortium. As part of this effort, the intercollegiate athletics program is seeking new funds for the team’s athletic facilities. (Get out your pad and pencil, Ferdie!)

As part of the arts initiative at the University, the Columbia Alumni Arts League has been established, and alumni can enjoy new events that are part of the cultural offerings, connect with fellow alumni, save money and support the arts at Columbia by joining the Arts Initiative at Columbia University. Examples of CAAL events have been Serge Prokofiev’s War and Peace at the Metropolitan Opera House and Balanche/Robbins’ Traditions at the New York City Ballet, both held a couple of months ago. For more information, you can contact your “man on the aisle” and loyal correspondent, John Timoney ’54 (a much older Columbian) is trying to renew acquaintances with Abe Ashkenasi, who lives in Berlin, and Jim Phelan (our former 1956 Olympic water polo stalwart), residing in Princeton. Both would welcome a kind word from John.

The Class of 1955 has consistently through the years been one of the leaders, if not the No. 1 class, in terms of raising money — dollars and percent participation — for the Columbia College Fund. This year, the fund drive will be led by Class Agents Don Lauber, Elliot Gross, Bob Brown, Larry Balfus and Alfred Gollomp. If any of the guys you can get in touch with, let them know — they’d be happy to say — remember, they are classmates.

In California are Malcolm Barbour (Santa Monica), heading up Barbour Langley Productions; Charles Barnett (Redwood City), with the American Cancer Society; Shelly Bloom (Santa Barbara), adjunct instructor, Brooks Institute of Photography. In the Midwest are Harlan Herz (Cleveland), practicing law — Harlan keeps in touch with another lawyer, Beryl Nusbaum (born, raised and working in Rochester, N.Y.); and Don Price (Cleveland), formerly one of the key writers of Jester (with Harvey Greenberg). The publication is trying to make a comeback. Don, if you have some free time… Who do you think would be president and CEO of the Sacks Group in Ft. Lauderdale? None other than transplanted Elizabeth, NJ’s own Ed Sacks. The Sackses live in Jupiter.

Continuing his professorial duties at the University of South Carolina is Jim Appel, who teaches psychology at the Columbia,
CLASS NOTES

56

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As I write this, it is 12 degrees in NYC and about zero with the wind chill. My car started promptly, which is one small part of happiness. When this is read hopefully there will be warmer weather.

We had another fun class lunch in December at Faculty House with Mark Novick, Dan Link, Al Franco '56E, Jerry Fine, Buz Paaswell, Lou Hemmerdinger and yours truly out there. Peter Klein sent apologies, as he got tied up in Livingston, N.J., town work. The next lunch on January 16, at the Columbia/Princeton Club, had Ed Botwinick, Ron Kapon, Alan Press, Arthur Frank, Mark Novick and Peter Klein, among others.

We had a lunch on February 13, and the next one will be on Wednesday, March 12, so maybe more of you can join us (most likely to be held at Faculty House before it closes for renovation in April). Guys, it really is fun. Jerry Fine and Barbara recently returned from a great trip to Israel and will tell us about it.

I had my annual trip to Florida to see family (my mother is almost 95) and friends, with Helen Ruddy ’60 Barnard, from January 18-27. Also will have had fun getting together with classmates who are there. Planned were dinner with Dan Link and Elinor on January 18 as well as lunch on January 21 with high school and College classmates Lou Hemmerdinger and Stan Manne and their wives. On January 24, Ed Botwinick had some classmates for the day at his Medalist Golf Club in Hobe Sound, which he says is the best golf club in Florida. As a non-golfer, I watched wildlife with binoculars and avoided the alligators. So far, in addition to myself and Ed, attending with wives were Mike Spett, Eric Donath ’56E, Steve Levine, Al Dawson ’48E, Howie Hanson ’52 [so] and Lou Hemmerdinger.

Interviews for Columbia are in action, and I will call mine after Iweak moment I agreed to chair Business School reunion, and in a

57

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Marty Fishner "On November 8, Ten Little Indians’ assembled at the University Club in midtown Manhattan for luncheon and conversation: Ed Weinstein; Al Kass; Marty Fishner; Al Anton, on his third trip from Louisville; George Lutz; Joel Schwartz, our quadruple [switching] medal winner; Joe Feldschuh, our favorite New York Times watch; Art Meyerson, who ate well and left early, before I had a chance to talk to him; Neil McLellan [and] last but not least, Bob Kipstein.

“A good time was had by all ... Contrary to the Agatha Christie story, all survived.”

MARCH/APRIL 2008

S.C., school. We wonder if Jim ever gets in a few words or notes about his exploits with the Columbia marching band as an undergraduate.

Al Momjian lives in the suburbs of Philadelphia, commuting from Huntington Valley to the downtown area for his law practice. We somehow missed Al at the Columbia/Villanova basketball game a couple of months ago. Maybe next time. Season’s greetings were sent from Alan Sloat, who lives and works in the legal field in New Rochelle. Also living in this Westchester suburb is Frank Tilley, a physician in Manhattan and Queens, and little known to all except a select few, Frank was the intramural table tennis champion at Columbia.

Not everyone in our class pursued a professional career. The Rev. Jim Silver is the pastor at Fogyland Community Church in East Hartford, Conn. Jim and family live nearby in Middletown. Up north in Massachusetts are Ed Goldberg, professor at Tufts University Medical School, Department of Molecular Biology/ Microbiology and Walt Flanagan, a retired physician, in Topsfield, Mass. Since Ed is a Bronx ex-patriot and Walt was brought up in Yorkers, where is their allegiance — Yanks vs. Red Sox, Patriots vs. Giants/Jets, Celtics vs. Knicks?

Although Hastings H.S., in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., had a relatively small student body, Jared Myers, who now lives in Elmina, was one of three guys from that school in our class. The others: Bob Brown (Manhattan) and Matthew Flanagan. A couple of classmates who live on Long Island are Richard Reichler, who came from Far Rockaway to attend the school on 116th Street and Broadway and now makes his home in Syosset; and Alan Ditchik, who did yeoman work for Spectator as an undergrad and lives in Rockville Centre with his family.

We have sad news to report. Our Jack Armstrong, a leader and very active in Columbia and class activities, passed away a couple of months ago. Our condolences go out to Jack’s family’s friends, and his Sigma Chi brothers — Tom Chrystle, Dave Stevens, Lary Faris, Bob Zeph, Jim Larson, Bob Roxby and Phil Bieser. [See Obituaries.]

Dignified and deep-thinking members of the Class of 1955. A belated glorious and Happy New Year to all. Stay well. Make your resolutions. There are so many good ones ahead of us. Be prepared for the 55th.

Love to all! Everywhere!
Jerry was divorced from his first wife, Philippa Blume. He is survived by his wife, Norma von Ragenfeld Feldman, and two children from his first marriage, Aaron and Dorothea. [See other obituaries.]

Warren Kimball has retired after 41 years in the telecommunications industry as a telecom manager and management consultant. He and his wife, Rosemary, moved from Long Island to Flagstaff, Ariz., where they enjoy the natural beauty and leisurely pace of life. Their son, Glenn; daughter-in-law; and two grandchildren live in Dallas.

Paul Herman is impressed by the number and persistence of his Columbia ties, starting with his son, Murray 97, and his daughter, Tali 98. Tali is married to Josh Newman 91; his father is Melvin Newman 63 and his uncle, Gerald Kaufman 56, was an NCAA basketball player. Paul and his wife, Malka, live in Englewood, N.J., where his Saturday Talmud study group includes Walter Berkowitz, Arthur Helft and Kenny Prager 64.

Paul is a trusts and estates lawyer at the NYC firm of Herrick, Feinstein, with which Harvy Feuerstein, Charles Goldstein and David Rosen also are affiliated. And Paul, like a lot of us, counts his wife as an honorary member of 56, by reason of her attendance at every Dean's Days, reunions, an alumni seminar with Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

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Melvyn New is "in Gainesville, Fla. I retired at the end of 2007 after 42 years in the English department at the University of Florida, nine as department chair. My wife, Joan, and I will celebrate our 49th wedding anniversary this year, having married days after graduation (in those days, ROTC candidates could not be married before graduation).

"We have two sons, one an investment adviser in Manhattan Beach, Calif., the other an attorney in Gainesville, and six grandchil-
dren, the oldest 20, the youngest 4.

"I have published some dozen books and editions (including the multi-volume Florida Edition of the Works of Laurence Sterne, for which I have been general editor since its inception in 1968 — six volumes are in print, two more in press), and 60 essays, primarily on Sterne and other 18th-century authors, but also on figures ranging from Proust and Mann to Dickens and Pynchon. Through-out my career I remembered most the wonderful classes I had with Edward LeComte 39 (four of them), and to my very last class I used his method of detailed daily quizzes to keep students reading — they still work!

"Having degrees from Columbia and Vanderbilt, I have never, despite four decades at the University of Florida, gotten used to being at an athletics powerhouse; athletics to me still means being the doormat of the league and running on the wood track in front of Low Library in frigid weather while passersby looked on, wondering why anyone in his right mind would be doing such a thing. On Fridays, Navy ROTC would drill in the area, and I can't even try to guess what the passersby were thinking about that."

Eric Jakobsson writes from the University of Illinois in Urbana: "My Nanomedicine Center (www.nanoconductors.org) has defined several clinical targets for the technologies we have developed — cystic fibrosis, disruption of membrane domains, hemodialysis, nanoscale power generation for implants — and is seeking translational and clinical collaborators. At the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, where I head the bio-nano group, we have won the award from the National Science Foundation for building the biggest fastest computer in the world over the next several years, so are figuring out how to be ready to harness that for biology when it comes online. Very busy, very fortunate to still be healthy, don't get to New York much — although I did speak at a symposium at NYU at the end of September. Definitely want to come to the reunion."

Copied from the Times of London January 1: "New Year Honours OBE: Lou Kushnick lately honorary professorial fellow in race relations, University of Manchester, services to the community and to higher education."

Lou writes, "My career in the United Kingdom has been interesting to say the least. Pat and I came to Manchester in 1963; I was a Leverhulme Fellow in the Department of Government, [and] the relatively new and small Department of American Studies offered to pay for our accommodation in Broomcroft Hall, the former home of late Professor Simon, who had been chancellor of the university. It was then in its second year as a residence for visiting fellows, very comfortable, beds made and rooms cleaned every morning, cooked breakfast and evening meals and so forth."

"Pat, who had taught one year in Guilford Conn., taught 48 10-year-olds in a prefab, which wasn't connected to the heating system, in the inner city. She survived and spent her entire career, until retiring in December 2005, working first in primary education, then in adult ed, in the inner city. A job came up in spring 1964 in American studies. I applied and got it, and we thought we would stay a couple of years; oh, well, we are still here.

"My work in combating racism in the UK has lasted for most of that time, and I have been a member of the executive committee, vice-chair, chair [and] member of the committee of the Institute of Race Relations in London since 1970; editor of Sage Race Relations Abstracts, 1980–2007; and rising to professor in race relations, via the American studies and sociology departments. I am now professor emeritus."

"But I combined my academic career and my community activities in establishing, with colleagues in higher education in Manchester, community and voluntary organizations, teachers and librarians, in 1999 the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Research Centre at the university."

"It is named in honour of Ahmed, a 13-year-old high school student in a Manchester school who was knifed to death in a racist playground incident in 1986. The centre has become a major open access resource centre, also a centre engaged in oral history, training of teachers, development of teaching materials, production of primary level fiction and non-fiction books with primary school pupils, their teachers and parents. We also created alongside the centre the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust, a registered charity, working in partnership with the university and Manchester City Council and its education department, now part of Children's Services."

"We are working to widen participation in higher education in the UK, to challenge racism in all areas and to work to help create an environment in which all children can flourish."

Michael F. Michels 1959 has been director, Division of Nephrology, at Lenox Hill Hospital for the past 30 years, and is involved in teaching, research and clinical practice.

MARCH/APRIL 2008 42
The offer of the honour, as an officer of the Order of the British Empire is seen [by] my colleagues as a recognition of the importance of the work the centre and trust have done, and the helping down barriers between the university and local communities.”

Congratulations, Sir Lou! Lewis P. Roth wants us to know that “My life has been pretty standard. Leslie and I will celebrate our 47th anniversary on a cruise to the Caribbean. Traveling is one of our favorite pastimes in retirement. We have been to Australia and New Zealand, all 50 states of the Union, most of the Baltic ports and are planning a trip to Great Britain, Scotland, Ireland and Wales this summer. We do pride ourselves in the fact that we have visited all 50 states... not just flown over or stayed in a hotel, but actually visited in all 50 states. We’ve been to China, Singapore, Bangkok, Israel, Greece and Turkey. We’ve been to Mexico, Canada and most of Central America but still like the good old USA best.”

Allen Rosenblum informs us that 2007 was his first year of retirement from advertising and four projects have occupied my time: 1) continuing as executive creative director of The Partnership for a Drug-Free America, 2) board member of Business for Diplomatic Action, working for more effective U.S. public diplomacy, 3) unpaid consultant to the Democratic National Committee and 4) joined the Trustee Board of Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. Also, I will be involved in the May Advertising Hall of Fame. Ralph W. Wyndrum Jr. wants us to know that “The class (and probably much more of Columbia) may be interested to go to www.innovatearts.org, which the IEEE-USA has arguably been doing mostly of the non-combative life for the past 50 years this fall, the 50th anniversary of the launch of Sputnik on October 4, 1957. This led to Bob Eisenstein, myself and Gerry Present having our photograph in the November 18, 1957, Life Magazine watching a speech by President Eisenhower in the White House TV room. I also remember watching the end of Don Larsen’s perfect game in the World Series in that same TV room while waiting for the bus to Baker Field, but that was 51 years ago, on October 8, 1956, Tempus fugit.”

Michael F. Michelson has been director, Division of Nephrology, Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, for 30 years, involved in teaching, clinical research and clinical practice caring for patients with kidney and hypertensive disorders. Recently, he has been conducting educational programs for physicians regarding a new pharmacologic agent that facilitates water excretion. His wife, Mary Ann, is chief of allergy and immunology at Hemorrhage University Medical Center in New Jersey, where she sees patients and performs clinical trials. Older daughter Elizabeth ’02 teaches in Manhattan at a school that specializes in the education of children with special learning needs.

Younger daughter Katherine is in her last year at Dartmouth and is applying to medical school. The family’s interests include travel, exercise and public health issues. Michael is extremely fond of golf. A recent story to inform us that William “Bill” Cannon and William “Billy” Greenburg have died. Gene Apple wrote, “I just heard today (December 23) from Billy’s brother, Leo Greenburg, that William (Billy) Greenburg died on December 15 of a rare skin cancer. Billy was a member of Columbia’s lightweight football team. He is survived by two daughters, Miriam (Boston) and Esther (Northern California) and a grandson, Mosha Lewis. Bill was a journalist for many years and ended his career writing for political issues, whether candidates or agencies, sensitive issues. Billy always had a strong opinion and did not waver from his point of view.

We should, by now, have received an invitation to join in the planning for the reunion. I hope that many of us will participate in the planning by joining whatever committee is set up. Last year we had a vigorous discussion on the plans for our 50th reunion. I collected all the responses and I will give the committee all your comments to help them plan what will be the best reunion we have had. Let us all plan on being there.”

From Mike Tannenbaum we hear that “[My wife] Barbara and I and many friends and I in New York commute to work every day by subway and LIRR, and car from the Ronkonkoma garage, to Brookhaven National Lab on Long Island. Our daughters, Nina ’99 and Lisa ’02 Yale, have good jobs and nice boyfriends and also live on the UES, so family life is pleasant. The Second Avenue subway is in full construction in front of my building — the line is scheduled to open in 2014. I was stimulated to think back 50 years this fall, the 50th anniversary of the launch of Sputnik on October 4, 1957. This led to Bob Eisenstein, myself and Gerry Present having our photograph in the November 18, 1957, Life Magazine watching a speech by President Eisenhower in the White House TV room. I also remember watching the end of Don Larsen’s perfect game in the World Series in that same TV room while waiting for the bus to Baker Field, but that was 51 years ago, on October 8, 1956, Tempus fugit.”

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Greetings, and welcome to the Year of the Rat.

Don’t let this opening cause you to draw back in revulsion. Be of good cheer and take comfort from the explanation in Paul Nagano’s annual New Year’s letter: “Part of the auspiciousness of rats in the Asian Zodiac is that they are plentiful when humans have plenty. So, may the Rat smile upon you in 2008, and may it be a year of abundance for you.” Reflecting on his year just passed, Paul appreciates it to have been one abundant with pleasures, “full of travel and friends and memorable experiences.” Among them: “a two-day Navy reunion of the (mostly junior) officers of the U.S.S. Paul Revere, on which I served from 1961-63 as a discharging officer, I was lucky in my military service: It was peace-time, and our reminiscences were mostly of the non-combative life of our deployments out of San Diego to the Philippines with visits to Japan, Taiwan and Hong Kong. … A productive summer in Bali, culminating in a series of ‘pig’ paintings for a gallery showing called ‘Celebr’ART’e Fire-Boar ’07’... A presentation of representative examples of three decades of evolutions at the annual Open Studios of Fenway Studios in Boston ... Preparing for a showing in Honolulu of recent water-colors that include floral pieces with some musical influences.”

Approaching his 90th birthday, Paul Stumpf up: “I am a lucky man to have lived these many years, free and able to live my life (for the most part) as I wish.”

There was a time when retirement conjured images of a chaise lounge, hammocks, and golf courses. No longer. Here’s how David Farmer describes recent developments in his retirement: “I’ve been teaching survey art history at the local center of the University of Maine at Augusta for I think five years. A very diverse group of people, some from college-age to (shall we say) mature. No one quite as old as the teacher yet, but definitely into the early 60s. The older students are mostly returning for degrees. A large group of young women who missed out right after high school, and they are most courageous. Sick kids, problems with baby-sitters and daycare, Lord knows what else — but they do persevere. The quality has definitely improved since I began, and the class is now always filled. Still, there is a sometimes-depressing lack of any historical background at all, and of course the young ones are really young, barely knowing about the Vietnam War. I love doing this. I taught the Modern course last summer, which I will probably continue.”

But David’s “retirement” doesn’t stop there: “Things really changed,” he continues, “when I was appointed interim president and CEO of the Center for Maine Contemporary Art, a full-time position with no specified end date. CMCA is a 55-year-old institution, founded as a kind of artists’ cooperative that has evolved through the years into the state’s leading center for exhibition of living Maine artists. And there are a lot of good ones, year-round and seasonal (e.g., Alex Katz, William Wegman, Lois Dodd, Richard Estes and of course, the Wyeths). I never thought of myself as a director of a museum-type organization, but the fine staff and a good board make this an opportunity for some productive activity. "I also am president of our local land trust, busy trying to protect our beautiful part of..."
Maine from sprawl and suburbanization, our biggest danger. We know development will happen, but our mission is to set aside important habitat, scenic and traditional resources (forestry, fishing, etc.) and protect them from development. We also educate. I thought this was my full-time job, but it will end next year and, meantime, I juggle all these responsibilities to receive a note from another down East Easter, Larry Rubinstein, with a copy of a book by his son-in-law, Jon Papernick. Larry writes that Who by Fire, Who by Blood, published by Exile Editions, is Jon’s first novel. Jon is write-in-residence at Emerson College in Boston. Fortunately, the book’s arrival coincided with the long-awaited completion of renovations on a house to which Cheryl, Ethan and I am moving, and it had to be packed with all of our belongings in preparation for the move. But the strong, positive reviews are intriguing, and it will be my first read in the new domicile.

An article in The New York Sun noted the significant contribution Art Rosenbaum has made to the preservation of America’s musical legacy by his field recordings of folk music — blues, gospel, mountain ballads, and banjo and fiddle tunes. Art, a painter who retired in 2006 after teaching art for 30 years at the University of Georgia in Athens, spends a typical weekend traveling the country roads of North Georgia, armed with a pair of microphones and a digital recorder, and accompanied by the founder of the Dust-to-Digital independent record label, to capture a performance by an aging folk musician. “People are looking for some continuity with region and culture. But they also want to get some strong, expressive art. People don’t look at Rembrandt in the museum or listen to Mozart just because they want to know what people felt like back then,” Art explains. “They want something that also works in the present tense.”

Of particular note to Art’s work is his collaboration on the four-disc set, Art of Field Recording: Volume I, which traces a half-century of authentic American music from New Hampshire to Indiana to the southern states. A distinctive aspect of the set is a 96-page booklet featuring Art’s commentaries, his paintings of the musicians, and his wife Margo’s photography. In the 1950s and ’60s, the preeminent school of architecture in the country was Yale. Then its luster began to fade. By the ’90s it had suffered a loss of stature and promising students. In 1996, Robert A.M. Stern, noted architect, educator, writer, critic and commentator, with a Classical aesthetic, was appointed dean. The avant-garde architectural movement was aghast. Members of the Yale faculty and of the elite architectural and critical communities denounced the choice. Bob, they protested, was a retrograde traditionalist. The then-editor of Architecture magazine, Reed Kroloff, decried the decision and derided Bob as a “sultan of suburban retrofit ... a notorious academic curmudgeon.” Such prominent architects as Frank Gehry criticized Bob’s neo-Classical work as too anchored in the past. The critics could not imagine that Bob could revive and enhance the reputation of an institution that once had been regarded as the seedbed of creative, progressive architectural forms.

They had badly misjudged Bob. This past December, when Bob was appointed to his third five-year term as dean of the Yale School of Architecture, to begin in July, the legion of former critics queued in chorus to sing his praise. Kroloff, who had assumed the position as dean of architecture at Tulane, from which he recently stepped down, said, “Bob Stern may be the best school of architecture dean in the United States...” I'd have to say [if I saw Bob face to face]: Congratulations. I wish I could do what you’ve done.” Gehry applauded Bob’s accomplishments during the past nine years, proclaiming that Bob had made Yale “probably the most exciting school in the country, maybe in the whole world.”

How Bob managed to convert critics to admirers sounds simple enough. Making no apology for his own well-known Classical aesthetic, indeed, strongly defending it, Bob has said, “I’m a representative of tradition in architecture. I am not an ideologue. I’m not considered avant-garde because I’m not avant-garde. But there is a parallel world out there — of excellence.” But it was more than a gracious, acquiescent nod acknowledging the existence of excellence in parallel architectural worlds that accounts for the transformation of his critics. It was the intensity of his commitment to bring the excellence of both genres to Yale that sealed this achievement. He brought those parallel worlds together in vibrant, continuous dialogue. He appointed internationally-renowned talents from the traditional and avant-garde streams to the faculty. He hosted symposia and conferences encompassing the breadth of architectural subjects.

Apart from his duties at Yale, Bob remains a prolific writer on architecture and an active practitioner as senior and founding partner of Robert A.M. Stern Associates, with projects that keep an office of 325 busy.

Press reports of Bob’s appointment submit that his views on architecture unfolded as a 1965 graduate of the Yale School of Architecture, and further developed as professor and director of the historical preservation department of the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia and as first director of Columbia’s Temple Hoyne Buell Center for American Architecture. But, as we know, it all started in Hamilton Hall as a member of the Class of ’60.

John Learned ’61, of the University of Hawaii, received the ARCS Scientist of the Year Award, highlighting his participation in the Nobel Prize-winning neutrino studies.

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In October, Morris Dickstein delivered the presidential address at the annual conference of The Association of Literary Scholars and Critics and spoke at a conference at Georgetown marking the 40th anniversary of the Pentagon March. In December, he did a new preface to the Chinese translation of his last book, A Mirror in the Roadway: Literature and the Real World.

Philippe de la Chappelle’s wife, Dorina, was interviewed on CBS Sunday in November in connection with her book, Tartan: Romancing the Plaid. (See the January/February issue of CCT.) Philippe also notes that since it weighs five pounds, it can also serve as a doorstop!

Phil Cottone received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Columbia Club of Philadelphia, with brothers Bill Binderman and Harold Cohen in attendance. The award is given for lifetime distinguished achievement in a career and outstanding service to alma mater.

Interestingly, Phil started the award when he was club president, about 30 years ago when Martin Meyerson ’42 retired as the longtime president of Penn, as a way of telling all the Penn guys around here that Martin was a Lion, and also getting some local publicity. It sure worked. The award has only been given out eight times since then, and Phil never dreamed he would one day be a recipient.

Dr. Kenneth Edelin received the 2008 PFFA Margaret Sanger Award at Planned Parenthood’s National Conference in Washington, D.C., in March. The award is Planned Parenthood’s highest honor and is given annually to recognize leadership, excellence and outstanding contributions to the reproductive health and rights movement. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was the first recipient.

For more than 30 years, Ken has been a champion of reproductive rights and freedom. He also has been a great friend and supporter of Planned Parenthood and was its national board chairman for many years.

According to Planned Parenthood, Ken embodies the values and fearlessness of Margaret Sanger. He is a superior physician who has not only dedicated his life to delivering comprehensive health care to those who need it most but has also stood up time and again to the antichoice groups who seek to limit access to reproductive health care. Today, Ken is a member of PFFA’s Board of Advocates and continues to fight to protect access to reproductive rights. He is gearing up for the Presidential elections, which he sees as key to preserving Roe v. Wade.

Ken and his wife, Barbara, divide their time between Sarasota, Fla., and Martha’s Vineyard, Mass. They have four children.
and eight grandchildren.

Enjoying life on Hawaii’s Big Island going on 22 years, Barry Blum is winding down his orthopedic surgery practice, as he has begun a new job as medical director of Kona Community Hospital and has been appointed to the hospital’s new board of directors. But he’s having even more fun leading “Kona’s Traveling Jewish Wedding Band,” still playing balalaika as he did in Greenwich Village while attending Columbia. You tube now features Congregation Kona Beth Shalom’s weddings (with his wife, Gloria, right up front) performing “The Chanukah Hula” at www.youtube.com/watch?v=RON8q62OEU backed up by the band.

Bob Salman spoke at the monthly lunch in November on politics and predicted that Hillary Clinton will be our next President. He is active in her campaign in New Jersey and serves on the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.

Bob Soltys’ son, Andrew, a high school junior at Edmund Burke in Washington, D.C., will be applying for early decision acceptance to CC. Anyone with connections, suggestions, advice and so forth, please contact Bob: bobsoltys@comcast.net.

Professor John Learned (lightweight in St. Paul’s chapel choir) of the University of Hawaii received the ARCS Scientist of the Year Award at a ceremony in November. The citation highlighted his participation in the Nobel Prize-winning neutrino studies, which often required the peculiar neutral elementary particles neutrinos to have the habit of morphing from one type to another as they travel. Moreover, neutrinos do have some, albeit small, mass, which, due to their production in the Big Bang, leads to their being another significant component of the total mass of the universe, roughly the same as all the visible stars.

Indeed, neutrinos may be intimately linked to our very existence. Working in the area for 30 years, which has broken into scientific prominence recently, John has been perhaps the “father of neutrino astronomy,” as he is sometimes introduced.

John’s prize lecture, however, was about opening a new field, aimed at understanding the heat flow within the earth, which drives all of plate motions, volcanoes and the geomagnetic field. This can be done by measuring neutrinos originating from radioactive decay, deep within the earth. John and his colleagues had a cover article in Nature last year for making the first measurements of these “geo-neutrinos” with a detector in Japan, KamLAND.

The project now being explored, HanFnu, would operate a huge, ocean-going detector that can be moved and sample neutrinos in various locations. Such an instrument can also do remote monitoring of nuclear reactors, an important matter in an era that is likely to see much proliferation of nuclear power.

These initiatives mark the beginning of applications of neutrinos, making the transition from the study of esoteric objects to tools for humanity.

John travels a lot, mostly to Europe, Japan and the West Coast, with some forays to D.C., but sadly little to the New York area. On the other hand, he reports that indeed there is life outside NYC, and that he loves the humorous and the wonderful multicultural society in Honolulu. And he would welcome seeing some of his old mates (particularly crewmates) if they are passing this way. His Web page is www.phys.hawaii.edu/~learned and he is in the phone book (yes, life is less paranoid hereabouts) and can be found at his favorite sushi bar, Tokkuri Tei, most Friday evenings.

Albert Kirsch writes that he hasn’t been doing much aside from teaching part-time at Miami Dade College, but his fiancee, Kimberly, has started a music promotion/booking business. It’s just getting off the ground, but two of the five Grammy nominees in the Latin Jazz Album category are her artists: Hector Martignon and Sammy Figueroa.

Stuart Sloane recently returned from an incredible 10 days in Germany as part of an exchange program between the German Konrad Adenauer Foundation and the American Jewish Committee. They visited Jewish communities, virtually all consisting of recent immigrants from the former Soviet Union, in Frankfurt, Wiesbaden, Nuremberg, Dessau, Halberstadt and Berlin. They also met with top German officials and Jewish community leaders as well as toured Jewish cemeteries, museums, community centers and a few of the handful of synagogues that were not destroyed or have been reconstructed. The most poignant and memorable day was the Friday he toured the Sachsenhausen Memorial, the former concentration camp outside Berlin, followed that evening by a bat mitzvah in the practically filled, rebuilt Berlin Synagogue Pestalozzislo. The girl was a third generation Berlin Jew whose grandfather was a colonel in the Red Army who had fought in Stalingrad and, after the war, resettled with his family in Berlin. It was surreal to see on the same day the symbols of Jewish communal death and life virtually juxtaposed.

Art Wisot writes of an extraordinary moment — four WKCR program directors from consecutive years at Georgia (née Dobrer, ’63 Barnard) and Nat Kramer ’63’s daughter’s wedding (Cheryl to David Kaye) in July at the Rainbow Room. The last time “The Four Program Directors” were together was at Nat and Georgia’s engagement party in 1965. So this event is at least as momentous as the last concert of “The Three Tenors.” (See January/February CCT for photo.)

Dick Hall lives in Washington, D.C., and is semiretired from practicing law and running a nonprofit. He is a high school coach at Woodrow Wilson H.S., a public school in D.C. from which his four children graduated and at which his wife, Helen, is chair of the English department. His coaching job takes a little less than half-time and only during the school year. Arthritis has slowed him down, but so far he keeps moving. Dick’s youngest child is Charlotte ‘08. His oldest, Timothy, is a physicist at a Columbia/NASA research institute. His research area is the Earth’s atmosphere. His wife works but they spend a full summer on Martha’s Vineyard.

On a sad note, Howard McKee passed away on December 8 after passing away on December 8 after a long battle with colon cancer. More details on Howard’s life and family are noted in the Obituaries.

Happy New Year, everyone! Wish you were here. The snow is luminous and two feet deep, tree branches and conifer needlescredit Birne’s nights snowfall and 18-inch puffed snowpecker dart among to the cedars where they bore great holes in search of insect life. I love it, but would gladly swap for a week or two on a warm beach! Any takers?

Yoshiru Fujisawa ’63 lives in Tokyo, where he celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary in November. He and his wife have three grown daughters. Their middle daughter married three years ago and has a year-old daughter. Yoshiru writes that his “greatest concerns at this time are 1) the other two daughters, both in their 30s, and not married, and 2) the future of this planet.”

In 1970, Yoshiru founded Internix and was its COO and president until three years ago. In 2000, he took his company public. He now allocates a third of his time to Internix, where he has been chairman and CEO since 2000, another third to the industry association, Japanese Electronic Products Importers’ Association, and the remaining third to nature/living organism activities. You may reach him at yfujisawa@internix.co.jp.

John Garman and his wife, Nancy, live in South Carolina, where they “enjoy four seasons and warmer weather than most of you.” Their two daughters and grandchildren are in Minnesota and North Carolina.

Their biggest news is that Nancy has finally retired. It took a year of transition and working nearly full-time until August, but she finished her last conference for Information Today in November. She looks forward to dozens of projects, such as sewing, handiwork, organizing their photographs and editing old family movies. Even spending more time with John!

John did not do any international consulting in 2007. He’s chair of the South Carolina Humanities Council and is on several local boards and committees. In November, John went to Bowling Green, Ky., to lead the annual Chamber of Commerce board retreat. His passion still is travel, and last fall he and Nancy took a two-week river cruise from Vienna to Amsterdam. Their fourth grandchild, Elizabeth “Ellie” Garman, was born on October 13. Their houseboat on Hartwell Lake still has 40 feet of water under it despite the
drought. John says, “We have a prime dock location with the best view on the lake. Come visit or just e-mail us so we can reconnect. May 2008 bring love, peace, hope and happiness to all of you.”

John suggests that you may enjoy the following Web site: http://oldfortyfive.com/Cars WeDrove.htm. You may reach John at john@ferrman.net.

Roman Kerenitsky became an ophthalmologist. He lives in Colts Neck, N.J., and practices in Freehold. Roman is married to Lydia, a dentist. They have two grown sons: Alex, an attorney, and Andrew ’03, who works in the State Department. Roman writes: “It is true what Alex Sachare ’71 wrote in Columbia College Today, that ‘one of the benefits of Columbia’s venerable Core Curriculum is that it creates a shared experience of the humanities and contemporary Civilization courses I took. It is thrilling to discuss with him classes we both enjoyed. It also was wonderful to see him walk into Hamilton Hall for his classes. I will be forever grateful to Columbia College for this shared experience and for the Core Curriculum.”

Once a year Roman attends a fantastic and beautiful Bach organ recital in Manhattan given by his friend, Walter Hilse. You may contact Roman at roman10418@aol.com.

Retired NYU professor of neurosurgery and brother-in-law Paul Cooper returned to New York in late December after spending five weeks attending the Cordon Bleu Cooking School and preparing a splendid meal for his expanded family on December 26, and it took only three times as long as a major spine operation!

The December 2 New York Times pictured Jerry Speyer alongside Mayor Michael Bloomberg as they celebrated the lighting of the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Plaza, co-owned by Jerry’s company, Tishman Speyer. The 2007 tree—a ten-ton, 84-foot Norway spruce—was lit by 30,000 LEDs that were expected to save as much energy each day as an average American family consumes in a month! The lights were powered by solar panels installed on the roof of 45 Rockefeller Plaza. After it was taken down, the tree was sawed into lumber to be used by Habitat for Humanity.

That’s all the news from the brothers of ’62. Please, please send news of yourself and what you anticipate in ’08.

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Natalie Miranda nm217@columbia.edu 212-870-2768 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2247@columbia.edu 212-870-2194 Paul Neshamkin 1015 Washington St., Apt. 50 Hoboken, NJ 07030 pauln@helputhors.com

What can I say about Bob Kraft and the New England Patriots—as I write these notes, they are on a historic roll and remain undefeated well into the playoffs. You will have to turn to this year’s final outcome when you read this, but no matter what happens, congratulations, Bob.

Our 45th reunion year got off to a fine start at a pre-reunion cocktail reception in early January hosted by Donna and Phil Satow. Among those in attendance were Barry Jay Reiss, David Alpern, Benita and Henry Black, Doron Gopstein, Ann and Bruce Kaplan, Conrad Levinson, Bettye and Steve Barcan, Michael Lubell, Don Marshall, Harry Rapoport and his wife, M. Barrie Mandel, Larry Neuman, Randi and Bob Kornreich, Gil Einstein, Jerry Dwyer, Terrie and Tom O’Connor, and Ruth and Paul Neshamkin.

Apologies to anyone I missed.

The conversations I overheard were an intriguing preview of what’s in store for you May 29–June 1. I learned that Conrad Levinson left his architectural practice in 1991 to work for Phoenix House. Using Google for further exploration, I found that he has been responsible for the design and construction of several thousand units of housing and community facilities including residential and outpatient centers, vocational and educational facilities, medical/dental centers and administrative and support service offices and facilities.

Henry Black practices medicine at NYU, and is finding it difficult to slow down. I caught Henry and his wife, Benita, talking to several of their Columbia/Bronx Science classmates. They talked about how Benita and Henry reconnect several years ago and married. Thanks to Benita’s condition, that they move back to NYC, we hope we will be seeing a lot more of them at Baker Field.

Steve Barcan mentioned to Phil Satow that he had visited me at my Jersey Shore house in Bradley Beach last summer, and that led to reminiscences of Phil’s story working in a bakery while in college. He often visited Steve at his house, which was just up the street from where I now live. I listened to Steve and Don Margolis comparing their bicycling exploits, and it occurred to me that this has become a serious activity for many of us. To confirm this, I received a note and pictures (which you can find on our Web site, www.cc63ers.com,) from Paul Kimmel, who writes, “My wife and I again did the 500-mile bike tour across New York State in our three-person bicycle with friend Marilyn as the third rider.”

This sounds like a lot of fun, and I was wondering how many of you have similar bike tales. Send me some notes and pictures, and I will put together an activities section on the Web site to share with all.

Paul added that his oldest son, Louis, married his longtime girlfriend, Christine. A photo of his family, Paul, his wife, and four sons and new daughter-in-law, taken at the wedding—also can be found on the Web site.

Alexis Levitin writes, “I would have loved to attend the Soho loft get-together, but I am in Guayaquil, Ecuador, at this time. I am visiting five of my close friends, temporary Ecuadorian women poets for an anthology.” He then contributed this note for this column: “Alexis Levitin’s co-translation into Portuguese of Wallace Stevens’ Notes Towards a Supreme Fiction was published in February 2007, by Relogio d’Agua in Lisbon. His co-translation (from the Bulgarian) of Georgi Gospodinov’s And Other Stories was published by Northwestern University Press this past August. His translation of Caye, a book of Amazonian poems by Brazilian poet Astrid Cabral, was published in April by Host Publications. In the past year, translating has taken him to Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Florianopolis in Brazil and to Guayaquil and Quito in Ecuador. A window of free time allowed him eight days in the Galapagos, swimming with sea lions and translating nothing. He continues to teach English at SUNY-Plattsburgh because he fears the boundless freedom of retirement.”

Alexis, I hope you will find some time in your very full life to visit with all of us at reunion.

Plans for the reunion are well underway. The Reunion Committee has been working hard to make sure that we have an interesting and exciting program, and hope that you will all attend. We also are processing well with our class gift, but need your support to try to break our previous participation percentage. Please consider a gift for this important milestone—45th reunions, thank God, don’t come up that often.

Keep in touch and let your classmates know what you’re up to, how you’re doing and what’s next. And make a point of joining us all on May 29!

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Clay Maitland has been awarded an honorary doctor of letters by SUNY Maritime College for his contribution to the maritime college and to the American maritime industry. Clay is managing partner of International Registries in Manhattan, which has ship registries around the world. Congratulations, Clay.

Steve Rapoport writes from Israel, reminiscing about the days he shared an apartment on 115th Street with Dan Press and Harry Frankel ’63. Steve has been living in Israel for more than 30 years. He runs a carpet and upholstery cleaning business and can be reached at bargers@yahoo.com.

I estimate that there are 20 classmates living outside the United States. In the months ahead, I plan to contact as many as possible to encourage them to write about the expatriate life.

Don’t forget the informal class lunch on the second Thursday of every month at the Columbia Club in Manhattan.

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My November/December column contained reminiscences by several of us who rented a house in Washington, D.C., during summer 1964. The ensuing e-mail traffic elicited a report from Paul Brantingham, who wrote to Jim Murdaugh bragging about his son, Jeff. As you may recall from a previous column, Paul is the University Professor of Crime Analysis at the School of Criminology at Simon
Harley Frankel ’63 Helps Open College Doors

By Justin Clark ’04J

Harley Frankel ’63 knows all about overcoming adversity. The first in his family to attend college, he was one of the few Columbia College first-years not to go home for winter break — instead, he spent it at Butler Library, studying incessantly. The product of an average, rural Virginia high school, he felt woefully behind classmates who’d gotten more rigorous high school educations in New York City.

"In those days, they gave finals after the break, and I was certain I was going to flunk," says Frankel with a laugh. "So I studied and studied, and I was shocked when I made the dean’s list."

Frankel didn’t forget his experience when, inspired by political science professor Joseph Rothschild, he went to Washington, D.C., some years later (after Harvard Business School). There, he helmed the National Head Start program, helped develop the forerunner of the Children’s Defense Fund and even helped to select the first secretary of education while Frankel was serving as a senior aide in the Carter administration.

Frankel also had the honor of naming a major cabinet department, Health and Human Services, created from what remained of the department formerly responsible for education.

Yet after decades of working in education policy, it wasn’t until his son prepared to go to college that Frankel learned that one of the toughest barriers to college wasn’t one his generation had faced.

Frankel had sent his son to one of Los Angeles’ most prestigious prep schools. He’d paid for SAT prep classes and a private college counselor, and spent hours navigating the complicated admissions and financial aid forms.

"What I realized was that the admissions process has become a full-time job," says Frankel. "And that’s for a kid with all the advantages — how hard must it be for those kids in South Central and East L.A.?"

And so in 2003, Frankel, a gentle giant whose favorite word is "lovely," came out of retirement to solicit corporate and private support for his brainchild, College Match. The nonprofit’s mission is simple: giving prep school-quality admissions assistance to talented and motivated students at high schools such as Garfield High, where Stand and Deliver teacher Jaime Escalante famously found success teaching AP calculus to remedial math students.

Unlike Escalante’s students, Frankel’s already are dreaming about college. What Frankel does is help them dream in Technicolor. He and two professional counselors, Julie Neilson and Kara Miller, visit five underprivileged high schools every year, asking teachers, principals and counselors to help identify academically advanced students in need of admissions counseling. It isn’t easy whittling down the recommendations to the number College Match’s current budget permits — 110 students this year.

Frankel emphasizes to students that the free program is a serious commitment. Every student receives around 100 hours of SAT prep, raising the average score by a sizeable 329 points. When scores still aren’t high enough, Frankel helps the students write, and rewrite, essays that demonstrate their determination. Ninety-two percent are admitted to US News and World Report’s top 50 university and small colleges. Forty percent find their way to the Ivy League, although none has made it to Columbia College yet, Frankel wistfully admits. But all of his "kids" are thrilled by a challenge they never thought they’d face.

"My high school doesn’t get too many recruiters from big schools like UCLA, let alone Columbia or Harvard," says 18-year-old Josimar Luna ‘11E. "Luna’s older sister and older brother had already attended UC schools, yet Luna had scarcely considered options at more prestigious schools before Frankel visited his school, Bell H.S., two years ago.

For Angelenos such as Luna, one of the most helpful parts of College Match was a chance to tour East Coast colleges with dozens of fellow participants. Among others, the colleges include the Ivy League schools, five "Top Ten" small colleges and five schools that don’t require SATs. Since three-quarters of College Match’s participants are female, one tour includes four women’s colleges.

Seeing 25 colleges in 10 days would be dizzying for anyone. What made up Luna’s mind, eventually, was learning he could play intramural soccer at Columbia — exactly what he needed to hear to give up sunny California.

"I feel like I can go to him for anything," Luna says of Frankel. "If you have any financial problems or problems in your schoolwork, he’s very approachable, and he’ll respond immediately."

After four years championing deserving high school students through College Match, some of them are returning the favor. Last summer, the Mexican Bar Foundation presented Frankel with its annual Community Service Award. Normally, recipients ask to be introduced by the heads of foundations or prominent politicians. Frankel chose to be introduced by 19-year-old Betsy Perez, who found her way to Trinity College with College Match’s help.

"As my mother has put it so many times, ‘He’s like a fairy godfather,’" Perez said. "I guess it’s because of all the wishes he’s made come true."

Justin Clark ’04J writes for numerous publications, including LA Weekly and Nerve.
Fraser University at Burnaby, B.C. Paul passed on an article appearing on the UCLA Web site about his son, P. Jeffrey Brantingham, an assistant professor of anthropology. Jeff did some pioneering work on crime patterns using a series of models as fields of diverse as chemistry, biology and microscale physics that describe mixing patterns to create a predictive pattern for crime patterns. One pattern I infer from this is that Jeffrey is following in Paul's footsteps with an interest in crime (only scholarly, of course).

My column also elicited several impassioned phone calls and a great letter from James Levy, one of the housemates. First of all, Jim pointed out that my column omitted Peter Fraser '64, who also lived in the house. My apologies to Peter for the omission. Like all the rest of us, he became a lawyer. Bob Henn, another housemate, pitched in with a recollection that Peter settled in San Diego while Bob lived in San Francisco, “and we reconnected as single males on the prowl for a weekend or two in each other’s town in the 1970s.” I’ll let Jim speak to you directly from his letter: “The summer internship spent in our nation’s capital in 1964 was truly memorable and in many respects may have been the defining experience of my late adolescence. I was assigned to the House Republican Policy Committee chaired by then-Congressman Gerald Ford but was afforded ample opportunity to interact with members of both parties. Perhaps the most memorable event of the summer was a late August Saturday afternoon spent with Bob Henn and his congressman, Morris Udall (D) of Arizona. We flew down to Atlantic City where the 1964 Democratic convention was to open the following week, with Congressman Udall at the controls of his Piper Cub aircraft. I recall asking, ‘Why, other than that you, a liberal Democrat, every two years win re-election in a landslide and yet your conservative Republican colleague, Senator Barry Goldwater, returns to office every six years by a similar overwhelming majority?’ His response, still riveted in my memory, was that essentially one-third of their mutual constituents were knee-jerk liberals who overwhelmingly supported him on that basis alone, one-third were doctrinaire conservatives who would vote for Senator Goldwater on ideological grounds as well, and the remaining one-third would vote for both of them because they understood and respected the reasoned process whereby each would formulate a position on a given issue. Today, of course, there are few, if any, politicians willing to stake out any position, particularly on a controversial subject, without first determining in which direction the political winds are blowing.”

Since my halcyon days at Columbia College, I graduated from the Law School and thereafter relocated to St. Albans, Vt., basically because my wife, Ann Selgin '65 Barnard, wanted to live in the city on the West Side and I insisted on the East Side. I was also somewhat compromised by moving to Northern Vermont. Among the highlights of my 38-year stint in St. Albans are the following: co-founding in 1963 of I-Tech Sport Products, a preeminent hockey equipment manufacturer; establishing a client base north of the border, facilitated by St. Albans being a mere 65 miles from Montreal; defending in the 1970s individuals who were accused by a corrupt narcotics agent of being drug dealers, they had not committed and subsequently being profiled in Mocking Justice by Hamilton Davis (hardcover: Crown Publishers; paperback: New England Press); and serving my alma mater as a member of the Board of Directors of the Columbia College Alumni Association from 1979–85.

“Ann is an accomplished fiber artist/weaver and author of a cookbook, Acts of Living, designed for the ‘culinary’ challenged (see www.littleapplepress.com). My daughter, Robyn, unfortunately gravely ill at present, attended Columbia College for one year in the late 1980s. My son, Daniel ’93, is the founder and CEO of www.cityrealty.com, a leading online service for Manhattan real estate. Ironically, he emigrated from St. Albans to New York City, the opposite of the odyssey I pursued. While I enjoy greatly the amenities of Northern Vermont (i.e., walking to my law office every day; taking off afterwards either to ski, sail, golf or ride my bicycle; playing hockey in an adult league where one of the better players was a teammate of my son; dining weekly in Montreal; spending summers at a cottage along the shores of Lake Champlain; co-hosting a frequently controversial call-in program on public access television; etc.), I will always be a ‘flatlander’ at heart.”

My thanks to Jim for his note. May he be an inspiration for sharing news to all of you!

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The American Heart Association recently announced the appointment of Bill Roach as treasurer for its Midwest Affiliate Board of Directors. Bill, who is a partner in the law firm of McDermott Will & Emery, will have general oversight of the finances, investments and business operations of the heart association affiliate, in addition to responsibility for human resources and information technology. He comments, “It’s a great organization with a worthy cause. The government changes the rules for hospitals about every two years, so the practice never gets dull.”

In his law firm, Bill is a member of the Health Law Department, and his practice areas include health ventures and physician transactions, and he is recognized for his experience in the law governing the use of health care information. He regularly advises health care providers, ancillary service providers and manufacturers concerning HIPAA compliance matters. Bill’s book, Medical Records and the Law, now in its fourth edition, is a leading textbook on the subject. He is a former member of the National Board of Directors for the American Heart Association. Bill lives in Chicago and can be contacted at wroach@mwe.com.

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Alan Meckler was the subject of an article in BusinessWeek on successful entrepreneurs who have overcome dyslexia and actually find dyslexia to be an asset. The article places Alan in the company of other well-known dyslexic and successful CEOs such as Charles Schwab and Paul Orfalea, founder of Kinko’s.

Alan received his master’s in 1968 and his doctorate in 1980 from Columbia. He is the CEO of Jupitermedia, an online imagery hub, in Detroit, Conn. I literally ran into Don Rink in December. Don is a general surgeon in Santa Barbara and is doing well.

Since Don and I are the only classmate who live in Santa Barbara, I cannot possibly run into the rest of you. Please don’t be modest, complacent, lethargic, private or reclusive. Your classmates want to hear from you. Write soon.

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It will be well into the new year when this column appears, but Happy New Year to the Class of 1966. The Iowa caucuses were the day before I wrote this, so there have been some upssets and the election process will be far along. Our reunion plans have been gaining momentum; the events and activities should be superb and the turnout should be great. I have been swamped with some work and other things that have kept me from my normal outreach process. Let me just briefly say that a few weeks ago, Ed De Sear, Paul de Bary, Seth Weinstein, David Shapiro and Neil Anderson were at my apartment for a brief while. Bill McDavid was planning to come but was unable to make it. I am looking forward to seeing Bill when he returns from Paris, where he has been for a while. Paul made sure we had the appropriate wine that evening and of course was great to see everyone. I hadn’t seen Neil in a long time, and I met his wife, Donna. She was wonderful and he looks about the same as he did when he was in his UDC office in New Hall... well, about the same.

Seth asked me to note his enormous enthusiasm for our reunion and that he was looking forward to seeing our classmates. I have heard that from many — seems like this may be a special time for...
fucked. Bob Brandt and I have been e-mailing recently — a curious dialogue from roommates and friends from a long time ago. We are planning to get together one of these days but e-mail seems to be working; it is great to hear from Bob. Bob Carlson is trying to track down Larry Borger and my last e-mail address isn’t working so I have a research project ... Bob is in Alaska, and I thought Larry was enjoying sunny Arizona. I heard from John Hoy today; he told me he was grading papers and sounded grumpy — he must be behind schedule. You would have thought after all these years of grading papers he would find this an easier task, but he continues to be a devoted professor.

I received this note from Alan Weiss reporting that he read our “column with great interest” — thanks! — and really wants to come to this reunion — the first one I will have attended.

“Our 2008 holiday will be a river cruise on a German boat in Russia from Moscow to Perm and then to St. Petersburg, but it doesn’t start until June 9. Is there any chance I could be put up with a classmate in New York? I would much prefer than staying in a hotel. Of course, I would pay for my stay. I recruit students from Germany to John Abbott College, where I teach. This year we had 86 students in the fall semester and 100 students in the winter semester. My recruiting trips always are in December. However, because Germany is in the process of switching from 13 to 12 years of school, eventually I will switch from Germany to Austria.

I also will have two guests from Germany, Axel Meers and Ralph Ulewski, who are visiting our college. They have set up a most interesting student exchange program between Brandenburg and northern Israel, where Israel sends mixed delegations of Jewish and Arab students to Brandenburg. We will have a meeting with the Israeli consulate in Montreal to discuss the possibility of setting up similar exchanges with our college.

“My daughter lives with her partner in the wilderness of Saint Anathase, Quebec, just north of the northernmost tip of Maine. Every year I try to organize debates run by my students at theaters following performances of plays. This semester it will be the Montreal Saidye Bronfman Theatre production of The Arden Mill. A production of Ibsen’s An Enemy of the People. The debate will be whether Dr. Thomas Stockmann is a hero (Miller’s adaptation written in 1950 in response to the Red Scare) or an anti-hero (Ibsen’s original intention.) These activities are behind schedule. You would have thought after all these years of grading papers he would find this an easier task, but he continues to be a devoted professor.

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feigns various conditions to help train medical students. Our son, Aaron, works at NIH developing software for bioinformatics and has two young children, who we get to see often. It's great to be a grandfather!"

David Parshall reports: "I co-founded a private equity secondary business 13 years ago, love it (and the idea of a small firm) and have never been busier. Columbia has been in my mind daily for more than 10 years through my dear children, since my older daughter, Lily, enrolled at the College in 1997, and the others, Anthony and Jane, followed suit. And now, Lily is 'ABD' (all but dissertation) in her anthropology course. The occupation and subsequent strike was a generational moment repeated in universities around the country and throughout the world. Busy Dying is an autobiographical novel, a portrait of the author’s Polish Jewish family, a coming of age in poetry, music, politics, and friends in New York City and Columbia, including a dangerous exodus through the Yukon to end up teaching on an Indian reservation in Northern California. All of this is comically and sometimes tragically relived as the author is inspired by a series of encounters and coincidences, including the revelations of students he teaches at Stanford today and the surprising discovery of the story behind Hilton Obenzinger, a 1980s Long Island high school humor magazine. Hilton teaches honors and advanced writing as part of the Hume Writing Center at Stanford, working with students in all fields, whether science or humanities, or other advanced research and creative projects. Hilton contacted me less about his new book than about a conference, "Columbia 1968 and the World — A 40th Anniversary Event," scheduled for April 24–27. The announcement says that a "group of alumni who were participants in those events has been working with faculty and students to develop a program for a three-day conference that will serve several purposes. First, it will allow for a serious reexamination of the multiple viewpoints, placing the events at Columbia in the context of what was happening in 1968 in the country and the world. Second, it will provide a chance for people who lived through that period to reconnect, reflect and reflect. And, third, it will engage current students in a discussion about issues of war, race and the role of the university — issues that are still with us 40 years later."

Confirmed speakers as of mid-January include our classmate (indeed, my Carman Hall suitemate) Mark Rudd, who was interviewed by NBC's Tom Brokaw on the Columbia campus for his History Channel program, 1968, and Tom Hayden, activist, playwright, co-founder of the Chicago Seven and Huron Statement and former California legislator; Tony Judt, author and Eric Maria Remarque Professor of European Studies, NYU; Nicholas von Hoffman, author and former columnist for the Washington Post and Klare, author and Five Colleges Professor of Peace and World Security Studies, Hampshire College; Catherine Stimpson, University Professor and Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, NYU; Kendall Thomas, Nash Professor of Law, Columbia; Samuel Gross, Thomas and Mabel Long Professor of Law, University of Michigan; Akeel Bilgrama, Johnsonian Professor of Philosophy, Columbia; and Frederick Neuhouser, Viola Manderfeld Professor of German and Professor of Philosophy, Barnard.

Alan Senauke writes: "For the last 25 years, I have been practicing at Berkeley Zen Center, where I live with my wife, Laurie, and our children — Silvia (17) and Alexander (13). I was ordained as a Soto Zen Buddhist priest in 1989, and presently serve as vice-abbot of BZC. For much of that time I have been deeply involved with an executive director task as adviser with Buddhist Peace Fellowship, a national organization devoted to social engagement and nonviolent social change, kind of the left wing of American Buddhism. Most recently, I led a national delegation to Burma, in the aftermath of the powerful democracy uprising in late September, and the brutal crackdown that followed. If any readers are interested in my report, or in knowing how they can support the movement in Burma, please e-mail me: alan@clearviewproject.org.

"In one of my other ongoing lives I play, perform and record traditional American music — bluegrass, old-time, Cajun and so forth. I have a group of alumni who were participants in those events has been working with faculty and students to develop a program for a three-day conference that will serve several purposes. First, it will allow for a serious reexamination of the multiple viewpoints, placing the events at Columbia in the context of what was happening in 1968 in the country and the world. Second, it will provide a chance for people who lived through that period to reconnect, reconcile and reflect. And, third, it will engage current students in a discussion about issues of war, race and the role of the university — issues that are still with us 40 years later."
Nicholas Fox Weber ’69 Helps on a Personal Level

Between Angelina Jolie and Bono, it’s hard to say what one should expect the typical third-world development worker to look like these days, and Nicholas Fox Weber ’69 may seem an unlikely face in the crowd. Weber, who earned a B.A. and M.A. in art history, the latter at Yale, is director of the Bethany, Conn.-based Josef and Anni Albers Foundation, which generates and assists with projects pertaining to the work of Bauhaus-era artists Josef and Anni Albers. He also is president of American Friends of Le Kinkeliba (www.lekinkeliba.org), the American branch of a Paris-based NGO.

With its local focus, Le Kinkeliba (www.lekinkeliba.org) — named after a local West African plant used for medicinal purposes — is quietly improving the quality of life for a growing number of West Africans. Started in 1996 by French dermatologist Gilles Degois with the goal of providing medical facilities and educational programs to remote rural areas of Senegal, Le Kinkeliba has grown organically into a project for integrated development.

Weber became involved with Le Kinkeliba after a chance meeting with Degois in Paris (Weber needed a dermatologist). The meeting led to a visit to Senegal, and that visit led to a long-term commitment on the part of Weber and the Albers Foundation.

When reflecting on his desire to take on a major philanthropic endeavor, Weber looks back to Columbia. He recalls that during the late ’60s, “Most of us were talking about political engagement ... it was very much in the mentality of the time, almost more expected of you than that you would make money.” At the time, however, Weber, who grew up in Connecticut with “parents who were ex-Communists but sent me to an old-fashioned New England prep school anyway,” felt himself to be “an outsider with relation to student politics” due to his parents’ affiliations.

Politics aside, Weber was excited to attend the College. “I couldn’t wait to study art history in a place where I could look at the work I was studying, and not just slides on screens. I had heard about some of the great professors there, and craved the energy and humor I associated with Columbia, as well as living in New York,” he says. Starting in sophomore year, Weber wrote a weekly art column for the newspaper Manhattan East.

“The college advisers at Loomis wanted me to consider Williams, Amherst or Yale,” Weber notes. “But I always believed that Columbia was utterly right.”

Le Kinkeliba also was an undertaking that Weber immediately felt good about. “At last I saw something that worked ... it was very simple, it wasn’t theoretical. You arrived with a bag of toothbrushes and gave them to kids who had never had toothbrushes,” he states. But what may be most impressive about Le Kinkeliba is its on-the-ground philosophy. All the builders on its projects are Senegalese, and the staff at Wassadou, its medical facility in Tambacounda, is staffed by Senegalese who are paid by Le Kinkeliba. As a result, the salaries are competitive enough to attract or hold onto talented local workers. The Albers Foundation pays the salary of American Friends of Le Kinkeliba’s one full-time employee, director Anne Barker, and other administrative expenses.

According to Weber, as interest in and support for Le Kinkeliba’s projects expands, the organization is able to create, execute and plan for an increasing number of operations with the aim of serving even more remote communities in the Southeastern corner of Senegal. The American Friends are working to attract the support of U.S.-based foundations and corporations, as well as individuals.

One new Le Kinkeliba project may have gotten its start in the pages of CCT. It was while reading the March/April 2007 issue that Weber spotted the story of Demetri Blanas ‘07, who had spent time in Senegal and was on his way to medical school. Before beginning his work at Mt. Sinai, Blanas had made plans to return to Senegal to work at a newly-established government district health center in Saraya.

Weber’s faith in the scale and mission of Le Kinkeliba goes back to “a wonderful Russian lit class,” he says. We were reading a work of Pasternak that posed the question: Can a political system make a difference or can an individual?”

Weber, as an individual, makes a pretty good case for the latter.

Merrell Hambleton ’08 and Lisa Palladino
attest that he was a remarkably considerate, supportive and engaging boss, and his wit and intelligence made for a very enjoyable working environment. For the next two years I was executive director and general counsel to the New York State Trial Lawyers Association, another interesting and challenging post. In October, New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, another good friend and fine public servant, hired me as special counsel for law and policy.

"On the personal front, I have been happily married for 18 years to Cecilia Gardner, president of an organization that promotes legal compliance in the jewelry industry and a former federal prosecutor. Our son is 17 and our daughter is 15 — both superb and wonderful children, in my unbiased opinion. I have stayed in touch, in varying degrees of frequency, with Art Kokot, Victor Hertz, Marty Newhouse, Paul Kropp, Al Bergeret, Norman Greene, Mike Friedman, Leo Kallas and John Berenst '69E. Apologies to those who I am neglecting to mention out of forgetfulness. Best wishes to all."

Another blast from the past was supplied by Carl Chorba. His note is self-explanatory: "I think this is the first time I've written you. I have recently retired from Visteon Corp. (formerly ACD, or Automotive Components of Ford Motor Co.), I spent more than 30 years in the automotive industry, starting with Ford in 1977 and joining the Visteon spin-off in 1997. Seventeen years were spent at Ford Truck Operations, the Heavy Truck group. I had various positions, including Buffalo district sales manager, Western regional sales manager and marketing manager before Ford sold the business to Freightliner in 1997. At Visteon I was a quality director as well as a manufacturing site director in the Interiors Group.

"Carole (nee Gutheinz) and I have been married since 1973. We met at Smoky Joe's Café on the Penn campus while we were both living and working in Philadelphia. I got to Philly right out of college, taking a one-year teaching assignment at Episcopal Academy."

Finally, good luck to Jim Petersen '71. Jim, a longtime NYC bar and restaurant owner, recently opened an upscale tapas and wine bar/restaurant, Bucceo 95, on West 95th Street. Former Gold Rail bartenders Bill Poppe and Phil Rountz attended the grand opening and report that the place is terrific.

And until next time, stay well, do good deeds, remember the College and each other. And, of course, Go Lions!

Dennis H. Langer '71, managing partner at Phoenix IP Ventures, was appointed to the Board of Directors of Auxilium Pharmaceuticals.

We have three children: Amanda, 30, a University of Michigan grad, a store manager for JCPenney in Canton, Mich.; Matt, 27, who graduated from Eastern Michigan as well as earned his M.B.A. there, who is a recruiter in the health field industry in Boca Raton, Fla., and our youngest, Carl Thomas, 22, who is autistic and lives at home with us in Michigan. While we still live in Michigan, I am a true-blue Steeler, Nittany Lion and Pitt Panther fan. I have attended three reunions since graduating and am looking forward to getting back for the 40th.

Notably, Alex Sachare '71 at as801@columbia.edu by March 24.

Thank you in advance for your participation.

Spring '68

This spring is the 40th anniversary of the campus unrest of Spring '68, a series of events that impacted all of us, especially members of the 1968 through 1971 classes. We would like to mark this anniversary in our May/June issue in your words. Please consider how these events affected your lives in the 40 years that have passed and tell us:

1) How did Spring '68 change the way you look at the world?
2) Is there one image or event that sums it up for you?
3) What did you learn and how did you apply it to your life?

Please express your thoughts in 250 words or fewer. We will publish responses in the magazine and on our Web site, but may not be able to publish all that are submitted. Please send responses to Alex Sachare '71 at as801@columbia.edu by March 24.

Thank you in advance for your participation.
Robert Tangle: “I would like to respond to you and at the same time to several classmates who were at our 55th reunion during June 2006 and have asked me about my latest project: pollution control and environmental protection business initiative.... I started CEFCO with several fellow inventors a few months ago, and we are seeking a knowledgeable user and strategic partner for our patent-pending technology to set up a demonstration plant.”

The August 2007 eNews carried details. (The eNews has more space than this CCT column, and can be more timely and more free-wheeling. Classmates, subscribe by sending me an e-mail.)

Contact Robert at rtangle@ndrlp.com. He may even e-mail you a PowerPoint presentation.

Mark Kingdon received the College’s Alexander Hamilton Award in November. Richard Hsia forwarded my speech, which included this: “It’s funny that for most of my life I have worked hard to keep up with people in school or in business whom I considered more naturally gifted. Our society praises hard work but looks down on the born genius or natural athlete. Lucky for me, I don’t fit into either category. High expectations can create a burden that can lead to frustration and failure, unless accompanied by a positive, resilient mindset.

“Recently, I read a wonderful book that articulated some important life lessons that I believe in: Mindset, by Carol Dweck, a former psychology professor here at Columbia. She divides our way of thinking into two categories: fixed and growth mindset. Individuals with a fixed mindset see intelligence as mostly inherited. They spend their lives trying to prove how smart they are, are easily discouraged by failure, and shy away from challenges that reveal their limitations. When they are part of a culture that worships talent and abhors failure (such as Enron), they will often lie about their intelligence. Those with a growth mindset understand that intelligence can be developed by hard work and can be enhanced by trying to solve difficult, intellectual puzzles. They see failure as part of the growth process. In my business [hedge funds], I acknowledge mistakes by cutting losses to focus on the future, not the past.

“The concept that intelligence is more nurtured than nature supports my belief in the transformative power of education. Columbia plans to open a school for gifted children in the Harlem Village community in the new Manhattanville campus, and has long been involved with schools in the neighborhood. I have been privileged to serve on the board of Harlem Children’s Zone, which has changed the lives of thousands of underprivileged children and their families by battling on their behalf and devoting resources to their education.

“Students from some of the city’s toughest neighborhoods who have attended HZC’s Promise Academy, as well as other charter schools such as the one run by Harlem Village Academy, have remarkable achievement records, both in school and outside.

“Support for education at all levels is the best answer to the question of how to deal with growing income inequality in our society. A recent IMF study suggested that globalization is not the cause of such inequality — it is technology, which favors the educated. Funding for financial aid to provide need-blind admission is part of the solution.”

Dick Fuhrman: “Richard Hsia and I journeyed to the Temple Bar [in Manhattan] on November 16 to host a toast in honor of Rick Johnson [at a celebration organized by Michael B. Holmes and Rick’s brother, Ted ’81]. We were delighted — but not surprised — how many of his friends from Harvard Law, Salomon Brothers, the not-for-profits to which he was devoted (Columbia included) and elsewhere drew together to share warm memories of his unique personality. Rick — who wanted no memorial service — would have been pleased, we thought, and [his wife] Weimei [DU] seemed touched.”

Dick had established a scholarship fund at Columbia in honor of his father. I was pleased to help Weimei negotiate with Columbia to add Rick to that fund as an honorary himself. It is now the Rick and Lee Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund. You can donate to the fund by mailing a check (write the above fund name on the memo line) to Ashaki Charles, Assistant Director, Columbia College Fund, Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development, 475 Riverside Dr., Ste 917, New York, NY 10027-0998. Her contact info is 212-870-3452, fax 212-870-2747 and ac2759@columbia.edu.

Jeffrey Weinberg: “I have been selected as a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar. I will be a resident at the University of London’s Institute for the Study of the Americas, and I will be a guest lecturer on the presidency at other universities in the United Kingdom from mid-March to mid-June. So far, I have been invited to lecture at Oxford, Cambridge, the London School of Economics (LSE), the University of Aberdeen and the University of Glasgow. If classmates who are going to be in London want to contact me, my e-mail address [there] is Jeffery.Weinberg@lasa.ac.uk

I will return my position as a legislative attorney at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), where I began my public service as a summer intern in the Nixon administration. I will resume teaching courses on the presidency, Executive Branch and public administration as an adjunct faculty member at American, Catholic and The George Washington Universities.

“It all began at Columbia. My first Washington experience was as a summer intern on Capitol Hill as part of a Columbia ‘program’. I was encouraged to apply for the summer internship at OMB by Professor C. Lowell Harriss, and my interest in the presidency was sparked by Professor Richard former. Also, I was able to spend my junior year studying at LSE.”

David Aron: “Roy Rosenzweig’s untimely death prompted me to write in for the first time. During freshman year, I was commuting and I used to show up and change in my room in Carman after physs ed. Although I was interested in seeing the twits and turns that Roy took in his remarkable career, it was his generosity of spirit that I remember the most. In addition, he always seemed to enjoy whatever he was doing.

“I went to P&S, having been accepted with one semester of chemistry, physics and biology with the proviso that I finish the second semester and take organic chemistry over the summer. I had majored in Oriental studies — Chinese — so my science background was minimal, but I did much better in science than I ever did in Chinese.

“Vicky and I got married in the middle of senior year at St. Paul’s Chapel. Our son, nearly 30, works in London after phys ed. Although I have stayed (my mentor has noted to me, because my term is the Rick and Lee Johnson [at a celebration organized by Michael B. Holmes and Rick’s brother, Ted ’81]). I was able to spend my career entirely at the Cleveland VA and for those who remember me in college, there is a certain amount of irony in that.

“Finally, I am a follower of the Greek cynic Diogenes, who said ‘Of what use is being a philosopher if you don’t annoy anybody?’ I try to skate that edge between being thought-provoking and annoying. I have toppled over in the wrong direction more than once, but also try to remember that life is much too long not to have fun, because if you are not having fun, you are not having it for a long time. Although Roy’s life was dramatically cut short, I think that while he lived, he knew how to have fun.”

Ray Stricker: “I have been president of the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society for two years (www.ilads.org). Our organization of healthcare professionals has spearheaded the fight against tick-borne diseases, and we [attended] the ILADS Annual Meeting in Boston in conjunction with the annual Columbia University/Lyme Disease Association research conference in October.

“We were given a big boost when President Bush announced that he had been treated for Lyme disease last year. As Jim [Shaw] has noted to me, because my term as president of ILADS expired last year [2007], both President Bush and I are now [or will be] Lyme Duck Presidents.”

Paul S. Appelbaum 39 Claremont Ave., #24 New York, NY 10027 pappe1@aol.com

After almost 30 years in academic publishing, Bill Germano has
moved into the academy (a place from which he notes he never fully escaped). In fall 2006, he became dean of the faculty of humanities and social sciences at Cooper Union where, as a professor of English lit, he also gets to teach. “I spent five weeks reading Paradise Lost with freshmen this past fall, and if I taught it half as well as Ted Tayler did when I was at Columbia, I’d be a happy man.” You can reach Bill at germano@cooper.edu.

Bill Germano ’72 is dean of the faculty of humanities and social sciences at Cooper Union, where he is also a professor of English literature.

Richard Macksoud had been hoping to make it to our reunion last spring, but found himself closing on a new home in Columbia (1), Tenn. that day. “My wife, Linda, and I are settling into the Middle South; many adjustments but a good change from New Jersey. I continue my trust and estates and tax practice on a part-time basis. Time will tell where that goes. My oldest is teaching school in Oxford, Miss.; her husband is a 1L at Ole Miss. My youngest is a senior at Centre College in Ky., so we are near both of them.”

Those of you who followed the sexual harassment lawsuit against Isaiah Thomas and the New York Knicks undoubtedly noted, as I did, that Jerry Lynch was the judge presiding over the trial in Federal District Court in New York.

On a sadder note, Andre Cardinale, of Islip Terrace, N.Y., passed away on July 6.

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1
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As much of a cliché as it is to say that there is no way it has been 35 years, I quote a great man whose epitaph reads, “I knew that if I hung around long enough something like this would happen to me.” And so it has.

Peter Isakov almost became a musician after college, but decided that law school looked far better; he graduated from the Law School in ’78, and afterward clerked for a couple of judges, one of whom was Associate Justice John Paul Stevens at the Supreme Court. He has lived in Washington, D.C., since, and went into private practice in 1983; he is now head of litigation at the D.C. office of Weil, Gotshal & Manges. His wife, Jane Leavy ’74 Barnard, ’76, is a former Washington Post sports writer and author of Sandy Koufax: A Lefty’s Legacy; she is working on a bio of Mickey Mantle. Peter has two kids, Nick (22) and Emma (19); Emma is a sophomore at Skidmore. Eric Holder remains in D.C., as well; he is with Covington and Burling, and his main job nowadays is national co-chair for the Obama campaign. When Eric e-mailed in December, he added, “Iowa is cold.”

Marc Jaffe lived on the Upper West Side until four years ago, when he, wife May and son Eric (8) moved to Old Greenwich, Conn. Marc is CEO of a media/technology company, PixFusion, which publishes photo-personalized DVDs (www.kideo.com). Prior to this, he ran several businesses for Rodale, the book and magazine publisher, and had the good fortune to publish (among others) The South Beach Diet. In 1991, Marc helped establish Harlem RBI (Revising Baseball in the Inner Cities) in East Harlem, which serves 700 kids (www.harlembi.com). In his spare time, he skis, plays tennis and softball, runs the occasional triathlon and spends time with his family. Marc sees former roommates Bob Ronnow and Ronnie Heifetz.

James Minter continues to travel abroad for international admissions; in April 2007 he and his counterpart at Brown took a trip to India (another trip is planned for this April), and there were two trips last fall to Europe and one to Eastern Canada. He enjoys trips to London, as he gets to visit with long-time ARC chair Mitch Freiberg and his wife, Jill. James notes, “We must be doing something right — applications to the College and SEAS from abroad keep climbing. I gave up Florida and my home state of Georgia with some reluctance, but getting to visit Madrid, Vienna and the fjords takes some of the sting out of it.”

Sounds like one of the all-time trade-ups!

James would love for more alums, especially those abroad, to join the Alumni Representative Committee to help with international interviewing and recruiting (jm35@columbia.edu).

That’s all they wrote, folks. Let’s get a good crowd at our 35th reunion, please! (Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1). Apart from class dinners, the weekend will feature a Chelsea art gallery “crawl,” mini-Core courses on campus and an evening Starlight Reception.

Fred Bremer
532 W. 111th St.
New York, NY 10025
fbremer@pclient.ml.com

Forty years separate them, but 1968 and 2008 look “strikingly” similar — both nationally and on campus. It was two score years ago that Columbia students rioted to protest Columbia’s plans to expand its presence on Morningside Heights (the gym in Morningside Park). Now Columbia is again extending its control of the neighborhood (the Manhattanville campus is planned for the 125th–133rd Street area). In both years, the United States was trapped in an unpopular war where we were trying to impose our view of the correct government. In 1968, The Population Bomb detailed humanity’s demise, and in 2008 An Inconvenient Truth does the same.

With the same issues “blowing in the wind,” as Bob Dylan said, it should be of little surprise that we see the resurrection of Students for a Democratic Society, which had been dormant for four decades. The New York Times reported in 2007 that SDS now has 120 active chapters and some 3,000 registered members across the country. The newspaper quoted Tom Hayden, the primary author of the original SDS manifesto, as saying, “They’re blogging against the war, they’re not burning draft cards ... The war in Iraq vividly demonstrates that the issues of the ‘60s have not gone away.”

The introduction to the column in the November/December issue made reference to our class being only two years away from what the government seems to consider being an “older adult.” It concluded that “Perhaps our new refrain should be ‘Viva Viagra!’” This drew ire from Zev Stern (a biology teacher in Brooklyn who has a heart condition and did postdoctoral work focused on alcohol metabolism). He zings, “Viva Viagra, my foot. Stay in shape and you stay a man! It’s amazing that no one mentions that impotence (I prefer the old terminology to PC euphemisms) is the canary in the coal mine. The same disease process that clogs the penile arteries is doing the same to the arteries in the heart and brain.”

N.B. I bet this is the first time a columnist got to slip “penile” into CCO.

Zev also sent in a book review that he wrote for the Reports of the National Council for Science Education (the publication of a group he describes as “an outfit that defends the teaching of evolution in public schools” — noting that “The United States seems to be the only modern country with a need for such an outfit.”) Saving you from the interesting (but technical) discussion of genetic mutation, I’ll jump to one of the concluding observations: “This book shows that hostility to evolution is not limited to Christians. It is shared by fundamentalists Jews and Muslims as well.”

That should cheer up Mike Huckabee!

A recent note on Rob Stevens said that he produced two Billboard Dance Chart records by Yoko Ono in the past two years. Rob wrote in to correct the record: “The thing that made those two particular Ono records a kick was that they made the Billboard chart (we’ve done that eight times), but that they reached the No. 1 position. Yes, Yoko Ono has had two No. 1 records in the past four years. Nothing is impossible!"

A last update to past notes involves Michael Handler, chief of pediatric neurosurgery at The Children’s Hospital in Denver. I promised to try to get in touch with him between his busy surgical schedules — and was successful! Mike tells us that, aside from the actual surgery, his day also involves “taking parents through a devastating experience” where they are dealing with their children’s serious illnesses.

Mike updates us on his children. His eldest, Abram ’07, obviously only recently graduated, and Mike says “his destiny is to go to law school — but he has been revisiting it.” For now, Abram works for The Brox Defenders, where he is helping provide free and public legal defense for the poor. His second child, Rachael, “has her dream job working for Colorado College” while going to school part-time. His youngest, Sam, attends Carlton College in Minnesota. Wife Wendy ’77 Barnard is active in real estate.

This column often chronicles the career paths of our classmates as they move from one firm to another in a given field and also as they morph from one field to another. Deserving “frequent flyer” status in this pursuit is Ted...
Bruce Gyory '76 has been appointed a senior adviser to New York Governor Eliot Spitzer.

Bruce has worked in state government before, the last time for Governor Hugh Carey. He says in the article, "Really, what they’re asking me to do is in effect knit together the seams between policy, legislative relations and public outreach." John J. Faso, a former minority leader of the State Assembly, testifies, "Bruce just has an enormous wealth of historical knowledge about politics in New York, the various demographic and ethnic factors which affect politics in New York, and a tremendous capacity to understand electoral trends."

Bruce has been with the firm Hinman Straub for 25 years, but says that after he leaves the Spitzer administration, he’ll give up lobbying for teaching, writing and political consulting.

Ezra Merkin says thanks for mentioning his daughters, Yoel '07 and Sophia '11, in the November/December column, but advises me that his daughter, Jenny '09, also attends Columbia. Sorry for the omission, Jenny!

Does anybody else out there have three (or more!) children at Columbia?

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As a first response to my call for self-portraits of a class at 50-something, I was gratified to receive a candid and generous response from Bob Schachter, who describes himself as "a family therapist, writer, teacher and speaker," resident in Tallahassee, Fla., with his wife, Margie, a nurse. I was amazed to learn that they got married when Bob was just a junior in 1963 — lived on Riverside Drive and had their first daughter, Carrie, now 31, at St. Luke’s. Since then, Bob has acquired an M.S. and Ph.D. in family relations from Florida State.

Bob and Margie have two large

Columbian Quarterly Today MARCH/APRIL 2008
families. The first includes — at last count — their two daughters (the second is Kristen, 28), four parents, a grandmother, four siblings, a son-in-law, four grandchildren, and numerous others, many living in northeast Ohio. “Having family close by is a great treasure,” Bob notes. He is expecting about 100 people at a family reunion this summer. Meanwhile, Bob describes their church community (the Good Shepherd Catholic Church) as a second family: “We live less than a mile away and have many close friends there.”

Bob’s work as a marriage and family therapist involves teaching locally as well as traveling widely, as far as Africa and South America. “I am also working on books and training manuals for the seminars I teach. Most recently I finished Sexual Healing and Redemption, which I will teach at the Theology of the Body Institute outside of Philadelphia. My relationship with God is a central part of my life, and most of my activities and relationships center around my desire for deeper intimacy with Him. In recent years, I have been invited to teach at seminars and with priests, especially in the areas of healing and sexual crisis. The crisis of the late 90’s certainly revealed the need for attention in this area. Despite the bad press, I am finding the great majority of priests and seminarians as very holy and healthy people who love God and genuinely serve people with a selfless love.”

Bob adds, “I am enjoying life at 52 even though my body is slowing down a bit. I was able to play recreational soccer and flag football until I needed to stop.”

He continues, “As you ask about reflections on getting older, I am seeing my life as fleeting — the days, weeks and years are flying by, and yet I feel at peace knowing that life is eternal and beyond death. I also want this life to matter, and I find much contentment in the day-to-day, seeing lives transformed, including marriages, families and individual hearts.”

Much of my personal journey has been one of facing my weaknesses but finding strength in God through them. I am content with myself, though that is challenged at times.” He concludes, “I feel very content with my work. I am grateful to have found the things that I love to do. I feel greatly blessed.”

I hope there are a lot more classmates willing to share their life experience and reflections; I know that a lot of us would be interested in reading them.

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Paul Pavlica jdp2113@columbia.edu 212-870-2769 DEVELOPMENT Marilyn Mullins mhm2511@columbia.edu 212-870-3453 Matthew Nemerson 35 Huntington St. New Haven, CT 06511 mnemerson@stet.net

As we head closer to the 30th reunion, we are looking forward to hearing from as many of you as possible. Reunion will be held Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, and will include class dinners, a Chelsea art gallery “crawl” and — on the campus — mini-Core courses and an evening Starlight Reception. And of course, seeing old classmates should be fun. I hope you have been following the interesting stories about the successful approval process that Columbia went through for the new campus north of 125th Street. It is hard not to think about the disastrous results of different but related efforts 40 and 30 years ago. Just as the results of the Morganside Park gym debacle indirectly defined much of our time on campus (which began just six years later), one has to imagine that designing, funding, building and then using the new Columbia campuses will somehow define our relationship with alma mater — as concerns fundraising certainly — for the rest of our lives.

Merrill Weber receives a big mazel tov for his recent wedding to Dr. Robin Chichele during New Year’s in Oak Park, Ill. The threat of bad weather made it impossible for your humble scribe to join in the festivities, but we hope to have a picture of any Columbia attendees for a later column.

We asked people to send in their thoughts about the new year and the impending 30th...

Don Guttenplan: “My unsensual Thanksgiving thought is that I am endlessly grateful for the way Columbia took this barefoot Tennessee boy and turned him into ... a New Yorker. My resolution for this year, as in the past few years, is to spend more time with friends.”

Brian Fitzpatrick: “The one thing I would like to see in reunion comments is a remembrance of my old classmate, teammate, fraternity brother and friend, Bob Murach, who died on 9-11. He was a genuinely great guy who loved a good time. He also was an outstanding competitor who was captain of our track team. Hanging out with Bob again would have been a great reason to attend the reunion. Unfortunately, that opportunity is gone, forever. Perhaps that is a good reason for a New Year’s resolution. Take the opportunity or make the effort to rekindle your friendships while you can.”

David Beazer: “For 2008, I’ve resolved to make more time for my talents and focus less on my skills. Kind of a ‘use it or lose it before it’s too late’ defining moment. The first Baby Boomer has already applied for Social Security, so no time to waste.”

“I’m looking forward to seeing classmates with whom I’m in touch but whom I rarely see. Instant messages, text messages, listservs and e-mail keep us in the loop, but it’s the face-time that’s kept us bonded since our school days.”

“I recently attended a Roman Catholic Mass celebrating the 25th anniversary of John Ranieri’s ordination into the priesthood. We saw each other a lot during the four years but in the 26 years since then, when we meet it’s always noteworthy: for birthdays, holidays, family celebrations and tragedies, milestone events and the occasional dinner. And we always pick up right where we left off.”

David Margules: “Things sure have changed. On New Year’s Eve, I watched a South Park marathon on TV, turned the light off at 11 and got some needed rest. But right now I’m at my desk listening to the same music I listened to in college and trying to figure out where all those years went. I spoke to Rob Aldisert a week or so ago, and he promised to let me buy him a drink or two at the reunion. You get at least one as well. I have lots for which to be thankful: a great family with four wonderful sons, a terrific career, good friends and good health. My resolution has been pretty much the same these last 30 years — to try to leave this place a bit better than I found it. I guess I’ll all have to figure out whether I succeeded sometime when you write my eulogy (not too soon, I hope).”

Chuck Callan: “Having recently been transported into being the class notes rep for my business school class (HBS ’82), I am newly sensitized to your continual requests for information! I think Yogi expressed the thought in general when he said, ‘If you don’t go to their funeral, they won’t go to yours.’ Anyway ...”

“I recently joined several classmates on an organizing committee for the 30th reunion. Preliminary ideas are for an exciting weekend consisting of wine tasting, entertainment and stimulating interaction. It’s only taken us 30 years to figure out how to have the ‘Big 3’ (College, Barnard and Engineering) at the same time, now if we can all manage only to stay awake ...”

Mitch Halpern, who has added strategic value to companies on both the right and left coasts with his unique combination of good humor and wide-ranging intellectual interests, is back east as v.p., strategy and business development, for Strategic Polymer Sciences in Harrisburg, Pa.

“We are a startup company focused on a revolutionary electroactive polymer technology developed at Penn State. Our major task will be to build a company by acting as a link between the technology and business communities and by focusing the market entry and product development strategies of the company,” Mitch reports.

And finally, very good news from my family. Daughter No. 1, Elana (17), has been admitted to Clark early decision. So the goal of having a child in a school that begins with C and ends with University has been achieved. Keep those cards and letters coming and book your flights for NYC for the end of May.

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This column mourns the loss of one of our own. Albert A. Byer passed away on December 20. [See Obituaries.]

Gabriel Bustamante and his partner recently opened a real estate office, The Michael Nicola Group, in Santa Fe, N.M.

Last we heard from Eliot Goldman, he was on a NATO and Partnership for Peace training mission in Macedonia. “I am no doubt one of the luckiest people in the Army Reserve ...” he said. Eliot recently was promoted to lieutenant colonel.

Evan A. Brothwaite is a board-certified internist practicing in Brooklyn. “I’m still living in the brownstone that I inherited from my grandparents,” he notes.

“Forget our generation ... our kids are ready to replace us” is the prediction given by Robert B. Darnell, who proudly reports, “My daughter recently one-upped my science career by winning sec-
ond place in the finals of the National Siemens (formerly Westinghouse) Science Competition! We are all very proud of her, and with her luck with her current ambition to combine science and journalism.

For the record, this site describes the finalists and finalists: http://mapdigital.com/events/siemens/sc07 and this site has brief description of the finalists’ projects’ www.siemens-foundation.org/en.

Glen D. Savits is an attorney with Green Savits & Lenzo in Morristown, N.J. The firm focuses almost exclusively on plaintiff employment litigation. Glen is an executive board member of the National Employment Lawyers Association.

Glen has four children and two stepchildren. His son, Reuben, graduated from the Journalism School last May. Glen is happy to announce that his daughter, Juliet, has been accepted early decision for the Class of 2012. Congratulations, Glen! Congratulations also are in order for Harlan T. Greeneman, whose daughter, Catherine, has been accepted early decision for the Class of 2012.

Recently my memory was jogged by Thomas E. Costigan Jr., who had the room next to mine during senior year. Apparently, one Saturday morning, Tom left his room very early to attend band practice before the football game but forgot to turn off his alarm.

Tom reminds me, “When it went off, you crawled out the window into my room to turn off the alarm, but your window closed behind you and you were therefore stuck in my room in that you did not have a key to get back into your room and to make matters worse, you were without adequate clothing. You had to wait until some male came down the hall to go get the R.A. with the master key and then explain what you were doing in someone else’s room. We laugh now; you were not too pleased with the back then.”

Thanks for the memory, Tom. It’s nice remembering myself half-baked in your room.

Robert C. Klapper: One of the most interesting results from writing this column these last four years is the number of people who have contacted me from years other than the Class of ’79, telling me how much you have enjoyed the column. A most recent conversation I had was with Aaron Wahrman ’80, chief of plastic surgery at the Pennsylvania Hospital. He informed me of his passion for collecting rare classical books. The eclectic interests that each of us has is what I believe makes us so special. In this light, on April 17, I will give a lecture at UCLA, “Michaelangelo’s Sculptures: An Orthopedic Surgeon’s Analysis.” The talk is about how he manipulated anatomy in his sculptures after the Sistine Chapel.

By the way, I did sell my art gallery and the building in exchange for a home in Honolulu. Keep making your dreams come true, too!

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I want to congratulate all of our classmates on attaining the half-century mark. Happy 50th birthday to me! I reflect on the past 50 years; I have no regrets; I have some great memories and stories and I realize that I still have a lot to learn.

Frank Connolly was appointed a judge on the Minnesota Court of Appeals on January 16 by Governor Tim Pawlenty (R). “Judge Connolly brings a strong academic background and significant civil law experience, both as a lawyer and trial court judge,” Pawlenty said. “His background and professional experience will serve him well as an appellate court judge.”

Frank lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Meg, and their children, Thomas, Robert and Marguerite.

Marc Ripp’s daughter, Brandi, has been accepted by the College via early decision to the College of the Class of 2012. Brandi, a senior at Millburn (N.J.) H.S., will follow in her father and grandfather’s (Joseph ’48) legacy. Marc is the in-house lawyer for Mack-Cali Realty Corp. He lives in Short Hills, N.J., with his wife, Shari, and their two daughters.

Good news from the Gillespies in Kansas. Scott Gillespie’s daughter, Michelle, was crowned Miss Kansas 2008. Michelle, a senior at SMU, was a final-time entrant who impressed the judges during the interview phase, where [she spoke about how] she thought it was a bad idea to allow Iranian President Ahmadinejad to speak on college campuses. Good luck at the Miss USA pageant in April!

Van Gothen married Elizabeth Davidson on campus at St. Paul’s Chapel in November. Our best wishes to you both.

Congratulations to Dave Steiner and his family on the birth of Adam.

Thomas McNamara, D.O., MMM, CPE is CEO/v.p., Carolin Stonewall Jackson Hospital, McAkeesport, Pa. Thomas has been actively involved in his practice of primary care medicine. He received his certification in medical management from the American College of Physician Executives in 2004 and his master’s in medical management from the John J. Heinz III School of Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon in 2006. Drop me a line. I would like to hear from you!

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And so it has come to this, a few pity submissions fueled largely by the accomplishments of our children. Come now, gentlemen, have you no pride? Are you content to let others steal the considerable spotlight that comes with seeing your name in boldface in CCT Class Notes? Or is this paucity of updates more a failure of the imagination, as somebody once said? Glory awaits, me buckos! Submit like you’ve never submitted.

As for me, the biggest news in Pundyk-central comes from a 17-year-old. Our daughter, Phoebe, was accepted early decision to Skidmore College. Skidmore is conveniently located in Saratoga Springs, home of the famous race track, which will be competing with the Skidmore bursar’s office for my tuition money.

In other offshore news, here’s proof that Columbia does not hold a candle to the other generation of Blims and Tamkins soon will be running around Morningside Heights. I have it on good authority that Joanie Blims and Emily Tamkin, both of whom were accepted early decision to the College, have the benefit of wonderful mothers to offset the influence of their notorious fathers, Kevin Blims and Dan Tamkin.

Joanie, a heavily recruited soccer player, will play for Columbia. Emily’s finally succumbed to the music bug. Another generation of Blims and Tamkins will soon be seen on the world stage of musical theater. Congratulations to Joanie and Emily.

Howard Katz checks in from New York, NY: “I finally got married last August — my wife’s name is Maya Itz.” (That Hemingway class must have made a big impression on Adrian.)

This just in… Paul G. Fein- man isn’t just acting supreme anymore. He writes: “I was elected a justice of the New York State Supreme Court from the First Judicial District. (Of course, Manhattan is the first Judicial District! The outcome was never in doubt, since I was unopposed. The hard part was securing the nomination of the Democratic party at the judicial nominating convention in September when there were numerous other sitting judges vying for the nomination. Lest anyone be confused, the Supreme Court is New York’s highest trial court, not its high appellate court. Most states call it Superior Court. I was previously elected to the Civil Court in Manhattan in 1996 and 2006 and having been already sitting as an acting Supreme Court justice by virtue of the chief administrative judge since January 2004, but now it’s an official promotion by the voters.”

And finally, Gil Pimentel, who started with us a freshman, left after sophomore year, took two years off and then graduated from an obscure Ivy institution in Cambridge, Mass., in 1984, is finally ready to beg for our forgiveness: “I lost touch with most of my Columbia friends, though I recently reconnected with David Tseng ’80. Gil wastes what’s become of my old comrades on 7 Carman (freshman year), 13 Jay (sophomore year), WKCR and Claude Frohwirth’s French class. I’d love to get back in touch with my old friends. I live in Washington, D.C., and work for National Geographic, and can be reached at gpimentel@msn.com.”

For another chance at the kind of recognition that can only come via Class Notes, send tales of triumph great and small, past and present, to jpundyk@yahoo.com.
Greetings, gentlemen. As I sit down to write this edition's notes, I feel the need to offer some solace. While it is true that the economy is slowing down, the future is not as bleak as the news might lead one to believe. The "rosy fingertips of dawn" will ultimately usher in happier times, and I remain optimistic about the future.

Stan Kaplan. During the past six years, Stan has been a real trouper; as a volunteer for the College, he estimates that he's interviewed 80-100 College applicants. On behalf of the class, thank you, Stan.

Nicholas Paone '83 is a litigation attorney with White &Filedshner & Fino in lower Manhattan and specializes in insurance coverage litigation.

work, including the International Health Regulations (2005) and the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Prior to his position at WHO, Steve served as the State Department, Office of the Legal Adviser, and as the Deputy Legal Adviser at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva. In those capacities, he handled international humanitarian law matters, including issues related to detention and military commissions. He resides in Geneva, Switzerland, with his wife, Michele Klein, and their children, Tess, Eliza and Drew.

Great job, Steve! I thought I should mention, however, that I managed to talk a Jersey City cop out of a moving violation a few weeks back, so if you need some assistance with your next publication, I'm available to guide you. Keep those e-mails coming.

Cheers, Andy

Nicholas Paone is a litigation attorney with White &Filedshner & Fino in lower Manhattan and specializes in insurance coverage litigation.

was a key factor for me in reaching this conclusion: Because I am a Sabbath observer, I could not play in Columbia University's Marching Band at football games. I did play clarinet for Columbia's Wind Ensemble, and I played saxophone at some basketball games, but since all regularly scheduled college football games are on Saturdays, my religious observance prevented me from experiencing this crucial part of college life. Perhaps what truly affected me was the fact that a large portion of the marching band was composed of Jew students. I eventually came to believe that a trade-off needed to take place in order for a Jew to really experience America. Though, thankfully, America is a country that allows for complete religious freedom, I came to believe that traditional observance of Jewish customs is incompatible with full participation in American society.

Teddy's oldest two (of five) children are doing their compulsory military service: Nathan (19) is in his second year in Israel's Air Force, and Rebecca (18) was draft ed on November 14 with special status as one of Israel's outstanding athletes (basketball).

Andrew Gershon was kind enough to host a well-attended pre-reunion gathering at his home. Thomas Bow (18) is v.p. of the Durst Organization and lives in Darien, Conn.

Steven Casey works for New Harbor.

Ted Kesler is a professor at Queens College Division of Education and Literacy for Specialists. He was inspired by his former Columbia professor, Sacvan Bercovitch, who taught romantic literature. Ted's wife, Judy, is a principal. She plays the violin and loves working in the city system. They have three children, Korina (6) and Daniel (4).

Nicholas Paone is a litigation attorney with White &Filedshner & Fino in lower Manhattan. He specializes in insurance coverage litigation. Nicholas lives with his wife, Kerry, an artist, in Westfield, N.J. They have two children, Abigail (11) and Lillian (6). Albert Lee and Robert Jansone were best men at Nick's wedding. He is in contact with Mike Falate, a friend from high school.

Ed Harris '82 lives in Manhattan with his wife of 15 years, Sloane. They have two children, Sam (9) and Lanni (5). Ed specializes in carbon footprint reduction work, helping companies go green.

Adam Bayroff was named partner of the law firm Seltzer.
Sussman Habermann Heitner & Bayoff. He specializes in real estate law.

Jon Root: “My new daughter, Cornelia Antoinette Churchill, arrived on December 19. She was a healthy 6 lbs., 14 oz. My wife, Debra, and the baby are doing great. Dakota, Hudson and Remington are in love with their beautiful new sister.”

Frank Messina is a physician at Indiana University Medical Center specializing in emergency medicine. He is married to Robin Reagan. They have two children, Juliana (7) and Nicholas (9).

Michael Schmidberger ’82 is a partner at Sidney & Austin. His team was named tops in serving hedge funds by Institutional Investor for the second straight year.

Our 25th reunion is fast approaching. We had more than 100 classmates attend our 20th reunion. Bruce Ahlstrom, Martin Avallone, Andy Barth, Adam Bayoff, Ronalil Blum, George Bogdan, Gerald Brandt, March Brauchli, Stephen Brewor, Bradley Brown, Gerrard Bushell, Michael Cataldo, Kevin Chapman, Nathaniel Christian, Steven Coleman, David Coplan, Robert Davis, Daniel Dean, Robert Drew, Eric Epstein, Carl Faller, Dan Ferreira, Brandon Fradd, Drew, Eric Epstein, Carl Faller, Dan Ferreira, Brandon Fradd, Drew, Eric, Carl, and my new granddaughter, Juliana (7) and Nicholas (9).

Congratulations to Jimmy R. Carlberg, who recently was named a managing director at Goldman Sachs.

Robert Zecker, band saxophonist extraordinare, recently announced the publication of his book, Metropolis: The American City in Popular Culture.

Crew gods James Weinstein, Karl (Schmuck) Piirimae and Karl-Ludwig Selig to a permanent representative of the Organization of American States (with the rank of ambassador). Congratulations to Hector!

The accolades continue for our class, as Robert John (RJ) Matson ’85, political cartoonist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, took two spots in Time magazine’s Top 10 cartoons of 2007, including first place.

Submit Your Photo!

CCT is happy to run high-quality photos of alumni gatherings, weddings and other important occasions. Wedding photos should include a minimum of two Columbia graduates; the more alumni, the better. Photos may be print or digital (minimum 300 dpi .jpg). Please include the name of the event, date, location, full names and class years of everyone pictured and photographer credit.

Send photo and caption information to Class Notes Editor, Columbia College Today, 475 Riverside Dr., Suite 917, New York, NY 10115-0998 or cct@columbia.edu.
Scott Weber sent in a nice update: “I recently became board certified in civil trial law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Out of all the lawyers in Texas, there are fewer than 200 who have this board certification. I practice in matters involving contested probate and fiduciary litigation. It’s a niche area of the law, and as long as there are dysfunctional families with money, then I have job security. My daughter is 16, a junior in high school, recently started driving (which is very scary in and of itself) and is looking at colleges. She’s even looking at Columbia; although perhaps just to humor me. My son is 11, in sixth grade and plays baseball whenever and wherever he can. My wife teaches in the business school at Southern Methodist University. Our big news is that we recently built a house on 85 acres we own northwest of Dallas in Montague County, Texas. It’s a great place to get away on the weekends and enjoy the peace and quiet. We have deer, turkeys, wild pigs, bobcats and the coyote that walked by our dining room window one day. While we’re not sure, we don’t think that any Acme products were involved—beep, beep!”

Rick Wolf made a major move in 07 when he left JP Morgan to become a founding principal in MetrolPartners, a real estate development and property management company based in Yonkers, N.Y. Its focus is on building and managing “community-friendly” properties in urban areas. “On a related front, I am pleased to report the opening of 66 Main, a MetrolPartners’ commercial/residential project in the downtown waterfront district of Yonkers (www.66main.com). This is a very exciting time for us, as we participate in the commercial and residential revitalization of what was once a largely industrial area. With great vistas of the Sound, a 22-minute commute to Grand Central and acclaimed restaurants, Yonkers is beginning to realize its promise. 66 Main will be a signature building in the area because of its aesthetics (in my unbiased opinion) and because of its use of green technology, including geothermal HVAC. We also have retained LifeAt to create a social networking hub for the 66 Main community. Metro92, our other Yonkers project, is fully leased. We hope to begin construction of a third phase this spring.”

Macky Alston ’87’s new documentary, **Hard Road Home**, had its broadcast television premiere on PBS as part of its Independent Lens series.

Michael Maschio is a novelist and recently completed Sarah Buro. His other books include **Roberto Lombardi, The Trespassers, The Mirror, Joseph De Angelo, The Flag, Trilogy and Dust of Life**. Those interested can read excerpts at www.geocities.com/michaelmaschio. Michael lives at the top of Central Park and often visits Columbia. He’s in touch with Ted Cleary, who is writing, teaching and living on West 131st Street.

J.D. Scrimgeour is a full professor at Salem State College in Massachusetts, where he runs the creative writing program. He and his wife, Eileen, have Aidan (12) and Guthrie (9). His most recent book, **Themes For English B: A Professor’s Education In and Out of Class**, is a collection of personal essays, including some on life at Columbia.

**Sarah A. Kass** PO Box 300808 Brooklyn, NY 11230 sarahakassUK@gmail.com

Our Class of ‘87 online social and networking communities are growing every day on Facebook.com and LinkedIn.com. If you have not yet signed up for one or both (Facebook is more social and fun, LinkedIn is more professional and business-focused), please do. You will be amazed when you start seeing how many people you reconnect with once you sign on, from Columbia, as well as from other parts of your life. And yes, it’s true: my name is Sarah and I am addicted to Facebook and LinkedIn. There — I’ve taken the first step.

Your first step is to sign up. Or e-mail me and I will help get you connected to the Columbia group. In other news, Carlo Rosen is the program director for the emergency medicine residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, as well as one of the associate editors for the Journal of Emergency Medicine. He and his wife, Cathy, welcomed their second child, Sam, on October 3; he joins Sofia (3).

Magaly Colimon married Calvin A. Christopher on October 27 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. Magaly wrote, “I am excited to announce that I have a new family — including Calvin’s lovely daughter, Neisha (13). Our wedding was a blast. Laughter, blessings, music, dancing and more food than anyone could consume. My former roommate, Hunter Rudder ‘88, attended with his husband, John Reed, as well as a number of our family and friends.”

John Andy and his family — including three children, two dogs and four cars — moved back to New York after 17 years in Los Angeles. The Andy family has settled in Chappaqua, which should give them enough space for the kids, dogs and cars — at least more than a Manhattan apartment could provide.

Macky Alston’s new documentary, **Hard Road Home**, about an ex-con who started a program in Harlem dedicated to helping other ex-cons break the cycle of getting out of jail, only to find themselves back in jail for something else, had its broadcast television premiere on PBS in late February as part of PBS’s Independent Lens series. For more information, see www.mackyalston.com.

And last but absolutely not least, from my old stomping grounds across the pond, James Hammond has added another child, George, to his family, born last July in London. James saw Colin Redhead ‘85 with his kids during Henley, James noted: “He’s still looks like he’d be an asset to the crew, more than I can say for myself. I touched base with Greg Viscusi ‘85, who is in Paris, and hopefully will cross paths with him there soon, as also with Philippe Danielski ‘84, also in Paris. And I had a drink with Adam Foster ‘85, a connection I had let lapse for more than 20 years.”

Aaron Stern reports, “A lot has happened since I graduated, so let me stick with the recent past to avoid writing a novel. I graduated with my Ph.D. in political science from the University of Michigan in 2006. As I dug into writing my dissertation, I decided after much soul-searching that I needed a nonacademic career. So I am now a foreign service officer at the U.S. Agency for International Development. I would happily attend reunion but I will be heading with my family to the Philippines in March to work at the USAID Mission in Manila for at least two years. As regards the family, I married my wonderful wife, Anchalee, 11 years ago and we live in Arlington, Va., with our daughters, Anya (6) and Arin (4). My wife, Anya Bernstein ’90 Barnard, remembers working with Aaron on Amnesty International — we’re pretty sure his daughter is named after someone else, though.

I also heard from Rob Levine, who’s made a successful career in film and television, in, where else, Los Angeles. Rob writes, “I started as a script reader at New Line Cinema and recently finished a 14-year stint at Universal Studios working for Dick Wolf (producer of the Law & Order franchises) and running actor Peter Falk’s (Columbo, The In-Laws) production company. I struck out on my own this year and formed Grateful Films (www.gratefulfilms.com), an independent feature film production company specializing in high-quality genre films in the $10 million-and-under range using private equity funding. We have about a dozen projects in development at the moment and hope to get our first film on track once the Writers Guild of America strike is settled. I have also been involved with Coastal Recycling Centers (www.coastalrecyclingcenters.com) in setting up a program, Donate Waste, which is an e-waste collection and recycling program that donates portions of the recycling proceeds to charities.”
“I live in Encino, Calif., with my wonderful wife, Leah, who runs her own photo rep agency, and our beautiful 8-year-old daughter, Brooke. As far as the reunion goes, I will try my best. Things are a bit unpredictable for me at the moment (with the strike), so it will probably be a game-time decision. I would, of course, love to hear from any long-lost classmates.”

I checked out the Grateful Films Web site, and I’m really looking forward to seeing some of these projects. And Rob told me that Falk is a smart, interesting guy, and, like Rob, a “die-hard Knicks fan.” Seems to me that’s redundant these days — but what do I know, I live in Boston.

And finally, I got a lengthy e-mail from old and dear friend Tim Merello. Tim’s name was mentioned in this space recently, and he finally rose to the bait and got in touch. It was great, we talked on the phone and got caught up. I had thought of serializing his e-mail, like a Dickens novel, but thought better of it. I present here an edited, compressed, Bowdlerized version of Tim’s life since 1997.

“Since Thanksgiving of ’97, I have been living in Chicago. For the first several years, I helped a friend run his home furnishing and futon store. I did keep up my writerly life on the side. I finished publishing my ‘zine, the Rumor, and started to focus on poetry. Right before leaving St. Louis I had one of my poems chosen to appear on the buses and trains as part of the Arts-in-Transit arm of the city’s transportation system. Having seen poems up on Chicago and New York trains in the early ’90s, I said to myself that one day I want one of my poems up there. To celebrate I threw a party that started on the train where I gave impromptu readings throughout the short ride. Just fun and crazy.

“Well, back to Chicago and the late ’90s. I was a DJ at a local bar for a while, which was a great way of having big parties without having to clean the house, and I have a regular gig as a rock critic for a Web site, PopMatters. I file concert reviews of rock ‘n’ roll shows. The year 2003 also found my return to the life of a landscaper. Every spring, I kept feeling the call of nature. Something stirred in my blood, and I needed to be back outside digging holes, planting trees, playing in mulch and compost, designing gardens and beautifying the landscape. I have since started my own business. I am calling it Merello-Sons Landscaping in honor of the busi-
As I write this, we’re in the midst of a brutal winter in the Northeast — but the upside of all the snow is great downhill skiing. My husband, Dave Terry ’90, and I and our children, Julia (9), Henry (7) and Miles (1), are heading to New Hampshire this weekend with Greg Watt, his wife, Melissa MacDonald, and their sons, Elijah (3) and Charlie (1) for skiing and ice skating. They generously invited us to stay at their family’s lodge, which is fun for all of us — great food and conversation, if we manage to outlast our kids in the evening. Greg recently left his position at Magellan Health for a team leader for Blue Cross Blue Shield. Melissa is a landscape architect in Boston.

I received a terrific note from TuLynn Smylie, who attended the wedding of John Liu and Stephanie Kemper on December 3 at the Tribeca Hotel in NYC. TuLynn writes, “It was a fun wedding, and Franklin Wong and Dave Kooby were in attendance (Steve and Franklin were ushers), as was Steve’s wife, Joy (Kim) Metalios ’90E. There was great food and a lot of dancing (though not by me, I was unused to being unemployed). John’s sister, actress Lucy Liu, was there, and she gave a cute speech. After returning from their honeymoon in Anguilla, John went back to being one of NYC’s finest, and his bride is doing her medical residency.

Steve, Joy and their three kids are doing well. Anita is married and expecting her first child — due any day now. Dave and his wife, Liz, are doing well and live in Atlanta with their two children. Franklin is the head cardiologist at Cornell Medical Center.”

TuLynn also shared the exciting news that she has a beautiful new baby, 9-month-old Elena Grace, born last June. TuLynn says that Elena’s brother, Kieran (2), finally is settling into the idea of having a sibling, and both are healthy and happy. TuLynn has returned to her work as the executive director of WomenShelter of Long Beach, an agency serving survivors and victims of domestic violence and their children, of which she writes, “It is a great job, but with long hours.”

I received some awesome holiday cards from classmates. The most amusing was Jonathan Sturt’s, which begins, “This time last year we were in Colorado — unemployed, driving in a snow storm and heading back to NYC. Not surprisingly a lot has happened in the last 12 months: We have relocated to Azerbaijan, Cassie has a new job, Jonathan has a job (!) and as usual we have traveled a fair bit. Although Jonathan is a seasoned pro, Cassie was unused to being unemployed so we spent the first three months of the year letting her get used to it by relaxing, traveling and enjoying ourselves. We spent January in Costa Rica hanging out on the beach, surfing (Jonathan learning and Cassie polishing her skills), exploring the region and learning to kite board. It is never a good idea to start a new job looking too tanned and relaxed so we headed down and faded our suntans with a snowboarding trip to Canada and some time in NYC before starting the new job and relocating to Azerbaijan in March. You may need to pull out your atlas to figure out where that is.”

Jonathan is working at the oil company BP.

The most political holiday message was Russell Globber’s letter to “Santa.” In his holiday letter, Russell is true to his Columbia roots by not only beseeching us to participate in our political process (particularly the Presidential primaries) but also by voicing his strong support of Barack Obama ’83. About Obama Russell writes, “How wonderful...would it be for the U.S. to have a handsome (and charismatic and well spoken) face to represent us to the rest of the world?”

And the cutest holiday card was a picture of a gorgeous, smiling Sophia, daughter of Amy Weinreich Rinzler and her husband, Bradley.

I connected with Jon Dwyer, whom I hadn’t seen since Corinne and Rob Rooney’s wedding in France in 1998. Jon and his adorable wife, Liz, have relocated in San Diego with their children — Collette, (5), Lillian (4), Calum (3), Penelope (1) and Quinn (3 months). Jon called me one very early morning — with five kids I think he never sleeps — full of hilarious stories about the fun he has with many of our classmates on the West Coast. Most recently, he attended a San Diego Chargers game with Duane Bartsch, Sam Dimaggio ’89E and Matt SoId ’88. “All I did was laugh,” shares Jon, who swears
Michael Dwork ’00 Makes Plates from Fallen Leaves

By Alia Malek ’06J

Diving down a dirt road in rural India in summer 2006, Michael Dwork ’00/07 Business spied something that would immediately change his life. There, by the side of the road, an impoverished woman sat pressing leaves soaked in water in what looked like a crude waffle iron. From its metallic jaws she pulled what appeared to be plates, on which she served the food she was selling.

Dwork asked his coworker, a local, what the woman was making, and he answered, “garbage.” When Dwork offered to purchase a plate, his colleague told him to “just take it.” In the end, Dwork paid a fraction of a rupee and came away with a few of the leaf plates.

The practical innovation, born from poverty, sparked Dwork’s entrepreneurial and capitalist imagination. “I just fell in love with them,” he says.

Plates made from nothing but leaves and steam that are then completely compostable fell in love with them,“ he says. Dwork snuck away for lucrative offers from investment banks, hedge funds and the like, Dwork snuck away every month to India to supervise his business, unbeknownst to his family. He hadn’t told them — not because he was afraid they would be unsupportive, but in case they were too supportive.

“The great thing about America is everyone supports an entrepreneur, almost to a fault,” explains Dwork. “It derails lots of people who shouldn’t be entrepreneurs into becoming one.”

But by the time Dwork was ready to graduate, he got the kind of objective validation he could bank on. He took second prize, worth $100,000, in the Draper Fisher Jurvetson East Coast Venture Challenge and won the outrageous business plan competition at B-School.

“Almost any M.B.A. student from Columbia is bright and driven,” says Thatcher Bell, an associate at DFJ Gotham. “But an entrepreneur stands apart from most M.B.A. students; it’s an unusual type of person in the world. Michael was able to exhibit in a half-hour pitch that he was that type of person.”

Dwork’s new company, VerTerra (true to the Earth), was not even the first one he’d launched. After graduating from the College with a major in economics, and after working for three years in NYC in various financial roles, the lifetime New Yorker had moved to China. At Nanjing University, he studied Chinese as a full-time student for a year-and-a-half and took odd jobs such as running a bar and working for a German auto parts company to perfect his colloquial skills. In his spare time in China, Dwork started a business that offered translation and negotiation services for foreign companies. He sold it after matriculating to the B-School.

Since graduating last May, Dwork has thrown himself fully into launching VerTerra. The plates are currently selling to caterers and event planners; a pack of 12 medium-size plates goes for $5 through VerTerra.com (718-383-3333). Dwork recently completed his A-round of fundraising, which benefited greatly from his Columbia network; all investors are CC or B-School classmates.

Dwork continues to benefit from the Columbia campus. Even now that his offices are in Long Island City, he often chooses instead to go to the familiar and preferred rooms of Butler Library to work.

“It’s a strange thing to do,” he admits, “but sometimes going back to where you felt comfortable is important — it grounds you.”

Alia Malek ’06J is working on her first book, forthcoming in 2009 from Free Press, an imprint of Simon & Schuster. She is based in New York City.
rather low-key with golf, dinners and gaming. We did have a blast, as it was great to see everyone. We had a mixed group that covered a couple of classes — Bob Ozello, Matt Engels, Bob Giannini, Dan Loflin, Duane Bartsch, Jon Dwyer, Paul Childers, me, Matt Sodl ’88 and Will Knight ’90.” Thanks again for the mail!

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Gail Javitt, who lives in Maryland, has released her first CD, a compilation of music from the Jewish ceremony of Havdalah. The collection contains melodies both ancient and modern, original and traditional, in Hebrew, English, Yiddish and Ladino. It can be purchased at www.cdbaby.com/gailjavitt.

I hope everyone is enjoying life, doing a lot of rewarding things and planning to e-mail me about them.

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Perhaps there is an “Obama” in the making amongst us. I received a copy of a Daily News article (December 28) about Melissa Mark-Viverito. Melissa made history in November 2005 by becoming the first Puerto Rican woman and Latina elected to serve District 8 on the City Council. Her diverse district includes East Harlem, West Harlem and the South Bronx. The article was about her co-sponsorship of the “first bill in the New York City Council to make it illegal for landlords to harass tenants. The bill allows tenants to sue landlords in housing court and also establishes fines of up to $5,000 for landlord violations ... ‘People seem to believe that if you have money, then your voice means more,’ she says. ‘That is not acceptable. If someone doesn’t have heat or water, they have rights. I will work with the community so they know their rights and they know how to fight for them.’”

Good luck to Melissa as she continues in her political career.

Another social activist in our midst is Bonnie Rosenberg, who sent an invitation to a breakfast seminar, “Difficult Conversations: Talking to Your Parents About Aging.” Bonnie is a trustee of JASA, a large social service agency dedicated to sustaining and enriching the lives of the aging in the New York metro area so they can remain in the community with dignity and autonomy.

I was glad to get a photo and update from Heather Brownlie. She writes that while at her mother’s home during Thanksgiving 2007 she came across a photograph from freshman year of herself with Darin Krugtenbring, Adam Keene, Elizabeth Schumann and Bob Kolker.

“My news is that I just passed my AICP certification examination for the American Institute of Certified Planners. Although I am a lawyer admitted to practice in three states, I work as a transportation planner working on roadway projects and love what I do.”

Heather graduated from New York Law School. She says “hello” to all her Carman 8 floormates and 93

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Well, this was bound to happen sooner or later in 15-plus years of writing lengthy class columns. Despite the passage of several months, a number of well-placed e-mails and even some good-old-fashioned detective work, my “well” of news on all of you ran all but completely dry for this column. In fact, were it not for a chance to sit with Ty Buckelew ’94 at a recent Lions home basketball event at our 15-year reunion, from the first Fumald Pub to the last Tom’s breakfast.

Jeff Kelly writes that he finally took the plunge and started his own law firm with a specialization in consumer bankruptcy. He lives with his wife in Rome, Ga., along with their children, Katie (8), James (5) and Karissa (3).

Although he admits his running career has come to an end, this was the first year in a long time that he missed the Peachtree Road Race. Jeff also writes that Wil Wilbar ’93E recently relocated to Singapore, where he landed a job as a patent attorney for the government.

Matt DeFilippis lives on Long Island with his wife, Michele, an artist (painter) and 14-month-old daughter, Sophia. Matt is v.p. of new media and technology for ASCAP, the music-licensing organization. As a member of the Reunion Committee, Matt is looking forward to our events this spring and is “recruiting fellow classmates (and my Beta brothers) with whom I am in contact, including Matt Murphy ’89E for an investment firm and living in NYC; Brian Shaklee — architect for the Navy and living in Southern Maryland; Miguel Javier
caught up with him at a wine tasting in New York in January.
Dan loves his job, where he gets to taste more wine before 9 a.m. than most people do all year, he jokes. "The 2007 wines are spectacular and need next to little attention, or winemaker's alchemy, to develop them," Dan notes. Read more about the wine at www.larkmead.com.

And an update from the Miami area. A few issues ago, I mentioned that former East Campus suitemates Mark Kravitz and Jen (Ross) Gleeck had caught up in South Florida, and their kids are playmates. Now they have a new addition to their playgroup. [See photo.] Rabbi Jon Berkun and his wife, Lauren, moved to Florida from Michigan with their boys, Jeremy and Jonah. Jon is the rabbi at the Aventura Turnberry Jewish Center. Jen's wife is also a rabbi, and she works for the Shalom Hartman Institute of Jerusalem and teaches for the Florence Melton adult mini-school. Read more about Jon's work at www.atg.org/seniorclergy.htm.

Thanks for the updates, and please keep the news coming.

## 96

### Ana S. Salper

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Classmates,

A sad day has come. I have no news to report! Where are you? Please send in more news — make our class proud. I miss you.

## 97

### Sarah Katz

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Rushika Conroy and her husband, Dan, had their first baby, a boy, Nevin Charles, on July 31.

Rushika writes: "He is an absolute joy and we are so happy to have him in our lives. We had him baptized in November and a bunch of Columbia alums were there — Matt Wang, Marco Capasso, Zaharah Markoe and Naomi deSilva-Rothenberg '97 Barnard, among others." Rushika is finishing her chief residency in pediatrics at Schneider Children's Hospital in Long Island and will start a fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at Columbia by July.

Amrit Nagpal and his wife, Ritu, enjoy being the parents of Reyna (2 1/2) and Jay (10 months). They live in San Francisco and have a lot of fun. Amrit ran into Rick Stuart '96 while he was visiting friends and met up with Raji Kalra while she was in town with her family.

My first year roommate, Lainie Perlman, and her husband, Steve, welcomed twins, Harrison Mark and Jacob Braden, on August 20. Lainie writes: "They are keeping us very busy — and amaze us each day." Lainie and her family live in Washington, D.C. Director Ramin Bahrani '96's film Chop Shop, which Nick Bentley and Pradip Ghosh co-produced alongside Big Beach Films (Little Miss Sunshine), was finished last May and premiered at The Cannes Film Festival. It later screened at Toronto and Berlin and was released in late February, starting with a run at NYC's Film Forum.

After more than six years of serving as spokeswoman for Senator Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), Desiree Ramos has moved to The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey to work in the Office of the First Deputy Executive Director. Her office is near Union Square Park and she's excited to be back in NYC — and in such a great neighborhood — after a long stint of traveling the highways and byways of New Jersey.

Eric Wolf lives in Great Neck, N.Y., with his wife, Abby, and their 2-year-old son, Jake. Eric completed his fellowship in cornea and external disease at Columbia in June and is in private practice in ophthalmology in the Bronx as well as a clinical instructor in ophthalmology at Columbia.

Rachel Goldenberg has assumed the pulpit as the rabbi at the Reform synagogue of Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek in the rural Connecticut River Valley.

I had the pleasure of attending the beautiful and fabulous marriage of Matthew Morningstar and Alan Van Capelle on November 3 at Studio 450 in NYC. As announced in The New York Times, the ceremony was led by the couple's friends, Miki Moore and Karen Bertulli. Many Columbia

Desiree Ramos '97 works in the Office of the First Deputy Executive Director at The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey.

PHOTO: MARGARET SINGER

alumni were in attendance: Nomi Victor, Maggie Osdoby-Katz, Cindy Werner, Jessica Greenberg, Mark Doussard, Gabriella Carolini, Lil Cho, Leora Haner ’99 Barnard and her husband Graeme Trayner (the evening’s

I normally don’t like to mix class reporting with fundraising, but I believe passionately in this
one — if you haven’t considered including Columbia in your charitable giving for 2008, I encourage you to do so. Also, the Class Agent program is a great way to reconnect with classmates and get involved with the College. Please don’t hesitate to contact me or Dave regarding becoming a Class Agent or making a donation. I can be reached at jg528@columbia.edu and Dave can be reached at david.mattetti@yahoo.com.

Please stay in touch. Also, I enjoy reconnecting with classmates on Facebook so if you’ve joined that community please reach out to me — I’d love to hear from you.

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Ken Lantigua is with UBS Wealth Management and recently accepted a new product management role based out of Zurich. He moved there in late September, and so far, he is really enjoying the Swiss way of life. If anyone’s ever in the area, especially during ski season, please feel free to drop him a line: kenneth.lantigua@ubs.com.

Jeremy Rosenblum and Jessica Kaplan Rosenblum were married in Boston only five days after graduation. Their son, Nate, was born on March 30, 2006. Jeremy is in his second year of pediatrics residency at the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore and Jessica is graduating from Albert Einstein College of Medicine this spring.

Sarah Salestran is in Tucson, Ariz., where she recently graduated from medical school at the University of Arizona. She will be an intern in Cambridge, Mass., for one year before attending a radiology residency in Chicago. In Chicago, several months ago, she had the pleasure of being present for the birth of her niece. She also had the pleasure of surprise having as her sister’s ob/gyn intern Justin Lappen at Northwestern. In Cambridge, she will be lucky to have him near her. Greg is in law school at Harvard. If anyone is in Boston, please feel free to drop Sarah a line: spalestran@gmail.com.

Unfortunately, Sarah was not able to make it to our Alumni Reunion Weekend last year because she was in Tel Aviv, where she attended the wedding of Yael Sadan to Dudi Zack.

Trushna Jhaveri, who was recently married in India to her long-time German boyfriend, Robert Leitz, was in attendance. Trushna was married in January (the full-blown Indian wedding lasting a week) and had guests from all over the world — Germany, of course, but also France, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom as well as the United States, East and West coasts. Trushna is an international investment writer for Franklin Templeton Investments in London. In September, she and Robert traveled to New York and San Francisco, and in New York met with Divyijay Lamba ’02E and Salil Shah ’97. Trushna also has met with Columbia alumni in London through events organized by the Columbia University Club of London. If anyone is in London, please do get in touch with her: trushnaj@yahoo.com.

Here, singing a rousing version of “Roar Lion Roar,” are Columbia Alumni who attended the wedding of Dan Reed ’03 and Linda Hannan in Danville, Calif., in August. Top row, left to right: Allison Murray, Phil Murray ’03, Erik Moss ’03, Gilberto De Jesus ’03, Jerry Bailey ’03, Erick Tyrone ’03, the groom, Dany Berghoff ’03, Walker Meeks ’03E and Jerry Serowik ’03. Middle row, left to right: Pamela Quinlan ’05, the bride, Michelle Kercado ’03, Patricia McGinn ’03 and David Heffter ’03E. Sitting: Joe McGinn ’03.

Anne Eller ’03 is out of the country for the year on a Fulbright-Hays grant, doing research for her dissertation on Caribbean history in several Spanish-speaking locations.

Anne Eller ’03 is out of the country for the year on a Fulbright-Hays grant, doing research for her dissertation on Caribbean history in several Spanish-speaking locations.
in the city and learning a lot as an associate in the New York office of McKinsey. She looks forward to reconnecting with CC friends still (or back) in N.Y.

Adam Libove writes, “After graduation, I worked for the Manhattan D.A.’s office for a year and then went to law school at Fordham. I graduated in May, took the bar in July and started working as an associate in the litigation department of Troutman Sanders in September. Although I lived pretty close to Morningside Heights for a while, I’m getting used to the Upper East Side, where I moved with my girlfriend in May. I still see many friends from CC’03 somewhat regularly, including Dany Berghoff, Nicole Tartak (also a Fordham law alum), Jeff Peate and Erik Moss. I also saw my erstwhile first-year roommate, Phil Brennan, who was visiting from Washington, D.C., recently. I’m happy to report that the adjustment to professional life has been less traumatic than expected.”

Miru Kim was featured as one of the best and brightest of 2007 in Esquire Magazine’s December issue. Rachel Nichols recently played a corporate woman named Angela who is being stalked by an obsessed security guard in the horror film P2.

Don’t forget about our reunion, which is coming up soon: Thursday, May 29—Saturday, June 1. Apart from class dinners, the weekend will feature a Chelsea art gallery “crawl,” mini-Core courses on campus and an evening Starlight Reception. Looking forward to seeing you there.

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John O’Breza shares, “I have begun graduate study (M.A.) in history at Ohio University, where I received a fellowship through the Contemporary History Institute. Also at school, Edward Young, who is pursuing a master’s in architecture at Princeton, came in second place (out of 80 contestants) in an international architectural competition for the redesign of Hong Kong’s waterfront. Meanwhile, Katrina Rouse, who is in her second year of law school at Stanford, will be a summer associate at Latham & Watkins. She will spend half the summer in Washington, D.C., and the other half in San Francisco. Congratulations to Sharon Barbier and David Form ’02 — on July 28, they had a son, Miles Harry. On the career front, Sharon recently left Deloitte Consulting and started a job at Pfizer in its Customer Analytics group. At Pfizer, she will be building financial models and conducting analysis for contract negotiations with the payers, such as insurance companies and employers.”

Elie B. Hassenfeld ’04 is a co-founder of GiveWell, which studies charities in particular fields and ranks them on their effectiveness.

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How is 2008 treating you so far? It seems like our classmates are up to some exciting things this year, especially on the career track. Here goes:

Melissa Adeyemo began working at New Line Cinema for the national promotions department, which comes up with various ways for companies to find marketing opportunities with New Line Cinema films — think product placement, launch parties and sweeps. Says Melissa, “I am very proud and excited to be there because I very much believe I will have the opportunity to learn and grow a lot.”

Best of luck on your new job!

Kristian Laliberte writes: “I, along with three other people, have a successful menswear line, Unruly Heir (www.unrulyheir.com). Our ready-to-wear can be found at Bloomingdale’s, Fred Segal, Atrium and Big Top. We had our first showing of the fall/winter collection at Fashion Week on February 3. We plan an international expansion for ’08!”

Stuart Weinstock, who lives in New York with Aliza Sloeber ’05 Barnard, is a third-year graduate film student at Columbia. Steine, Liquor, and White Women, a short film he directed, opened last summer in New York at the Urbanworld Vibe Film Festival. Since then, it has played in festivals, including one in San Diego and another in Atlanta. Stuart also directed a coming attractions trailer for a book as part of the Teen Book Video Awards and was selected the winner. Congratulations!

After spending several months in Europe, where she passed through the rarely-visited cities of Paris, Stockholm and Naples, among others, Aidan Wakely-Mulroney started work at the international branch of the Canadian Department of Finance. She works on reform of the IMF and G8 economic issues such as financial globalization. She writes: “Though Ottawa isn’t quite as hectic as Berlin or balmy as Barcelona, at least my job allows me to travel!”

Becca Israel is in her second year of law school at NYU and resides on the Upper West Side with Rachel Fleisher ’07 and Debbie Silberman ’07 Barnard. This summer, she will work at O’Melveny and Myers in New York and at Heller Ehrman in Washington, D.C. Lizza Dwoinski is at the Journalism School and come June will start a reporting fellowship with the Village Voice. If you have an interesting story, please contact her.

Things are going well for David Bizgia, who received a pay raise in January due to an increase in the California minimum wage. Nice, David!

In December, my co-workers and I held our small holiday party at our office in midtown. Among those in attendance were Diti Sangoi; Joyce Cadesca; my girlfriend, Melanie Lee; Michael Novielli ’03; and a bunch of SEAS alums (two members of my company are ’03 and ’07 SEAS alums). It was quite a blast, although the next-day cleanup was on the painful side.

Paul Wright also recounts the holiday season: “Merry Boak, Keri Wachter, Jackson Shafer and Paul Wright shared Christmas dinner (That food, movie (I Am Legend, a holiday classic) and gifts (a travel-size lint brush and pirate puzzle were highlights). Merry works with Teach For America, Keri will be going abroad to South Africa on a fellowship for six months, Jackson teaches high school in the Bronx and Paul loves long baths.”

MARCH/APRIL 2008

68
Was that with or without seasalts?
Lastly, I encourage everyone to check out Brink Magazine (www.brinklit.com), the online literary magazine founded by Charlie Gershman more than a year ago. The Columbia-dominated Brink staff includes Cedrick Mendoza-Tolentino, Sol Park '06 and yours truly (I make sure things look good online). The quality of our submissions has been increasing, and if you’re looking to publish a short story, poem, artwork, or photography, please check out our site.

Sarah Maslin Nir lives in London and writes freelance on music, style and travel for several publications including the London Times, New York Times and Nylon magazine. J.J. Stranka also has settled into London and works in financial PR. He writes, “Although I miss New York, and London’s even more expensive, I’m looking forward to lots of easyjet and Ryanair trips across Europe.”

In January, the Columbia University Club of New England, Barnard and Columbia College Young Alumni hosted a successful beer tasting event at Boston Beer Works for all the young alumni in the Boston area.

Thanks for sharing, and I hope to hear more exciting news from all of you soon.

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I hope that everyone had a pleasant winter (and stayed warm). Check out some of the great things members of the Class of 2007 are up to:

Katarzyna Nikhamina writes, “I have begun a blog of what I call Kasiian prose.” Check out Kasia’s blog, themayorshorotel.blogspot.com. It is Wonderful!

Ken Lee ‘07E shares, “I moved home to Singapore in July, where I have since joined the Foreign Service. The co-worker assigned to mentor me at my job also went to Columbia (CC’02), as did my director (GSSA’02); life has been interesting thanks to crazy coincidences like these. I recently met up with Erlinha Yeo ‘06 when she came to Singapore for the New Year, and had the best time with her, talking about not-so-old times over Sapporo beer!”

It is a small world with members of the Columbia family all over the place.

Mike Nadler is working in the Land Use, Planning and Development Department of the Manhattan Borough President’s Office and lives on the Upper West Side with Nina Bell and Yago Amerlinck-Fuerta ‘06. He is looking forward to starting law school next year at NYU.

David Berlin writes, “I teach fourth grade at PS. 135 in Brook-lyn with Teach for America and live with Joseph Anzalone in Prospect Heights.” Fellow TFA member Andrew Richard Russell shares, “I went to Mexico City to eat delicious foods and see beautiful art in February.”

Xavier Vanegas shares, “I am working in the story department on Shrek Goes Fourth at DreamWorks Animation. Evan Muehlbauer and I wrote a screenplay for a film we plan to shoot in New York later this year. The YouTube series I helped create, Pass/Fail, continues steadily in popularity online.” He adds, “I completed my application to the USC School of Cinematic Arts’ Peter Stark Producing Program (please keep your fingers crossed for me).”

Good luck, Xavier!
Track and field alumna Aliisa Ochs shares some exciting news. She and football alumnus Pete Chromiak ‘06 are engaged. They plan to tie the knot August 2 in the great state of Minnesota, but first they will move to San Francisco, where Pete will attend UC Berkeley for business school.

Congratulations to you both!
Geo Karapetyan finished his first semester of law school in January and will spend his spring break in Argentina. He looks forward to returning to New York for the summer. Also in law school is Jonathan P. Truppman. Tamara Lee shares, “Jonathan P. Truppman will be languishing in the Langdell Library at Harvard Law School for the holiday. Feel free to send him food and drink.”

On December 7, the Columbia Alumni Association held its annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive at Marquez night club. Many members of the Class of 2007 were in attendance including Nishant Kumar Dixit, James Williams, Anna German, Thomas Lightcap, Benjamin Baker, David Chait and David Ali. It was a great time, so keep your eyes peeled for future alumni events.

Please feel free to contact me at any point to share what’s going on in your life with the rest of the class. All the best!


Adam Zucker shares exciting news about classmates: “Sima (Friedlander) Berstein gave birth to a boy, Moses, in December. Daniel Blau finished his first semester at the Law School and is happily living uptown. Zak Kielinhander moved to West Orange, N.J., where he is managing a P.F. Chang’s restaurant. Jonathan McLaughlin lives in London, where he teaches Spanish to German tourists. I recently returned from hiking the four-day/three-night Inca Trail to Machu Picchu. Unreal!”
Letters
(Continued from page 2)

Don’t Forget
I noticed in your latest issue that the football field at Wien Stadium is now being named after Bob Kraft '63. Has the University forgotten the gift of George F. Baker? 20 acres on the island of Manhattan, one of the greatest gifts ever received by Columbia? I remember hearing from William Bloor, the longtime treasurer of Columbia, that Nicholas Murray Butler [Class of 1885] always “lost” to Baker when they played golf in an effort to convince Baker to give the land to Columbia.

Important new gifts to Columbia should neither cloud nor diminish those gifts that helped make Columbia great.

Peter Krulewitch ’62
NEW YORK CITY

[Editor’s note: Officially, it’s now Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium at the Baker Field Athletics Complex.]

Attorney General
The November/December issue of CCT celebrates the nomination of Michael B. Mukasey ’63 to the post of attorney general. As a citizen as well as a member of Mr. Mukasey’s class, I am appalled.

As CCT readers are no doubt aware, at his confirmation hearings Mr. Mukasey refused to say categorically that waterboarding is torture. More recently, as The New York Times pointed out in an editorial published in response to Mr. Mukasey’s appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 30, “on torture, domestic spying and other important matters, Mr. Mukasey parroted the Bush administration’s deplorable line.” That “line” includes ignoring the Geneva Conventions and the Bill of Rights as well as the creation of a “unitary presidency” in accord with untenable legal arguments.

Mr. Mukasey’s elevation to the post of attorney general should not be cause for celebration but an occasion for sorrow and shame on the part of the Columbia College community.

Alan Wallach ’63, ’65 GSAS, ’73 CS/AS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Legacy of Dedication
Jack Armstrong ’55 was an inspired sportsman and a football teammate of mine for four years. Every member of those Columbia teams admired his athletic abilities, coupled with his ready encouragement to everyone — players and coaches, any and all Columbia supporters. His legacy is that of lifetime Light Blue dedication.

Alfred L. Ginepri Jr. ’55
SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

[Editor’s note: See Obituaries.]

Privilege of Citizenship
I have just finished reading the article by Nathalie Alonso ’08 in the January/February edition regarding Nhu-Y Ngo ’09 [“Student Spotlight”]. I could not help but feel somewhat amused at Ms. Ngo’s “annoyance” about her parents’ time and expense as they go (or should I say “went”) through the process of becoming U.S. citizens. It seems to me that she has quickly acquired the sense of entitlement that some Americans have regarding almost everything.

What Ms. Ngo has accomplished is nothing short of amazing, and I admire her for that. But U.S. citizenship is a goal I feel worth accomplishing through whatever sweat and tears it takes as long as it is done through the legal process. We struggled mightily to become citizens and are the better for it. We did not expect this privilege to be handed to us on a silver platter and we did not become “annoyed” that we had to satisfy so many requirements and deal with the “many barriers” in reaching this goal (for ourselves and our children). As Ms. Ngo continues to stand up for immigrants and voters, let me remind her that we are a nation of laws. It would be hypocritical of her to disregard any immigration law just because it “annoys” her.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my view.

Dr. Ronel Paul L. Ramos P’04
Barnard P’99
DUMONT, N.J.

Inspiring Leader
Congratulations to Christophe Knox ’95, as he “retires” from the presidency of the Columbia Club of France, for developing one of Columbia’s best alumni networks.

Via his extensive Frangais e-mails reporting such successful alumni gatherings as the Parisian Thanksgiving feast and the bowling tournament against Harvard, he has inspired so many of us with his love and enthusiasm for alma mater.

Although I reside in New York and rarely visit France, his missives motivated me to support the club, and I was thrilled and honored to meet him and fellow members at the first CAA abroad. Enough cannot be said about the efforts Knox and the club made to organize that highly successful event; it was truly top drawer, and all attendees will remember it forever.

Merci encore, et bonne chance.

Dennis Kleinberg ’84
MANHASSET, N.Y.

Alumni Corner
(Continued from page 72)

be brought to bear on some of humanity’s most pressing environmental issues. These include climate change, biodiversity loss, emerging diseases and achieving environmental sustainability. E3B benefits from its association with the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC), a consortium that includes the American Museum of Natural History, the New York Botanical Garden, the Wildlife Conservation Society (formerly known as the New York Zoological Society; i.e., The Bronx Zoo) and the Wildlife Trust, a leading non-governmental organization that focuses on wildlife conservation.

Together with CERC, E3B offers extraordinary opportunities for students in field and laboratory research. Among the five CERC partners, there are nearly 700 field sites globally from which students choose to conduct research. A student who majors in E3B can elect to perform research that is mentored by a research scientist from one of the five institutions, which becomes part of his or her senior thesis. Majors also are expected to take policy-related courses, usually in such areas as economics and political science, in the hope that students will learn how to translate their science skills for use by policymakers and the general public. E3B recently created a newly-endowed professorship in sustainable development, which will add a faculty member who will focus on the teaching and research of sustainability science.

SURF: The Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship program, run by the Department of Biological Sciences, offers summer research fellowships to a select group of motivated undergraduates who will benefit from the opportunity for hands-on laboratory research. Participants in the competitive 10-week program receive a stipend of $4,000 and work on independent study projects under the guidance of research scientists, either in the Department of Biological Sciences on the Morningside Heights campus or in the biomedical labs at the Health Sciences Center.

All of these initiatives indicate the depth of Columbia’s commitment to improving and enhancing departmental programs and courses of study in the sciences. While Frontiers of Science represents an important recognition by the College that the 21st century requires knowledge and literacy in the sciences for all students, the creation of E3B is an important step in promoting serious scientific education and research in areas that may very well be vital to our survival. Programs such as the Rabi Scholars are helping to encourage more top science students to attend the College, and facilities like the NWC Science Building will complement this effort.

As alumni, we need to support the initiatives of the College and the University to expand and enrich the study of science in undergraduate education.

ANSWERS TO GAME ON INSIDE BACK COVER
1. In front of Hartley Hall
2. Inside the Hamilton Annex
3. On the stairs leading up to Kent Hall
4. On the campus gate at Broadway and 116th Street
5. In front of Low Library

MARCH/APRIL 2008

70
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CLASSIC DIXIELAND: For your dances, weddings, parties, picnics, and celebrations, handsome veterans of the woody Allen band, Michael’s Pub, the Cajun Restaurant, the New York scene, play music that keeps your feet tapping and your face smiling. The Wildcat Jazz Band, Dick Dreiwitz, ’58C, 201-488-3482

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RENTALS

Naples, Florida: Luxury condominium overlooking Gulf, two-month minimum, 802-524-2108, James L. Levy CC’65, LAW’68.

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Abaco, Bahamas, two bedroom condominium, tennis courts, pool, dbillard@telus.net


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T

here is a crisis in science education. The United States, which once ranked third among countries awarding science and engineering undergraduate degrees, now ranks 17th, according to New York's Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities.

Professor David Helfand, chair of the Department of Astronomy and co-chair of the Frontiers of Science Program, also sees a steep decline in the science skill sets of students who are graduating high school. He believes that the manner in which students are taught science has created an "anti-intellectual attitude" in which students may be well-prepared to excel on standardized tests but have little real aptitude for applying science. Helfand describes it as a "soul-destroying focus on metrics" that produces intense frustration for teacher and student.

"Students need to understand the language and culture of science," says Donald Hood, James F. Bender Professor in Psychology and professor of opthalmic sciences. "Our colleges and universities are not doing an adequate job of producing students who are good consumers of science ... people who can understand the great debates in science that will become part of the great political debates in our society in the coming years."

Literacy in 21st century society will require increasing knowledge and comprehension of science. Consistent with its leadership role in steadfastly holding to the Core Curriculum while other academic institutions have abandoned such rigorous requirements, Columbia has stepped into a leadership role in the teaching of science, and it deserves alumni support.

Frontiers of Science: Frontiers of Science (FOS), a pilot program now in its fourth year, is a one-semester course taken by all College students as a requirement of the Core Curriculum. It is aimed at teaching first-year students that science, in Helfand's words, is "not just a set of facts that you memorize, but a set of techniques for examining the world." The course covers such diverse areas as astronomy, climate change, biodiversity, neuroscience and nanoscience, and emphasizes the common threads that cut across scientific disciplines.

FOS is designed to increase interest in science by teaching students compelling, state-of-the-art material, rather than requiring them to first take a series of ever-more specialized preparatory courses before gaining access to current research. The structure of the class is part lecture by some of Columbia's world-class scientists and part seminar, and Columbia's science faculty is continually striving to improve it.

Darcy Kelley, HHMI Professor of Biological Sciences and FOS co-chair, has been working with Frontiers of Science faculty to develop an online resource that includes lectures (videos and podcasts), problem sets, suggested experiments and background readings, in addition to the online textbook written by Helfand, Scientific Habits of Mind. FOS also has a public Web site: www.fos-online.org.

First-years who were not planning to major in science but who did well in FOS may participate in a new program called Frontiers of Science Try-Out Research (FOSTOR), which will provide them with paid laboratory experience during the summer in an attempt to attract them to science.

Beyond the goal of making science a part of the intellectual discourse for the liberal arts student, the College and the University are seeking to ensure that Columbia continues to improve the academic experience for all students as well as to increase the number of science graduates.

Recruiting Science Students: Since 1999, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions has been working in close collaboration with the College's senior science faculty to increase the number of students, who, if admitted to Columbia, would major in science. The faculty reads 500-600 applications each year and recommends approximately 125 students who they believe will be more likely to graduate with a degree in science. The result has been that today, approximately 85 percent of students who are admitted with an interest in science graduate as science majors, up from 60 percent before the program was initiated in 1999.

Rabi Scholars: Each year, the College selects incoming first-year students who are exceptionally talented in the sciences and are named Rabi Scholars, guaranteeing them paid summer internships in scientific research. The College currently has 42 Rabi scholars. Professor of Earth & Environmental Sciences Nicholas Christie-Blick, who chairs the Rabi Scholars program, views it as "extraordinarily successful in attracting talented science students to Columbia." The program enables Columbia to compete with the top schools in the nation for some of the best science students. In fact, seven of the last 12 College valedictorians have been Rabi Scholars.

Northwest Corner Science Building: The 14-story Northwest Corner (NWC) Science Building, which the University is constructing at Broadway and West 120th Street, will provide critical new research and academic facilities for chemistry, biology, engineering and physics. The 188,000-square-foot building, designed by acclaimed architect Jose Rafael Miano, will house a 200-seat lecture hall, café, two floors dedicated to a science library and classroom space and seven laboratory floors. Construction costs are estimated at $179 million, with an anticipated completion date of fall 2010. According to Ann McDermott, associate v.p. for academic planning and science initiatives in the Arts and Sciences, "We expect the NWC building to provide much-needed and excellent quality laboratory space, and to activate opportunities for inter-school and interdepartmental collaboration."

E3B: Columbia has continued to expand its horizons in the sciences, and in 2001 established the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology to enhance its position in the biological sciences. The creation of E3B marked the first time in more than 40 years that Columbia established a new department. E3B brings to Columbia the study of the natural world, from ecosystems to the biosphere, including all plant, animal and microbial species. Its mission is to educate a new generation of natural scientists whose training in ecology and evolution can (continued on page 70)
In Lumine Tuo

The lights of Columbia glow in the city’s mauve darkness as you walk home from a night well spent at Butler Library — or were you at The West End? In any case, the glow of those antique lamplights is one of the warm memories you’ve carried away from your years at the College. *In Lumine Tuo Videbimus Lumen* — can you remember where on the campus these lights are found?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 70.
Within a month, the campus will shake the last of winter's dreary grayness and burst into color.
I learned to question authority, to ally myself with the powerless and disenfranchised, and to stray — at least sometimes — from the conventional path. I have been putting those lessons into effect ever since.

— Patrick O. Patterson ’68, ’72L

1968 imparted on me, as other tumultuous times had for Jay and Hamilton, the joyous conviction that these are not, as Fred Friendly reminded us, “circumstances beyond our control.” In a world on its head, find the courage to create a more equitable, fairer, more prosperous and more celebratory world.

— Edward J. Hyman ’69

“I stood watching fellow students lock arms in front of the southeast door of Low Library. When the police phalanx moved in... I remember thinking [about] building occupiers, strike defenders and spectators — everyone was at risk of being bloodied.”

— Rev. Douglas W. Smith ’68

Alumni recall the impact of a turbulent time
Columbia College Young Alumni invites the Classes of 1998–2008 to attend the Young Alumni Casino Royale.

First it was the Riviera, and now it’s Times Square. Whether you bet black or lay odds on red, Columbia Blue comes up green during this annual extravaganza. Royale is where the tables are friendly, the sounds smooth, the crowd is a happening and everyone’s a winner. Bring your friends and your lucky charm because the sky is the limit at Casino Royale ... just this one night a year.

**Friday, May 30, 2008 • 9 p.m.–2 a.m.**

- Nokia Theatre • 1515 Broadway at West 44th Street • New York City
- Tickets will be available for purchase at the Nokia Theatre box office the night of the event.
- $25 • Admission includes three drink tickets, food, casino and dancing.
- Questions? Call 212-870-2777.
COVER STORY

32 SPRING '68: 40 YEARS LATER
Four decades ago, Columbia was in turmoil. In their own words, alumni recall images of Spring '68 and lessons learned.

FEATURES

18 NINE ALUMNI HONORED WITH JOHN JAY AWARDS
A black-tie dinner honored five distinguished alumni and raised a record $2.2 million for the College.
By Alex Sachare '71; photos by Eileen Barroso

20 THREE MOMENTS WITH ROBERT SIEGEL '68
The co-host of NPR's All Things Considered describes three history- and career-making events, including Spring '68.
By John E. Mulligan III '72

24 COLUMBIA FORUM
This excerpt from Tim Weiner '78's Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA outlines the highlights — and lowlights — of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War.

ALUMNI NEWS

44 BOOKSHELF
Featured: Mark Statman '80 and his colleague, Pablo Medina, offer a new translation of Federico Garcia Lorca's Poeta en Nueva York, which includes Lorca's musings on his days as a GS student.

46 OBITUARIES
47 Robert Jastrow '44

49 CLASS NOTES
ALUMNI UPDATES
57 David Rosand '59
68 Gara LaMarche '76
69 David Rothkopf '77
74 Robert Maschio '88
79 David Eisenbach '94
84 Nick Summers '05 and Chris Beam '06

88 ALUMNI CORNER
In his last column as Alumni Association president, Brian C. Krisberg '81 gives his thoughts on his utopian Columbia, including the role of alumni.

DEPARTMENTS

2 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

3 WITHIN THE FAMILY

4 AROUND THE QUADS

4 FINANCIAL AID INITIATIVES

5 ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

6 PATERNSON BECOMES NYS GOVERNOR

8 BAC HERITAGE RECEPTION

10 STUDENTS WIN FELLOWSHIPS

10 ADMISSIONS UPDATE

11 5 MINUTES WITH ... MAMADOU DIOPF

12 STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: BEN NWACHUKwu '08

13 SAVE THE DATE!

14 FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE RECEIVES GRANT

16 CAMPUS NEWS

16 ROAR LION ROAR

17 IN LUMINE TUO

17 IN MEMORIAM: Kennedy and McKenna
Letters to the Editor

Flint, not Flynn
I was delighted to see the article on my wonderful former student, Katori Hall ’03, in Columbia College Today [March/April], but surprised to see myself identified as “Professor Austin Flynn” instead of “Flint.” That said, I very much appreciated her generous comments. She is a fine writer, and it was a delight to work with her on the early stages of the play Hoodoo Love. One often calls a gifted creative writer at the college level “promising.” Katori was all of that, but with Hoodoo Love she showed that she was already a writer of considerable accomplishment. She certainly merits the attention she received from Columbia College Today.

Austin Flint
Adjunct Professor, Dept. of the Arts
New York City

Umami
I am a retired biochemist who loves food and cooking. As a food lover, I thoroughly enjoyed Jonah Lehrer ’03’s mouth-watering book chapter on Escoffier [“Columbia Forum,” March/April]. Yet as a biochemist I feel compelled to protest that the piece evidently was not proofed by someone familiar with amino acid chemistry. Although the statements regarding the various forms of glutamate were sometimes a bit off, those errors are trivial and harmless. I do, however, object to the offhand description of meat as “nothing but amino acid.” If this were true, steak would be just as healthful for us as tofu. Alas, it is not; even when entirely freed of obvious fat, the mass of muscle cells that are the major components of meat contain cholesterol, not to mention a host of other goodies.

That bit of misinformation in Lehrer’s article could be dangerous to some individuals. That said, however, I plan to continue eating umami-rich, sizzling steaks rather than tofu.

Ezio Moscatelli ’48
Professor Emeritus of Biochemistry,
School of Medicine, Univ. of Missouri,
Columbia, Mo.

Krisberg Completes Term as CCAA President

Brian C. Krisberg ’81 completes his two-year term as president of the CC Alumni Association on June 30 and turns the gavel over to Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74. Krisberg presided over his final board meeting at the Columbia Club on April 7 and was presented with a squash racket, which he pledged to put to good use. From left: Executive Director of Alumni Affairs Ken Catandella, Dean Austin Quigley, Krisberg and Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development Derek Wittner ’65.

PHOTO: ALEX SACHARE ’71

2006–2007 Columbia College Fund
55th Annual Report Corrections

The following donor contributed to the Columbia College Fund during the 2006–2007 fiscal year. His name was mistakenly omitted.

Elliot A. Vogelfanger ’58 ● § MEMBER ● § HONOR ROLL

We also wish to acknowledge Sameer Shetty ’93E’s gift to Columbia College and the Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science in memory of his father, Sadanand A. Shetty, which was omitted from the list of gifts made in memory.
Il hell was breaking loose. That’s the way I remember it. I was on campus, on the walk in front of Ferris Booth Hall, late on the night of April 30, 1968. There was a feeling that something was about to happen to break the stalemate that had existed since students occupied five campus buildings a week earlier, and I wanted to see it.

The demonstrations had torn apart the campus, pitting student against student, faculty member against faculty member. As a freshman on the Spectator staff, I knew some of the SDS demonstrators and many of their followers. As a sports reporter, I knew some members of the Majority Coalition, the most prominent of the student groups that opposed the demonstrations. Knowing people on both sides and hearing their arguments so passionately delivered made it all very confusing, reminding me of the Stephen Stills lyric, “There’s something happening here, what it is ain’t exactly clear.”

As an 18-year-old from a relatively sheltered background, the previous week had been bewildering. Students had marched into buildings and chased out faculty members and administrators, taking precipitous action to protest — what? A proposed gym that would be built in Morningside Park, because it used park land and was designed with separate entrances for the community (below, from Morningside Avenue) and Columbians (above, from Morningside Drive), interpreted by some as racist? The United States’ escalating involvement in the war in Vietnam and Columbia’s participation in a government think tank called the Institute for Defense Analyses? Or was the radical action of taking over buildings and throwing one of the world’s leading universities into turmoil merely a tactic designed to provoke a stubborn administration to approve a forceful response that would polarize the students who were the true majority, those in the middle?

Forty years later, I still am often confused. I opposed the war in Vietnam, just as I oppose the war in Iraq, yet I believe there are some wars worth fighting (just don’t ask me to name them). I don’t think government sponsorship should automatically make a project off-limits for university involvement, but I’d like Columbia to be selective in what it takes on and whom it partners with. I did not serve in the military, yet I believe there’s a place on campus for ROTC — Columbia’s unit was abolished in 1969, and today’s students who wish to participate must take their training at other schools.

As for the gym, I still feel that perception overtook reality here. Columbia proposed taking a rocky outcropping in a barren, underused section of the park and replacing it with a new gymnasmium, with state-of-the-art athletic facilities and equipment available to University and community members. Yes, there would have been separate entrances, and yes, not all of the facility would have been available to community members all of the time. But overall, wouldn’t that have been better than what’s there now — which is nothing?

My point is that the issues behind the demonstrations were complex, issues that would be wonderful topics for classroom debate. Instead, such debate was cut off on the night of April 30 when the University administration gave the OK to NYC’s Tactical Patrol Force to clear the demonstrators from the occupied buildings.

The walkway in front of Ferris Booth was hundreds of yards away from any occupied building, but suddenly, dozens of helmeted riot police came charging from Broadway and College Walk, swinging their clubs at anyone in their path. I raced toward Butler and made a right turn, hoping to reach my dorm, Carman. Police were closing in, I could hear others screaming as they were hit and I didn’t think I would make it. I saw that an emergency exit from Ferris Booth Hall was being held open by some students, so I raced up a couple of steps and dove through the doorway just before the door was slammed shut. As I lay on the ground, my heart pounding, I heard the sound of a billy club slamming against the door and a cop screaming, “Stay in there, you punks!”

I made my way up to the Spec office on the third floor, and as others filtered in, the nature of “the bust” became clear. I’m no chemist, but I know that oil and water don’t mix, and neither do idealistic students and pragmatic police. Hundreds of students, faculty and others on campus were beaten and many were taken to St. Luke’s for treatment. When I went back outside and made my way to Carman, it was shocking to see the bloodied faces and the debris that marred the campus that had become my home.

What did I learn from Spring ’68? Blind trust is just that — blind. A healthy dose of skepticism is a good way to approach authority. Consider people’s motives, and then consider them again. Keep in mind that their words may not fully belie their intentions. Be wary of leaders — that goes for Mark Rudd ’69 as well as Grayson Kirk. Be extremely wary of media coverage of news events — that goes for Spectator as well as The New York Times, WKCR as well as NBC (although WKCR in particular distinguished itself with its reporting during Spring ’68, and Spec, though clearly tilting to the left, did far better than the NYC print media). Think for yourself, do your own research, don’t take anything you read as gospel (not even if you read it in CCT) and never, ever be afraid to question.

For other viewpoints, please see the alumni remembrances of Spring ’68 that begin on page 32.

Also, the Spring ’68 issue of CCT, written and edited by the late George Keller ’51, is available at www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Alex Salazar
Columbia has announced sweeping changes to its undergraduate financial aid program in keeping with its long-standing commitment to diversity of every kind. Key elements of the financial aid initiatives announced on March 11 include:

- Eliminating loans for all students receiving aid, whatever their family income, and replacing them with grants. This enhancement could add as much as $20,000 in Columbia-funded grants to each four-year aid package.
- Assisting lower-income families by no longer expecting parents with calculated incomes below $60,000 to contribute any income or assets to tuition, room, board and mandatory fees.
- Reducing significantly parent contributions for families with calculated incomes between $60,000–$100,000 and typical assets. For example, a family with incomes below $75,000 and typical assets will see its contribution decrease by approximately half.
- Supporting students pursuing study abroad, research, internship and community service opportunities by reducing academic year and summer work responsibilities.

The initiatives go into effect with the 2008–09 academic year and cover all students in the College and SEAS — current students as well as incoming members of the Class of 2012.

"It has long been recognized at Columbia that the institution's national standing is firmly based upon its twin commitments to inclusiveness and excellence," Dean Austin Quigley wrote in a message to the College community announcing the initiative. "Financial aid is so important because the College's excellence derives in significant part from its inclusiveness, from the range of voices that inform academic inquiry and social exchange. In this sense, all students benefit from our financial aid programs, whether or not they receive financial support.

"The new financial aid initiatives underscore our continued commitment to inclusiveness, making a Columbia education even more accessible for students from every background."

President Lee C. Bollinger said, "Columbia has a record of attracting the most socioeconomically diverse undergraduate student populations among our peer institutions through our commitment to need-blind admissions. We are both proud of that diversity and determined to maintain it by expanding aid to the extent our resources allow so that our students will continue to benefit from the full range of experiences that are part of a Columbia education and, we hope, part of the lives they choose to lead because of those experiences."

The initiatives build on a September 2006 announcement that grants would replace loans for all families earning less than $50,000 per year in the current 2007–08 academic year.

The initiatives go into effect with the 2008–09 academic year and cover all students in the College and SEAS — current students as well as incoming members of the Class of 2012.

"It has long been recognized at Columbia that the institution's national standing is firmly based upon its twin commitments to inclusiveness and excellence," Dean Austin Quigley wrote in a message to the College community announcing the initiative. "Financial aid is so important because the College's excellence derives in significant part from its inclusiveness, from the range of voices that inform academic inquiry and social exchange. In this sense, all students benefit from our financial aid programs, whether or not they receive financial support.

"The new financial aid initiatives underscore our continued commitment to inclusiveness, making a Columbia education even more accessible for students from every background."

President Lee C. Bollinger said, "Columbia has a record of attracting the most socioeconomically diverse undergraduate student populations among our peer institutions through our commitment to need-blind admissions. We are both proud of that diversity and determined to maintain it by expanding aid to the extent our resources allow so that our students will continue to benefit from the full range of experiences that are part of a Columbia education and, we hope, part of the lives they choose to lead because of those experiences."

The initiatives build on a September 2006 announcement that grants would replace loans for all families earning less than $50,000 per year in the current 2007–08 academic year.

The initiatives build on a September 2006 announcement that grants would replace loans for all families earning less than $50,000 per year in the current 2007–08 academic year.

The financial aid initiatives are made possible by the current and anticipated success of the Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education, which is part of the $4 billion Columbia Campaign.

The College is seeking to raise $400 million in financial aid endowment, of which $260 million has been committed. Last year, Columbia’s most generous donor, John W. Kluge ’37, pledged $400 million for financial aid, half of which is directed to the College. The remainder of the needed funding will come from a combination of operating revenue, new fundraising and an increase in the endowment spending rate.

Columbia will continue to expand its well-established efforts to reach outstanding students from lower-income families, to be sure that the accessibility of college opportunities are fully understood by students and parents, especially those who are first-generation college-bound. The University pioneered such efforts four decades ago with its Double Discovery program, which became one of the models for Upward Bound in providing after-school and summer enrichment programs on Columbia’s campus for public high school students from Harlem and other New York City neighborhoods.

For many years, this commitment to inclusiveness and excellence has been demonstrated by Columbia’s allocation of significant resources to early college awareness outreach programs across the nation, building contacts in communities that have been underrepresented historically. Fifteen percent of the College Class of 2011 are first-generation college students.

In conjunction with the University’s new financial aid initiatives, Columbia will continue to expand partnerships with almost 500 nonprofit organizations that help students and families from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, including increased outreach and sponsorship of on-campus and regional college access workshops for counselors and students.

To learn more about the new financial aid initiatives, visit www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/finaid/enhancements.
Alumni Reunion Weekend is right around the corner, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. This is your chance to reconnect with classmates and old friends, make new friends and enjoy all that Morningside Heights and New York City have to offer. If your class year ends in a 3 or 8, and you haven’t signed up, visit the reunion Web site (http://reunion.college.columbia.edu) for more information, to see a schedule of events and register.

Reunion gets bigger and better every year, thanks to classmates on the Reunion Committees who have spent the last year working with Alumni Office staff to plan campus activities, cultural outings, discussions and panels, great meals, cocktail parties, elegant class dinners and plenty of free time for relaxing, getting together with friends and spending time in NYC.

All attendees should start things off by checking in at the registration desk in Alfred Lerner Hall, the place to get nametags, schedules and the most up-to-date information. The Class of 1958 gets a jump on the party with a special reception on Wednesday, May 28, with other reunion-year classes joining in on Thursday, when the weekend officially kicks off with welcome receptions and cocktail parties. Attendees also have a choice of the New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Center (Schubert/Berio's Rending and Emanuel Ax '70 playing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5, Emperor) or Broadway theater: Avenue Q or Curtains. Sign up early for these shows, as availability is limited.

Friday morning features a Chelsea art gallery crawl; “Back on Campus” activities such as mini-Core courses, lectures, walking tours and campus updates (free, but registration is required); and class-specific activities. After lunch, more mini-Core courses are available, followed by cocktail parties/receptions and dinners. Those who observe the Sabbath may participate in a Tri-College (College, SEAS, Barnard) Shabbat Service and Dinner.

Friday activities continue late into the night with one of reunion’s most popular Young Alumni events: Casino Royale and dance party at the Nokia Theatre in midtown.

On Saturday morning, stop by Roone Arledge Auditorium in Lerner Hall for a continental breakfast. Alumni with children ages 3–12 may sign them up for the (Continued on page 7)
David A. Paterson '77 Becomes New York's Governor

David A. Paterson '77 became the first African-American governor in New York State history and the country's first legally blind governor on March 17 following the resignation of Eliot Spitzer. Paterson had served as a New York State senator since 1985 before being elected lieutenant governor in 2006.

Paterson, 53, was honored by the College in 2007 with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. In accepting the award, he showed his sense of humor by noting, "Some people graduated magna cum laude, some graduated summa cum laude, then there were people like me who found so many other things to do at Columbia than study that we graduated thank you laude."

Due to an infection when he was an infant, Paterson is sightless in one eye and has little vision in the other. He was bom in Brooklyn, but his parents moved to Hempstead, Long Island, when he was in sixth grade. He attended the only public school his parents could find that would allow him to learn alongside sighted students instead of in separate classes.

"He was extremely bright, an exceptional student," Casmiro Liotta, who has since retired from the Fulton School, told Newsday. "He was very likable, he participated well. He did not have his handicap get in his way; he was on the stage in dramatics, and he was very, very, very active in the school."

Paterson was a history major at the College, then worked for the Queens District Attorney's office before attending Hofstra Law School and graduating in 1983. Two years later he was elected to the New York State Senate representing Harlem, filling a seat once held by his father, longtime NYC political leader Basil Paterson. At 31, he was the youngest state senator in Albany.

"He is a role model to black boys and girls, to white boys and girls, to everyone with or without a disability. It's a great success story," said former NYC Mayor David A. Dinkins. Paterson worked on Dinkins' campaigns for mayor as well as for Manhattan borough president, and both are adjunct professors at SIPA.

"He's the ultimate mensch ... honest, straightforward," Brooklyn State Assemblyman Dov Hikind told the New York Daily News. Hikind recalled that during a time of strained race relations in NYC in the 1990s, Paterson brought black students from Harlem high schools to talk things over with Jewish yeshiva students at a kosher pizzeria, one of many instances in which Hikind said Paterson worked to improve community relations at the grassroots level.

Paterson has advocated for disenfranchised and disadvantaged New Yorkers throughout his career. He has fought against late state budgets, unfunded mandates and legislative logjams and pressed for reforms in campaign finance and lobbying. In 2002, he was elected Senate minority leader by his Democratic colleagues and led the charge on several critical issues, releasing a report on New York State's Medicaid crisis, proposing legislation for a $600 million stem-cell initiative, proposing a statewide alternative energy strategy that would use sun and wind power and serving as an advocate for minority- and women-owned businesses in the state.

Paterson, whose chief of staff is Charles O'Byrne '81, '83 SIPA, '84L, former president of the Columbia College Alumni Association, is known for his inclusive approach to politics and his ability to reach across party lines and bring people together. "A kid from Harlem goes to Albany, where you have upstate, downstate, black, white, so on and so forth, and manages to bring everybody together around his leadership," said New York State Senator Bill Perkins, a Democrat who holds Paterson's former seat. "He was plucked to be the lieutenant governor, not for the sake of symbolism, obviously, but for the first time that I can recall, with a portfolio of substance."

A member of the Democratic National
Committee and as a board member of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, Paterson is an active advocate for the visually and physically impaired. He is a member of the American Foundation for the Blind and a board member of the Achilles Track Club, and in 1999 he completed the New York City Marathon.

Former New York Governor Mario Cuomo told The New York Times about participating with Paterson in a charity basketball game a decade ago. “David was on the other side,” said Cuomo. “I said: ‘What are you doing here? You’re supposed to be blind!’ He said, ‘I’m guarding you.’ Just what I wanted: a blind guy to guard me. The second time down the court, he stole the ball.”

Clearly, Paterson values what he has described as “my ability to overcome my physical disability.” The reason is simple: “As soon as people see that I can be independent, then they hold me to the standard that everyone else is held to.”

He takes that same approach to serving as governor. “I have had this desire my whole life to prove people wrong, to show them I could do things that they didn’t think I could do,” he said. “This is just another.”

Reunion
(Continued from page 5)

supervised Camp Columbia for Kids and then join all reunion classes in Lerner Hall’s Cinema for a State of the College Address and Alumni Panel featuring Dean Austin Quigley. The President’s Cup will be presented, and a panel discussion will highlight College developments during the past 50 years.

Lunch is either a class-specific event (‘43–’68), a “Between the Gates” barbecue on the lawns (’73–’03) or free time to dine on your own. After lunch, choose from a class-specific panel discussion, if applicable, the annual Alumni Representative Committee reception for members and those who wish to join, an admissions presentation, a Center for Career Education presentation, or, new this year, a “green” panel discussion, featuring alumni and experts speaking on corporations’ social responsibility to the environment, including Columbia’s efforts.

Had enough learning? Get ready to unwind with the all-class wine tasting, an elegant class-specific dinner and the all-class Starlight Reception, a weekend highlight, held on Low Plaza so there’s room to dance off the calories you’ll enjoy from the available champagne and sweets. The weekend wraps up on Sunday morning with a bagel, cream cheese and lox brunch.

Online registration, a complete program of reunion events and general information may be found on the Alumni Reunion Weekend Web site (http://reunion.college.columbia.edu), or refer to the brochure you received in the mail. For answers to any other questions, please contact the Alumni Office: 212-870-2288 or toll-free, 866-CCALUMNI.

Alumni often gather at a classmate’s home for cocktails, and Dean Austin Quigley (second from right) just might drop by. Here, he and his wife, Patricia Denison, join two ’72 alumni last year at Conrad Lung ’72’s home. PHOTO: DAVID WENTWORTH

Many graduates say that Columbia—with its distinguished faculty, exceptional students and tradition of excellence—transformed them into who they are today. The impact often seems to grow stronger over the years.

Alumni who are 60 or older can give back to their life-changing alma mater with a gift that benefits both them and the University. When you create a charitable gift annuity, you receive a quarterly income—from 5.5% to 11.3%, depending on your age—through your lifetime, with the remainder going to Columbia. Please contact the Office of Gift Planning for information about this and other gift options.

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Chair Announced, Johnson Honored at Black Alumni Heritage Reception

The first chaired faculty position in the Arts and Sciences to focus on African-American studies was announced at the annual Black Alumni Council Heritage Award Reception in Low Rotunda on February 22. In addition, Ted Johnson ’81 accepted the 2008 Heritage Award on behalf of his recently deceased brother, Rick Johnson ’71, who mentored many Columbia students and established an undergraduate scholarship fund in 1987.

Dean Austin Quigley and V.P. of Arts and Sciences Nicholas Dirks were on hand for the announcement of the M. Moran Weston/Black Alumni Council Professorship, which is named in honor of M. Moran Weston ’30, ’54 GSAS, Columbia’s first African-American trustee. “In addition to its impact on African-American studies at Columbia, the chair will strengthen the presence of African-American alumni in the life of the University,” said U.S. District Court Judge Joseph A. Greenaway Jr. ’78 (right), former president of the Black Alumni Council, welcomed Ted Johnson ’81 (center) and Greg Weston ’82L to the BAC Heritage Award Reception.

PHOTO: DIANE BONDAREFF

African-American alumni in the life of the University,” said U.S. District Court Judge Joseph A. Greenaway Jr. ’78, a past president of the BAC, which led the effort to establish the chair.

Greg Weston ’82L represented his late father at the ceremony. “Columbia was very near and dear to my dad’s heart,” he reflected. “It was perhaps the most important institution to him throughout his life, and he would be thrilled to be linked in such a meaningful and permanent way to the school that he loved so much.”


Rick Johnson ’71, who died on November 3, was a finance professional with experience in law, investment banking, private equity investing and financial and management consulting. A BAC leader and active in Class of 1971 affairs, he was known to family, classmates and friends as a Renaissance man whose interests included classical music, jazz, theater and the arts, fine food and wine, travel, ballroom dancing, boxing and skiing. He delighted in serving as a mentor to numerous alumni and friends, and had established a scholarship at the College to honor his father, Lee; that scholarship has been renamed to honor Rick as well.

Quigley drew applause from the approximately 100 alumni, students, faculty, administrators and friends who attended the reception when he announced that a survey conducted by the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education had found, for the first time, that Columbia was tied with the University of Virginia for the highest national percentage of African-American students in its first-year class.
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Look no further
Students Win Several Leading Fellowships

College students were well-represented among the winners of several national and international fellowships.

Sarracina Littlebird '09 and Nhu-Y Ngo '09 received Truman Scholarships, awarded by The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation to students planning to pursue careers in public service. Each will receive scholarships worth $30,000 to be used for graduate study. Truman Scholars are expected to work in the public sector for at least three years after the completion of their graduate education.

This year, 65 students from 55 U.S. colleges and universities were selected from among 595 candidates nominated by 283 colleges and universities.

Littlebird, an environmental biology major from Sante Fe, N.M., plans to use the scholarship to pay for law school. She intends to return to her home to advocate for Native American rights, including education, land management and water use. Ngo, a history and political science major from Lincoln, Neb., plans to pursue a law degree and a master's of public policy in order to fight for immigrant rights, with a focus on language access [see Student Spotlight, January/February].

Columbia has not had more than one winner in a single year since 2003. "We had an excellent crop of candidates this year," said Michael Pippenger, associate dean of fellowship programs and study abroad at Columbia. "Their passion for being agents of change really shone through."

Mollie Schwarz '09 and Swarup Swaminathan '09 received Goldwater Scholarships, which cover eligible expenses for undergraduate tuition, fees, books and room and board, up to a maximum of $7,500 annually, for students who plan to pursue a Ph.D. in the sciences or mathematics. Each university may nominate four candidates for consideration at the national level; 321 were selected from a pool of more than 1,000 applicants.

Schwarz, a Danville, Pa., native, is majoring in chemical physics. She seeks to pursue a Ph.D. in physics with a focus on experimental research in fluid dynamics. A native of Howell, N.J., Swaminathan is majoring in biochemistry and seeks to pursue an M.D./Ph.D., with the Ph.D. in protein biochemistry/molecular biophysics.

Matthew Birkhold '08 was awarded a DAAD [German Academic Exchange Service] Study Scholarship, facilitating graduate studies in Germany. The scholarship provides full funding for a graduate degree at a German university as well as a monthly living stipend. A native of Stillwater, Minn., Birkhold is majoring in German literature and cultural history with a concentration in art history. He seeks to combine these fields and to become a professor of German art history.

Two other Columbia undergraduates also received honors. Catherine MacLellan '09 Barnard also won a Truman Scholarship and Lisa Chen '08E won a DAAD Study Scholarship.

Columbia also has 19 finalists in the Fulbright Scholar Program, according to Pippenger, who said the winners were expected to be named in May.

BUSY DYING
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL BY HILTON OBENZINGER

No one tells the story of the Columbia University variation of Apocalypse '68—its prelude and its up-to-date fallout (e.g., This Is Your Life)—better than Hilton Obenzinger…. In deft, benign, deep and often hilarious prose, he has kept the faith. BILL BERKSON

Hilton Obenzinger is an American original. His lost histories are acts of legerdemain and cunning—mixing truth and imagination in ways rarely seen before…. PAUL AUSTER

ISBN 978-0-925904-73-7 312 PP. $19.95
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MAY/JUNE 2008
Mamadou Diouf is the Leitner Family Professor of African Studies in the Departments of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures (MEALAC) and History. He also is head of the Institute for African Studies at SIPA, which celebrated its reopening last fall. Diouf holds a Ph.D. from the University of Paris-Sorbonne (France). CCT caught up with him in February to find out more.

Where did you grow up?
I grew up in Senegal, in a small town, Rufisque, near the capital city of Dakar.

What was the town like?
It was a small colonial town, which has an interesting history. It was a town that began developing in the context of the Atlantic slave trade. It was one of the first places where Africans and Europeans interacted. And actually the name comes from the Portuguese: Rio Fresco, or “fresh river,” which shows that it is a city where mariners or slave traders used to stop and interact with Africans — buy food, whatever.

The city became an important French colonial city after the French took over the region in the 19th century. And very quickly it became the capital city of the first cash crop the French were interested in: peanuts. In the late 19th century, the city’s inhabitants were granted French citizenship with the right to elect a municipal council and participate in the election of a Senegalese representative at the French National Assembly in Paris. So this is a city that was much more a colonial city, which was part of two worlds.

What did you want to do, when you were little?
According to family memory, I have always said that I would be a teacher.

Any particular reason?
My mom used to say it’s probably because I always liked arguing.

How did you first get interested in African history?
Actually, I decided to turn to African history very late. I began high school in my hometown before heading to France to complete the high school cycle, first in Orleans, then in Versailles before going to the Sorbonne University. Up to the master’s level I did European history, and I was really attracted to medieval history because of the environment I was in. So, I was trained in a very classical European tradition of history.

So you came to African history — backward?
Absolutely. I wanted to do a master’s in medieval history, and my friends, my Senegalese friends, were completely amazed by that. What happened, basically, is that they told me that I did not have the right to do that. I had to contribute to the development of African history. Because there were not a lot of us, it was important to devote our efforts and our intelligence to developing African history. So I found myself doing African history … under the pressure of my community.

How did you end up at Columbia?
When I finished my Ph.D., I went home and got an assistant professorship at Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar, Senegal. I taught there for many years before joining an intellectual social science NGO, the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa. I was director of the research and documentation department for many years. When I stepped down, I was offered a visiting professorship at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. The “visiting” was turned into a full professorship position one year later, in 2000, and I was there till July 2007, when I joined the MEALAC and the history departments of Columbia. I also have been appointed director of the Institute of African Studies at SIPA.

Which classes are you teaching right now?

What’s new at the institute?
A lot of things are new because the institute was closed down; it’s now reopened. We have been very active in organizing lectures and conferences and we are working hard to be among the most active units at Columbia.

We have also been working in conjunction with the graduate, undergraduate and SIPA students to devise a new major in African Studies [at the College]. The major is designed to introduce students to the intensive study of Africa. Majors are expected to develop their interest through methodological and theoretical training in a discipline (humanities, social science, etc.), but all students are required to take common Core courses, learn an African language and study or conduct research in Africa.

How do you recharge?
Usually by sitting somewhere and doing nothing.

If you could go anywhere in the world right now, where would it be?
Paris. It’s probably the city I know best, where I have my friends.

What’s your favorite food?
There’s a Senegalese dish, a kind of gumbo soup. It has meat, smoked fish and okra. Sometimes people add palm oil or use tomato. It’s called “soupe au kanja.”

Coffee or tea?
Coffee — the French colonial tradition oblige...

Interview: Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard
Photo: Eileen Barroso
Ben Nwachukwu ’08 Makes an Impact, On and Off the Court

BY NATHALIE ALONSO ’08

For the past four years, Ben Nwachukwu ’08 has been on top of his game — and not just on the basketball court.

The 6-foot-8 center has been a starter on Columbia’s varsity basketball team since his freshman year and has been devoted to the team while never losing sight of his goal of becoming a surgeon.

Nwachukwu’s history with the Lions is intertwined with that of Joe Jones, who was hired by Columbia in 2003 as head coach of the men’s basketball team and charged with the task of revamping the program.

Jones had heard of Nwachukwu’s athletic abilities while serving as assistant coach at Villanova and put much effort into pursuing Nwachukwu, his first recruit.

“Not only was Ben intelligent and a highly skilled basketball player, he was someone who I thought had great character. I saw that right away,” says Jones. “His biggest contribution has been his tremendous work ethic. When he came here, he said he’d give us everything he had, and he did. He’s a man of his word.”

Nwachukwu, who began playing basketball at 14 in England, was accepted to the College as a Kluge Scholar and is completing a pre-med curriculum with a major in psychology. “I really didn’t know anything about Columbia. Coach Jones came to my high school and gave me his vision for Columbia University basketball. He wanted to turn the club around and make it into a winning team. I wanted to embrace that challenge,” says Nwachukwu, who was v.p. of his fraternity, Kappa Delta Rho, during his sophomore and junior years and has been involved with the Nigerian Students Association.

In four seasons with the Lions, Nwachukwu set a school record by playing in 110 games, averaging 7.4 points and 4.3 rebounds per game. He ranks 13th in school history with 474 career rebounds and fifth with 62 career blocked shots.

Nwachukwu was born in Enugu, Nigeria, and moved with his mother and four brothers to London when he was 7. At 16, he was offered a scholarship to St. Augustine Prep in New Jersey and moved to the United States on his own to pursue his athletic and academic goals.

His mother, a nurse, could not accompany him because of work-related concerns, so Nwachukwu lived with a host family for the duration of his high school career.

“Moving to America was tough, but I was excited about the opportunities I knew I had in store here. The first few months were the hardest and I spoke to my mother every day, but after some time I became more comfortable. It forced me to mature and learn how to manage my emotions and my priorities,” notes Nwachukwu. For as long as he can remember, Nwachukwu has dreamed of pursuing a career in medicine. “Medicine is how you’re able to most directly impact people. You get to have an effect on their lives or even improve the quality of their lives. I’m a people person. I couldn’t go into a career where you don’t deal with people,” he says enthusiastically.

Nwachukwu has taken full advantage of the opportunities Columbia has afforded him as he pursues that goal. He spent the summer before his junior year as a research assistant in the laboratory of Nobel Laureate and University Professor Dr. Richard Axel ’67, where he studied the altered behavior of cloned mice with only one odor receptor.

“That was my first research experience. The problem with research is that people aren’t willing to take a risk on someone without research experience. He took a risk on me,” says Nwachukwu of Axel.

Nwachukwu also was a participant in the prestigious internship program offered by The Steamboat Foundation, a nonprofit organization started by Andy Walter (grandson of Hank Walter ’31, ’34L) and Peer Pederson, managing partners of Blue Orchid Capital, a money management organization based in Greenwich, Conn.

As a Steamboat Scholar, Nwachukwu spent summer 2007 shadowing Dr. David Altchek ’78, an attending orthopedic surgeon in the Sports Medicine and Shoulder Service at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. Altchek also is medical director for the New York Mets.

“I definitely noted that he was very passionate about medicine. He loved the idea of taking care of people,” says Altchek of his initial encounter with Nwachukwu, who had the opportunity to sit in on patient consultations and observe Altchek’s work in the operating room. “Ben’s very special. He is an unusually warm human being and really enjoys the company of other people. He made an incredible impression on me.”

Nwachukwu, who admits to being a television junkie in his free time, is applying to medical schools and after his internship with Altchek is considering a specialization in sports medicine.

“What I’m going to miss most when I’m in med school are the relationships I’ve built, some solid friendships. I’m really close with my teammates,” he notes.

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Sunnyside, Queens, works part-time as an editorial producer of Spanish sites for MLB.com. She also is an American studies major, a freelance writer and an avid Yankees fan.
### Save the Date!

#### SPRING SEMESTER 2008

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>MAY 18</td>
<td>Baccalaureate Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>MAY 19</td>
<td>Class Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>MAY 20</td>
<td>Academic Awards &amp; Prizes Ceremony</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>MAY 21</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday-Sunday</td>
<td>MAY-JUNE 29-1</td>
<td>Alumni Reunion Weekend</td>
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#### FALL SEMESTER 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>AUGUST 25</td>
<td>Convocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>OCTOBER 4</td>
<td>Homecoming vs. Princeton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 13</td>
<td>Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>DECEMBER 19</td>
<td>Fall Term Ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>SEPTEMBER 2</td>
<td>First Day of Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>OCTOBER 15</td>
<td>October Degrees Conferred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday-Friday</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 27-28</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>DECEMBER 8</td>
<td>Last Day of Classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>OCTOBER 3-4</td>
<td>First-Year Family Weekend</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 4</td>
<td>Election Day — University Holiday</td>
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For more information, please call the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development toll-free, 866-CCALUMNI, or visit the College’s alumni events Web site: www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events.

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Send an e-mail to cct@columbia.edu or call CCT at 212-870-2752.
Frontiers of Science Awarded $200,000 Grant

Frontiers of Science, the newest component of the College's Core Curriculum, has been awarded a $200,000 grant from The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations.

Frontiers of Science, now in its fourth year, is a one-semester course taken by all College students in their first year. It consists of seminars of no more than 22 students per section led by faculty members and Columbia Science Fellows, and lectures delivered by some of Columbia's leading scientists, including Nobel Laureate Horst Stormer and National Medal of Science winner Wallace Broecker. The seminars provide a forum for in-depth discussion of the week's lecture and associated readings, and debate on the implications of the most recent scientific discoveries.

The Core Curriculum, launched in 1919, is the cornerstone of Columbia's baccalaureate program and the oldest uninterrupted program of general education in America. The Core provides students, regardless of their major or concentration, with wide-ranging perspectives on significant ideas and achievements in literature, philosophy, history, music, art and now science. By exposing students to pressing research questions and instilling a sense of how scientific thinking should inform public debate, Frontiers prepares students for citizenship in a technological age where scientific literacy is essential for success in virtually all careers.

The original Arthur Vining Davis Foundation was organized in 1952 under a living trust established by the donor, and two additional trusts commenced operations in 1965. According to the foundations' Web site, "The higher education program seeks to strengthen private four-year liberal arts institutions that place strong emphasis on teaching and whose students choose majors primarily in the humanities, science and math." In addition, programs seeking grants should "reflect the undergraduate priority of the president" of the applying school, with preference given to "projects with potential to influence undergraduate education beyond the university."

The grant will support the research conducted by the Fellows (post-doctoral level scientists) who teach in Frontiers of Science.

New E-Mail Service for Alumni

Alumni with e-mail forwarding may take advantage of a new Web-based e-mail service from the Columbia Alumni Association and Google that enables alumni to maintain a permanent Columbia e-mail address. Alumni can choose a display name @caa.columbia.edu and enjoy all the features of Google's Gmail service while maintaining a Columbia address. The new account can serve as a primary inbox or can forward mail to another account.

Columbia will continue to provide e-mail forwarding. Alumni can even forward mail sent to their student addresses to their new account @caa.columbia.edu.

To sign up for a new account, go to alumni.columbia.edu/email. For more information on e-mail forwarding, go to http://alumni.columbia.edu/access/s2_2c.html. For more information or assistance, contact Aileen English in the University Development and Alumni Relations Office: ame2116@columbia.edu or 212-870-2384.

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THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND  OFFICE OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT

Every Gift Counts.
DIVERSITY: According to the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, the College tied with the University of Virginia for the highest percentage of blacks among its entering class at 11.4 percent. With 153 black members of the Class of 2011, up 22 percent from a year ago, this marks the first time in the history of the Journal’s survey that Columbia has headed the rankings.

Dean Austin Quigley noted, “Almost half of our first-year students self-identified as students of color, making Columbia one of the most ethnically diverse institutions of higher learning in the world. Columbia also has the highest percentage of Pell Grant recipients of any Ivy League or private research university at approximately 15 percent.” Pell Grants are generally available to students from families earning less than $40,000 per year.

INSTITUTE: The University has launched a new institute to examine the changing role religion plays in the contemporary world and to promote religious understanding and cultural tolerance. Supported by a team of scholars drawn from across academic disciplines, the new Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life incorporates a broad range of activities designed to shed light on the complexities surrounding religion in today’s multicultural society. The institute, which opened in the spring semester, will hold a formal launch ceremony in the fall.

“The world is experiencing a resurgence in religion, and with that comes religious and cultural intolerance,” said Mark C. Taylor, professor and chair of the Department of Religion and co-director of the institute. “By taking an expansive rather than restricted view of religious thought and practice, the institute will recast the traditional opposition between the secular and religious in ways that promote innovative approaches to familiar problems.”

In an attempt to uncover the origins of global conflict, the institute will examine the historical and practical values within religious traditions, explore each religion’s attitude toward ecumenicalism, and investigate the social and cultural institutions that support coexistence among people of different faiths. Operating under a 12-person advisory board, the institute will take on a cross-disciplinary approach, uniting scholars from fields including religion, cultural anthropology, history, political science, economics and social psychology.

DAUBER: Associate professor Jeremy Dauber has been appointed acting director of the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies.

Richard Wald ’52 (fourth from right) retired this year after 40 years as chairman of the Board of Directors of The Columbia Daily Spectator. Wald, who was news editor of Spectator, was managing editor of The New York Herald Tribune and The Washington Post, president of NBC News and vice president of ABC News. He is the Fred Friendly Professor of Journalism at the Graduate School of Journalism. This year, he worked with Spectator’s editors to launch a $400,000 fundraising campaign that is part of a work-study initiative to pay student editors who qualify a stipend for their work at the paper. Wald is joined at the annual Blue Pencil Dinner in Low Rotunda on February 23 by (from left) Amanda Erickson ’08, John Davison ’08 and John Mascari ’09 of Spectator’s 2007-08 managing board; Leonard Downie, executive editor of The Washington Post; and Manal Alam ’09, Amanda Sebba ’09 and Tom Faure ’09 of the 2008-09 managing board.

PHOTO: DANIEL YEOW ’08 GSAS/SPECTATOR

ROAR LION ROAR

FENCING: Jeff Spear ’10 gave Columbia its second NCAA fencing championship in two years and third in the past four years when he defeated the favored, top-ranked Mike Montesdez of Ohio State 15-10 in the men’s sabre championship bout on March 16, the final day of the NCAA Championships at Ohio State.

Daria Schneider ’09, who took the leave of absence this year to train for the Olympics, was the 2007 NCAA women’s sabre champion, and Emily Jacobson ’08 was the women’s sabre titlist in 2005. Spear is the first Columbia man to win an NCAA fencing crown since Jed DuPree ’01 in 2001.

In the team standings, Columbia finished third for the second straight season with 158 victories. Host Ohio State won the NCAA title with 185 and Notre Dame was second with 176.

BASEBALL: Columbia’s baseball field was renamed on April 26 in recognition of the generous support of Hal Robertson ’61E and is now known as Robertson Field at the Baker Field Athletics Complex. Since 1970, the field has been named for Andy Coakley, who was head baseball coach from 1914-18 and 1920-51, and ranks second at Columbia in wins. His legacy to the program was recognized with the installation of a plaque in his honor.
IN LUMINE TUO

MAZUR: Marc Mazur '81 was honored by Columbia's Community Impact on April 3 with its sixth annual Making a Difference Service Award, presented "to a prominent person who has consistently given back to the community." A former member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Mazur is an ardent supporter of Columbia athletics and has mentored many Columbia student-athletes and young alumni.

Mazur is a senior adviser at Brevan Howard US Assets Management, previously worked for 12 years at Goldman Sachs and was senior adviser to a number of domestic and international corporations with an emphasis on the healthcare and finance fields. He is active on a number of nonprofit boards targeting public health issues including suicide prevention among college students, drug abuse and inner city education.

Community Impact is a nonprofit organization that consists of more than 950 Columbia student volunteers participating in 25 community service programs. It provides food, clothing, shelter, education, job training and companionship for more than 8,000 residents in the surrounding communities each year.


GUGGENHEIMS: Six Columbia professors have won Guggenheim Foundation Fellowships, granted in recognition of "stellar achievement and exceptional promise for continued accomplishment." Margo Jefferson '71, Sam Lipsyte, Samuel Moyn, Peter Oszvath, Alexander Stille '83 and Jonathan Weiner are among 190 artists, scientists and scholars who were selected from more than 2,600 applicants.

Jefferson, a creative writing professor, is a cultural critic for The New York Times. She has been a daily book reviewer, the Sunday theater critic and a Sunday Book Review columnist. In 1995, she received a Pulitzer Prize for Criticism. Her book, On Michael Jackson, was published in 2006. She is currently studying racial composition and improvisation.

Lipsyte is the associate director of undergraduate creative writing and author of the novel Home Land, a New York Times Notable Book for 2005 and winner of the Believer Book Award. He is also the author of The Subject Steve and Venus Drive, named one of the 25 Best Books of 2000 by the Village Voice Literary Supplement.

History professor Moyn won the 2007 Sybil Halpern Milton Memorial Prize of the German Studies Association for his book A Holocaust Controversy: The Treblinka Affair in Postwar France. The prize is awarded every second year for the best book dealing with Nazi Germany and the Holocaust in its broadest context.

Math professor Oszvath previously won the American Mathematical Society 2007 Oswald Veblen Prize. Granted every three years, the prize is one of the field's highest honors for work in geometry or topology.

Stille, the San Paolo Professor of International Journalism, is the author of The Sack of Rome: How a Beautiful European Country with a Fabled History and a Storied Culture Was Taken Over by a Man Named Silvio Berlusconi, and several other books. Journalism professor Weiner is the author of several books, including The Book of the Finch, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Science. He has written for the New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, the New Republic and many other newspapers and magazines.

IN MEMORIAM

KENNEDY: Raymond Kennedy, who taught fiction writing at the College and GS for nearly 25 years, died on February 18, 2008, in Brooklyn. He was 73.

A novelist whose work drew high praise from other writers and reviewers, including Arthur Miller and Lionel Trilling '25, Kennedy published eight novels and a novella. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, he was a staff editor for Collier's Encyclopedia and then for the Encyclopedia Americana, all while continuing to write.

Kennedy began teaching at Columbia in 1982 and also taught graduate writing courses at NYU and Boston University. At Columbia, he was known as a gifted teacher and mentor, as well as for after-class literary roundtables at The West End.

Kennedy served in the Army before entering the University of Massachusetts-Amherst; he graduated in 1960 with a degree in English. He is survived by his daughter, Branyanne. His wife, Gloria, died in 2002.

MCKENNA: Paleontologist Malcolm C. McKenna, professor emeritus of geological sciences at Columbia and retired Frick curator of vertebrate paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History, died on March 3, 2008, in Boulder, Colo. He was 77.

McKenna taught and worked with generations of Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences paleontology graduate students at AMNH from 1960 until his retirement in 2000. He specialized in the history of mammalian evolution, but also published interdisciplinary work in cosmolology, astrophysics, geology and molecular biology. After retirement, McKenna held adjunct positions at the University of Colorado and the University of Wyoming. He was awarded the Romer-Simpson Medal of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists in 2001, and the Gold Medal of the Paleontological Society of America in 1992, the top honors in his profession.

Born in Pomona, Calif., in 1930, McKenna attended Caltech and Pomona College and earned his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley. He was a proponent of a new classification paradigm, cladistics, introduced in the 1960s. Through his affiliation with the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, he also was an early supporter of continental drift theory.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Priscilla; children, Douglas, Andrew, Katharine and Bruce, and their spouses; and nine grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Malcolm C. McKenna Coler Research Fund, Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology, 1175 W. Baseline Rd., Claremont, CA 91711.

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Jay Dinner Honors Five Alumni, Raises $2.2 Million for College

By Alex Sachare '71
Photos: Eileen Barroso

More than 600 alumni, students, faculty, administrators and guests filled Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City on March 5 as the College honored five of its most accomplished alumni with John Jay Awards for distinguished professional achievement: Barry Bergdoll '77, Alexandra Wallace Creed '88, Robert L. Friedman '64, Jonathan S. Lavine '88 and Ronald F. Mason Jr. '74.

It was the most successful event in the 30-year history of the John Jay Awards Dinner, raising $2.2 million for the College in what Bill Campbell '62, chair of the Board of Trustees, called “a real celebration of the College.” President Lee C. Bollinger echoed that thought when he observed, “In many ways, the College is first among equals at the University, and tonight we are here to celebrate the College.”

In presenting the awards, Dean Austin Quigley declared that the five honorees “have enhanced the standing of the Columbia community through their remarkable achievements” in the fields of art and architecture, media, business and finance, and higher education. Each of the award recipients was introduced by a student who is a John Jay Scholar, and Mark Kortov '08 spoke on behalf of all the scholars and thanked the alumni for their generous support of the special academic enhancement program.

Bergdoll is the Philip Johnson Chief Curator of Architecture and Design at the Museum of Modern Art and professor of architectural history in the Department of Art History and Archeology. “Columbia for me is a family,” he said, noting that he had arrived on campus 35 years ago and that any time he left, “it was always with a round-trip ticket.”

Creed is NBC News v.p. and executive producer of NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams, the first woman in a decade to lead a weeknight network evening newscast. “When I consider the things in life that are important to me, every one of them I trace back to Columbia,” she said. “The ability and urge to question everything, that I developed at Columbia, has been the foundation of my career as a journalist.”

Friedman is a senior managing director and chief legal officer of The Blackstone Group, a leading global alternative asset manager. “My years at Columbia were totally transformative,” said Friedman. “Columbia provides the best education that money, or a John Jay Scholarship, can buy.”

Lavine is a managing director at Bain Capital, a leading global private investment firm based in Boston, and the chief investment officer of Sankaty Advisors, Bain Capital’s fixed income and credit affiliate. “Columbia teaches first and foremost critical thinking,” said Lavine. “Columbia really does send you away with one message: it is not about the degree you get, but what you do with that education.”

Mason has been president of Jackson State University since February 2000. Previously, he founded and was executive director of the Tulane/Xavier National Center for the Urban Community. “It’s great to be back at Columbia,” said Mason. “As we say down south, I feel like I’m in some pretty high cotton alongside the other distinguished honorees. It was an exceptional experience for me to come to Columbia, and one for which I am forever grateful.”
The five award recipients and the John Jay Scholars who presented the awards: (from left) Zarah Iqbal '10, Barry Bergdoll ’77, Nathaniel Nagy ’10, Alexandra Wallace Creed ’88, Kim Davidson ’09, Jonathan S. Lavine ’88, Taylor Harwin ’08, Robert L. Friedman ’64, Noah Bate ’10 and Ronald F. Mason Jr. ’74. (Above, from top): Mark Kortov ’08 described the benefits of being a John Jay Scholar and thanked alumni for their support; Alumni Association President Brian C. Krisberg ’81 said the generosity of dinner supporters "will help to enrich the lives of Columbia College students for years to come;" Columbia College Fund Chair Mark L. Amsterdam ’66 (center) and his son, Matthew ’10, shared a toast with Julian Clarence Levi Professor in the Humanities Andrew Delbanco; honorees (from left) Friedman, Lavine and Creed visited before the start of the dinner. (Left) President Lee C. Bollinger thanked dinner guests for making the event a celebration of the College.
Three Moments with
Robert Siegel ’68

BY JOHN E. MULLIGAN III ’72

As Robert Siegel ’68 roamed the Columbia campus one April evening in 1968, there was a sense in the air that the regular order of things had been suspended.

Protest groups were dispersing here and there from a day of demonstrations. In Morningside Park, Mark Rudd ’69 had led a group of protestors to tear down a fence around a proposed gymnasium site. Other students were launching sit-ins as Siegel and his friend, Marty Nussbaum ’67, ’70L, passed various Columbia landmarks.

The place was in chaos, but nobody had a clue how the nascent uprising was going to turn out — least of all Siegel, a short, skinny senior with a head of hair not quite long enough to make him look hip.

Nobody knew that this run of relatively tame protests was about to give way to the occupation of University buildings, a bloody late-night police bust and widespread media coverage that would thrust Rudd and the Students for a Democratic Society into the national spotlight. But Siegel and Nussbaum, a first-year law student, were starting to see the unhinging of the campus from the vantage point of reporters for WKCR.

“How would we cover this?” Siegal recalls that they asked themselves. “What would we do if we were to say, ‘Let’s broadcast this’?”

National Public Radio’s Robert Siegel ’68 began his broadcasting career at WKCR, where he covered the events of Spring ’68 and recalls, “This is what we wanted to do. We wanted to be on the radio.”

PHOTO: © 2008 NPR, BY STEPHEN VOSS

MAY/JUNE 2008

20
t was in moments like this one 40 years ago that Siegel learned the craft that would one day make him co-host of All Things Considered, National Public Radio’s popular evening program and one of the premier vehicles in all of broadcast news. Siegel was scrubbing away at the traces of his New York accent, mimicking the cadences of NBC’s David Brinkley, and figuring out on the fly how to find the story amid the confusion unspooling before him.

As an undergraduate, Siegel already had a sense of vocation that would only deepen as he progressed to audiences of millions at NPR. “What’s the thing I would most want to be doing in this chaotic situation?” he remembers asking himself during that campus upheaval. “It’s to be on the radio!”

To colleagues, the Siegel that listeners find an urbane, sometimes droll companion on the evening commute is a consummate professional, a skilled writer, a master of the offhandedly pitch-perfect interview.

To some of his contemporaries, Siegel also is a broadcaster born to his medium. “Physically, it’s probably true that Bob was an unprepossessing kid,” says Bob Papper ’69, ’70, a WKCR comrade-in-arms and former radio newsman who now is a professor of telecommunications at Hofstra. “But audibly, Bob always had a commanding presence. He always had that absolutely classic radio voice — deep, resonant, a little gravelly — that just demands that you stop and listen.”

Old WKCR hands such as Papper and Nussbaum testify, too, that Siegel’s personality and turn of mind were well-suited to radio’s most distinctive quality — its intimacy. “He had that calm in the midst of chaos, that feeling of being maybe just a bit of a loner,” says Papper, who succeeded Siegel as WKCR president. “He had the ability to paint word pictures in a listener’s mind in an immediate and compelling way,” says Nussbaum, a Manhattan lawyer who specializes in mergers and acquisitions.

Nowadays, Siegel is rounder than he was in 1968, and bald on top with a trim white beard. But he is every bit the man you might expect to find behind the baritone voice of All Things Considered. He speaks with understated precision and what sounds like a hint of amusement at the passing cavalcade of human adventure and folly. “That’s the twinkle,” says Papper. “You could always ‘hear’ Bob smiling.”

In several recent conversations at NPR headquarters in Washington, D.C., Siegel settled into a theme: that he continually finds radio news a worthy pursuit, and occasionally an indispensable one. He zeroed in on three occasions that, for a less industrious and fortunate reporter, might qualify as once-in-a-career moments.

At the radio station, Siegel began a rich life’s work at least partly as entertainment. WKCR-AM, which was piped through the wiring to the Columbia dorms, “was there for us to play with mostly,” Siegel says. (Yes, the co-host of All Things Considered has some Golden Oldies gigs in his past.) But WKCR-FM “was a real New York City radio station where we did things that professional broadcasters did.”

In Spring ’68, they did things that professional broadcasters — and print reporters, for that matter — could not do. They chronicled the campus upheaval, a major national news story, from the inside, often live and without a script.

As Siegel and Nussbaum walked the campus that April evening, they rummaged for models of how to cover an unruly, breaking news event. They thought of the reporters staked out at the Dallas police station and the hospital after President Kennedy’s assassination in 1963, the roving floor correspondents at the national political conventions in 1964.

“And as we talked about it,” Siegel recalls of the peripatetic planning session, “we said, ‘Well, let’s go do it.’” So cover the protests they did. And they covered them in numbers. “We must have had 150 kids” with some connection to WKCR — as engineers, business managers, DJs, producers, sportscasters and newsmen — who were willing to put in the countless hours it took to man broadcast posts around campus and air the news of the strike more or less continually, says Papper.

When it became apparent that the New York City police were about to intervene, the University asked the students to suspend the FM broadcasts that reached the largest audience. Siegel recalls thinking, “This is what it’s like when you’re broadcasting under some controlling political authority. People come in and say, ‘Stop broadcasting.’” He was struck by the idea that “what we could be doing on the air was so potentially powerful or incendiary.”

Protest calls flooded into the University, and the radio station soon went back on the air.

“The administration suddenly took a bad situation and made it much worse,” says Nussbaum, who had preceded Siegel as WKCR president and stayed close to the station.

“Everyone was listening to us, so when we were shut down, everyone came pouring out of the dorms to see for themselves what was happening.”

One moment from the strike coverage that stands out in Siegel’s memory was a panel discussion among adversaries in the strike. It aired live from St. Paul’s Chapel, where WKCR had a high-quality line for broadcasting organ recitals. University Vice President David Truman made the short trip from his office in Low Library to St. Paul’s through the underground passages that the police had used days earlier tooust the students who had occupied administrative offices in Low.

Siegel remembers thinking, “Everything is in a different place from where it was a week ago. Truman, a man who was greatly respected and popular at the University a week ago, was reduced to slinking through the tunnels.” In a matter of days, “the gap between sort of smart-ass student and esteemed, serious, highly regarded professor was gone.”

As for the radio discussion, “I can’t remember a damn thing,” Siegel admits. But he vividly remembers how it felt to wield the microphone. “Just as there had been people itching to protest for a couple of years, or people who had been dying to yell at an SDS member, this is what we wanted to do. We wanted to be on the radio.”

A WKCR connection helped Siegel to land his first professional broadcasting job, at WGLI in Babylon, N.Y. Jay Mitchell ’68,
who already worked there, brought him to Long Island to work for him at the station. “I did morning newscasts and a show that was part phone-ins, part Top Forty, all under the pseudonym Bob Charles,” says Siegel.

Next came a year at the Graduate School of Journalism, although he never finished his degree, and several years as a reporter, host and news director at nearby WRVR — “the late radio station of the Riverside Church,” as Siegel calls it.

Siegel joined NPR in 1976, only six years after it was created. He had hoped to catch on as the New York Bureau reporter but didn’t get hired. Instead, NPR offered him a newscaster’s job in Washington, D.C., so Siegel moved there with his wife, Jane ’70 GS, who is today an international trade analyst at the Department of Commerce.

The staff of NPR — a private, not-for-profit network heavily reliant on listener contributions — was very small and very young. “Things moved so fast here that after six months I was promoted to editor” of the news reporting staff, Siegel says.

One of the principal challenges of NPR’s early years of rapid expansion “was filling the show every day,” Siegel notes, referring to All Things Considered, the network’s hallmark program at the time. “We relied heavily on the wits of Susan Stamberg,” he says of the broadcast veteran of NPR’s earliest days, now a special correspondent for Morning Edition, the news program born in 1979.

“Importantly, we all had come to a place we had not grown up listening to,” says Siegel, who had so frankly borrowed elements of the broadcaster’s craft from the David Brinkleys and Walter Cronkites and Edward R. Murrows of his upbringing. Public radio “was not the CBS of its day, so we felt free to make it up as we went along,” he recalls.

May 1981

**Solidarity defies Polish communist government**

Also created in 1979 was NPR’s London Bureau, with Siegel at the helm for what was to become a four-year stint. He went on assignment to Poland in spring 1981 and again in the fall, when Solidarity’s challenge to the communist government was developing into one of the Cold War’s most compelling stories.

NPR’s crew went first to Warsaw to cover a university strike in progress — “a total flashback to Columbia ’68,” Siegel says. “The tremendous mood of suspension of order, suspension of all the rules of who was in charge and who had to listen to whom — that was palpably familiar.”

Adding to the aura of déjà vu was the recollection that the SDS leaders at Columbia in 1968 had felt a kinship to student insurgents in Paris, Prague, Mexico City and Warsaw, where one of the first mass protests had broken out.

Now Siegel noted that some of Poland’s dissident leaders in 1981 had cut their teeth as student protestors 13 years before at the University of Warsaw. “The things that had pestered out in 1968 and ’69 suddenly popped up again, only with much greater consequence,” Siegel says. In Poland in 1981, the upheaval “wasn’t just about a university’s future or a police bust. It was about the country’s future and possibly a war.”

In the months since thousands of Solidarity’s trade unionists had seized control of a shipyard in Gdansk, the movement’s defiance of the Polish government had spread across the nation, sowing industrial strikes, anti-communist publications and popular protests of a duration and scale never seen in the Warsaw Pact nations.

The suspense crackled as the stakes rose. Ominous rumblings about Solidarity were heard from Moscow. Nobody knew in the spring, of course, where the Solidarity movement was headed. Martial law had not yet been declared and the unthinkable — the peaceful upending of the Polish government and the dissolution of the Soviet bloc — was still years in the future.

“The power of that moment was that no one had any idea where this was headed,” Siegel says. As one dissident leader told Siegel’s producer: “Tomorrow I could be in the cabinet; I could be in prison. I don’t know.”

Siegel traveled to Nowa Huta, or New Steel, the communist model city built near Krakow in the postwar years. “It was the most corrupt city I have ever been in,” Siegel says. His hotel was in “the single most corrupt block, ringed with money changers, black marketeers and prostitutes” — a crew assumed to be heavily infiltrated by the secret police.

There was a famous Catholic church in Nowa Huta, a rare concession to a restive people that a man named Karol Wojtyla, the archbishop of Krakow, had wrung from the government. “This was the great scene of his doing battle with the Communist Party,” Siegel says. Nowa Huta was where the future Pope John Paul II had won a skirmish that prefigured the outcome of the Cold War.

What stands out in Siegel’s memory is a moment with Adam Michnik, a veteran of 1968 student protests in Warsaw. Now he was one of Solidarity’s leading intellectuals, trying to organize a group of steel workers in Nowa Huta, airing their grievances about wages, working conditions and the pollution that was making their children sick.

“It was the scene that my SDS friends from college would have dreamed of,” Siegel says, “being part of a national revolution and actually communicating with workers — except, of course, the content of the message is totally different.” These radicals were agitating for a free-market democracy and against a communist government that, for all they knew, might crush their revolt tomorrow.

“The questions one tried to answer were basic, big questions about the future of that country,” says Siegel.

Siegel aired a number of daily reports on the unfolding situation in Poland during two-week visits in March 1981 and again in November — the latter just before General Wojciech Jaruzelski’s government cracked down on Solidarity and imposed martial law.

The mission was to put these faraway events, and their potential for historic ramifications, into perspective for an American audience. Siegel looks back on the moment as thrilling and, more than that, as having carried a sense of “performing the most important service imaginable.”

Siegel went on to produce award-winning coverage of the peace movements in East and West Germany and to tackle other jobs at NPR. He assisted, for example, in the launch of another newsmagazine-style program, Weekend Edition, before joining All Things Considered in 1987.

Along the way, Siegel and his wife raised a pair of daughters. Erica ’98 is a Columbia doctoral candidate in Slavic literature and teaches Lit Hum. Younger daughter Leah, an Emerson College graduate, is a rock musician.

Siegel has managed to nurture various other passions in the bargain. He’s a moviegoer, a reader and a lifelong New York
Yankees fan who has embraced the National League’s new transplant in the capital city, the Washington Nationals. He’s a golfer, too, but he is careful to stipulate that he is not the real McCoy. Robert Paul Siegel ’68 was captain of the Columbia golf team.

The variety and fervency of Siegel’s interests is among the traits that associates love to cite when trying to describe him. “Robert is probably the person in the building who is best qualified to do an interview on the Middle East. Robert is probably the person in the building who is most qualified to do an interview on opera,” says Susan Feeney, a senior editor at All Things Considered. Small wonder at NPR, then, when Siegel improvised a casually brilliant interview on a topic he was probably the person in building least qualified to address — rap music. It was a Father’s Day assignment, brainchild of an enthusiastic young producer, to interview rapper Common because his work owed much to the influence of his father, a poet.

Siegel had never heard of Common, says Feeney, but he gamely got on the horn for the interview and, while waiting for Common to come to the telephone, found himself chatting with his father. Common, as it happened, was not around and never got on the phone. But Siegel continued his conversation with Common’s father and filed “the loveliest Father’s Day interview you can imagine,” Feeney recalls.

Siegel has shown equal zest to the task of producing an early segment of “In Character,” a new feature on All Things Considered. After he selected one of America’s ageless fictional idols — The Lone Ranger — as his kickoff contribution to the series, the hallways near Siegel’s office frequently echoed with the telltale strains of “The William Tell Overture,” theme song of the long-ago radio and TV shows.

“Robert has range,” says Feeney.

SEPTEMBER 2001

Terrorists attack the World Trade Center

W

When Siegel landed in the third of what he considers the clock-stopping moments of his radio life, he had long since settled into his role as the approachable-sounding co-host of All Things Considered.

As the newsgathering gods would have it, Siegel was on assignment in New York when two airplanes crashed into the World Trade Center on a brilliant morning in September 2001.

He jumped into the breaking news coverage and stayed with it all week.

Siegel was on Chambers Street, at the northern edge of Ground Zero, when he found a story hidden in plain view on September 12. The dust-caked streets were strewn with papers, the daily by-product of a global financial center. “I thought I should look at the paper,” Siegel recalls. What he saw were the artifacts of lives that touched this place: the stray page of an obscure legal deposition from the files of a law firm quartered in the World Trade Center; the resume of a sommelier seeking work at Windows on the World, the famous top-floor restaurant, now atomized with the rest of the North Tower.

This stuff became the raw material of a brief and moving radio report that day. Hours later, the pursuit of the story took Siegel to St. Vincent’s Hospital in search of people who might have survived the attack.

“Suddenly I realized I was on West 11th Street,” the scene more than three decades earlier of a fatal misadventure involving a band of radicals with links to the Columbia strike, he says. Siegel was just down the street from a townhouse where members of the Weathermen — as they styled themselves, after a line from a Bob Dylan song — had been assembling explosives for some revolutionary purpose. When they accidentally blew themselves up, Ted Gold ’68 was killed.

“It brought me back to earth for a moment,” Siegel recalls. “No one from Columbia did anything remotely similar to flying a plane into an office building,” he allows. But there was still a jolt in the recollection that driven young people, right here in America, in Siegel’s own experience, had once followed their vision of justice to bombings, bank robberies, even killings.

“People have a peculiar political experience, they have taste of a revolutionary experience where all the world goes their way,” he says of the 1960s radicals, “and they could get themselves into all kinds of terrible ideas.”

Through those days that Siegel patrolled Ground Zero, the old question loomed out of the chaos: “What do I do now? The firefighters did what they do, to their great credit and peril. What do I do is I go on the radio and get people in the know to talk about this, and describe what I can and try to present a clear picture of what is going on,” recalls Siegel.

“And at that moment I felt very glad that I was in New York, and that I was doing something that was useful.”

John E. Mulligan III ’72 is Washington bureau chief of the Providence Journal.
Legacy of Ashes is the record of the first sixty years of the Central Intelligence Agency. It describes how the most powerful country in the history of Western Civilization has failed to create a first-rate spy service. That failure constitutes a danger to the national security of the United States.

The book is drawn from the words, the ideas, and the deeds set forth in the files of the American national-security establishment. They record what our leaders really said, really wanted, and really did when they projected power abroad. This book is based on my reading of more than fifty thousand documents, primarily from the archives of the CIA, the White House, and the State Department; more than two thousand oral histories of American intelligence officers, soldiers, and diplomats; and more than three hundred interviews conducted since 1987 with CIA officers and veterans, including ten directors of central intelligence. Extensive endnotes amplify the text.

This book is on the record — no anonymous sources, no blind quotations, no hearsay. It is the first history of the CIA compiled entirely from firsthand reporting and primary documents. It is, by its nature, incomplete: no president, no director of central intelligence, and certainly no outsider can know everything about the agency. What I have written here is not the whole truth, but to the best of my ability, it is nothing but the truth.

I hope it may serve as a warning. No republic in history has lasted longer than three hundred years, and this nation may not long endure as a great power unless it finds the eyes to see things as they are in the world. That was once the mission of the Central Intelligence Agency.

—Tim Weiner '78
alone in the Oval Office on Monday, November 4, 1963, John F. Kennedy dictated a memo about a maelstrom he had set in motion half a world away — the assassination of an American ally, President Ngo Dinh Diem of South Vietnam.

“We must bear a good deal of responsibility for it,” JFK said. He stopped for a moment to play with his children as they ran in and out of the room. Then he resumed. “The way he was killed” — and he paused again —“made it particularly abhorrent.”

The CIA’s Lucien Conein was Kennedy’s spy among the mutinous generals who murdered Diem. “I was part and parcel of the whole conspiracy,” Conein said in an extraordinary testament years later.

His nickname was Black Luigi, and he had the panache of a Corsican gangster. Conein had joined the OSS, trained with the British, and parachuted behind French lines. In 1945, he flew to Indochina to fight the Japanese; he was in Hanoi with Ho Chi Minh, and for a moment they were allies. He stayed on to become a charter member of the CIA.

In 1954, he was one of the first American intelligence officers in Vietnam. After Ho defeated the French at the battle of Dien Bien Phu, Vietnam was partitioned into North and South at an international conference in Geneva, where the United States was represented by Undersecretary of State Walter Bedell Smith.

For the next nine years, the United States backed President Diem as the man to fight communism in Vietnam. Conein served under the command of Ed Lansdale at the CIA’s new Saigon Military Mission. Lansdale had “a very broad charter,” said the CIA’s Rufus Phillips. “It was literally, ‘Ed, do what you can to save South Vietnam.’”

Conein went to North Vietnam on sabotage missions, destroying trains and buses, contaminating fuel and oil, organizing two hundred Vietnamese commandos trained by the CIA, and burying weapons in the cemeteries of Hanoi. He then returned to Saigon to help shore up President Diem, a mystic Catholic in a Buddhist country whom the CIA provided with millions of dollars, a phalanx of bodyguards, and a direct line to Allen Dulles. The agency created South Vietnam’s political parties, trained its secret police, made its popular movies, and printed and peddled an astrological magazine predicting that the stars were in Diem’s favor. It was building a nation from the ground up.

“The ignorance and the arrogance”

In 1959, the peasant soldiers of North Vietnam began to carve the Ho Chi Minh Trail through the jungles of Laos; the footpaths were filled with guerrillas and spies heading for South Vietnam.

Laos, a preindustrial lotus land, became “a flashpoint where the U.S. saw its interests being challenged by the communist world,” said John
Gunther Dean, then a young State Department officer at the American embassy in Vientiane. The CIA set to work buying a new Lao government and building a guerrilla army to fight the communists and attack the trail. The North Vietnamese reacted by stepping up their attempts to infiltrate the country and train the local communists, the Pathet Lao.

The architect of the American political strategy in Laos was the CIA station chief, Henry Hecksher, a veteran of the Berlin base and the Guatemalan coup. Hecksher began to build a network of American control by using junior diplomats as bagmen. “One day, Hecksher asked me whether I could take a suitcase to the Prime Minister,” Dean remembered. “The suitcase contained money.”

The cash made the leaders of Laos “realize that the real power at the Embassy was not the Ambassador but the CIA station chief,” said Dean, later the American ambassador in Thailand, India, and Cambodia, among other nations. “The Ambassador was supposed to support the Lao Government and basically not rock the boat. Henry Hecksher was committed to opposing the neutralist Prime Minister — and perhaps bring about his downfall. That is what happened.”

The CIA forced out a freely elected coalition government and installed a new prime minister, Prince Souvanna Phouma. The prime minister’s case officer was Campbell James, an heir to a railroad fortune who dressed, acted, and thought like a nineteenth-century British grenadier. Eight years out of Yale, he saw himself as a viceroy in Laos, and lived accordingly. James made friends and bought influence among the leaders of Laos at a private gambling club he created; its centerpiece was a roulette wheel borrowed from John Gunther Dean.

The real battle for Laos began after the CIA’s Bill Lair, who ran a jungle warfare training school for Thai commandos, discovered a Lao tribe named Vang Pao, a general in the Royal Lao Army who led the hill tribe that called itself the Hmong. In December 1960, Lair told the Far East division chief Desmond FitzGerald about his new recruit. “Vang Pao had said: ‘We can’t live with the communists,’” Lair reported. “‘You give us the weapons, and we’ll fight the communists.’” The next morning, at the CIA station, FitzGerald told Lair to write up a proposal. “It was an 18-page cable,” Lair remembered. “The answer came back in a very short time ... That was the real go-ahead.”

In early January 1961, in the final days of the Eisenhower administration, the CIA’s pilots delivered their first weapons to the Hmong. Six months later, more than nine thousand Hill tribesmen controlled by Vang Pao joined three hundred Thai commandos trained by Lair for combat operations against the communists. The CIA sent guns, money, radios, and airplanes to the Lao military in the capital and the tribal leaders in the mountains. Their most urgent mission was to cut the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Hanoi had now proclaimed a National Liberation Front in the south. That year, four thousand South Vietnamese officials died at the hands of the Vietcong.

A few months after President Kennedy took power, the fates of Laos and South Vietnam were seen as one. Kennedy did not want to send American combat troops to die in those jungles. Instead, he called on the CIA to double its tribal forces in Laos and “make every possible effort to launch guerrilla operations in North Vietnam” with its Asian recruits.

The Americans sent to Laos during the Kennedy years did not know the tribal name of the Hmong. They called them the Meo, an epithet somewhere between “barbarian” and “nigger.” One of those young men was Dick Holm. Looking back, he ruefully said that the ignorance and the arrogance of Americans arriving in Southeast Asia ... We had only minimal understanding of the history, culture, and politics of the people we wanted to aid ... Our strategic interests were superimposed onto a region where our president had decided to ‘draw the line’ against communism. And we would do it our way.”

At CIA headquarters, “the activists were all for a war in Laos,” said Robert Amory Jr., the deputy director for intelligence. “They thought that was a great place to have a war.”

**“WE HARVESTED A LOT OF LIES”**

The Americans sent to Vietnam had an equally profound ignorance of the country’s history and culture. But the CIA’s officers saw themselves as the point men in the global war on communism.

They had the run of Saigon. “They were under covers as varied as film and drama producers and industrial salesmen; they were trainers, weapons experts, merchants,” said Ambassador Leonardo Neher, then a State Department officer in Saigon. “They had unbelievable funds ... They were having the time of their lives. They had everything they wanted.”

What they lacked was intelligence about the enemy. That was the responsibility of William E. Colby, the station chief in Saigon from 1959 to 1961, soon to be chief of the Far East division of the clandestine service.

Colby, who had fought behind enemy lines as an OSS commando, did as he had done in World War II. He started an operation called Project Tiger to parachute some 250 South Vietnamese agents into North Vietnam. After two years, 217 of them were recorded as killed, missing, or suspected of being double agents. A final report listed the fate of fifty-two teams of agents, each team as large as seventeen commandos:

- “Captured soon after landing.”
- “Hanoi Radio announced capture.”
- “Team destroyed.”
- “Team believed under North Vietnam control.”
- “Captured soon after landing.”
- “Doubled, played, terminated.” That last phrase suggests that the United States discovered that a commando team was secretly working for North Vietnam and then hunted and killed its members. The reason for the failure of the missions eluded the CIA until after the cold war, when one of Colby’s
cohort. Captain Do Van Tien, the deputy chief for Project Tiger, revealed that he had been a spy for Hanoi all along.

“We harvested a lot of lies,” said Robert Barbour, the deputy chief of the American embassy’s political section. “Some of them we knew were lies. Some of them we didn’t.”

In October 1961, President Kennedy sent General Maxwell Taylor to assess the situation. “South Vietnam is now undergoing an acute crisis of confidence,” Taylor warned in a top secret report to the president. The United States had to “demonstrate by deeds — not merely words — the American commitment seriously to help save Vietnam.” He wrote: “To be persuasive this commitment must include the sending to Vietnam of some U.S. military forces.” That was a very deep secret.

To win the war, General Taylor continued, the United States needed more spies. In a secret annex to the report, the CIA’s deputy station chief in Saigon, David Smith, said that a key battle would be fought within the government of South Vietnam. He said Americans had to infiltrate the Saigon government, influence it, “speed up the processes of decision and action” within it — and, if necessary, change it.

That job went to Lucien Conein.

“NOBODY LIKED DIEM”

Conein started working with President Diem’s half-mad brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, to establish the Strategic Hamlets program, which herded peasants from their villages into armed camps as a defense against communist subversion. Wearing the uniform of a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, Conein burrowed deep into the decaying military and political culture of South Vietnam.

“I was able to go to every province, I was able to talk to unit commanders,” he said. “Some of these people I had known for many years; some I had known even back in World War Two. Some of them were in powerful positions.” His contacts soon became the best the agency had in Vietnam. But there was so much he did not know.

On May 7, 1963, the eve of the 2,527th birthday of the Buddha, Conein flew to Hue, where he found a large military entourage whose presence he did not understand. He was encouraged to leave on the next plane. “I wanted to stay,” he remembered. “I wanted to see the celebration of the birthday of Buddha. I wanted to see the boats with the candles lit going down the perfumed river, but it was not to be.” The next morning Diem’s soldiers attacked and killed members of a Buddhist entourage in Hue.

“Diem had been out of touch with reality,” Conein said. Diem’s blue-uniformed scouts modeled on the Hitler Youth, his CIA-trained special forces, and his secret police aimed to create a Catholic regime in a Buddhist nation. By oppressing the monks, Diem had made them a powerful political force. Their protests against the government grew for the next five weeks. On June 11, a sixty-six-year-old monk named Quang Duc sat down and set himself ablaze in a Saigon intersection. The pictures of the immolation went around the world. All that was left of
For a reader, it can be surprising to hear that Tim Weiner '78, '79 is, as he puts it, "pro-espionage." After all, his recent book, Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA — which won the 2007 National Book Award for nonfiction — is a study, alternately sad and terrifying, of espionage gone wrong. In its pages, the agency sacrifices its inadequately supported recruits in far-off places such as North Korea and Albania; it neglects to spot the Soviets' nuclear warheads moving into Cuba. Assassination attempts are botched; suspected double agents are subjected to mind-bending torture under a program code-named Project Artichoke. Not surprisingly, Weiner laments, some readers have seen sacrifices its inadequately supported recruits in far-off places as "an attack on the very idea of intelligence."

But to read the book so narrowly is to mistake Weiner's argument. In fact, in his book, spycraft — the good kind — is essential. Intelligence "is what makes things tick," he says emphatically, sitting in his sunny Morningside Heights apartment. "Intelligence, whether it's good, bad or ugly, touches every aspect of foreign policy, and the projection of American power." Ideally, intelligence is the basis for political strategy, an extra tool that can "help Presidents look out over the horizon and see what's coming." Although Weiner is rueful about America's espionage, he also takes the long view. One reason Americans aren't skilful at spycraft, he says, is that we're relatively new to it. "We as a nation have only been in this game for 60 years," he points out. Another reason is, as he says, "the way Presidents command and control ... the CIA." The old view of the CIA as a "rogue elephant," trampling people and countries, according to Weiner, isn't as true as the idea that the elephant's driver was often the one to blame. "Ultimately," he says, "you have to look to the way Presidents have used or misused the CIA. That's what this book's about.

Weiner, a two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times reporter who has covered American intelligence for 20 years, got his early investigative training as a history major at Columbia, where he remembers professors such as Istvan Deak '64 GSAS and Henry Graff '49 GSAS. "That's where I learned the techniques of digging into primary documents," Weiner says. "That's where I started learning how to write." After graduating from the J-School, he worked at newspapers in Manhattan and Missouri before The Philadelphia Inquirer sent him to the Philippines in the mid-1980s to cover the elections and the subsequent People Power Revolution. "People yearning for freedom — it was amazing to witness that," Weiner says. That was a turning point for him. "I decided I had seen the big picture for the first time in my life," he says. "And I wanted to get inside the mechanisms of American foreign policy. That's what led me eventually to covering the CIA."

Legacy of Ashes took Weiner two years to write. He pored over more than 50,000 documents, mostly from the CIA, White House and State Department archives. The result — an entirely on-the-record narrative, with 154 pages of endnotes — hit The New York Times bestseller list as a hardcover in July 2007. Historian Walter Isaacson, former editor of Time, calls it a "fascinating, deeply scary book." In May, Legacy of Ashes ships out to bookstores in paperback, just ahead of the summer floodtide of suspense novels and bodice-rippers. It's "the feel-bad book of the summer," Weiner jokes.

—Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard
chief displayed about Conein's central role in the coup plotting. Lodge decided he wanted a new station chief.

So he burned Richardson — "exposed him, and gave his name publicly to the newspapers," as Bobby Kennedy said in a classified oral history eight months later — by feeding a coldly calculated leak to a journeyman reporter passing through Saigon. The story was a hot scoop. Identifying Richardson by name — an unprecedented breach of security — it said he had "frustrated a plan of action Mr. Lodge brought with him from Washington, because the Agency disagreed with it ... One high official here, a man who has devoted most of his life in the service of democracy, likened the CIA's growth to a malignancy, and added he was not sure even the White House could control it."

The New York Times and The Washington Post picked up the story. Richardson, his career ruined, left Saigon four days later; after a decent interval. Ambassador Lodge moved into his house.

"We were fortunate when Richardson was recalled," said Conein's old friend, General Don. "Had he been there, he could have put our plan in great jeopardy."

"A COMPLETE LACK OF INTELLIGENCE"

Lucien Conein went to meet General Duong Van Minh, known as "Big Minh," at the Joint General Staff Headquarters in Saigon on October 5. He reported that the general raised the issue of assassination and the question of American support for a new junta.

"DIEM LOOKED AT ME QUIZZICALLY AND SAID, 'IS THERE GOING TO BE A COUP AGAINST ME?'"

Dave Smith, the new acting station chief, recommended that "we do not set ourselves irrevocably against the assassination plot" — music to Ambassador Lodge's ears, anathema to [CIA Director John] McCone's.

McCone commanded Smith to stop "stimulating, or approving, or supporting assassination," and he rushed to the Oval Office. Careful to avoid using words that could link the White House to a murder, he later testified, he chose a sports analogy: Mr. President, if I were the manager of a baseball team, and I had only one pitcher, I'd keep him on the mound whether he was a good pitcher or not. On October 17, at a meeting of the Special Group, and in a one-on-one with the president four days later, McCone said that ever since Lodge's arrival in August, American foreign policy in Vietnam had been based on "a complete lack of intelligence" on the politics of Saigon. The situation developing around Conein was "exceedingly dangerous," he said, and it threatened "absolute disaster for the United States."

The American ambassador reassured the White House. "I believe that our involvement to date through Conein is still within the realm of plausible denial," he reported. "We should not thwart a coup for two reasons. First, it seems at least an even bet that the next government would not bungle and stumble as much as the present one has. Secondly, it is extremely unwise in the long range for us to pour cold water on attempts at a coup ... We should remember that this is the only way in which the people in Viet-

"PHOTO: © BETTMANN/CORBIS"

"The bodies of President Diem (right) and his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, disguised as priests, lie in an armored personnel carrier, November 2, 1963, shortly after they were slain. They were reportedly being taken to Army staff headquarters at Tan Son Nhut Airfield."

MAY/JUNE 2008 29
Conein met with General Don on the night of October 24 and learned that the coup was no more than ten days away. They met again on October 28. Don later wrote that Conein "offered us money and weapons, but I turned him down, saying that we still need only courage and conviction."

Conein carefully conveyed the message that the United States opposed assassination. The reaction of the generals, he testified, was: "You don't like it like that? Well, we'll do it our own way anyhow ... You don't like it, we won't talk about it anymore." He did not discourage them. If he had, he said, "I would then be cut off and blinded."

Conein reported back to Lodge that the coup was imminent. The ambassador sent the CIA's Rufus Phillips to see Diem. They sat in the palace and talked of war and politics. Then "Diem looked at me quizzically and said, 'Is there going to be a coup against me?'" Phillips remembered.

"I looked at him and just wanted to cry, and said, 'I am afraid so, Mr. President.' That was all we said about that."

**WHO GAVE THOSE ORDERS?**

The coup struck on November 1. It was noon in Saigon, midnight in Washington. Summoned at home by an emissary from General Don, Conein changed into his uniform and called Rufus Phillips to watch over his wife and infant children. Then he grabbed a .38-caliber revolver and a satchel with about $70,000 in CIA funds, hopped into his Jeep, and rushed through the streets of Saigon to the Joint General Staff headquarters of the army of South Vietnam. The streets were filled with gunfire. The leaders of the coup had closed the airport, cut the city's telephone lines, stormed central police headquarters, seized the government radio station, and attacked the centers of political power.

Conein filed his first report shortly after 2 p.m. Saigon time. He stayed in contact with the CIA station over his Jeep's secure communications link, describing shellings and bombings and troop movements and political maneuvers as they took place. The station relayed his reports to the White House and the State Department through encoded cables. It was as near to real-time intelligence as could be achieved in that day.

"Conein at JGS HQS/ from Gens Big Minh and Don and eyewitness observation," came the first flash cable. "Gens attempting contact Palace by telephone but unable to do so. Their proposition as follows: If the President will resign imme-

Conein, "we're bringing in the press." Conein went home, only to be summoned by Lodge. "I went to the Embassy and I was informed that I had to find Diem," he said. "I was tired and fed up, and I said, 'Who gave those orders?' They let me know that those orders came from the President of the United States."

At about 10 a.m., Conein drove back to General Staff headquarters and confronted the first general he met. "Big Minh told me they committed suicide. I looked at him and said, where? He said they were in the Catholic Church in Cholon, and they committed suicide," Conein said in his classified testimony to the Senate committee investigating the assassination twelve years later.

"I think I lost my cool at that point," Conein said. He was thinking of mortal sin and his eternal soul.

"I told Big Minh, look, you're a Buddhist, I'm a Catholic. If they committed suicide at that church and the priest holds
Mass tonight, that story won’t hold water. I said, where are they? He said they are at the General Staff headquarters, behind the General Staff headquarters, did I want to see them? And I said no. He said, why not? And I said, well, if by chance one in a million of the people believe you that they committed suicide in church and I see that they have not committed suicide and I know differently, I am in trouble.”

Conein returned to the American embassy to report that President Diem was dead. He did not report the whole truth. “Informed by Viet counterparts that suicide committed en route from city,” he cabled. At 2:50 a.m. Washington time came a reply signed in Dean Rusk’s name: “News of Diem, Nhu suicide shocking here... important to establish publicly beyond question that deaths actually suicide if this true.”

On Saturday, November 2, 1963, at 9:35 a.m., the president convened an off-the-record meeting at the White House with his brother, McCone, Rusk, McNamara, and General Taylor. Before long, Michael Forrestal ran in with a flash from Saigon. General Taylor recounted that the president leaped to his feet and “rushed from the room with a look of shock and dismay on his face which I had never seen before.”

At 6:31 p.m., McGeorge Bundy cabled Lodge, with eyes-only copies to McCone, McNamara, and Rusk: “Deaths of Diem and Nhu, whatever their failings, has caused shock here and there is danger that standing and reputation of incoming government may be significantly damaged if conviction spreads of their assassination at direction of one or more senior members of incoming regime ... They should not be left under illusion that political assassination is easily accepted here.”

Jim Rosenthal was the duty officer at the American embassy in Saigon on that Saturday. Ambassador Lodge sent him down to the front door to receive some important visitors. “I’ll never forget the sight,” he said. “This car pulled up to the Embassy, and the cameras were grinding away. Conein hops out of the front seat, opens the back door, and salutes, and these guys come out. As if he was delivering them to the Embassy, which he was. I just went up with them in the elevator, and Lodge greeted them ... Here were the guys who had just carried out a coup, killed the chief of state, and then they walk up to the Embassy, as if to say, ‘Hey, boss, we did a good job, didn’t we?’”

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1. SDS chair Mark Rudd ’69, who quickly became the best-known of the protesters, addressing a rally on Low Plaza on May 17.

PHOTO: UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

2. Student protesters entering Morningside Park, site of the proposed gymnasium that was one of the key issues in the protests.

PHOTO: HUGH ROGERS PHOTOGRAPHY

3. Acting Dean Henry Coleman ’46 speaking to students outside Hamilton Hall, where he remained confined to his office for 26 hours as students occupied the building.

4. Helmeted police scuffle with students and others on the steps of Low Library on April 30 as they move in to clear students from the five buildings that had been occupied for a week.

PHOTO: AP WIREPHOTO

5. Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41 (left) and Richard Hofstadter (second from left) were among members of an Ad Hoc Faculty Committee that tried to negotiate a solution to the dispute.

6. Inside the occupied buildings on the morning after the bust. This is a scene from Mathematics Hall.

7. A policeman holding a billy club dominates the foreground as an injured youth is aided during a May 22 demonstration.

PHOTO: AP WIREPHOTO
Alumni recall a tumultuous time and how it changed their lives.

Forty years ago, the Columbia campus was enveloped in turmoil by the events of Spring '68: the controversies (chiefly, the proposed construction of a gym in Morningside Park and the ongoing Vietnam War, including Columbia's involvement with a Defense Department think tank called the Institute for Defense Analyses) that led to the takeover of Hamilton Hall, Low Library and three other campus buildings on April 23 and in the days thereafter; the negotiations the following week to try to resolve the protests in a peaceful manner; the administration's decision to call in the NYC police to clear the buildings on the night of April 30 that resulted in a bloody encounter in which more than 700 students were arrested; a subsequent takeover of a Columbia-owned apartment building on West 114th Street that was followed by another police "bust"; and the early end to the spring semester, including a counter-Commencement to the official Commencement.

The unrest at Columbia was not an isolated event. There were 101 campus sit-ins or demonstrations in spring '68, according to the late former CCT editor, George Keller '51. That same year,
Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy were assassinated, the Democratic National Convention in Chicago was disrupted by turmoil and violence inside and outside the convention center and protests against the Vietnam War spread through Europe, with Paris the site of several bombings. But of all the campus unrest in the United States, Columbia got the most publicity and is what people focus on to this day.

Legitimate violence

I was sitting, locking arms, on the floor of Fayerweather Hall Lounge and more scared than I had been in my life. The ‘bust’ we had talked about for days was really coming. I turned my head and saw the window pried open and the huge belly of a policeman rest on the windowsill for a second. Then he landed and many more police followed him in. I looked up and saw a young black man; blood was pouring down his face and onto his shirt. I was knocked unconscious and then remember being dragged down the concrete steps and into a police van on Amsterdam Avenue.

I gained a better understanding that night of “legitimate violence” than all the hours discussing Max Weber in CC. I learned when people challenge “legitimate authority” (as we did by occupying Columbia’s buildings), state violence always is available to reestablish its authority. It rarely needs to use such violence only because most people accept their station in life without protest.

I have taken this lesson with me through the decades, working for social justice and training others to build powerful, sustainable organizations and reflect upon our action. On that warm night in April, “legitimate violence” stopped being an abstraction on the pages of my big blue CC text. It was now written in blood on the faces in Fayerweather Lounge.


Trying to find order and meaning

George Orwell wrote of the “revolutionary atmosphere” in Barcelona in 1937: “General and private, peasant and militia man, still met as equals; everyone drew the same pay, ate the same food and called everyone else ‘thou’ and ‘comrade’; there was no boss-class, no menial-class, no beggars, no prostitutes, no lawyers, no priests, no bootlicking, no cap-touching. I was breathing the air of equality ... ”

Spring ‘68 was like that, both in the buildings and outside, but the intoxication of liberation was filtered and intensified...
by the parallel academic — classroom — yet relevant experience of reading and writing about masterpieces of political literature such as Homage to Catalonia, or Marx on the 18th Brumaire, or Dickens on the tragic heartlessness of mid-Victorian capitalism, or Edmund Wilson on Lenin and the Bolsheviks or Malraux on the revolution in China. And that experience was further intensified by immersion in the inimitable Columbia style of linking high culture (Julien Sorel, say) and popular culture (Mickey Mouse, say) in the same sentence while illuminating both — as practiced by the old guard of Steven Marcus '48 and Lionel Trilling '25 and the new lions like Edward Said — while trying to find order and meaning in what was happening in my Spectator stories about the strike, and then as one of the authors of Up Against the Ivy Wall.

So I became an English professor, and tried to be a public intellectual, as my way of trying to stay engaged in and illuminate for others the multiple, mutually refracting layers of lived and reflected-upon political and social experience that Spring '68 enacted. It didn’t work out (I eventually became, Orwell foreboding, a lawyer), but that’s another story.

Michael Stern '70
Palo Alto, Calif.

President Grayson Kirk (center) and Vice President David B. Truman (to Kirk's right) were the key administration figures during the protests.

Would never be the same
I recall the destruction of the naivete of a young freshmen as I saw the office of President Grayson Kirk ransacked and Hamilton Hall occupied. I remember wandering through Hamilton Hall on the first evening of the protest. It was truly Dantesque, with the floors like levels of the Purgatorio. On the first floor were serious discussion groups about politics, seminars in Marxism and denunciations of University involvement in the Vietnam War. On the second floor, small group bull sessions; on the third floor, serious drinking and pot smoking; and on the darkened fourth floor, scattered pairs of copulating [students]. Then there were the cancelled classes; I regret not writing that essay for a letter grade in freshman English and just settling for a Pass.

The world would never be the same. People started cutting across the pristine grass of South Field, creating bare, trodden crossed trails that then became formalized by gravel — emblematic, it seemed to me, of authority yielding to youthful rebelliousness.

Dr. Philip T. Valente '71, '77 P&S
San Antonio, Texas

For once, I experienced certainty
I was and remain a liberal, sharing the characteristic liberal habit of questioning and reexamining my views frequently. Spring '68 gave me more backbone. Like a good liberal, I argued with members of the Majority Coalition, especially some of the football players among them with whom I was friendly, arguing that the Vietnam War-related issues justified some level of protest, and that using the police to clear out the protesters would surely be inappropriate. And I argued with some of the SDS members, with whom I also was friendly, complaining that their hard focus would render them conservative 30 years hence, while I would remain a liberal.

The night the police “cleared” the South Lawn, I spent most of my time on the First Aid squad, carrying bleeding classmates on stretchers to St. Luke's. But I found time for a few conversations. Some of my acquaintances on the football team, reviewing the bloodshed, acknowledged doubt, now, about the University’s decision to call in the police. Another acquaintance, though, who had fascinated me with his consistent and rigid across-the-board conservatism in religion as well as politics, reacted differently. “Well,” he said triumphantly, “they got what they deserved!”

At that moment, for once, I experienced certainty. Everything I knew was right. Everything he knew was wrong. I have rarely experienced it since. But the memory helps.

Dan Feldman '70
Port Washington, N.Y.

“On the night the police cleared the buildings, I stood watching fellow students lock arms in front of the southeast door of Low Library. When the police phalanx moved in on the students, billy clubs flew in all directions, and I remember thinking [about] building occupiers, strike defenders and spectators — everyone was at risk of being bloodied.

It was much the same with the war. After General [Lewis B.] Hershey's rescinding of grad school deferments, all of us were forced to find our place in the conflict. Academia could no longer serve as a refuge.

At graduation, my father asked what I might have learned from the events that spring. I struggled to sum up how it felt to be caught up in the jaws of history: “We have to know when is the time to die.” My application for conscientious objector status and the screaming of sirens from Harlem the night of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination were both on my mind that day.

Rev. Douglas W. Smith '68
Pomona, Calif.

My most vivid memory
I think I came out of the events more cynical both of methods of change and the ability of established structure to effectively respond. It was exhausting.

Later, when I had the opportunity to attend Columbia and NYU Law School, I chose NYU. My Columbia experience was too chaotic.

I learned that when you are a personal observer of a news-covered event, the news accounts will be woefully inadequate and erroneous. I am not talking about bias, just a lack of understanding and accurate reporting.
My most vivid memory is the line of police driving students toward the locked gates by Carman Hall. Fortunately for me, I was then thin enough to slip through the bars.

David A.H. Rapaport ’69
ScarSOl>E, N.Y.

My notion of authority changed

I came of age the night of “The Bust.” A sheltered 20-year-old kid whose father was the police surgeon of Freeport, Long Island, I’d grown up respecting his friends on the force. They called him “Dr. Joe” and gave him a siren to use when rushing to the scene of an emergency. So when a Tactical Patrol Force officer clobbered me in the head with his nightstick just because I was standing around with everyone else when the order came to clear the campus, my entire notion of authority changed. I was outraged and incredulous that they beat up kids like me who had nothing to do with occupying buildings or obstructing Columbia’s operations. After I left St. Luke’s Emergency Room, the great professor Ronald Breslow rounded up as many exhausted, freaked-out kids as would fit in his car and drove us over the GW Bridge as dawn broke over the Hudson.

It so happened that a Spectator photographer caught the act on film. Later, in the Ferris Booth darkroom, we carefully zoomed in on the officer’s badge — like in Blowup — and identified him. A complaint to the Civilian Complaint Review Board brought an apology from Mayor [John] Lindsay. I must admit some fondness for the small lump on the back of my head that remains to this day.

That evening taught a generation about power and authority, and it wasn’t about trust. The assassinations, the disastrous Chicago convention, Nixon, Vietnam and the murders at Kent State two years later just confirmed that reality. The most amazing irony, though, is to look at who prevailed. What does the sorry state of our country say about what we learned — and of our leadership?

Dr. Peter G. Joseph ’70
Castro Valley, Calif.

Columbia had its Vietcong

During Spring ’68 I happened to be stationed at an American air base in South Vietnam called Tuy Hoa on the east coast between Cam Ranh Bay and Quin Nhan. The New York Air Guard ran the base and was operating a wing of F-100 aircraft. There also was a tenant unit on base, a small detachment of 10 C-130s, that handled the intra-country airlift missions. Prior to my arrival, the base had suffered severe losses of aircraft and equipment from infiltrating Vietcong sappers, who satchel-bombed several airplanes.

When Armed Forces Radio told of the riots at Columbia and the hooligans destroying and defacing school property, I couldn’t help thinking Columbia had its Vietcong to contend with as well.

While security on base was handled by U.S. military, a contingent of South Korean troops took care of the surrounding hills overlooking the base. We were kept busy flying all sorts of missions, 16 hours a day, six days a week. The one image I can’t forget was that during downtime or on alert we would congregate in a tin-roofed, homemade chow hall that overlooked the South China Sea. Many days we would watch as the battleship New Jersey lent its firepower to the South Korean and U.S. troops keeping the hills and area around Tuy Hoa free from Vietcong. We could see the flash of her 16-inch guns on the horizon; after a few seconds, the tin roof would shake and rattle as the giant shells streamed overhead toward the surrounding hills, impacting a few moments later with devastating effect.

Lessons learned: Never wait too long to take appropriate action, otherwise you suffer serious consequences. Incremental efforts, as we took in Vietnam, and as Columbia took against the hooligans, will probably always lead down the road to failure.

Retired USAF Col. Stanley G. Maratos ’53, ’60 Business
Staten Island, N.Y.

I became radicalized

As one of the students on South Field the night of the bust, I became radicalized by the experience of plainclothes cops descending on students whose jeers at the police loading building-occupying students into paddy wagons posed no threat to the orderly conveyance of the demonstrators. My pre-lapserian existence was rudely terminated.

The immediate impact was that I dropped long-held plans to go to law school. Though the academy was not a perfect solution, it was the best one available. I went to graduate school in English literature, Columbia’s only Danforth Graduate Fellow that year. Soon, though, I learned that the country needed lawyers to solve environmental problems I’d learned about at the first Earth Day, April 1970, at Columbia. I became an environmental lawyer, suing polluters and enforcing environmental laws for years before entering private practice.

The longer-term impact is a great fascination with the history of Italian anarchist, syndicalist, socialist and anti-Fascist movements in this country. The executed Sacco and Vanzetti, others hounded back to Italy — they ultimately failed to change America, arguing endlessly among themselves, and succeeding mostly in closing the immigration doors for decades. Thus did my book-collecting habits go from the Dickens and Dr. Johnson of my graduate studies decades ago to its current focus on mostly Italian-language books by Tresca, Luigi Galleani and the other radicals who tried to move the masses through their writings. All of this is surely part of the legacy of my particular Columbia education.

James J. Periconi ’70
Peekskill, N.Y.

Its violence was unnecessary

During the 1968 campus demonstrations (riots), I was on active duty in the Navy flying combat missions in Southeast Asia from the flight deck of the USS Bon Homme Richard (CVA-31).

According to my flight log book, from the latter part of April to early May 1968 (about 10 days), the ship’s airwing pilots were enjoying a brief period of R&R in the Philippines before heading back to the “line” in the South China Sea to fly more combat missions. As I recall, I didn’t hear of or care about what was going at Columbia until some time after the fact. But I eventually did see the news photos of the Columbia demonstrations and was disappointed and perhaps dismayed that Columbia was the locus of such violent
Student rebels perch on a Low Library window ledge as a police officer stands guard below. The police separated the protesting students from counter-protesters during the weeklong standoff.

PHOTO: BONNIE FREER
anti-war activity. However, I did not dwell on it. We were all too busy with the business at hand, flying our missions every day, doing what we were trained to do. In retrospect, I understand the reason for the demonstration. However, its violence was unnecessary and I think only served to further polarize those who were actively involved in or who supported the war effort, and those who chose the less risky option of being an anti-war demonstrator or a draft dodger and then faded away. The warriors put themselves at risk to preserve the demonstrators’ first amendment rights — a fact that didn’t seem to matter to the protestors.

Having dropped bombs on North Vietnam and having spent a full career in the Navy does not make me a warmonger, contrary to what those ’68 demonstrators might have thought and who made clear by their hostile reception when we returned stateside. In fact, I, like many career military officers who have experienced the horrors and often futility of war, am opposed to war. Although I do not like war, I still argue that it is sometimes a necessary evil to defend oneself against one’s enemies and preserve those freedoms that we all enjoy. History bears this out. The United States, despite its faults, is still the greatest country in the world. The world view is that America is a land of opportunity and a safe haven, evidenced by the many who continue to cross our borders every day, legally and illegally, seeking a better life.

Retired USN Capt. Richard B. Curtis ’62
Fairfax, Va.

It affected everyone, everywhere

In summer 1968 I turned 40, fell out of work and was still single. Like everyone else, I was under a number of influences, both immediate and from afar. Martin Luther King Jr., 39, and Robert F. Kennedy, 42, were assassinated in the spring. They, of course, had a national agenda; I did not. My ambition was merely to work, get along in the world and pay my bills.

The My Lai Massacre occurred in 1968. In France, in spring 1968, students “sparked a nationwide strike affecting 10 million workers.” “Political struggle, often violent, convulsed China in 1965–68.” “Liberalization (spring 1968) in Czechoslovakia was crushed with massive force by troops of five Warsaw Pact countries.” (All quotes from the World Almanac.) In the 1960s, I had applied for the scientist-astronaut program. (I had a private pilot’s license). In late 1968, Apollo 8 orbited the moon. “A nonpolitical ‘counterculture’ developed, rejecting traditional bourgeois life goals and personal habits, and use of marijuana and hallucinogens spread.” (World Almanac)

The Woodstock festival occurred in summer 1969. So in addition to the events of Spring 1968 on campus, there were other stirrings all over the world in the same era. They seem to have affected everyone, everywhere.

Arthur L. Thomas ’50
Greenwich, Conn.

I lost all respect

Already was a radical and a member of SDS before 1968, but the strike turned me from protesting to organizing. I knew that universities were just as corrupt as the rest of society in theory, but these events demonstrated that organically. I lost all respect for Columbia as an institution, and I have never seen any reason to change that view. The total distortions published in The New York Times also were important for me. I remember the story that said “1,100 students arrested with no violence,” but when you read further you discovered that one of the Times’ own reporters was beaten bloody.

There were many events that summed it up, but watching the gratuitous violence of the police from the roof of Ferris Booth Hall was a potent reminder of how this society resorts to violence rather than reason when it is challenged. Commencement, where the University cowered inside the Cathedral of St. John the Divine while we held a counter-Commencement on College Walk, also was a potent symbol.

I learned that we live in a class society where one class has almost absolute power and refuses to share it. I learned not to identify with an institution just because I was a student there. I have spent the rest of my life to date trying to undermine these corrupt institutions in any way I can, whether it be ending Portuguese colonialism, apartheid in South Africa and Israel, or the total opposition to democracy anywhere by the U.S. government.

Steve Goldfield ’68
Oakland, Calif.

“YOU GET THE HELL OUT OF MY SCHOOL!”

From 1962–70, I was on the administrative faculty of the Journalism School — development, Alumni Affairs and placement officer — and in my spare time I taught basic newswriting (in those days, we wore many hats).

The J-School had received Columbia’s first Ford Foundation Matching Grant, and Dean Edward Barrett used it to bring in Fred Friendly and get seriously into broadcast journalism. New electronic equipment had just arrived when the school invasions started. Ed was warned that we were next. He and I rushed to The World Room in time to see a group of students running across the bookstore roof from Fumald, trying to break in through the room’s massive windows. We quickly bolted them.

Then we took the stairs two at a time (oh, that I could do that today!) down to the lobby to confront the “invaders” marching through the front door. Barrett (Princeton grad, former assistant secretary of state and founder of The Columbia Journalism Review) yelled at the top of his lungs, “YOU GET THE HELL OUT OF MY SCHOOL!” The students were so shocked that a dignified Columbia dean would confront them they simply left. Hard to believe today.

There are so many stories: the young policemen (I was crawling behind a hedge trying to get off campus safely and could hear their shocked reactions), one saying “And my mother wanted me to go to college”; the disgusting wreckage of Grayson Kirk’s office; Alma Mater bathed in symbolic blood.

Among my lingering questions: What role did the junior faculty, anxious for well-deserved higher salaries, actually play in igniting this eruption?

And then there’s the time Gloria Steinem and I lunched at the “Men’s” Faculty Club. But that’s a whole other story!

Eileen Walsh Grennan ’56
Chicago
Altruism, humanism, nonviolence

I watched Spring ’68 from Hartley with my pacifist and proselytizing red-cross armband-wearing roommate. SDS leaders, and their commitment to Marx’s social conception of the Hegelian dialectic and Machiavellian tactics, victimized and deceived the thoughtful and well-intentioned opponents of the ludicrous war. Some overzealous cops responded with irrational brutality. My nascent notions of altruism, humanism and nonviolence became an intractable and enduring philosophy, engendered by Spring ’68’s inimical and iniquitous display of enmity. I believe this philosophy has served me well.

Philip Bunnell ’72
Corona, Calif.

The thinking of people ...

The campus unrest impacted every Columbia alumnus and was not in any way limited to the people who were restless in 1968-71. At its conclusion, the Alumni Association attempted to bring alumni and undergraduates together and initiated a series of home visits. My home was one of the visited sites and I learned, very sharply, that similarity of background was no basis to expect similarity of points of view.

We had a few neighbors and six undergraduates to dinner. During the meal, one of the undergraduates, who was very good at arithmetic said, in substance, “You people must have been on campus when the atom bomb was dropped. What sort of demonstrations took place against the bomb?”

He, and perhaps his co-visitors, were astounded to learn that there were no such demonstrations, that we were all happy that our brothers, uncles and parents were going to come back from a terrible war that we had not started and we were overjoyed.

I wonder whether, if the disaster in Iraq ended by some cataclysmic event, today’s undergraduates, who were going to come back from a terrible war that we had not started and we were overjoyed.

I have not made assumptions since then about the thinking of people I do not know.

Seth Rubenstein ’48
Brooklyn, N.Y.

An enduring lesson

I n spring ’68, I was a second-year grad student in political theory and a longtime anti-Vietnam War activist. As a red-diaper baby, I had arrived at Columbia with no illusions of it as an ivory tower, insulated from the political and economic arrangements that allowed large institutions to accumulate power and wealth. So the issues of the proposed gym construction and the Institute for Defense Analyses were, for me, examples of the presence of the national security state on campus in the middle of an unpopular and illegal war, and the ability of the holders of large real estate assets to push poorer communities around; no surprises there.

Of the many images and memories I retain of those weeks, the most striking to me is that of strolling on College Walk some days after the bust and my companion pointing to an acquaintance of ours who had just passed us going the other way. I had not recognized him, because he had been beaten by police so badly that his facial features had been rearranged and distorted, such that he appeared to be literally a different person.

What did change for me resulted from witnessing how a combination of clumsy, clueless leadership by Columbia’s executive team and the perfectly predictable violence of the NYPD’s Tactical Patrol Force transformed an emerging but inchoate antiwar public into a militant community of rebels almost overnight. This is an enduring lesson for activists, especially in the daunting conditions of the present day.

David N. Stern ’66
Brooklyn, N.Y.

“you have a duty of scholarship”

Academy relationships changed in spring 1968 and the preceding semester.

As a scholarship student, I had a job as an assistant in the graduate history department. I was sorting mail in the office one morning when the department chairman came in. He had a copy of Spectator, reporting on a pre-April campus demonstration. He also had a troubled expression on his face. He looked up and asked me, “What do students want?” While we had a good acquaintance, unexpected was it that he asked me the question. But I could tell he wanted to hear what I had to say. We talked for about 15 minutes. I was impressed that he would engage on the subject with an undergraduate and do so without condescension. The significance was something I carried with me in many post-Columbia settings, particularly as a lawyer interviewing witnesses.

Istvan Deak taught a 1968 senior seminar on East Central Europe. Given his background, Professor Deak was no stranger to upheavals. Whatever his sympathies, clear he made it that the seminar paper should be completed, even if we were not in class. Political views or involvement around the Sundial were ours, but “You have a duty of scholarship,” he noted. Opinions varied on this, of course. He was right, in my view; the paper, the longest I had written, was completed in May. Some duties, whatever the context, you fulfill, another spring ’68 lesson I took with me.

Although working mainly on my seminar paper for Professor Deak, I had, in registering for my final semester, a remaining class to slot. Take anthropology, someone said, Margaret Mead is teaching. Three of us signed up. No walks to Hamilton — class was at the American Museum of Natural History, 79th and Central Park West. This meant riding the bus to and from,
hat do you get when an editor deals with a student occupation of the University and how it played out by authoring a 96-page cover story, Six Weeks That Shook Morningside? Not just the cover story, but the only story behind a cover photograph of a red flag flying atop Mathematics Hall, known as the most radical of the five campus buildings occupied in Spring ’68?

You get the Spring 1968 issue (which actually appeared that fall) of Columbia College Today, written entirely by its editor, the late George Keller ’51. That issue, which is online at www.college.columbia.edu/cct, earned Keller the Atlantic Monthly’s award as Education Writer of the Year.

You also get, in response, Columbia College Toady, the April 1969 issue of Jester, with its full-issue version, 96 Pages That Distorted Six Weeks That Shook Morningside, with Math’s red flag now with a person beside it, waving: Santa Claus.

Jester Editor Tom Kramer ’69 tells me it “was more a reaction to the reaction to [Keller’s] issue than to the issue itself. None of us was terribly political.” Kramer maintains an interest in cultural history and is today an autograph dealer.

Kramer assigned staff members to take a chunk of Today and parody it by taking Keller’s text and adding, or twisting. He then stitched them together and added bridging.

In some cases the parody was broad, such as of the only two Today pages not included in Keller’s article, the editor’s “Within the Family” column (a feature still written today) and the Columbia College Annual Fund’s ad, “Remember the Soph-Frosh Rush?”

In many cases, the parody was subtle.

Where Today, in setting the campus scene of April 23 just before the occupations, noted “There was talk also of the new course in Afro-American history that was to begin next fall,” Toady added “as soon as President Kirk received his commissioned report on ‘Black History — Its Causes and Remedies.’”

Where Today noted that Mark Rudd ’69 “told the crowd that President Kirk and the Trustees, ‘who run this school completely ...’, Toady changed it to

And on and on.

As tart as Toady is, it almost requires reading Today alongside it, because in ways Today was the more outrageous of them, and it is not always easy to guess whether something in Toady originated in Today.

Where Toady’s Lincoln Perry ’71 drew a two-page spread of instantly recognizable caricatures of David Truman, Henry Coleman ’46, Andrew Cordier and, atop a crumbling Low Library, a porcine, pipe-smoking, profusely sweating Grayson Kirk, all as animals, the full impact is missed without comparing it with Today’s similar spread, featuring demonstrators, including a primate directly staring at, and extending a long middle finger to, the reader.

Although you won’t find it in the pop culture’s recapitulation of Spring ’68, at the time the media expressed a concern for the safety of a Rembrandt in Kirk’s office. In Toady, the Rembrandt referred to in the photo is clearly a painting by Sam, the street artist familiar to Columbians of that era.

As a reader in 1968–69, I was engrossed in Today/Toady’s thrusts and parries. A reading of Today today, however, also brings to the fore Keller’s research, serious discussion of ideas and his obvious passion and anguish.

Today was, after all, a strong communication link with alumni, and it is remarkable to read in such a publication that “President Kirk’s reluctance to act quickly and decisively, and his refusal to appear in front of any group personally, was serving to reinforce the charges of those critical students who contended that the President was inept, aloof, and incapable of swift, intelligent action based on key consultations.” And that in clearing South Field of spectators of the bust, “Dozens of students were clubbed bloody” in a “beating” “assault.”

Those comments even Today did not try to improve upon.

James E. Shaw ’71, ’75L is an attorney representing those planning their estates and trusts, and also estates, trusts, fiduciaries and beneficiaries. He also is a writer and has been 71C v.p. and/or class correspondent continually since graduation.
with class in a cavernous hall, Dr. Mead up front lecturing. 

But the last class in the confines of our museum getaway was approaching. I remember a rainy night, early spring 1968, getting drenched between bus stop and museum. Only half the class filled seats, no Dr. Mead. Her teaching assistant addressed the group — “Dr. Mead does not feel that continuing the course would be appropriate given the concerns and disturbances on campus. I am going to hand out 3x5 index cards. Please write your name on a card and the grade you believe you deserve for class given the work you have completed and hand the card to me on your way out.” Hmm ... I had done the reading, actually was a bit ahead. I put a letter on the card and went back out in the rain. More immediate problems presented themselves soon after, such as sprinting down Broadway to stay in front of the TPF horse patrol and its club-wielding riders. Not until I later saw my transcript did anthropology come into remembrance. The index-card grade remains one of my academic memories of 1968.

Don Engleman ’68
SOUTHLAKE, TEXAS

It was a nightmare for me

In the spring of 1968, I was completing my third year working for the Columbia University Office of Public Information. The day the Tactical Patrol Force came onto campus, I was busy proofreading and mimeographing President Kirk and Vice President Truman’s address to the press about the student situation. At about 5 o’clock, my supervisor asked me to put on a badge and be an observer for the University as to how the police handled the students. It was a nightmare for me hearing students scream and watching a couple of reporters get their heads bloodied as they tried to get between the students and the police. The press release stated their grief and hurt over having to bring the police on campus. At about 11 o’clock that night, I took the press releases to Low Library where Kirk and Truman were to greet reporters. They didn’t see me sitting there with the press releases when they saw each other in Low. They embraced. That was my first encounter with how politics does not necessarily tell the truth.

Philip Guinsburg ’68
BRENTWOOD, TENN.

Nobody changed their minds

My story comes from the perspective of a high school senior having already been accepted at Columbia and needing financial aid to go. The takeover of the administration buildings put the aid package information in limbo and sent me scurrying to line up my fallback college, in case the package wasn’t sufficient. At the same time, much of my family weighed in to oppose my going to Columbia, that hotbed of radical hippies. They believed the strike signaled the end of Columbia, at least of its greatness, and feared for my safety at such a dangerous place. Scenes of mounted police and fights between protesters and students did not help! Only my father was willing to let me go where I wanted to go, which was a big help.

I was at a boarding school in rural Virginia at the time. Hitching a ride, I went home to plead my case. Nobody changed their minds; my grandmother took to her sickbed and declared it would be the death of her. When the strike ended and I got the aid package info, I found I could swing the financing and realized that I didn’t need their blessing. It was one of my first big steps into adulthood and a lesson in being willing to sacrifice to obtain something I want.

Bill Hudgins ’72
GALLATIN, TENN.

An attempt to move the world

While the events at Columbia in spring 1968 were not of great historical moment in themselves, they did intensify our connections with the protest against the war in Vietnam, the Civil Rights movement, a pivotal Presidential election and the flavors of the late ’60s. As we were entering adulthood, many of us entertained extraordinary hopes for a better future for the United States and for humanity in general, and we made serious attempts to act responsibly so as to have a positive impact upon University and national policies and upon public opinion. (In Fayerweather Hall, we mopped floors, let professors and grad students get things from their offices and conducted meetings democratically.) Experiencing all this provided us, to some tiny degree, with more than a shred of insight into what it had been like for those who had lived through the truly major events we read about in history books. There was the rush of feelings, the uncertainty about the immediate future and the abundant discussions in which we searched for a bedrock of right and wrong. The historical imagination became visceral. None of what we dealt with was as momentous as the coronation of King David or the writing of the Declaration of Independence, but it was an attempt to move the world, and the minds of people, in the right direction.

Bob Kirsch ’68
OSSINING, N.Y.

I am proud of my participation

1968 was a horrible year for the country and not a good year for Columbia, either. But the strike was necessary and, I believe, contributed to the profound changes that occurred in this country and the world, including the eventual end of the Vietnam War. And the administration deserved it. Its behavior was atrocious, for all the well-known reasons.

My memories are vivid, including a dean who came through the window of Low Library in his robe, pointed at me and said, “You’re out of school.” Luckily, the strike went on long enough and was successful enough to result in academic amnesty. Either I benefited from that or the dean forgot about me, since I graduated on time in 1970.

Later that week, I was in Fayerweather Hall when the police crashed in and beat everyone indiscriminately. I was tossed outside without a scratch but volunteered to be arrested, which I was, along with 12 others who were thrown into the same police wagon to spend the night in the Tombs. Here there was no amnesty. We were duly prosecuted at the behest of an officer who wore a red button on his plainclothes lapel identifying himself as a member of the New York City Police “Red Squad.” The University did nothing to discourage this prosecution, and the whole group of us became friends over the course of numerous court appearances. This experience permanently and negatively colored my view of the police, the courts and the press. (I later became a lawyer, and even got a security
A year later, I was duly convicted, after about a dozen court appearances, of the crime of criminal trespass, third degree. We all had to plead guilty or we would never be done with the courts, and we were all sentenced 15 days at Riker’s Island or a $100 fine. Somehow, I came up with the money. While I was not a Marxist or even a member of SDS, I have had to recite this conviction repeatedly, every time I applied for a job, or acceptance into an academic program, or for professional licensing. In that way, and in explaining the bizarre events that led to this record, I have been forced to stay in touch with the experience. I am proud of my participation. They deserved it then, and they always will.

Since those days, my basic political views have changed little. Events have shown that the world has all the same problems, and some new ones. Such tactics will not work today, but it is a good feeling to have participated in a righteous and successful revolt, however briefly it triumphed.

Marc Arnold ’70
Leonia, N.J.

I learned to question authority

When students started taking over buildings in the spring of my senior year, I was not among them. As not only a white boy from a conservative family in the Midwest but also the president of Nu Sigma Chi fraternity, I felt extremely uncomfortable with the protesters’ tactics, even though I sympathized with some of their goals. After living through the tumult on campus for a few days, I went back home, sat out the strike for about a week and tried to ignore the whole thing. As it turned out, however, the “whole thing” was impossible to ignore. I was still holed up in Indiana when the police riot cleared the buildings, but even at that distance, the media coverage, and especially the pictures of injured and bleeding students, finally did the job of “radicalizing” me. I returned to Columbia, became a delegate to the Strike Coordinating Committee, and participated in antiwar demonstrations for years to come.

The upheaval of 1968 shook me out of my acceptance of societal norms and expectations. I eventually went to the Law School, but I did not take a job in a big firm; instead, I became a civil rights lawyer, working for many years for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. I eventually married and had a child, but I did not assume the stereotypical father’s role; instead, I have been our daughter’s stay-at-home parent while my wife has been the main breadwinner. And I have been a vocal opponent of America’s war in Iraq from the beginning. In Spring 1968, I learned to question authority, to ally myself with the powerless and disenfranchised, and to stray — at least sometimes — from the conventional path. I have been putting those lessons into effect ever since.

Patrick O. Patterson ’68, ’72L
Fox Point, Wisc.

Joyous conviction

Reflecting on 1968 is both glorious and trying for me. I recognize the increased difficulty of realizing the wondrous aspirations I then shared with my Columbia classmates and SDS comrades for a domestic and international society that would eliminate poverty, assert equality, attain justice and promote a celebration of life, or for my anticipations of what the world of 2008 would look like. I am struck by how different, often antithetical, my projections were from our current reality.

I had anticipated our collaborating to author a prosperous and exhilarating future in a shrinking biosphere, one that requires increased intellectual and social flexibility. Contrastingly, the world has been altered dramatically by a very few exclusively to serve their narrow needs in an egregiously undemocratic regression to economic depravity for increasing numbers, shrinking social justice for all and eviscerated civil rights for everyone, as well as an open assault on our biosphere. As a professor, forensic examiner, psychologist, journal editor and network news commentator, I have tried to change that course. I have imparted on my children the burdens of leadership and the conviction to change the world. That is the glorious gift of 1968: a lifelong dedication to changing the world for the better!

I have been privileged to litigate or comment on some of the most high profile criminal matters of our era (Patty Hearst, O.J. Scott Peterson, Unabomber, Darren Roy Mack), and to prosecute and defend distinguished civil rights and other civil matters as well as to teach, research and remain politically active both in the movement for social justice and in electoral politics. But this anniversary has induced substantial cognitive dissonance for me: We are growing older, and have not adequately imparted to the successor generation a sense of excitement and conviction that they too can change the world for the better. We have not enhanced or even preserved the life of the mind, allowing television content and news to become Minow’s vast wasteland, and excellent education to become rarer and increasingly beyond the reach of the many. We have become a more ignorant and less prosperous nation, and a more grieving world.

Yet, 1968 imparted on me, as other tumultuous times had for Jay and Hamilton, the joyous conviction that these are not, as Fred Friendly reminded us, “circumstances beyond our control.” In a world on its head, find the courage to create a more equitable, fairer, more prosperous and more celebratory world for ourselves, our children and their children.

Edward J. Hyman ’69
Berkeley, Calif.
Members of the graduating Class of 2007 stand and cheer as members of the 50th anniversary Class of 1957 lead last year’s Parade of Classes, part of the pomp and circumstance of Class Day. Alumni who want to be part of this year’s Parade of Classes, which will take place on Monday, May 19, should contact Stella Miele-Zanedis of the Alumni Office at 212-870-2746 or mf2413@columbia.edu.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
Bookshelf

The Longevity Revolution: The Benefits and Challenges of Living a Long Life by Dr. Robert N. Butler ’49. In the developed world, life expectancy has gone up by an average of 30 years. Butler, president and CEO of the International Longevity Center, argues here that our society has not yet adapted to this new development, describes the challenges it creates and suggests changes that are needed (Public Affairs, $30).

In Search of a New Home: My Journey Through Life by Joachim J. “Joe” Adamczyk ’50. The author tells of his boyhood in pre-WWII Poland and details his experiences of fleeing from the Nazi occupation to Italy, then Britain, before settling in the United States (Long Dash, $18).

The Writer Within You: A Step-By-Step Guide to Writing and Publishing In Your Retirement Years by Charles Jacobs ’52. Created for seniors who want to be authors, this guide describes the basics of crafting certain genres as well as offering cost-effective methods for the publishing process (Caros Books, $19.95).

1940: A Novel by Jay Nesboeren ’59. A fictional narrative built around the life of a real historical figure — Dr. Eduard Bloch, Adolf Hitler’s Jewish childhood physician — focuses on Bloch’s special treatment by Hitler during the WWII era (Two Dollar Radio, $15).

Relational Theory and the Practice of Psychotherapy by Paul L. Wachtel ’61. The author demonstrates how relational theory has redirected psychoanalytic inquiry to a comprehension of people’s social experiences that underlie personality development, and provides therapeutic methods for psychotherapists (The Guilford Press, $38).

The Elements of Philosophy: Readings from the Past and Present edited by Tamara Szabo Gendler, Susanna Siegel and Steven M. Cahn ’63. A student-friendly collection of classic and contemporary essays on five popular philosophy topics: religion and belief, moral and political philosophy, metaphysics and epistemology, philosophy of mind and language, and life and death (Oxford University Press, $72).

Dangerous Laughter by Steven Millhauser ’65. An innocent, quiet woman goes home to her apartment one night and vanishes; a miniaturist at the royal court begins to create objects so small that they cannot be seen. Pulitzer Prize winner Millhauser’s newest short story collection, which opens with a cat and mouse playing deadly games, illuminates a series of magical universes and dreamlike realities (Knopf, $24).

Culture and Authenticity by Charles Lindholm ’68. The author uses a collection of anthropological case studies from diverse cultures exploring the origins, forms and changing developments of authenticity to argue that the desire for authenticity is a result of a modern loss of faith and meaning (Blackwell Publishing, $29.95).

Strategic Challenges: America’s Global Security Agenda edited by Stephen J. Flanagan ’73 and James A. Schoer. Each chapter explores seven major challenges facing the United States — global terrorism, WMD proliferation, undertaking defense transformation, homeland protection, strengthening ally relations, engaging other major powers and conflicts in unstable regions — by defining the problem, explaining current efforts to address it and analyzing what needs to be done (Potomac Books, $35).

Hemispheric American Studies edited by Caroline F. Levander and Robert S. Levine ’75. A diverse selection of essays from scholars in the fields of Latin-American, Asian-American, African Diaspora and American studies as well as American literature. These works examine the concept of how scholars might reframe disciplinary boundaries within the wide area of American studies (Rutgers University Press, $27.95).

The Newman Guide to Choosing a Catholic College: What to Look For and Where to Find It edited by Joseph A. Esposito, with an essay by Fr. C. John McCloskey III ’75. This guide to Catholic colleges includes profiles of more than 20 schools and practical advice from eminent Catholic thinkers (Cardinal Newman Society, $19.95).

White Coat Wisdom by Stephen J. Busalacchi. A collection of essays written by accomplished physicians, including Dennis Costakos ’80, that gives an insider’s view to choosing and living a medical career (Apollo’s Voice, $34.95).

Remodel This! A Woman’s Guide to Planning and Surviving the Madness of a Home Renovation by Laura Glick Meyer ’85 and Robyn Roth. A comical guide to remodeling your home, beginning with how to decide what to remodel and ending with the contractor’s final day and moving back in (Perigee Trade, $14.95).

Black Sailor, White Navy: Racial Unrest in the Fleet During the Vietnam War Era by John Darrell Sherwood ’83. Based on naval archives and scores of Vietnam veterans (both black and white), this book examines racial unrest in the turbulent Vietnam-era Navy and the Navy’s efforts to control it. Sherwood is an official historian with the U.S. Naval Historical Center (New York University Press, $35).

Proust Was a Neuroscientist by Jonah Lehrer ’03. Rhodes Scholar Lehrer argues that science is not the only path to knowledge; conversely, it is sometimes art that leads to discoveries in understanding the brain. In his first book (excerpted in the March/April CCT), he studies ground-breaking achievements of artists such as Cézanne, George Eliot and Gertrude Stein (Houghton Mifflin, $24).

White Coat Wisdom by Stephen J. Busalacchi. A collection of essays written by accomplished physicians, including Dennis Costakos ’80, that gives an insider’s view to choosing and living a medical career (Apollo’s Voice, $34.95).
Statman, Medina Translate García Lorca’s *Poeta en Nueva York*

**By Maryam Parhizkar '09**

It was in late summer 1929 that young Spanish poet Federico García Lorca moved to New York City and into a room in John Jay Hall. He was freshly enrolled as an English literature student at the School of General Studies. It also was at that time that Lorca’s *Poeta en Nueva York* began to develop, right at the grim beginning of the Great Depression. Lorca expected “to see this sort of amazing metropolis that’s represented to the media — it’s America, the land where the streets are paved with gold and that sort of thing,” says Mark Statman ’80. “Then he comes to New York and he’s horrified by it... but there is a side of New York that he is really drawn to, because it is still the great cultural center.”

Nearly eight decades later, Statman and Pablo Medina, associate professors of writing at The New School, have put together *Poet in New York*, a new translation of one of Lorca’s most important works. The book is a series of poems inspired by observations during Lorca’s nine-month period as a Columbia student. It is a collection of poems that could be read as an epic — a textual map that could be seen as a chart of personal growth for the poet himself.

Lorca’s book opens with the section “Poems of Solitude at Columbia University,” starting in the city where “a butterfly is drowned in an inkwell” and ending with the poet’s departure to Havana. It is as though the journey to New York teaches the poet to be more at peace with his soul, says Statman, “more consonant, more able to be a Poet with a big P as opposed to a poet with a little p.” After departing from the city, Lorca wrote, “I have said poet in New York, and I should have said, ‘New York in a poet,’” as though he has internalized the city itself.

Statman, a published poet, was introduced to Lorca’s work while a student in the College by the late Kenneth Koch, Columbia’s legendary poet and professor of English (and later Statman’s father-in-law). Although he was officially a religion major, Statman developed an interest in poetry and literature by taking courses at Columbia with Koch and former Professor of English David Shapiro ’68.

This collaboration with Medina, also an accomplished poet, stemmed from more than a shared love for Lorca’s work. After the events of September 11, Medina and Statman tried to make sense of the confusion by looking for solace in literature about the events of September 11 and its aftermath. In that sense, there is something prophetic about Lorca’s portrayal of New York in this fresh translation. There is a way in which this New York of the late 1920s and 1930s is our New York, our United States,” Statman says while drawing parallels to “Office and Denunciation,” where Lorca writes:

> There is a world of broken rivers and infinite distances in the cat’s leg crushed by a car, and I hear the worm’s song in the heart of many girls. Rust, shaken earth. Earth yourself swimming through the numbers in the offices. What can I do, bring order to the landscapes?

The ambitious task of co-translating a work that had influenced an entire generation of poets — including Allen Ginsberg ’48 and Koch — did not come easily. It is best described as “a labor of love,” Statman says. “If you think about how hard relationships can be, this was a tough one! It has certainly made us even closer friends.” He recalls hours spent at the Cedar Tavern in the West Village and lengthy telephone discussions over single words and articles. The trick, Statman notes, is that Lorca doesn’t write in Spanish, Lorca writes in Lorca. The more we worked on the project, the more we had to go back... and jolt with certain things we hadn’t quite known how to deal with before.

The result is work that has been described as “a necessary gift” in the *El Paso Times*; “a Poet in New York for our time” by poet Edward Hirsch; and praised by poet John Ashbery ’50 GSAS as the “definitive version of Lorca’s masterpiece, in language that is as alive and molten today as with the original in 1930.” In retrospect, Statman has found the praise to be very humbling. “At a certain point I realized for both [Medina and me], no matter what we do in all our other writing, this is a point in which we have entered literary history.”

Maryam Parhizkar ’09 is majoring in English and frequently contributes to CCT.

**Rhythm and Race in Modernist Poetry and Science by Michael Goldston, assistant professor of English and comparative literature. This book examines past experiments on a person’s response to rhythmic stimuli and analyzes them with innovations in Modernist poetry — in prosody, form and subject matter — to discover the science beneath the poems (Columbia University Press, $50).**

**Joseph Conrad and the Fiction of Autobiography by Edward Said, late University Professor. In this volume, first published in 1966, Said argues that the political dimensions in Conrad’s work mirror a colonialist preoccupation with “civilizing” the native peoples. This book signaled the beginnings of Said’s revolutionary work, Orientalism (Columbia University Press, $24.50).**

**Insurmountable Simplicities: Thirty-nine Philosophical Conundrums by Robert Casati and Achille Varzi, professor of philosophy. Filled with inventive stories and hypotheticals, the book elucidates philosophical enigmas occurring in everyday life, covering personal identity, nature, time and space, fortune and the interplay between logic and language (Columbia University Press, $17.95).**

**CORRECTION: The name of David S. Greenberg ’53, author of Science for Sale: The Perils, Rewards, and Delusions of Campus Capitalism, was misspelled in the March/April issue. CCT regrets the error.**

Carmen Jo Ponce ’08, Terrell Winder ’11
Obituaries

1937

Malcolm E. Kersteen '37

Malcolm E. Kersteen, retired insurance executive, Simsbury, Conn., on February 16, 2008. Kersteen was born on October 14, 1915, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and was valedictory of his high school class. He was a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and was treasurer and president; he attended the Business School. Kersteen was a veteran of WWII in the U.S. Army Air Force. After he married, he moved to Cleveland and in 1950 transferred to West Hartford, Conn. Kersteen was an officer of the Travelers Insurance Co. and retired in 1979 after 41 years of service. He then moved to Farmington and in 1998 to McLean Village in Simsbury. Kersteen was a longtime member of St. James Episcopal Church, West Hartford, and served on the vestry. He also was a member of the Golf Club of Avon and active in the West Hartford Squares. Kersteen is survived by his wife of 67 years, Julia; sons, Glenn, and Cary, and his wife, Hillary; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a daughter, Gail Frothingham. Memorial donations may be made to McLean Village, 75 Great Pond Rd., Simsbury, CT 06070 or to St. James Episcopal Church, 19 Walden St., West Hartford, CT 06107.

1938

Robert B. Buchele, retired professor, Honolulu, on January 23, 2008. Buchele was born in St. Joseph, Mo., in 1916, and served in WWII as a Navy officer aboard the USS Appalachian in four Pacific invasions. At the time of his death, he was Professor of Management Emeritus of the University of Hawaii Manoa, where he had taught for 21 years and was an active management consultant and director. Previously, Buchele was founding director of the Executive Program for Mature Executives at UCLA and an assistant professor at the University of Illinois. He also was a visiting professor at a number of mainland and foreign universities and at the East-West Center. Buchele had worked full-time in industry in Los Angeles for seven years. He authored two books, Business Policy in Growing Firms (1967), a manual for case courses in business policy; and The Management of Business and Public Organizations (1977), a text for an interdisciplinary graduate course. Buchele is survived by his wife, LaVerne; daughter, Batte; son-in-law, Rodney Boychuk; and one grandson. He was predeceased by a son, Brad; and daughter, Jill Buchele-Boychuk. Buchele is survived by his wife, Julia; sons, Brad; and daughter, Jill and is survived by his daughters, Glenn, and Cary, and his wife, Hillary; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. where, with a colleague, he was the first to describe the efferent innervation of mammalian muscle. In 1952, Hunt moved to the Rockefeller Institute. In 1955, he became head of physiology at the Albert Einstein School of Medicine. In 1957, head of physiology at the University of Utah School of Medicine; in 1964, head of the Department of Physiology at the Yale School of Medicine; and in 1967, head of the Department of Physiology at Washington University, where he remained for 16 years. On retiring in 1983, Hunt spent four years doing research in Paris at the College de France. He was elected to the National Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2007. Hunt is survived by his wife, Marion; five children; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1939

Carlton C. Hunt, retired medical researcher and professor, Chapel Hill, N.C., on February 8, 2008. Hunt was born in Waterbury, Conn., on August 11, 1918. Hunt entered the College at 16 and earned his M.D. from Cornell University Medical College in 1942. After completing an internship at New York Hospital, he served three years during WWII as an Army medical officer in Europe. On returning to New York in 1946, Hunt continued his medical training and became a research fellow in pharmacology. In 1948, he won a three-year National Research Council Fellowship to study at Johns Hopkins, York City, on March 19, 2008. O'Malley was born on February 2, 1915, in Perry, Iowa, and graduated from St. Patrick's School in Perry — which his mother founded — in 1933. While a student, O'Malley worked for the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA), a national organization sponsored by the University to aid student editors in the nation's high schools. O'Malley was stationed in the West African republic of Liberia from 1943-44 while serving in the Naval Reserve. From 1945-47, he held marketing positions in Senegal and Nigeria for the Socony-Vacuum Oil Co. of New York. From 1947-60, O'Malley worked for the Ward Stevenson Shipping Lines with a specialty as an oil tanker broker. In 1961, he moved into advertising sales with Stone Representatives of New York City, becoming v.p. and general manager. In 1969, O'Malley joined Columbia to become CSPA's second director; he retired in 1981. In 2006, O'Malley presented him with the Joseph M. Murphy Award for exemplary service to the association. From 1994-98, O'Malley donated $1 million to Columbia to endow the Charles R. O'Malley/CSPA Fund. He was predeceased by three brothers and one sister and is survived by 14 nieces and nephews.

1948

John M. Miner, retired insurance executive, Santa Monica, Calif., on February 11, 2008. Miner was born on November 15, 1927, in Port Chester, N.Y. He attended local public schools and graduated from the College with a B.A. in business. Miner went to Los Angeles after graduation and began work with Farmers Insurance Group. His career was interrupted for two years for service in the Army during the Korean Conflict. Afterward, he returned to Farmers and
Robert Jastrow ’44, Physicist, Space Expert and Professor

Robert Jastrow ’44, an energetic proponent of lunar exploration and former director of the Goddard Institute for Space Studies, died on February 8, 2008. He was 82 and lived in Arlington, Va.

An astronomer and science administrator who tried to explain science to a mass audience, Jastrow was born in 1925 in New York and earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. in physics, in 1945 and 1948, respectively, from GSAS. He became an assistant professor at Yale, then joined the Naval Research Laboratory. In 1958, Jastrow joined the newly formed National Aeronautics and Space Administration as head of its theoretical division. In 1961, he became director of the Goddard Institute for Space Studies in New York, a unit of the Goddard Space Flight Center, and worked on Pioneer, Voyager and Galileo.

A public figure, prolific author and commentator on a range of topics, including the space program, astronomy, earth science and national security issues, Jastrow lectured on CBS and NBC, and his 1967 book, Red Giants and White Dwarfs: The Evolution of Stars, was a bestseller.

After 20 years as head of the Goddard Institute, in 1984 he helped found the George C. Marshall Institute, an organization that assesses scientific issues affecting public policy, in Washington, D.C. From 1992-2003, Jastrow was chairman of the Mount Wilson Institute, which runs the Mount Wilson Observatory in California, and was chairman emeritus of the Marshall Institute at the time of his death. In 1985, he published How to Make Nuclear Weapons Obsolete, supporting President Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars"). He also became a prominent skeptic on climate change issues and wrote about the subject for the Marshall Institute.

Jastrow received the Arthur S. Flemming Award for Outstanding Service to the United States Government in 1964, the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement in 1968 and the Columbia University Medal of Excellence in 1962. He was a past board member of the National Space Society. Jastrow taught at Columbia as an adjunct professor in the astronomy and geology departments from 1944-82; he also taught at Dartmouth. Jastrow enjoyed skiing and running. He was briefly married in 1967 to the former Ruth Witenberg and leaves no immediate survivors.

Lisa Palladino

Arnold H. Cooperman ’53

Arnold H. Cooperman, physician, Los Angeles, on January 15, 2008. Cooperman was born in Brooklyn in 1929. In Sarasota, he was a member of the Meadow ows Country Club, St. Andrew Society, Caledonian Club of Florida West, Ivy League Club and Columbia University Club. In Maine, he was a member of the Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club. Cooperman was predeceased by his wife, Lynne, and is survived by his daughters, Karen, and her husband Robert, Lisa, and her husband Rick, and Suzin, and her husband Roy; and eight grandchildren.

Ivan Gold ’53

Ivan Gold, writer and educator, Dorchester, Mass., on December 23, 2007. Gold grew up on the Lower East Side. His career began at the College when Mark Van Doren said one day that the class should discuss a story Gold had written. In 1963, when Gold published Nickel Miseries, a book of short stories and novellas, Lionel Trilling ’25 said the "masterly" collection showed the kind of promise that "will make Gold one of the commanding writers of our time." "People were saying, 'How can anyone live up to that kind of remark?' And I came to internalize it," Gold said of the remark in a 1990 interview with The Washington Post. "He didn't do me any favors, and yet he certainly meant to." Gold suffered from alcoholism and published only two more books, Sick Friends and The Nickel Misery of George Washington Career Brown. He joined AA and in 1990 ended a 21-year literary drought with the semi-autobiographical Sams in a Dry Season.
O B I T U A R I E S

Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in the next issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.


1937 Orlin W. Donaldson, retired head of photography department, Newtown Square, Pa., on February 6, 2008.

1940 Charles A. Webster, physician, Piedmont, Calif., on March 6, 2008. Webster earned a degree in 1943 from P&S.


1954 Amiel Z. Rudavsky, endocrinologist, Bronx, N.Y., on January 9, 2008. Rudavsky was affiliated with Montefiore and Mt. Sinai Hospitals. He is survived by his wife, Sue, daughter, Shari, and one grandson.


1960 Michael Lesch, New York City, physician and medical educator, on March 19, 2008. Lesch was a professor at P&S.


Completed a final book before his death. Gold taught writing at Boston University and helped found The Writers’ Room, a haven for affordable workspace. He was predeceased by his wife, Vera, and is survived by a son, Ian; sister, Judith Stitzel; and two grandchildren.

1958

Thomas Moshang Jr., pediatric endocrinologist, former chief of division and emeritus professor of pediatrics, Blue Bell, Pa., on February 24, 2008. At the College, Moshang held a Sou Chan Scholarship and was a fencer. He earned his M.D. from Maryland in 1962. Moshang was an associate physician and former chief of the Division of Endocrinology at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and was an emeritus professor of pediatrics at Penn’s School of Medicine; he spent the last 25 years of his career at both. Moshang’s work in the areas of growth failure and endocrine complications in long-term survivors of childhood cancer was world-renowned. He was president-elect of the Lawson Wilkins Pediatrics Endocrine Society. Prior to his death, CHOP honored Moshang by establishing the Thomas Moshang, Jr. M.D. Endowed Chair in Pediatric Endocrinology; his immediate response was to speak about how fortunate he had been to work with so many wonderful people in the CHOP and Penn communities. Moshang is survived by his wife, Mary Anne Gazdick; four children; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Endocrine Diabetes Research Fund, Children’s Hospital Foundation, 34th St. and Civic Center Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

1962

Lewis Bolan, retired real estate economist and urban planner, Silver Spring, Md., on December 9, 2007. Bolan was born on May 30, 1940, in Boston. He earned a master’s from the University of Illinois. Bolan began his career in the Los Angeles office of Victor Gruen International. He became director of planning and moved to the firm’s Paris office. In 1971, Bolan moved to Chicago to join Real Estate Research Corp., where he managed major economic research contracts globally. In the mid-70s, Bolan became director of the firm’s Washington, D.C., office, and oversaw policy studies for HUD. In 1978, he co-initiated the annual Emerging Trends in Real Estate. In 1985, Bolan opened the Washington, D.C., office of Leggat McCall Advisors, which in 1990 evolved into Bolan Smart Associates; he was active there even after his 2005 retirement. In the early 1990s, Bolan helped start the graduate real estate development program at Johns Hopkins and was on the advisory board and a faculty member. At the time of his death, he was acting director of the full-time graduate program at Johns Hopkins. Survivors include a sister and brother-in-law, nieces, and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Johns Hopkins with the subject line “for Lewis Bolan Lambda Alpha Scholarship at the Carey School” and mailed to Sally O’Brien, MA, MVO, Associate Dean for Development and External Affairs, Carey Business School, Dean for Development and External Affairs, Carey Business School, Shaffer Hall 201, Baltimore, MD 21218.

1967

Martin L. Altnor, real estate manager, Clearwater Beach, Fla., on February 13, 2008. A Brooklyn native, Altnor graduated summa cum laude from the College with a B.A. in political science. He remained politically active through his years working in New York’s garment district and more recently while managing his rental properties in Pinellas County, Fla. Altnor attended city commission meetings and was involved in many organizations, including PRIME, Jewish Federation of Pinellas. Little league, Safety Harbor zoning board, City of Clearwater Budget Committee and Countryside H.S. For many years, he taught Sunday school at Temple Ahavat Shalom and chaperoned young filmmakers to the Sundance Film Festival in Utah. Altnor is survived by his wife of 28 years, Janis; children, Cole and Shannon; siblings, Diana Young and Mickey Liebowitz; and in-laws, Daniel and Olida Cuevas. Memorial contributions may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 2141 Rosecrans Ave., Ste 7000, El Segundo, CA 90245.

1975

Thomas J. Brady, journalist, Philadelphia, on January 20, 2008. Brady grew up in New York City. His parents, Joseph and Elfriede, died when he was in high school, and he finished high school in New York while living on his own in a boardhouse. He then moved to Philadelphia to live with his sister, Carole Boynton, and he graduated from Peirce College. Brady moved back to New York and earned a degree from the College. After graduating, he worked for a number of newspapers, including the daily Peterson [N.J.] News and dailies in Pittsburgh. Brady joined The Philadelphia Inquirer in 1967 and was mostly an editor and writer, mostly as a writer and copyeditor. He had written the “Newsmakers” column and he recently edited a news column about business people in the news. One of Brady’s favorite Inquirer jobs was interviewing authors for a book column. In addition to his love of books, he was an avid filmmaker and film collector, enjoyed traveling to Cape May and to the Mohonk Mountain House in New York, and liked swimming. According to friend Allan Jalon ’78, soon before his death Brady ordered a Columbia cap and sweatshirt. He is survived by a brother, David; sister-in-law, Lisa Boyell; brother-in-law, Frank Boynton; two nephews; one niece; and two step-nieces, and Carole, predeceased him. Memorial donations may be made to Friends Hospital in Philadelphia.

1976

Michael A. Luda, customer support manager, Montclair, N.J., on February 7, 2008. Luda was born on April 10, 1953, in Nyack, N.Y. He earned a degree from the Business School in 2000 and was a Verizon Partner Solutions manager. Luda was an avid fisherman and loved singing and playing guitar. Survivors include his sons, Mark and John; daughter, Victoria; brothers Harry, and his wife, Phyllis, and Nicholas; sister, Mia, and her husband, David Beckman; companion Arane Deathridge and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandniephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, PO Box 27106, New York, NY 10067.
No updates this time. Please take a moment to write and send us a few lines with your news!

On March 12, at the Annual Dinner of the University Seminars at Faculty House, Seth Neugroschl '40 received the Tannenbaum-Warner Award for “distinguished scholarship and great service to the University Seminar Movement.”

Seth has been a chair of the Seminar on Computers, Man and Society since 1981 — the same year that IBM announced the PC — six years before his 1987 retirement as an IBM strategic planner, after 23 years there.

A major focus of his seminar through the years has been the Class of ‘40 Legacy … more on this in the next CCT?

“Columbia’s 85 University Seminars “offer sustained intellectual interaction across departmental boundaries. Professors and other experts from Columbia and elsewhere may join seminars if invited as speakers, guests or members.”

Professor William Vickrey ’47 GSAS, first recipient of the Tannenbaum-Warner Award, was a Nobel Laureate, chair of the economics department and a member of Seth’s seminar. Other recipients include John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus, Provoost Emeritus and Special Service Professor in East Asian Language and Culture Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41 and former department chair Kenneth Jackson (history) and Sam Devons (physics).

Ray Robinson, Bob Zucker, Bob Dettmer and Arthur Weinstock. Arthur Friedman, another one of the ‘usual suspects,’ had a schedule conflict and was missed, but Phil Hobel ’42, who lives in the neighborhood, was a welcome addition. The beauty of these mini-reunions is that we have no dues, no agenda and keep no minutes — we just enjoy each other’s company and freely discuss politics, economics, our experiences in the military, the state of the union and, transcending all topics, how we were influenced by our years at Columbia and how alma mater operates today. If this informal interlude is appealing, come join us: you’ll be more than welcome. Just call Len (212-730-7245) so you’ll be expected. Our next meeting will be in May.

“The informality of these sessions involves a simple arrangement for lunch: bring your own sandwich. With this, it’s easy to see why Bob Zucker can play so much tennis each week; he brings only yogurt and fruit. Ray, though, who plays regularly at the Columbia Tennis Center at Baker Field, adheres to the standard menu.

Professor of tennis will forever remember N.T. Wang, a trophy winner at our 50th reunion tournament. In fact, several of us enjoyed reading his book, My Nine Lives. His death was a very sad surprise; fully recorded in an issue of CCT. N.T. played tennis several times a week, having been a member of a number of groups that vied for his membership. I was in one group that used a court next to his, but started one half-hour later. We were able to take a few minutes each week that our schedule coincided to exchange greetings. At one of our Arden House reunions, we arranged to come early and had a chance to get in a few games before the festivities got underway. Recently, N.T.’s wife, Mabel, sent me a copy of an impressive letter she had received from Professor Alan Brinkley in which her husband was thanked for having made a major monetary gift to the Department of Economics, a department whose faculty members have received recognition in the form of Nobel Prize awards.

“A telephone call to Ruth and Stan Gottlieb assured me that Stan is all recovered from his spinal meningitis but tires easily. Don’t we all? Stan enjoys playing bridge, which is a good way to keep one’s mind active. In my case, I confess I’m not able to come up with as many answers (or should I say ‘questions’?) as heretofore on ‘jeopardy’. Maybe it’s because the producers are using different writers or contributors.

“In Joe’s case, memory still serves well. At one point in our meeting, Ray described by name a person he had met during WWII and learned of his untimely death in Morocco. At the other end of the table, Joe called out that he knew this person when they lived in the same dormitory at Columbia. Chalk up two points for Ray and Joe but a big zero for me since I have forgotten the name of the subject of that string. We’ll close on that mystery but promise an answer in the next column.”

Seth Neugroschl ’40 received the Tannenbaum-Warner Award for “distinguished scholarship and great service to the University Seminar Movement.”

Melvin Hershkowitz
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I had an e-mail message on January 15 from Arthur Graham reporting the impending retirement of his wife, Ruth, who has worked for 64 years for a money management firm. I told Art that I envied classmates who had the foresight to marry women who could support them, but Art has not been in need of that. He and Ruth will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a three-week trip through Southeast Asia on the ship Sea Shadow, with stops at Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore (no packing or unpacking along the way … the ship is their hotel). By the time you read this, Art and Ruth will have returned home to White Plains, N.Y., with plans for their next adventures.

Franklin J. Tobey II sent me an interesting letter on January 16, recalling his classes in politics and public administration with Professor Lawrence Chamberlain, who also was Franklin’s adviser when Franklin returned to Columbia after WWII for his M.A. in economics, which he earned in June 1947. Franklin saw Chamberlain in the 1960s in Washington, D.C., when Chamberlain addressed the Columbia Alumni Club. Franklin also reported putting an early class in 1941 and walking down Broadway from 116th Street to Washington Square (!), returning uptown for a 7 p.m. zoology lab with Professor James McGregor and an inexpensive supper at the Horn & Hardart Automat. Now, Franklin enjoys driving his Toyota Scion and writing about his Elderhostel adventures in Hawaii, England, Scotland, Wales, Eire, Colorado, California, New England and Canada. His passport has expired and he now intends to remain within the boundaries of the USA. Franklin is a bit of a Luddite. He does not use a computer, and his letters to me are written on an old-fashioned typewriter. He said he would like the editors of CCT to consider publishing a review article about the deans of Columbia College, an idea that came to him after his meetings with Dean Hawkes, Dean Carman and Dean Coleman. Are you listening, editors? This sounds like a good suggestion.
Dr. Bill Robbins, who lives in Grand Isle, Fla., keeps in touch with me with frequent e-mail messages and interesting newspaper clippings about sports and politics. I last saw Bill and his wife, Dagney, at our 65th Reunion Luncheon on June 2, 2007, in Lerner Hall. I had not seen Bill since our graduation in 1942, even though we both worked in New York City for many years. After Columbia, Bill went to Cornell Medical School with Gerry Klingen, Ralph Born and Walt Dwyer and became a distinguished researcher and clinician in rheumatic diseases. Gerry became a neurologist at Cornell and Sloan-Kettering. Ralph and Walt had second thoughts about medical school and left Cornell for other careers. Ralph became a stockbroker in Arizona, and Walt entered the real estate business in New York. As they say, when the sock fits, wear it.

The New York Times of February 17 reported the death of Dr. Jules Glenn (Gluckstein) at 86. After Columbia, Jules received his M.D. in 1946 at NYU School of Medicine, and after extensive post-graduate training, became a post-graduate training, became a post-graduate training, became a post-graduate training, became a post-graduate training, became a distinguished researcher and clinician in psychiatric literature and presidentialities of the New York Long Island Psychoanalytic Societies in this issue.

Ralph Born and Walt Dwyer were editors and/or contributors to the Class Notes in psychiatric literature and became a distinguished researcher and clinician in rheumatic diseases. Gerry became a neurologist at Cornell and Sloan-Kettering. Ralph and Walt had second thoughts about medical school and left Cornell for other careers. Ralph became a stockbroker in Arizona, and Walt entered the real estate business in New York.

Within a one-week period in early February, we had to bid a sad farewell to 44’s two most prominent scientists — Nobel winner Joshua Lederberg [see March/April Obituaries] and space pioneer Robert Jastrow [see Obituaries in this issue].

A lifetime of achievements in the music world by Mort Lindsey was further enhanced this January when the American Society of Music Arrangers and Composers feted him with its “Honor Our Own” celebration.

Those of us who danced to his Blue Lions at Morningside or applauded his music at the 1942 Varsity Show at the old Astor Hotel in a show written by Jerry Green ’42 and Loren Tindall ’43 also may remember that he won a most-talented-student-at-Columbia contest sponsored by the Fred Allen radio program.

In 1949, Louis became rector of his own church in Foxborough, Mass. It was “homogeneous to a fault,” but with “a strong sense” of mission and concern. In the midst of the McCarthy era, Louis notes, “We took a stand for a free society and a world of justice, understanding and peace.”

Amid several assignments in Massachusetts, where in time Louis “was seen as a trouble-shooter,” he served two fascinating stints in Africa. In 1972, Louis became the first non-British dean of the Anglican cathedral in Lusaka, Zambia. He notes Lusaka was quite a sophisticated capital city and the cathedral had a “wonderfully mixed” congregation. He also had to supervise service to 15 outlying congregations. Louis considers his five-year and Zambian service “not as a ‘missionary’ in the old-fashioned sense... but as a kind of consultant to the African church.”

Louis was back serving in Massachusetts when in 1982 the bishop of Harare, Zimbabwe (who had been a priest working with Louis during his Zambian tour), begged him to help with the Zimbabwe Anglican church, and “How could I say no?” In his new five-year tour, Louis worked hard “reaching out to black and white” and promoting cross-cultural fellowship with quite some success. While the leaders of Zimbabwe have been “tragically dead” to the prayers for intercultural unity and brought untold suffering to the country, large numbers are still committed to it, and Louis is confident of reconciliation “in God’s good time.”

Louis lives in a retirement community in Bedford, Mass., and enjoys its common life and making new friends. He is able to travel and has been back to Africa twice, and remains active in church activities.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS
In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

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In conjunction with the Class of 1948. There also will be mini-Core courses on campus on topics such as the Qur’an, Boccaccio and the politics of Max Weber. Please come, learn, remember and shake hands with your classmates.

44

Henry Rolf Hecht
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43

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I hope that you all will be coming back to campus for ‘43’s grand 65th reunion, Thursday, May 29—Sunday, June 1. At the very least, please sign up for the 1943 luncheon, to be held on Saturday, May 31, in the fed D. Satow Room on the fifth floor of Lerner Hall, in
with a personal note for cooperation to the last four honorees were not returned. This, as you can realize, is disheartening. But the Bible, as happens so often in my life, meets my need on such an occasion with the encouraging words: “But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing” (II Thessalonians 3:13).

The purpose of the questionnaire is to obtain information about our classmates for publication in this column. Here are the topics: Life work, hobbies, family news, spiritual remembrance of faculty at Columbia, interesting experience as a student at Columbia, close friends at Columbia and in what relationship, and other relevant comments. I suggest that the questions can be rearranged or reworded as the respondent wishes and express thanks in advance for a return of the questionnaire. Any suggestions from classmates for changes in the questionnaire to get a better response? Do realize, however, that this is infor- mation gathering, and whatever format one desires is welcome at any time.

Over the winter holidays, I visited my daughter, Martha ‘78 SW, in the city. One day, I took a tour of the College area, and, in my thoughts, I had classmates walking with me.

For my book on the Ten Commandments, I went to the Jewish Theological Seminary on Broadway and West 122nd Street to learn when the Jewish Ten Commandments came into existence. For the uninformed, the commandments of Judaism are different from those found in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5. “I am the Lord thy God” is the first commandment. The graven image commandments of Exodus 20:4-6 and Deuteronomy 5:8-10 are omitted for the reason given in the second commandment: “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” If one follows this commandment, there will be no graven image of a lesser god thus making the graven image commandment redundant. The following commandments three to 10 are: “no false witness, observe the Sabbath, honor father and mother, no murder, no adultery, no stealing, no false witness and no coveting.” According to an encyclopedia about Judaism, the date is not known when these commandments were formulated.

Being at the Jewish seminary made me feel at home because I worked in the dietary department for three meals a day when a student at the College. When dormitory rooms at the College were scarce because of the Navy program, I, and other College students lived in the dormitory rooms on the sixth floor (no elevator) of the Union Theological Seminary between 120th and 122nd Street on Broadway.

As I walked up Broadway, where I once passed Eleanor Roosevelt in College days, I came to Teachers College, where I earned in 1972 an M.A. in gerontology and therapeutic recreation, subjects I taught at Centenary College in Hackettstown, N.J.

The main campus was tastefully decorated with holiday lights, something we missed being on break for the holidays. I studied the grass area before Butler Library with this thought in mind. As a student, an indoor wooden track was set up in this area. Now, all-weather outdoor tracks eliminated the need for such a unit. But I thought about football players who have to travel uptown to the stadium for practice, as I had to do when a member of the track team. I measure the size of wooden track at 200 yards and the unit is about 100 yards by 50, the size of a football field. Why couldn’t the football team practice in this area and avoid the long trip uptown? And the soccer team and other fall outdoor sports might be squeezed into these two areas. I think other activities now take place in these grass areas, but adjustment could be made. Dr. M. Dianne Murphy, our athletics director, is there any merit in my proposal?

It was fun reliving College experiences with classmates at my imagined side. And I hope you enjoyed reliving your College days as you read of my holiday tour of the campus.

Now looking at any of the procedure, I arbitrarily choose two nominees to whom a questionnaire will be sent for 1945 column news: William G. Abel, East Hampton, N.Y.; and William E. Kelly, Lynn, Mass. May we hear from or about these honored classmates?

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In his distinguished law career, Arthur Lazarus has represented American Indian tribes for more than 50 years — first as a partner of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson and more recently as counsel to Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Endresen & Perry, a boutique firm that represents Native Americans almost exclusively.

Art writes: “The past 50-plus years have seen a dramatic change in the status of tribal governments. During the early 1950s, most of these governments were weak, disrespected and fearful of ‘termination’ — the loss of their special trust relationship with the federal government and the disestablishment of their reservations. Critical social services, such as schooling, health care or land management all come through the underfunded and generally inept Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

Today, as the consequences of a series of legislative enactments, tribes are available for a variety of governmental programs throughout the federal departments, many including so-called ‘Indian set-asides,’ which cover far more activities and provide far more funding that the BIA ever could even contemplate. Moreover, under the Indian Self-Determination Act, tribes are authorized to take over and use the money appropriated by Congress for Indian programs, and they decide for themselves their priorities in the operation of schools, hospitals, housing projects, road construction and so forth. Many tribes also have undertaken prime responsibility for the development of reservation resources, resulting in far more income and employment opportunities than existed when government officials controlled these activities.

“The rise of Indian gaming, of course, is the most publicized (and controversial) change of circumstances. Because tribes are considered quasi-sovereign and exercise jurisdiction over their reservation trust lands, in many states they can establish casinos where non-Indians cannot. For some tribes located near cities and centers, this ability to lawfully conduct gaming has proven a financial bonanza (which, I am pleased to report, they are using wisely). In a country that is riddled with gambling — 49 states participate in lotteries — why not also tribes? “The total picture, however, is not all rosy. Indians today, as they did 50 years ago, occupy the lowest rung of our national economic ladder. Among the various groups in our society, Indians on reservations have the shortest life expectancy, the worst overall health and the highest unemployment. Life on the reservation is plagued by family disintegration, school dropouts, alcoholism and more recently, use of drugs and juveniles. Thus there is still work to be done.”

Art, thank you for your insight and perspective.

Harry Coleman made more than a cameo appearance in the January/February CCT cover story about Clarence Jones ’53. Jones was a speechwriter, adviser and confidant to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and he credits Harry with salvaging his Columbia education when family illness threatened the end of his studies. Page 19 of the article reveals the humanity and support for his students that Harry demonstrated as dean. It explains, in part, the strong ties Harry’s students still feel to him. Quoting Jones: “Columbia will always be special in my heart because of what Dean Coleman, the professors and my friends did for me when my mother was sick ... I don’t know if what they did was legal, but they made it work.”

Charles Fabso has traded the northeast (Easton, Conn.) for the southeast. Chuck and his wife, Joan, have relocated to an independent living retirement residence: A-1735 The Homestead, 2600 Crossdale Farm Pky, Durham, NC 27705; 919-384-2179; charles@nc.rr.com.

Chuck describes a lively mix of neighbors, former Duke academics, physicians, ministers and businessmen. He says the facility has an activities calendar a mile long to keep them busy as much as they choose.

Chuck told us of a wonderful family tradition that started 42 years ago when he took his 9-year-old son fishing. This year’s expedition took Chuck, his son and two grandsons to Maine, where they caught 273 smallmouth bass in seven days. “A record for us,” said Chuck. “We are sport fishermen — we catch, weigh and measure if appropriate, and throw back.”

Anglers in our class may want to check with Chuck and compare notes. Of course, he would love to hear from you even if you do not know the hook from the sinker.

Sadly I report the passing of Bob Gutman and John Procopi. The obituaries ran in March/April.

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This class was composed of young men completing their four years of CC, Humanities and compulsory English, together with an older group of veterans returning from WWII and its domestic and foreign effects. Surely all these class members have something to relate about themselves, their children, grandchildren, ventures, excursions et alia. CCT needs to fill its class columns and only you can help!
Jonathan Dean, of Great Falls, Va., is recently back from a meeting in Brisbane, Australia, of the organization he helped to found in 2000, Global Action to Prevent War and Armed Conflict. The organization calls itself “an emerging transitional network dedicated to practical measures for reducing global levels of conflict and to removing the institutional and ideological impediments to ending armed conflict and severe human rights violations.” Its goals include establishment of a 15,000-member United Nations pre-conflict, post-conflict task force of volunteers.

Representatives of 20 countries attended the Brisbane gathering, which, as a bonus was held in 80-degree temperatures at the height of the American winter. The discussions, according to Jonathan, were “quite vigorous.”

Jonathan and his colleagues envision their proposed task force as a highly accomplished peacekeeping force with police, law and combat components. Classmates interested in more information can check www.globalactionpw.org.

Global Action to Prevent War is an outgrowth of Jonathan’s disarmament work with the State Department, where he spent 35 years, attaining the rank of ambassador. He was in the Congo at the time of the bloody transition from Patrice Lumumba to Joseph Mobuto and in the early '70s worked on the four-power agreement for access in 2000, Global Action to Prevent War and Armed Conflict. The organization calls itself “an emerging transitional network dedicated to practical measures for reducing global levels of conflict and to removing the institutional and ideological impediments to ending armed conflict and severe human rights violations.” Its goals include establishment of a 15,000-member United Nations pre-conflict, post-conflict task force of volunteers.

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In the Columbia College Fund 55th Annual Report, 2006–2007, Dean Austin Quigley noted the significant success of the year’s fundraising. Not lost in his remarks was the fact that the percentage coincided with the celebration of the centennial of Hamilton Hall, the College’s recently restored academic and administrative home. Oh, how we remember those classes in Humanities and Contemporary Civilization, sitting in those dilapidated seats and staining our eyes with the poor lighting! As Quigley said, “Our goal is that the College offers the best personal experience to its students by preserving the best of Columbia’s past and preparing for its future. By raising $865 million, The Columbia Campaign for Undergraduate Education will enable us to do what we do well, and do it better.” It looks like Hamilton’s old seats are gone forever! The following year, The College included in the contribution list of the 1950s Lousy! We were next to last in total giving of only $84,468. The Class of 1955 contributed well over $2 million. Only 35 percent of the 310 members of our class contributed to the College Fund. We certainly can do better.

Congratulations to George S. Zimbel and his lovely wife, Elaine. On February 3 they celebrated their 53rd anniversary. There are now nine grandchildren, and all of them live in Canada. George, a world renowned documentary photographer, has work in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Gallery of Canada, the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, the Brooklyn Museum and the Musée Nationale d’Histoire et d’Art de Luxembourg, just to name a few. His latest exhibitions have been at the Leica Gallery in New York and the Kowasa Gallery in Barcelona.

In a recent e-mail, George mentioned that he received a long and interesting letter from Zachary Forman, grandson of his friend, the late Sigmund Forman. Sigm would have been proud of his grandson’s accomplishments, who, at 18, has read the entire list of Harvard Classics, ex academia!

Classmates can contact George in Canada at 514-525-3773 or on the Web: www.georgezimbel.com. By the way, his book, Bourbon Street: New Orleans, 1955, is offered for sale at photography exhibitions around the world and at the MoMA bookstore in New York.

Paul J. Miller lives in Tarpon Springs, Fla. He has a fond recollection of commuting to Columbia from Ridgewood, N.Y., with the late Dick Bowe. Prior to completing his studies at the College, Paul had a tour of duty with the Army, mostly in Germany. Following graduation, he worked for Curtis Wright in New Jersey, buying parts for the manufacturing of jet engines. Later he joined New Jersey Bell and General Telephone and Electronics before spending more than 20 years prior to retirement in the brokerage business. Paul can be reached at pjmiller56@comcast.net.

Some years ago, the descendants of John D. Rockefeller donated a substantial part of their land along the Hudson River at Tarrytown, N.Y. to the State of New York for preservation. The trails are magnificently maintained and open to the public for hiking. A short while ago I met an elderly gentleman who was walking along rather spryly ahead of me. He was wearing a Columbia College cap, and that formed the basis for our interchange with each other. He turned out to be Robert G. Dettmer ’41, ’43L, now retired from North American Philips and enjoying life to the fullest.

So what’s the secret of longevi¬ty? According to the Harvard Medical School pamphlet Trusted Advice for a Healthier Life, the secret of living to 100 is having a positive outlook, eating a lot of fruits and vegetables, getting daily exercise and challenging the mind frequently. My advice to you, dear classmates, is to concentrate on the stimulating the mind advice. You can stir up those brain cells by communicating with your Class Notes editor on a regular basis. A written letter is good, a telephone call is great and an e-mail about what you are doing can create a positive outlook for the both of us! A word to the wise is sufficient.

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Alfred Rubin writes: “I took a year of professional option at Columbia Law, then three years ’52–’55 in the Navy. Back to Columbia Law in ’55, thence to Cambridge (England), where Rob¬bie Jenning said he ‘brung’ me up (he was editor-in-chief of the International and Comparative Law Quarterly, which printed my first New Or¬leans.”

“Thence to Washington, D.C., with my bride, Susanne (born in Germany; we have three children and four grandchildren), and the Office of the Assistant General Counsel for International Affairs, where my current job is to control the DoD, thence to the University of Oregon, where I was professor of law in Eugene, thence to the Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy in Medford, Mass. I retired as Distinguished Professor of International Law and International Law in 2004 after 30 years at Fletcher, with four books (two dealing with Malaysia published by the University of Malaysia Press, one each dealing with piracy (two editions published by the Naval War College Press) and transnational publications (second edition, 1999) and ethics and authority in international law (Cambridge University Press, 1998) and about 100 articles). I was president of the American branch of the Inter¬national Law Association from 1994–2000.

“My friends at Columbia included the fencing team (Bob Nielsen ’51, and all of the teams of 1952 and 1953), some Law School people and others. So my comment is that professorships go to the available people whether or not the best.”

Robert Kandel writes: “I used to ask: ‘Is there anyone out there?’ Apparently, the answer is ‘no’. I think it is disgraceful that we can’t write a few lines to show that our class is still connected.

Arthur Ingerman followed in his footsteps [as class correspondent] and managed to track down some items to include in our notes and give the appearance of an active class. He is to be admired for his diligence.

“I must admit that I have been remiss. I have some excuses, but they are not good enough. Despite some potholes along the road (my wife Evelyn’s knee replacement; my brother’s illness, etc.), Evelyn and I have continued our travels, including the annual trips to Scot¬land, a tour of our National Parks, a small ship cruise in France and a tour of Spain and Portugal. Travel is becoming less enjoyable with the long lines and delays at airports. Last summer, when we returned from a trip through Heathrow Airport in London, our luggage did not get back home for 11 days. Fortunately, at least, we were home.

“What have you been doing? WRITE!”

CCT invites interested ’52 alumni to consider becoming a class correspondent. For more details, please contact Rose Kerner, Class Notes editor: 212-870-2795 or rak2118@columbia.edu.

All others: Please write to the address at the top of the column and send us your news!

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1
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Our 55th Reunion Luncheon: The Class of ’53 is a lucky class! Prof¬essor Henry Graff, noted Columbia professor and historian, is going to speak at our luncheon in May. Given the current enthusiasm and excitement about the election, Professor Graff’s insights and anecdotes should be an exhilarating experience. Would you please send me an e-mail indicating whether you will be attending? It should be a great event!

David Miller: David has had a fascinating life. He was an academic ophthalmologist and the faculty of Harvard Medical School. He also ran the eye department of Beth Israel Hospital and has somehow found the time to start two companies with wave-of-the-future products that are designed to help patients with eye diseases. For example, at the present time, there are clinical trials of a method that puts a small implant in the cornea, which replaces the need for reading glasses. David also has developed a new kind of microscope that will be used during eye surgery. With David’s microscope, a surgeon will be able to see a three-dimensional image of the eye on a computer screen. As a result, the surgeon will be able to take advantage of the computer’s ability to change the image. David reports that the initial trials have been quite good.

In talking to David on the telephone I learned that about 20
years ago, he had discovered that the jelly inside a rooster’s red comb had unusual properties that were excellent for eye surgery. He estimates that over the years, more than 200 million eye operations had been performed using a purified form of the jelly. David indicated that the jelly is able to be transported through a slim needle molecule by molecule. Wow! If you have had a cataract removed, more than likely your doctor used this jelly from the rooster’s comb.

For his 75th birthday, David wrote a play, *The Return of William Wallace*. Wallace is credited with having created the concept of evolution before Darwin. David’s wife, Renee, a stage actress, acted in the play, which was performed before 50 friends, his four kids, and seven grandchildren.

**Ivan Gold:** Alas, Ivan passed away in December. Those of us who were in Mark Van Doren’s class will forever remember the day the great professor told the class about a short story, “A Change of Air,” that Ivan had written. As I recall, Professor Van Doren called it the best short story by an undergraduate he had ever read. In 1954, the story was published as one of the best American short stories for that year. Ivan’s first book, *Nickle Miseries*, was published by V. H. in 1963 with kind words on the cover by Lionel Trilling ’25 and Professor Van Doren. E. P. Dutton published his second novel, *Sick Friends*, in 1970. Another novel, *Sans in a Dry Sea*, was published in 1990 by Houghton Mifflin.

For many years, Ivan taught creative writing and Japanese literature at Bard College while writing fiction and appearing as a reviewer in *The New York Times Sunday Book Review*. The literary world and his classmates will miss one of our truly talented classmates. [See Obituaries.]

**Brian Tansey:** Brian keeps active in a number of areas including serving as a docent at the Contemporary Arts Center as well as playing an active role in his church.

**Gerald Sherwin:** There are many events that have happened on and near campus around the country, away from home base in New York City. Nothing overly controversial, just old good-fashioned academic and alumni stuff. It seems that there is always something for everybody — political lectures, discussions on global warming, pre-athletic event receptions in New York and Boston, the John Jay Awards gala at Cipriani 42nd Street in early March, College Days in Los Angeles and San Francisco hosted by Dean Austin Quigley in late March, and more.

Locally, some alumni are reliving their academic youth by attending Lit Hum, Music Hum and Art Hum mini-core courses given by Columbia’s esteemed faculty. Sophocles, Dante, Shake-speare, Darwin, Nietzsche, Plato and all the “oldies but goodies” have come back to life in these stirring sessions. The Café Science initiative has continued on the second Monday of each month to “turn away” crowds. Topics such as “Assessing One’s Risk of Alzheimer’s Disease” and “Effects of Placebo Treatments on Brain and Body” have drawn not only Columbia people, but also community folks to these stirring lectures. [See Obituaries.]

The Jewish Book Council Lifetime Achievement Award.

-Harold Kushner '55
Steve ...); Daren Rathkopf, practicing law in Glen Cove, Long Island; and the retired mining engineer in Bonita Springs, Fla., Phil Bleser. In southern New Jersey (Haddonfield, to be exact) is where you can find Ferdie Setaro, who is doing some heavy-duty consulting work. Ferdie comes north every so often to visit the “big city.”

Recent attendees at the “Table for 12” group (and counting) have been Bob Sparrow, who journeyed across the river from Queens; Roland Plotell, Richard Ascher and Chuck Solomon from Manhattan; and Herb Cohen (from Westchester); among others. Not to be excluded is Larry Balbos, ARC chair in Nassau County (not everyone from Long Island can get into the College, Larry). Unable to make the dinners has been Bill Epstein, who is on the injured reserve list with a bad back. If anyone [local or just visiting] wants to be part of this month’s interviews of classmates, let your roving reporter know. Your name will be passed on to Don Laufer, who makes all the arrangements.

We ran into Sam Astrachan’s son, Isaac-Daniel Astrachan ’91, at a men’s basketball game. He told us that his father is in France and holding up reasonably well. At the same game was Bob Pearlman, the team’s “good luck charm.” When Bob shows up, the team wins—at least at part of the time. Al Ginepra, our “stringer” on the West Coast, forwarded some kind words to C77 about the late Jack Armstrong—“inspired sportsman and football teammate,” “superior athletic abilities,” “gave encouragement to everyone,” “his legacy: life-long dedication.” [See March/April Letters and Obituaries.]

Artistic and knowledgeable members of the Class of ’55: Two years to go until our 55th. Rest up. Hydrate. Be at the top of your game. You will want to be there.

Love to all! Everywhere!

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I am writing this on a lovely spring day, looking forward to budding flowers, trees and Daylight Savings ... several communications from classmates, maybe a trend—keep it up.

First, John J. Clayton, who is publishing his fourth novel, Adam, Messenger, this fall. As I read his impressive cv., I can only summ-
Across from or next to you at the table. Conversation began over glasses of hot cider served in the atrium and continued spontaneously for 2 hours over lunch. Several guys thanked me for hosting and Bob Klipstein’s comment was typical: “I don’t know why I like these gatherings so much, but I really do enjoy them.” These guys really enjoy exchanging views and seeing each other.

Yours truly returned from a trip (January 12–February 4) to Turin (Torino), Florence, Munich, Como and Amsterdam, covering some new territory and revisiting some old favorites. Highlights of the trip were the Pinacoteca (art gallery) Giovanni e Marella Agnelli, of the Fiat family, a small but quality collection housed in a shopping and recreation mall on the edge of Turin that among others made up several Canaletto scenes in Venice; Florence’s Pitti Palace (anything but “itty-bitty”) and its lovely Boboli Gardens; the Duomo (cathedral) with among others Michelangelo’s Pietà with three figures, which he first intended for his tomb, and Donatello’s most pathetic wooden Mary Magdalene, and the Duomo itself (with the Brunelleschi dome without floor supports); St. George’s Castle in Milan, notable for the castle itself and a variety of exhibits, especially Michelangelo’s Rondanini Pietà (his final one); and Amsterdam’s Rijksmuseum, mainly 17th century Dutch paintings, including works of Rembrandt, Hals, Vermeer, de Hooch and Hobbema, and the Tropenmuseum (museum of the tropics), a museum of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Unfortunately, the museum of Il Risorgimento (Italian unification) in Turin was closed during my visit.

My limited Italian served me well for traveling in Italy, where English is not widely spoken.

Although the dollar has fallen considerably against the euro, by using Frommer’s book I found quite adequate and even good bed and breakfast hotels at rates comparable to or more favorable than those at U.S. motels, to some extent because I traveled in the off-season. Especially in Italy, meals were very good, albeit on the expensive side. Shopping for leather goods in Florence was favorable; January is a “saldi” (sale) period, sometimes with 50 percent discounts, plus there is the VAT refund on leaving the European Union. Next year I plan to revisit Rome, Venice and possibly Bologna.

On February 28, I attended the annual reception and dinner of the Columbia College D.C. Alumni and Parents and the Columbia College Alumni Association. Dean Austin E. Quigley spoke on the "State of the College." The keynote speaker was Claire C. Shipman ’86, senior national correspondent, ABC News’ Good Morning America, who discussed the upcoming Presidential election and the candidates.

Ian Nisonson observes, “If you live long enough (or are the last man standing), someone is going to give you an award.” Although Ian was an urologist throughout his life, he also has taught in the American College of Surgeons, as president of the South Florida Chapter, a governor and a member of the ACS Board of Regents Committee on Patient Safety and Professional Liability. Ian received a Distinguished Service Award from the South Florida Chapter for “a lifetime of dedication and devotion to the improvement and advancement of surgery and contributions to the training of future surgeons.” More importantly, Ian adds, he and his wife, Myrna, now have their 10th grandchild.

Ruthie and Ernie Brod hosted a ‘58-08 reception in February at their Manhattan apartment. Attending were Joe Dornon, Charlie Geiger, Mike Geiger, Peter Gruenenber, Bob Hanning, Joe Klein, Linda Lynn, Shelly Raab and Art Radin. Ernie received a nice thank-you note from Neda Navab ’08, class president, telling him what a great time she and her classmates had. And ‘08 plans to invite us to a dinner at V&T.

When John Gennaro recently gave a lecture at the McKenzie Art Gallery in Regina, Saskatchewan, in connection with an exhibition on “Warhol: Larger Than Life,” he was profiled in the Regina Leader-Post. John met Warhol in the early ’60s, before either of them had their 15 minutes of fame (many times over). He unhappily compares Warhol to visionaries such as the Impressionists and Rodin, who inspired by Warhol and his entourage, and their revolutionary ideas about art, John embarked on a mission to bring poetry to its audience not only in print but also through live performances, records and even over the phone (John’s Dial-a-Poem project).

We regret to report the death of Tom Moshang on February 24. Tom was a pediatric endocrinologist, former chief of the division of endocrinology at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and an emeritus professor of pediatrics at Penn’s School of Medicine, where he spent the last 25 years of his career. As an undergraduate, Tom was a fencer. He received his M.D. from Maryland.

The president of Children’s Hospital said Tom’s “work in the areas of growth failure and endocrine complications in long-term survivors of childhood cancer was world-renowned, and his numerous trainees, most of whom co-authored articles with Dr. Moshang during their fellowships, have established successful careers of their own…”

Tom is survived by his wife, Mary Anne Gazdick, four children and five grandchildren. [See Obituaries.]

Stu Huntington reports: “My baby brother, Lee, will be 54 this year. Significantly, he was born in Munich in September 1954, the day the Class of ’58 checked in for our freshman year. While my class¬mates were enjoying the superb food from our College experience to our 50th reunion, I’ll be reflecting on the summer of ’54, the great divide between high school and my college transition to manhood. I spent that summer in Munich, visiting my parents, who were there for their second post-war Army tour. My mom was visibly pregnant, and my dad was hoping their next child would be a girl. Lee, like his three brothers, disappointed them in that department, but never did again: his recent heart attack is the first in generations of our family to get his doctorate (in psychology, from Virginia Tech).

“Lee suggested years ago that we return to Munich together, so I could show him where he was born and lived his first two years. We did that for a week this March, bonding over tankards of the real thing (not Coke). I brushed off my fifth-grade Ger¬man (I lived in Munich in 1947), as refreshed during one semester at Columbia, and menu German was just good enough to leave us well-fed and well-traveled. In 60 years of visits, I have lost neither of Bavaria’s natural beauty nor the enduring products of King Ludwig’s mad¬ness. See you at the reunion! It will be our best so far.”

Steve Jonas has provided an update on his busy life. He is the author of three books: two on health care and one on his non-career passion, triathloning. Steve’s next book, written with Edward Phillips, director of Harvard’s Institute of Lifestyle Medicine, is Exercise is Medicine: A Clinician’s Guide to the Exercise Prescription. Scheduled for publication next year, it will be the official textbook for the American College of Sports Medicine’s national campaign, “Exercise is Medicine.”

Steve’s latest honor is the Duncan Clark Award from the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research. Steve is professor of preventive medicine at SUNY Stony Brook, with no plans for retirement. He is married to Chez¬na Newman; has two children, Jacob, a basketball coach, and Lil¬lian Wain, an elementary school¬teacher; a stepson, Mark New¬man, an architect and Web site designer; and one grandchild.

After the reunion, Steve will participate in his third consecutive Age-Group Triathlon World Championship. In his spare time, he writes on politics for two Web magazines and is a certified downhill skiing instructor. I don’t know about you, but just reading about Steve’s activities leaves me exhausted!

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month in the Great Hall of the Kapi¬ton/Columbia Club, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). E-mail Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

By now you’ve all received your 50th reunion material. We’re hop¬ing for a great turnout from Wednesday, May 28–Sunday, June 1. And the festivities should be particularly enjoyable for our class. From the opening reception on Wednesday night at the President’s House to Thursday’s cocktail reception at the Kaplan Penthouse to Friday’s din¬ner at The Water Club and Saturday’s dinner in Low Rotunda, there will be special ‘58 events throughout the weekend. Off-cam¬pus, there will be Broadway the¬ater, a classical concert featuring pianist Emanuel Ax ’70 and a Chelsea art gallery “crawl.” There are too many events to list here, so I urge you to visit the Alumni Reunion Weekend Web site (http:// reunion.college.columbia.edu) so you can see for yourself why we’re encouraging you to come. Hope to see you there.

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Among the most difficult infec¬tious diseases to treat are HIV/
David Rosand ’59’s “Gift” of Casa Muraro in Venice

BY SHIRA BOSS-BICAK ’93, ’97J, ’98 SIPA

A fter graduation, David Rosand ’59, ’62 GSAS, ’65 GSAS developed a lifelong relationship with Venice, which has resulted in the gift to Columbia of Casa Muraro, an art historian’s home and library. The Casa will give the University a base in Venice akin to that of Reid Hall in Paris.

Michelangelo Muraro was an Italian art historian and past director of the Ca’ d’Oro museum known for his hospitality to foreign scholars, particularly Americans. He built a library of more than 7,000 volumes, many of them rare, on the art, architecture and history of Venice and the region of the Veneto. He died in 1991 and his wife, Maria Teresa Muraro, died in 2003. According to her will, the house with its library was given to Columbia the following year.

The four-story building is located behind Ca’ Dario, an early Renaissance palace on the Grand Canal. The house is no longer residential, but is being converted to a library, meeting place and study center, not only for art and architecture but also for the history, culture and environment of the city.

“The ultimate vision is for it to be Columbia’s address in Venice,” says Rosand, the Meyer Schapiro [’24] Professor of Art History.

The Departments of Art History and Archaeology and of Italian have been offering summer programs in Venice for the past three years and are planning a full year program. SEAS and the Architecture School also are interested in developing programs there related to global warming, lagoon studies, urban studies and architectural preservation.

With funding from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, the Muraro library is being catalogued as part of Avery Library’s collection, and Rosand will send his books there: He also is involved in restoring and cons-
Yale New Haven Hospital and the AIDS and multi-drug resistant (MDR) TB. Among the leaders in fighting these diseases is Dr. Jerry Friedland. Jerry is professor of medicine and epidemiology at Yale New Haven Hospital and Yale University and is the director of the AIDS program. Jerry went to medical school at NYU, where he graduated in 1964, and then spent two years in Nigeria as a Peace Corps doctor. He did a turn working in infectious diseases at the Beth Israel and Children's Hospitals in Boston and in developing and working in community health centers there in the 1970s. Jerry then returned to New York and worked at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx from 1981-91, when HIV/AIDS first appeared and MDR TB sharply increased in New York City. I suspect that his experience in the Bronx was helpful in devising strategies against MDR TB that he has subsequently encountered in Africa.

Jerry has beenEnergy a leader in working with local authorities, doctors and others to bring the benefits of antiretroviral therapy to those with AIDS in South Africa during the past five years.

Jerry is developing strategies to reduce the spread and mortality from this disease, but is very worried that XDR TB will not be contained, and that it could become the "slow tsunami" that AIDS has been. It's too early to know... He feels now what he felt in the early days of AIDS: "a vague and yet very palpable feeling of dread that something very bad was happening."

We can be very thankful that our classmates and friends are working with all his "mature" energy in helping to combat this new scourge.

Aaron Priest reports, "In November, my wife, Arleen, and I went to Japan and Australia, with 12 others, including David Harris for AJC. In December, we were in Israel. I have an annual board meeting for the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies. Back home, I run my literary agency and am involved with several of our authors. I also am on the board of the Jewish Theological Seminary as well as a member of the executive committee. Home is mostly in Scarsdale but some of the time at our house in Rhode Island." Those who wish can reach Aaron at ariepost@aaronpriest.com.

Bernie Pucker tells us, "On this end, all continues to move ahead in a spectacular fashion.

"Having turned 70 in October, I had expressed a desire that our entire family, my children and grandchildren, would travel to Israel to celebrate my 70th. "Lo and behold, it actually happened! My wife, Sue, and I left on the 19th of December for Israel, initially spending time with our middle son, Ken, his wife and two girls, who are spending the year in Jerusalem. We then met up with the rest of the family on the 23rd of December to tour in Israel. "Our daughter-in-law, who lives in Chicago, was flying to Israel via Newark, and in the El Al and British Airways lounge struck up a conversation with a distinguished gentleman; subsequently she learned he was Rabbi Yonah Metzger, the chief Ashkenazi Rabbi of Israel. "Based upon their conversation and meeting, he invited our entire family to visit with him in his office. We rearranged our schedule and all 14 of us appeared, including our son, Michael '83, '88L. Rabbi Metzger indicated that he had invited us to his office for at least two reasons: one, because he has so much enjoyed the relationship between our daughter-in-law and her three daughters, it was filled with love; and two, because I wanted to Agaba and spent five days in his home and the homeland. "It was an extraordinary and exceptional moment for all of us.

"The time we spent together in Israel was really magical. Then, some of us flew to Elat, crossed over into Jordan and spent five days in Jordan visiting wonderful archaeological sites. The trip ended with a spectacular dinner with Princess Ghida and Prince Talal. "All of it could never have been scripted but it worked out in a spectacular way.

"All else moves along nicely as we celebrate the 40th year of the gallery. We have a number of important exhibitions, including the collection of work by Samuel Bak."

Ray LaRaja reports, "I recently returned from a fraternity reunion in Melbourne, Fla. (also nearing 50 years). At least 20 guys showed up, most of them with their wives. If a small fraternity can achieve such success, why can't we for our 50th?"

Ray wants us to know that Harris Brodsky has been organizing lunch meetings at the Columbia Club. If anyone is interested in going, please contact Ray or Harris. If you need help in reaching them, let me know, and I will put you in touch with them.

I think Ray made a trip to India. I hope that he will let us know what he did there.

Stan Keller, a partner in the Boston office of Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge, reports that he and his family, including his three or four months to see his daughter and two grandsons, and Moshe and Daniel. His wife, Mary, died several years ago. In his last couple of years, Billy took great pleasure in reestablishing a close relationship with a high school girlfriend, Blue, who lives in Massachusetts. I wish they had made time to make it even better."

Billy recounted some of his past activities and his get-togethers in his March newsletter. He was no longer able to attend the CCT, but he modestly left out some important details. He was an acclaimed investigative reporter for the Nashville Tennessean in the 1960s and was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He uncovered and publicized many of the abuses in the strip mining industry. Later, Billy established William Greenburg & Associates, in San Bernardino, Calif., consulting in public affairs and managing the election campaigns of local officials. He always had a tenaciousness and competitiveness since I met him as an ensman on the Columbia lightweight (150 lbs.) crew. He rowed position 8 (bow), and while shorter than most of us, he more than made up for his stature with his inspiring dedication as a teammate. I recall that he always had difficulty 'making weight' before our races, and so he would spend hours running and exercising in a rubber suit, drenched with sweat, prior to weigh-in. He always made it... barely!... and then enjoyed a huge steak dinner at the training table. He did not like to lose, but unfortunately, that often was our fate. Billy maintained his unflinching support for Columbia College and its athletic programs all of his life. He followed closely all of the wins and losses with passion, and was a regular supporter of the College and the crew. He also was an active interviewer of prospective students for the College and SEAS.

"Billy never acquired great dollar fortunes in his life, but he collected friends all over the country. His children must dispose of a considerable library in his modest home, a reflection of the learning
imperative instilled in him at Columbia and a great intelligence I shall miss. I will miss him as a caring person and friend, his company and his appetite for life and for food (b), but I also will miss him as political and social mentor for me.

"A remembrance service was held in San Bernardino on February 9 and an additional memorial service was held in Santa Cruz on April 26 to scatter his ashes."

Peter Rosenfeld writes, "Carmen has been having a wonderful birthday in N.Y. We attended her daughter's wedding in Chile in November. We celebrated my twin grandchildren's first birthday at my house and recently Carmen's grandson's first birthday in N.Y.

"We are having a marvelous time finally understanding relativity and quantum physics via Richard Wolfs's DVD, Modern Physics for Non-Scientists. On these topics, Professor Alan Sachs didn't quite reach me in 1957, no doubt my fault."

Allan Gardner (Gochman) writes, "After what seemed an idyllic family life, full of love and untouched by tragedy, the last two years have been a trial. And a new beginning.

"In November 2005, Janet — my wife of more than 44 years — died after a too-brief battle with multiple myeloma. Less than a year later, Andrew, my wonderful son, died just short of his 40th birthday. The losses and the pain have been unbearable and unremitting. But life goes on.

"Through Annie Offner and her husband, Ellen '61 Barnard, I was reintroduced (after 50-plus years) to a long-lost high school friend, Roberto Pressman. We have relocated from New York (me) and Boston (her) to San Francisco. We are close to her son and two grandchildren and my daughter, Elisabeth, and three of my six grandchildren. We miss our East Coast friends, though we plan to return often. We are eager to find more new Bay Area friends. And, in retirement, we lead an active life of travel, exercise, reading and endless political arguments."

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I know, I know, sometimes it takes a while to feel the right moment has arrived to submit one's first Class Note. Sometimes decades pass before that right moment arrives. When it does, almost inevitably there is a question about where to begin. That moment arrived for Paul Brief, for which I am most grateful, and that question arose for Paul.

"How to summarize 48 years?"

Paul's journey from the flower of youth to the age of inevitability took him through medical school, a stint in a combat hospital in Vietnam, a marriage still going strong, a house full of kids, a variety of interests and fond recollections of relationships forged on Morningside Heights.

Here it is in Paul's own words: "I stayed close by [after graduation], hopping across town to New York Medical College (NYMC) Flower Fifth Avenue along with Joel Kanter, George Camarinos, Tony Barone and Dick Nottingham, then up to Harlem for internship and orthopedic residency at Hospital for Joint Diseases (HJD). I entered the Navy Medical Corps in 1969 and was promptly assigned to the Marine Corps, ending up at the 1st Medical Battalion/Combat Hospital in Danang, Vietnam. My mandatory one year of blood and guts over, I came home to a generally cool reception (except for my folks), then finished active duty at St. Albans Naval Hospital in Queens, and Portsmouth Naval Hospital in New Hampshire. Soon after my Navy discharge in 1971, I entered private orthopedic practice in New York City.

"In 1972, I met and married wonderful Rochelle Frankel '76 GSAS, '87 Albert Einstein Medical School. A Buffalo native, Rochelle didn't love New York, so we moved to Rockland County, where we still live and practice medicine; she physiatry, me orthopedics. We are blessed with two kids, Andy and Joan, and a third on the way by Andy, married with two kids; Joanna, owner of a knitting store in Nyack, N.Y.; James, a third-year medical student; and Amanda, a college junior.

Now, in the twilight years of my medical practice, I enjoy working out, distance walking, vacations, museums, good wine and painting. I maintain a teaching affiliation at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases.

"Rochelle and I have kept Columbia close to our hearts, though as ardent Zionists, we have on occasion had our differences with alma mater's positions vis-à-vis Israeli-Palestinian issues. I look forward with great anticipation to our 50th class reunion and would love to hear from old pals such as Claude Poliakoff, Frank Siracusa, Dimitri Breschinsky, Barry Chiteman, Serge Angel, Joe Fried and Jack Zeller."

Paul ends on a bittersweet note regarding the four members of the class who went on with him to medical school: "Joel Kanter is an internist practicing in Rockland near me. George Camarinos became a gastroenterologist and moved to Florida. Tony Barone became an anesthesiologist. As for Dick Nottingham, our history was strangely intertwined. After Columbia we attended NYMC together, then HJD for orthopedics. As naval officers in 1969 we were together at Camp Pendleton, San Diego for Marine Corps boot camp. Then we were assigned to the same field hospital in Vietnam and ended up living in the same mosquito-infested Quonset hut in Danang. Sadly, Dick passed away in 2004."

Paul ends with "Best regards to all."

Paul's e-mail address is cyberdocs@aol.com. And while you're at it, guys, the right moment has arrived for you to send a Class Note to me at my e-mail address at the top of the column, and thanks.

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Norm Solberg writes from Osaka, Japan: "Increasingly, I feel a sense of loss for knowing so far away from my old friends, and it was a surprise to learn of the passing of Howard McKee, whom I hadn't seen in years. [See March/April Obituaries.]

"Others have remarked about how intelligent and wise he was, but that is not what I remember. Rather, in our 1961 class of fairly contentious and cocky kids, I recall him as one of the most constantly friendly and affable to all."

"That quality strikes me as crucial to one of the great accom-

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MAY/JUNE 2008

CLASS NOTES
Judge Jose Cabranes' article on "Myth and Reality of University Trusteeship in the Post-Enron Era" was published in the Fordham Law Review. Jose, who has been a trustee of Columbia, Fordham, Colgate and Yale for a combined total of more than 30 years and was general counsel of Yale, makes the case that, contrary to the impression of omnipotence, modern university trustees actually don't have much power at all.

"The New York Sun on February 1 carried an editorial, "Wisdom of Cabranes." Those of you on the class mail list have received a copy. Those not on the list wanting to read the editorial can contact The New York Sun or e-mail me and I will forward the article.

Tony Adler has prepared a class e-mail list and periodically forwards items of interest. Tony is missing around 200 e-mail addresses. If you would like to included on the list, please e-mail Tony at awadler@spartacommmercial.com.

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Can we get just one week without a foot of snow? In less than 12 weeks, since early December, we’ve had nine feet. Eight of the 10 heaviest yearly snowfalls in Vermont have occurred during the past 40 years.

After 35 years as a professor and vice-chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Missouri, Armando Favazza has partially retired. He now works 1½ days a week doing clinical supervision. Armando’s career has given him opportunities to lecture at many of the medical schools in the United States and Canada (including Columbia, Harvard, Yale, McGill and NYU) as well as the Kanolinska Institute in Stockholm.

Professionally, Armando is known best for his work in cultural psychiatry, deliberate self-harm, and spirituality and religion in psychiatry. He co-founded the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture 20 years ago and has written the lengthy chapter on "Cultural Psychiatry" for three editions of The Comprehensive Textbook of Psychiatry. Armando recalls that he was first asked to write that chapter when his former teacher, Regnaud Mead, who had begun writing it, died suddenly.

Armando says his book Bodies Under Siege: Self-mutilation and Body Modification in Culture and Psychiatry is the seminal text in this area and still sells about 500 copies a year. His 2004 book, PsychoBible: Behavior, Religion and the Holy Book, won a major award and led to his being selected to write a chapter on "Spirituality and Psychiatry" for the latest edition of The Comprehensive Textbook. It is the first time a chapter on this topic has appeared in a major psychiatric textbook.

Sylvain Fribourg edited the chapter. Armando said, "Sylvain did a great job and is a fount of knowledge."

Armando has appeared frequently on the media. Dateline, 20/20, NPR and BBC. The Discovery Channel often replays the show he hosted, Humanimals, about people who modify their bodies to look like animals. As a result, he receives many strange e-mails.

Armando plays tennis three times a week and has been ranked in the Missouri Valley for a number of years. His wife is an avid golfer, so Armando also has taken up that "infernal sport with the ball" in the days of leisure.

“In the course of writing my books,” Armando writes, “I often referred to my class notes from Columbia. Those were fantastic years taking courses from Lionel Trilling [25], Margaret Mead, Colgate and Yale as the media for testing the day.”

For the past three years, Leo Swergold has been working on a special project at Columbia. After 42 years on Wall Street, Leo retired to devote more time to his interest in Chinese art — a passion he shares with his wife, Jane. In Leo’s words, “I got conned into helping catalogue Columbia's large Chinese art trove, most of which was donated by Dr. Arthur M. Sacker, internationally, not a Columbia graduate. To make a long story short, I came across some items that proved to be important, and I have organized an exhibition of 22 stone sculptures from the Sacker Collections.”

Most of these items had been stored for 40 years; and little, if any, research had been done on them prior to Leo’s work. The exhibition opened at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery in Schermerhorn Hall on March 25 and runs through mid-June. It then will travel to the University of Virginia, the Ringling Museum in Sarasota, Fla., and the University of Michigan.

Leo offers to take any classmate on a short museum tour. “It really is quite amazing,” he writes, “that Columbia has such an important collection (more than 2,000 pieces), which is available for research and teaching purposes and that has not yet had much exposure. We hope this exhibition will encourage undergraduates and graduates to take advantage of this underappreciated asset.”

You may reach Leo at lsanvers@optonline.net.

I’ve recently spoken with and received a letter from Bob Morin, who often spent time with Jon Narcus in Cambridge, Mass. Bob told me that above the cash register hangs a large photograph of Jon, beneath which is written “Ah, Jonny, we loved ya!” Didn’t we all?

Bob has two children — Tony, “an international drummer, etc.” and Percy, on the law review at Lewis and Clark Law School. Bob has been married to Toby Nathan ‘65 Barnard for 20 years; they live in Concord, Mass. Toby is a pediat¬rician who loves to work in her garden and participate in book groups.

Bob calls his hobbies “kalido¬scopic.” “The deciding factor of the Development Committee for Restorative Justice, which pro¬vides perpetrators of misde¬meanors an alternative to a crim¬inal record and jail time. Bob is known as "Lobster Bob" for his rela¬tionship to the annual gathering of the sweet shellfish to an annual gath¬ering in Petersberg, N.Y., hosted by Charlie Rohrs, Bob’s freshman year roommate, and Charlie’s wife, Barbara.

The Morin companies do what Bob calls “restorative painting for the carriage trade,” which means computerized matching of colors and indoor and outdoor painting for the privileged; “career counsel¬ing for the poor and rich”; design work for anyone who’ll pay; and international development with finance.

Bob frequently speaks — in question-and-answer style — to Jack Welch — about entrepreneur¬ship to students in colleges and graduate schools. In his words, “I like to fly under the radar, mixing business with pleasure.”

More news of Bill Campbell’s generosity and commitments to helping others:

As reported on February 28 in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, “some 100 middle school pupils will attend the 2008 Steel Valley Sum¬mer Olympics in July, where they will be coached in skills other than just baseball and push-ups,” thanks to the efforts of ITEAM: Ironmen Technology, Enrichment, Academic and Mentoring. “The Steel Valley Summer Olympics . . . is an enrichment program for middle school pupils focusing on math, algebraic concepts, fine arts, world cultures, technology and writing.” ITEAM’s executive director,
Eddie Werher, who coached football in the district, realized that students were lagging far behind in fundamental reading, writing, math and language arts skills—partly due to overstretched parents who lacked the time to participate in the public school system.

Werher recruited Bill and another Steel Valley alumnus to found TEAM in partnership with the school district and the community. Bill pledged $110,000, more than a third of the first-year budget, and with his wife donated $1 million worth of computer equipment. Bill told the Post-Gazette: “That community was hugely important in my life. I want to make it a better place for the kids who go to school there.” Bill graduated from Homestead H.S., and his father was the superintendent of schools for the Homestead School District.

Bill is chair of software giant Intuit, serves on the Board of Directors of Apple and chairs the Columbia Board of Trustees. As you will see in this report of the most recent Columbia College Fund, Bill also has been extremely generous to our alma mater.

I received a wonderful letter from John Mortensen, who lives in Jacksonville, Fla. To give you a glimpse of downtown Man¬ning, I will quote from John Mortensen, who lives there, “I graduated from Homestead H.S., and his father was the superintendent of schools for the Homestead School District.

Bill with his wife donated $1 million to found the project manager for conversion of Navy medium bombers and so forth to tanker configuration. I left Grumman in '87 and then ran two pet shops, one from '89-'91 and one from '92-'95. I then fully retired and have been fishing ever since. ‘I’m not one to sit around and waste my time,'” Grumman said. “I only fish during the weekend, but I enjoy it.”

So in October 1962, John joined the Navy and went to Officer Candidate School. “I was the only one of 20/20, he was unable to be a destroyer driver (like John Wayne in In Harm’s Way),” and spent the next four months as a supply officer aboard the U.S.S. Georgetown, cruising the Caribbean and east coast of South America far south enough to see penguins. “What the hell the ship’s mission was, I had no idea … Half the crew were linguists — spoke fluent Chinese, Russian, every dialect of a Spanish-speaking country in South America and Brazilian Portuguese. We had radio antennas all over the ship (disguised as a merchant vessel) and listened, listened and then listened some more. We knew Castro’s every move before he made it … I conned my way off the ship six months early and got a cushy assignment to Washington, D.C. Six months later, I left the Navy. ‘I hung around D.C. for a year selling Encyclopaedia Britannica (it sells itself) and driving taxis. Then my brother-in-law got me a job at GE in Schenectady as a program planner in the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory.”

I worked for Grumman for four years as a project manager for conversion of Navy medium bombers and so forth to tanker configuration. I left Grumman in '87 and then ran two pet shops, one from '89-'91 and one from '92-'95. I then fully retired and have been fishing ever since. “I’m not one to sit around and waste my time.”

On Saturday, there will be a full schedule of events to pick from including a panel discussion, a class lunch in the Faculty Room at Low Library and the Class of 1963 banquet in the Kellogg Lounge at SIPA.

You will have received a complete description and sign-up package from the Alumni Office, and I hope you have all sent them in. We have tried as much as possible to arrange class events so that we can spend a maximum amount of time meeting and reacquainting ourselves with our classmates. I hope you see all you there.

On July 6, 1963, he and Irene were married. “Irene had been busy taking courses in gemology, speaking Italian. I had my heart set on getting an internship at the Gemological Institute of America, located in the ‘Diamond District.’ Mineralogy was one of my passions. Unfortunately, they told me that my 1A draft status made it too risky to hire and train me. They’d lose money.”

Our correspondent from Delaware, Paul Gorin, reports: “Nothing but same old, same old. The 71st annual Georgetown Fire Company Ball was jammed, cigar smoke-filled, steamed and raw oysters as abundant as the beer, blue grass spilling over the saw dust, an oyster knife auctioned for $7,600. A happy, raucous crowd of rednecks, lawyers, journalists, college kids, older gentlemen and three generations of family. Guys from New York, Virginia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, and Sussex County, Del. As my son’s friend from Bethlehem, Pa., said the year before and again last week: ‘This is America.’”

“Between my fills of oysters and beer I had as close to a political talk as one might with Rep. Mike Castle (R). I thanked him for his work on federal funding for stem cell research; later I threw out the possibility of capturing tidal energy, particularly on our coast, where the Atlantic rushes in and then seaward between rock jetties twice a day in each direction. He said he didn’t know a lot about it (well, neither did I), but seeing the thrust and power of the tidal flow, there was enormous energy there. I believe this work is going on in New York, but for any of us with remaining entrepreneurial spirit, the coastline is immense.”

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Patrick Cary-Barnard sent an update on his ongoing battles to keep us all green: “Here in Westmount [a suburb of Montreal] the news is official — Save the Park! Sauvons le Parc! has won the struggle to keep artificial turf out of historic Westmount Park. Our campaign of one year and two months finally bore fruit when the City Council of Westmount indicated it would spend $800,000 on natural grass fields. I am continuing to follow this general story of...
What's Your Story?

Let your classmates know about your family, work, travels or other news. Send us your Class Notes!

E-MAIL to the address at the top of your column, or to cct@columbia.edu.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

FAX to Class Notes Editor at 212-870-2747.

Class Notes received by June 30 will be eligible for publication in the September/October 2008 CCT.

Norman Olch

Ira Jaffe

Norman Olch

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Ira Jaffe has retired to his wife Joan Bybee’s large New Mexico ranch. After teaching for two years at the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Art, for the next 31 years Ira taught at the College of Fine Arts at the University of New Mexico, where he founded and chaired the media arts department. Ira’s most recent book is Hollywood Hybrids: Mixing Genres in Contemporary Films (Film Studies: Genre and Beyond). Before that, he co-wrote Redirecting the Gaze: Gender, Theory, and Cinema in the Third World. Joan is a conservation rancher and an internationally recognized linguistics scholar. For 36 years Ira, a self-declared dyed-in-the-wool New Yorker who raised his children and grandchildren in the city, is “stunned” to find himself living in Santa Cruz, Calif., “home of the politically correct, tie-dye and surfers.” A ’71 graduate of the Architecture School, Jon moved to Santa Cruz “to be with a singularly terrific woman.” He writes that “since a solo proprietorship practice in architecture is fairly portable, and American Airlines flies regularly to both New York and San Francisco, life and work can go on for me pretty much as before. Also praise the Lord (and Al Gore) for high-speed electronics! Mytiming and the real estate market need a bit of tweaking, though.”

Jonathan Edelbaum, a self-described dye-in-the-wool New Yorker who raised his children in the city, is “stunned” to find himself living in Santa Cruz, Calif., “home of the politically correct, tie-dye and surfers.” A ’71 graduate of the Architecture School, Jon moved to Santa Cruz “to be with a singularly terrific woman.” He writes that “since a solo proprietorship practice in architecture is fairly portable, and American Airlines flies regularly to both New York and San Francisco, life and work can go on for me pretty much as before. Also praise the Lord (and Al Gore) for high-speed electronics! My timing and the real estate market need a bit of tweaking, though.”

Dan Coren has lived in Philadelphia since 1969. For 15 years, he has been a software developer at Computer Sciences Corp. and has no plans to retire. For two years, Dan has been contributing music articles to the Broad Street Review, an online arts journal (www.broadstreetreview.com). Some of his articles, reports Dan, are “pretty good, and the journal itself is terrific.”

Jon asks classmates to “holler” at jfe.architect@sbcglobal.net.

When I spoke with Charlie, I reminded him that he, I and Don Bachman had been in the same freshman CC class. Charlie recalled that when “Donnie” ran for class president, Charlie was his campaign manager. He remembers making posters with the slogan, “Vote for Don Bachman, He’s Loved By All.”

By coincidence, Don had written to wish me well shortly after the appearance of my last column. Don has dropped to three-quarters time clinical practice in a clinical radiology group in Framingham and Natick, Mass., “hoping for a bit more free time.”

“I have been with the same group for 31 years, since finishing residency at Columbia-Presbyterian and spending two years on staff. I have been active in the American College of Radiology on its council steering committee and ethics committee and was president of the Massachusetts Radiology Society — I still serve on its executive committee. I have pursued research and teaching in medical ethics, as it relates to radiology, and in osteoporosis diagnosis and treatment. This year, I am program co-chair for the annual meeting of the International Society of Clinical Densitometry, a
group that addresses testing for osteoporosis.

"Like anyone, I have had good and bad issues over the years, but on balance, no complaints. I've been married to the same woman, Karen Back, a pediatrician in solo practice for 36 years. We enjoy active sports, especially cycling, kayaking, sailing and skiing, and we have a house on Cape Cod, where we have great water access. I have three kids who are doing well. My older daughter is a surgeon at a Boston night club to an auto dent franchise and is a computer advertising company. No, she does not have our grandkids as yet, but I'm hopeful."

Don took advantage of his part-time status by spending an afternoon with me in Boston on March 5 and showing me the splendid Museum of Fine Arts. "Don said that he and I saw each other about 25 years ago at a business closing. Carl writes, "After working for many years at a litigator in a New York law firm, I have served in a number of capacities, including telecommunications entrepreneur, officer of a high tech public company and consultant to public safety agencies in contested regulatory matters before the FCC."

"I married Cherrell Edwina Shea in 1972 and remain so quite happily. On my limited free time, I work on writing both short stories and a biography of Thomas Lord Erskine (1750-1823), the greatest English barrister and Lord Chancellor in the brief Ministry of All the Talents' (1806-07)."

Carl and Cherrell are residents of Spokane, Wash, but they have maintained an apartment in New York City. Carl can be reached at 2024 East Southeast Blvd., Spokane, WA 99203 or caron@att.net. He was kind enough to share several of his short short stories with me, and with his permission I am reprinting one of them here (previous stories inform the reader that Carl and his wife are lawyers and that one of their clients was a Mr. M.)."

Ming Pottery

"After my wife and I had worked on legal matters for Mr. M over several years, he broached with us the possibility of our taking a break from the law and assuming responsibility for a small radio communications business that his family owned. We talked about the business and possible strategies and approaches to build its value with a view to disposition. "I explored some possibilities that did not appeal to Mr. M, and he made his feelings clear. I wondered whether our differences had caused him to have second thoughts about turning management over to us, and I asked him whether he would prefer to table or terminate discussion of that possibility. He said, 'No, not at all. I still think you should take over the business, but I would like you to listen to one story.' And this is the story he told.

"There was some time ago a dealer in Chinese antiques from whom my mother bought several fine pieces. I do not want to mention his real name, so I will call him 'Mr. Lu.' Mr. Lu had a shop in New York and was renowned for his knowledge of Chinese antiquities and for his integrity.

"One day a woman rang the bell at Mr. Lu's shop and asked the clerk who opened the door whether she could look around. The clerk said that Mr. Lu was not at that time, but that the visitor could certainly take a look at the pieces on display.

"The woman walked through the shop surveying the ceramic items in particular and found a matched pair of vases that she liked. She asked the clerk the price for the pair, and the clerk, after examining the coded tag attached to one of the vases, said that the price was $2,500 for the pair.

"The woman thought for a moment and then said that she would buy them and explained that she wanted to convert them into table lamps. She asked whether the clerk could arrange to have holes drilled in the bases to accommodate electrical cords. The clerk said he could arrange for the holes to be drilled, and the woman left her check for the price saying that she would pick up the vases when the holes had been drilled. She then gave her phone number to the clerk and left the shop.

"Later that day, after the woman had returned to her home, she phoned to ask, and Mr. Lu introduced himself. He told the woman that he knew she had been in his shop and had purchased two vases for $2,500. He went on to say that vases were actually Ming and that the clerk had misread the coded tag. Mr. Lu then said that the true price for the pair was $250,000 rather than $2,500.

"The woman then said that she understood entirely that a mistake had been made, but she could not buy the pair for $250,000 and asked only that her check be returned.

"Mr. Lu said, 'Madame, really I do not think you understand. You have the pair of vases for $2,500. Just please do not drill holes in them.'"

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Steve Steingis writes, "Since I always enjoyed reading everyone else's memoirs, and I have provided any in more than five years, it's time I heed the pleas of our intrepid class correspondent [Way to go, Stevie]. When I last wrote, I had just stepped down as chief actuary at New York Life Insurance and switched to a part-time, three-day-a-week schedule. That action gave me what all my friends knew I considered the best job in the building. But all good things must come to an end, and in late 2005, after five years of senior management asked if I would resume the chief actuary's role, to provide a transition and to train a new successor. I agreed to do so, for 16 months, as a way of saying thank you for the company's original willingness to let me go part-time. (I joined New York Life a month after graduation, so there are special ties of dual loyalty. I wonder how many classmates are in the same situation?) Those 16 months ended last spring — an exciting period, but also a reminder, in their demands and intensity, of why I prefer a part-time schedule, which I have now resumed, as a consultant to my successor and to New York Life. One reason that I got so much pleasure out of it is that it gives me more time to spend with my four grandchildren, two in Westchester County and two in Baltimore, ranging in age from 1 to 9."

Stuart Berkman
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Teresópolis, Rio de Janeiro 25960-331 Brasil
smb102@columbia.edu

From Boston, we recently heard from David Kelston: "I spent a dozen years after graduating doing community work in low-income Boston neighborhoods and until 1975 working against the war (we all know what the war is). By the late 1970s, I found myself needing to make a change, and I went to Harvard Law School. Since graduating in 1982, I've been a litigation/trial lawyer, still in the Boston area. My small firm does class action cases and a variety of other work, including commercial and business litigation. I have remained relatively politically active on the left, chairing our chapter of the National Lawyers Guild for years. I am remarried (for 25 years), have three children (all completely wonderful) and one grandchild (just as wonderful)."

David's e-mail address is dkelston@aklaw.com.

On the subject of the law and lawyers, from the Los Angeles Times, Calvin Johnson sent in the following: "I teach tax law at the University of Texas. I am trying to raise $4 trillion revenue (give or take $1 trillion) during the decade starting in 2009 or 2019 in ways that defend the tax base. The shelf project will put good ideas on the shelf for Congress to adopt instead of raising rates. At any given level of government, tax rates are lower and the tax system is more efficient if the tax system is watertight and tax uniform. We currently recruit 75 of the best tax professionals in the country. Sometimes you need to be brilliant to find a simple and workable patch." For reviews, chapters, discounts and news on Calvin, Righteous Anger at the Wicked Riches: The Founding of the Conformists Constitution, see www. utexas.edu/law/faculty/calvin johnson/RighteousAnger.

"Not much," wrote Chuck Irish, replying to our query about what's new in his life. He went on to say, "The big deals are my wife of 40-plus years, Anne; two children, in their 30s and lawyers, one in Shanghai and the other in Madison, Wis.; and two young grandchildren, also here in Madison. After graduating from Van- derbilt Law School, Anne and I have an associate for three years in Los Angeles, then did two years as the legal adviser to the Zambian Ministry of Finance in south-central Africa, with the last 30-plus years at the University of Wisconsin Law School. I am the founding director of UW's East Asian Legal Studies Center, which takes me to Asia eight to 10 times a year. I am also an Volkman-Bascom Professor of Law." He closes by commenting, "I enjoy golf and saltwater fly fishing." Chuck can be contacted at cchrist@wisc.edu.

Friends of Robert E. Southard may wish to check out the March/April CCT Obituaries to read about his untimely death last November.

On the "home front," your correspondent will be teaching international marketing at the Fundação Getúlio Vargas, beginning in June. FGV is Brasil's foremost center for teaching and research in the area of business and econom-
the area of business and economics in general. It maintains relationships with institutions of higher learning throughout Brazil, and in fact my first assignment will be a week-long course at the M.B.A. level in Manaus, where the Rio Negro and the Amazon River meet. The trip from Rio de Janeiro to Manaus is roughly equivalent to a coast-to-coast voyage in the United States.

By the way, many of you who have e@columbia.edu forwarding e-mail addresses have apparently neglected to keep these addresses updated. Whenever you change your basic e-mail address, the "e@columbia.edu" address also must be changed. I'm sure you will figure out how to do this, starting with the Columbia Web site and clicking away madly until you have accomplished this remarkable feat. I guess that we're all sexagenarians by now, but that doesn't mean that we're beginning to lose our marbles yet. 

Arthur Spector
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I arrived at the Yale Club one Saturday, awaiting the opportunity as a warrior ... a great one ... to crush Bill McDavid at a sport that he had been playing for only six months. Little did I know it was a trap, the Yale Club a Trojan Horse and I surely a victim of the Fates. The squash match was the first between us — warriors with goggles and racquets and energy and power and determination and ferocity.

I, who had played off and on for years — including a long stint at the Harvard Club in Boston when I was living there with my older brother, and with Bob Costa '67 at the Princeton Club, and even on the Columbia campus — surely was ready and able and a skilled trooper at Reebok [Sports Club], with spinning class and weights, too.

Well, it was humiliation and defeat at the hands of an amateur. Bill seemingly was never tired. And the first game was 11-1. The second was similar, the third a bit better and the fourth another loss, with my suggesting the last one would be for "King of the hill." He denies he heard this plan and didn't agree to it. I won 11-3, a crushing, painful defeat at the hands of the more experienced veteran of the game. Bill wanted to play again, but I rejected that idea with the "quit while you are ahead" axiom. So I was injured, too; seemed to have twisted my back badly in the course of the early games. My excuse, but true.

In any event, Bill looks great. He has been playing periodically with his son, Will '10. And I will be quite subdued the next time I step on a court with anyone, including Bill, who deserves another opportunity to show that his rock 'n' roll skills from his band transferred over to squash with ease.

At the Columbia-Harvard basketball game, we had a modest reunion event with Paul Migliore, John Roy, Bo Oryshkevich, Seth Weinstein, Ira McCown, Ira Goldberg, and me as well as spouses, friends and family. Ira Goldberg's daughter, Shoshana '08, showed up, and Pete Janovsky came with his twin daughters, Isabel and Geena. The game was great — Columbia fell behind early and then played exceptionally well and won by a good margin in a fine team effort. At the time of this writing the team had a weekend to go but it had some great wins against Princeton, Penn and Yale among others. Last year's team was stronger — I predict a close battle for its first Ivy championship since our senior year.

I received a wonderful note from Tony Taddeo along with a picture from The New York Times of him blocking for Marty Domres '69 — a 1966 article. Columbia beat Penn that game. It probably was that block that was decisive. Tony is in California, and I hope to get more from him and to see him at the reunion. John Tait writes periodically from Idaho, and believe he will be at the reunion, too. And there is Bill Joseph, who was in town and e-mailed me to get together for breakfast. We made plans but he had to leave early due to an emergency for his wife, Sarah, back home. So I do expect breakfast again sometime soon.

David Morash '67 is CFO and treasurer of ISE, a leading supplier of hybrid drive systems and components for heavy-duty vehicles.

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record for our 35th, and I have no doubt that our turnout will be extraordinary. On Thursday, May 29, we have a cocktail reception at Havana Central at The West End (and there will be surprises that night). On Friday, May 30, we will have a cocktail party with a jazz quartet at a Chelsea art gallery and hope folks will then go out on their own for dinner. On Saturday, May 31, we have a luncheon in Philosophy with current students followed by a class discussion on the present and future and maybe a touch of the past. Saturday night’s dinner will be elegantly set in John Jay with a reception on the terrace, and then dinner and music for dancing later on. And there will be more. Our guest speaker for dinner is in the works and will be announced shortly — should be superb. See you all there.

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This issue brings some class news, and some class business.

Victor Cahn was kind enough to send a postcard announcing his new play, Sherlock Solo, which recently had a limited run at the Kirk Theater in NYC. I e-mailed him for a few details and for some other news, and Victor replied: “I wrote and performed a one-man play about Sherlock Holmes. The crux of the script is that Holmes emerges from retirement to give lectures in which he discusses an undisclosed case that took place during Dr. Watson’s absence, and that concerns a woman who proves to be an unsettling presence in Holmes’ life. The piece earned some generous reviews, and my hope now is to tour it with bit. Otherwise, I’m professor of English at Skidmore College here in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., with acting and writing as my chief avocations. From Francis Levy: “My novel Erotomania: A Romance will be published by Two Dollar Radio (www.twodollarradio.com) in August. I am director of the Philoctetes Center for the Multi-disciplinary Study of Imagination at The New York Psychoanalytic Institute (www.philoctetes.org). We run roundtables on subjects as diverse as ‘The Role of Subject in Science,’ ‘Transformations: How Fairytales Cast Their Spell’ and ‘Weather and Imagination.’ Last spring, we co-sponsored a conference on norms with the Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia. I have embarked on a number of spiritual disciplines, one of which is traditional Japanese karate. I recently became a third-degree black belt. The online edition of the Wall Street Journal did a profile of my workout routines in June 2007. I married and have two grown sons.”

Fred Magaziner and his colleagues at Dechert were selected by American Lawyer as the best product-liability litigation practice of the year. Dechert’s Web site tells us that Fred litigates complex product liability cases, including multi-distinct litigation (MDL) and class action mass tort cases, and also tries major commercial and patent cases. Fred was one of the principal defense lawyers in the federal and state class actions in the Factor Concentrate (HIV-tainted) blood product litigation, as well as in the federal MDL and the several state mini-MDLs in that litigation. He was a lead defense lawyer in the negotiation of the Factor Concentrate litigation global settlement. Fred also has been lead counsel for GlaxoSmithKline in the Baycol litigation and one of the lead Dechert partners in the Vioxx litigation. He has been recognized for his work in commercial and mass torts litigation in The Best Lawyers in America. Fred also has been named as one of the top 15 product liability lawyers in the United States by the PLC Cross-border Life Sciences Handbook and was named among the leading product liability lawyers in the United States in the 2006 edition of Chambers USA.

Fred is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and is based in Dechert’s Philadelphia office. When I saw the American Lawyer article, I asked him to share some personal news. He writes: “I have been married to Phyllis ’70 Barnard for 37-plus years. Our son Dan (31) is an assistant professor of African history at Cornell. Our son Drew (27), is a third-year law student at UNC. I spend as much time as I can traveling, have done the two-three-week-long high altitude treks in the Himalayas in the last few years, and I am climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro this summer. I try to do a lot of biking when I am home.”

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Congress on the topic of immigration. Mark is the co-author of The Chosen People: Immigrants in the United States (with G. Jasso), co-editor of Handbook of Population and Development Economics (with O. Stark) and Contractual Arrangements: Employment Wages in Rural Labor Markets (with H.P. Binswanger) and editor of the Journal of Development Economics.

Rob Fleder reports: “Since 1986 I’ve been a partner — now senior partner — in the Paul Weiss law firm’s Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Group. I work on M&A deals, help hedge and LBO funds manage fiduciary issues for pension investors and provide backstop support on ERISA lawsuits.

“Laura and I married in 1971 and have three children: Anna is a 1L at Columbia, after working three years post-college in environmental policy and science (twice in Israel, once in Israel, and a computer scientist, will graduate from MIT in May. Dan, our oldest, consulted at McKinsey for three years after college and now is at Wharton finishing a Ph.D. — he’s one of them data miners! (Why do I think of Hilton’s lunch totes?) Laura recently started teaching at a remarkable NYC public high school aimed at students 17-21 who want a high school degree, many students work full-time. “Thirty-nine years since graduation? Corroborated by many reports, yes; but that’s not what I see in the mirror. Friends will remember a voracious reader, reports, yes; but that’s not what I see in the mirror. Friends will remember a voracious reader; since graduating from the American College of Trial Lawyers, and teaching the path of awakening to the world who might not otherwise be supported in exploring silent sitting and self-inquiry on their own.

Stephan Bodian sent an announcement for the School for Awakening 2008, an eight-month program designed to nurture and deepen the experience of our timeless spiritual nature. Sponsored by the International University of Professional Studies, the program, which includes three weekend intensives, regular group phone sessions and individual mentoring by phone, invites people from around the world who might not otherwise have regular access to a teacher to gather and share in the process of investigating and realizing the truth together. In addition to group sessions, participants will be supported in exploring silent sitting and self-inquiry on their own.

Stephan has been practicing and teaching the path of awakening for more than 35 years, including a decade as a Zen Buddhist monk. After receiving Dharma transmission and (authorization to teach) from Adyashanti in 2001, he has devoted his life to making authentic spiritual awakening available to a wider audience.


This issue appears as the current Columbia College Fund year nears its June 30 close. Last year, our class ranked well among all classes, in fourth place for number of John Jay Associates (42), fifth for most unrestricted dollars raised ($370,087) and 10th for participation (36 percent — almost 200 classmates). By a large margin, most gifts by our classmates were less than $500. While, on behalf of our Class Agents (Eric Branfman, Dick Menaker, Richard Rapaport, Joel Sharfman, Mike Schell, Eric Wilkin and me), I encourage those who regularly give to give as much, if not more than before, I especially call on classmates who do not give regularly to join those who do, and thereby raise our participation rate, because the overall
seek redemption, and Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4. In Contemporary Civilization classes we were exploring political ideas and movements. In real life they were swirling around us. Although the President defined the war as a "strategic defeat." In other words, they easily could have. Yet they did not. There were more than 1,400 students in the buildings and non-Hamilton occupants. (The SDS demonstrators in Hamilton arranged to be arrested peacefully, and were.)

As for the war, it went on another seven years.

Society has changed more in terms of women's rights than in terms of racial equality, and the reaction to the absence of women's rights in events such as Spring '68 helped spur that change. Women's rights (to say nothing of the College's admitting women) were not an issue in the demands, nor did it seem that SDS leadership reflected the substantial proportion of Barnard students among the occupiers.

Society is markedly different from four decades ago. For good (in many ways) and for bad (in some), our generation is largely responsible. Spring '68 was one item in that sea of change. It may just have been a raft (tossed about or ruddered), but to those of us on it, it was the world we knew.

Spring '68 had the effect of decreasing interest in applications to and alumni giving to the College in the years immediately after. But the Class of 71 has wound up as unusually devoted to the College. We boast the editor...
of CCT, two University trustees and high rates of alumni giving (in dollars and in contributors) and reunion attendance. And a great many of our children have applied to the College, and a great many have attended and graduated. So it is possible that Spring '68, or at least experiencing it, bound us more closely.

Just a few tidbits this time about two of our physician-administrators: Emilio Carrillo, v.p. for community health development at New York Presbyterian Hospital, has been named co-chair of a project on measuring and reporting culturally competent care quality for the National Quality Forum. Emilio also is president and chief medical officer for New York Presbyterian’s Community Health Plan, a Medicaid-managed care program.

Edward Lee recently was appointed president of Howard County General Hospital in Columbia (where else?), Md. Having obtained his M.D. from SUNY Downstate, Edward is a partner in Maryland Oncology Hematology in Columbia.

You don’t have to work at or in Columbia to warrant mention here. Share your news and your musings with your classmates in an upcoming column, as John Miller does here: “Not only did Columbia College affect my life in so many ways in the past but it also continues to affect my journey today. When I read the alumni report I don’t always identify with the achievements of our attorneys and our doctors. What I do remember is being a kid from West Virginia and being driven up by my dad with a bookcase on top of an old car. When he drove away it was the loneliest moment of my life. And it became a world that I would never trade anything for.”

REUNION MAY 29-JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Paul Pavlica pj2113@columbia.edu 212-870-2769 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2478@columbia.edu 212-870-2194

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By the time this goes to press, reunion will be upon us. After 35 years, to say it “seems like only yesterday” is, at best, way more than slightly unbelievable. Yet — ‘tis so, at least to my addled mind … The 35th reunion should be fun — with events like a Class of ’73 walking tour of Madison Square and a Saturday night dinner in Low Library (followed, of course, by the Starlight Reception). There’ll be mini-CORE courses, yoga and city events such as a classical concert and Broadway theater. I do hope you’ll join all your classmates then!

Bill Fenley thought he remembered me from John Jay (never lived there); he’s lived in Mississippi since 1980 and loves it. He writes, “I enjoy staying in touch with the Lion of the economics department in our time, C. Lowell Harriss. Professor Harriss turned 95 last year and is in good health. He traveled to Europe twice in 2007; he lives in Bronxville and visits Columbia often.”

Bob O’Neill, a law degree from Fordham and an M.B.A. from Cal State Dominguez Hills. He recently joined the Board of Directors of OneCommand, a leading provider of integrated and automated personalized communications, an auto-industry vet, having worked for Toyota, Hyundai and Mitsubishi (president and CEO of USA of the latter two), before going on to the vice-chairmanship of Reynolds and Reynolds, which provides auto retailing solutions. Stanley Stein has been appointed a director of Oragenics, a biotechnology development company. He is a registered securities principal at Scarsdale Equities Inc., an investment banking company.

Bob Pruznick will host a pre-theater reception during reunion week, co-hosted by Barnardians. He also convinced Phil Schap, noted jazzmeister, to arrange for an evening at the Lincoln Center Jazz Museum, where Phil is curator. Bob also noted the passing of his good friend, Bob O’Neill, in February. He writes, “Bob was a teammate on the freshman and varsity wrestling teams — he was a fierce competitor on the mat, and he channeled that prodigious energy into his business endeavors. His mischievous smile and generous and vivacious spirit will be sorely missed.”

Ending on a good note, three scions o’ 73 were early admits for the Class of ’12 — Sarah Duncan (David Duncan), Kevin Gould (Howard Gould) and Daniel Spunberg (Jerome Spunberg). May our tribe increase!

Fred Bremer 532 W. 111th St. New York, NY 10025 fbremer@pclient.ml.com

With Barack Obama ’83 casting the spotlight on the progress of minorities in general and African-Americans in particular, it brought to mind the question of how the College has done on this front.

In a recent issue of The Record (one of the myriad publications put out by the University), we learned the answer. It is believed that the College had only four black graduates between 1875-1900. There was a modest improvement in the early 20th century, when it accepted one to three black students a year. Significant change began in 1964, when recruitment efforts were focused on inviting minorities to the College. The article quotes statistics from the Journal of Blacks in Higher Education that show the current percentage of black students at the College ties the University of Virginia for the highest percentage of black students, at 11.4. The real gem in our King’s College crown would be if Obama is elected President. He would be both the first black president and the first president who is a graduate of Columbia College.

Speaking of admissions, one daughter and two sons of our classmates have been admitted early decision into the Class of 2012. Each has followed not only in their father’s footsteps but sometimes their grandfather’s and even great-grandfather’s footsteps to Morningside Heights.

Victoria Barr, daughter of Dr. Stephen Barr, is one such example. Her grandfather is Donald Barr ‘41 and her great-grandfather is Simon Barr (Class of 1910). That is Simon Barr ‘00. There was a modest improvement in the early 20th century, when it accepted one to three black students a year. Significant change began in 1964, when recruitment efforts were focused on inviting minorities to the College.

Steve is a professor of physics at the University of Delaware, concentrating in theoretical particle physics. He also finds time to write about the intersection of science and religion. Steve’s book, Modern Physics and Ancient Faith, was published by Notre Dame Press in 2003. He also occasionally writes on the same subject for the periodical First Things. In 2006, Steve was invited to Columbia to give the Merton Lecture.

Nicholas Pleasant, son of Jim Pleasant, will come to the College from Bellevue, Wash. (just outside of Seattle). Nick apparently discovered New York City on a class trip, and he said he decided it was “the greatest place on earth.” Jim has a general law practice in Seattle and likes to hike and even do some cursing (the ancient Scottish sport) in spare moments.

Charles Stam, son of Dr. Larry Stam, sends out the trio. He won’t be traveling as far as Nick — Charles attends Horace Mann in Riverdale, where he is student body president and past editor of the Horace Mann Review. Larry is a nephrologist (kidney doctor) with a private practice in Park Slope, Brooklyn. He has returned to fencing, of which he became enamored while on campus, and maintains a small sailboat in Port Washington. Both of Charles’ grandfathers attended the College: Larry’s father is Jacob Stam ’47 and his father-in-law is Roland Plotel ’55.

A press release arrived announcing Arnold Chavkin has been named a managing director of Pine Brook Road Partners, a New York-based private equity firm concentrating in the energy and financial services sectors. Arnie previously had been the COO at JPMorgan Partners, a multi-billion dollar private equity firm associated with the investment bank.

Marc Reston deserves an Olympic medal for career-chang­ing. When we last heard from him, in 2005, Marc said he had “finally decided to make the jump from serving nonprofits as an investment banker to actually working at a nonprofit.” It was then that he started a stint as the COO for the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Sometime in the interim he answered a call from the London-based Animal Defense League to start up a U.S. operation in San Francisco. Once that was completed, Marc decided to return to mainstream law and moved to Washington, D.C., where he focuses on insurance and reinsurance litigation at Chadbourne & Parke. That’s a lifetime of careers in a handful of years!

This column must end with a sad note, surrounded in some mystery. The University Alumni Office has strangely only recently informed the College Alumni Office of the death of a classmate … seven years ago. They tell us that Pedro G. Jacas (born Pedro Jacas Gomez) died on October 19, 2000. Does anyone know anything more?
Gara LaMarche ’76’s Job Is To Give Away $4 Billion

BY Thomas F. Ferguson ’74

B y the time most people are 50, they have learned to spend less than they earn. Gara LaMarche ’76 has had to unlearn that rule in his job as CEO of The Atlantic Philanthropies, a $4 billion global charity that has promised to give away all its money and go out of business in the next eight years or so.

To honor the wishes of Chuck Feeney, founding donor of The Atlantic Philanthropies and subject of the recent book, The Billionaire Who Wasn’t, LaMarche has the unusual mandate to spend down all of Atlantic’s $4 billion by 2016 in its four program areas: population health, disadvantaged youth, aging, and social justice and reconciliation.

LaMarche took up his duties at Atlantic in April 2007, after 11 years as director of U.S. Programs for George Soros’ Open Society Institute. He suggests that he was an unusual choice to head one of the country’s major foundations, given his earlier career as a leader at the ACLU and his 25-hour-per-week job in the nursery school at Morningside Gardens. “I was the first to attend college. And just this semester I was recording my first year as an Alcoholics Anonymous member,” he says, wryly adding that his “sense of optimism that still cheers me up.” As an example of LaMarche’s wit and good humor, Dorsen tells of a dinner he gave for ACLU leaders for which LaMarche prepared a “long, substantive and funny poem about the ACLU and its internal issues, which he read with great panache and to great applause.” Dorsen now refers to LaMarche as the “poet laureate” of the ACLU.

Looking ahead to the next eight or so years at Atlantic, LaMarche, who has two daughters, Una and Zoe, observes that one of the virtues of his new job is the opportunity to follow up on his long-term interests in social justice while “having a license to continue to learn.” He is especially interested in one of Atlantic’s major program areas, aging, and its twin commitment to improve quality of life for seniors and to promote their civic engagement to take advantage of their experience and wisdom.

LaMarche also will have to figure out how to wind down a very large philanthropy. As he notes, “The downside of large support is dependency. He will seek what he calls “strategic ways to exit Atlantic’s fields of work.” It should be an interesting experience — as well as a novel way to lose a job.

Professor of Law at NYU, was ACLU’s president from 1976–91. He recalls getting to know LaMarche while setting up chairs for an ACLU meeting in 1976. Dorsen immediately was struck with LaMarche’s work ethic and his "sense of optimism that still cheers me up." As an example of LaMarche’s wit and good humor, Dorsen tells of a dinner he gave for ACLU leaders for which LaMarche prepared a “long, substantive and funny poem about the ACLU and its internal issues, which he read with great panache and to great applause.” Dorsen now refers to LaMarche as the “poet laureate” of the ACLU.

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Thomas F. Ferguson ’74 is interim CFO of the Family Violence Prevention Fund in San Francisco.
David Rothkopf ’77 Reveals His Superclass

**By Katarzyna Nikhamina ’07**

David Rothkopf ’77 was on the road promoting his last book, *Running the World* (featured in CCT in November 2005), when readers’ questions spurred him to reconsider power. “People asked me why I thought the United States runs the world. I don’t. I think a few people at the top run the world,” says Rothkopf, who spent the next two years researching and writing *Superclass: The Global Power Elite and the World They Are Making* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008).

*Superclass* is rooted in Rothkopf’s Columbia experience. In Contemporary Civilization, he read The Power Elite by C. Wright Mills, a Columbia sociology professor in the 1960s. Rothkopf describes Mills’ book as “a polemic about the in-breeding of the power elite in American political, military and business communities.” Thirty years later, Rothkopf was inspired to describe today’s global elite, the successor to Mills’ elite. In *Superclass*, he reveals who constitutes this 6,000-strong elite and how its decisions affect us. “There are no strong global institutions; these people weren’t elected,” says Rothkopf. “They might have good intentions, but they all act in self-interest.”

He opens *Superclass* with an example of this phenomenon, namely, the World Economic Forum in Davos. Every year, business, government, media and cultural leaders, from Bill Clinton to Brazilian novelist Paulo Coelho, congregate there to solve the world’s problems.

“Conspiracies are overrated, but when interests align, they become hard to stop,” says Rothkopf. “Elites from all over the world attend Columbia and its equivalents, where they acquire the same biases and values. Ultimately they have more in common with each other than with most people in their respective countries. They have the ability to shape conventional wisdom.”

Years of experience have vested Rothkopf with the authority to make these conclusions. As president and CEO of Garten Rothkopf, a growing international advisory firm that specializes in emerging markets and alternative energy, he travels widely among four continents. (He lives in Bethesda, Md., with his wife and daughters.) Since 2002, Rothkopf has been a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, D.C., where he chairs the Economic Strategy Roundtable, a series of nonpartisan discussions with cabinet-level policymakers on climate change, national security and trade. He also has taught at SIPA for eight of the past 11 years.

Rothkopf interviewed about 150 people for *Superclass*, including Nobel Prize-winning economist and University Professor Joseph Stiglitz, imprisoned Russian oligarch Mikhail Khodorkovsky, Al Jazeera chairman Sheikh Hamad bin Thamer al-Thani and Facebook CEO and founder Mark Zuckerberg. He weaves the substance of those conversations into an ambitious narrative that spans the roles of institutions, finance and force, the terror threat, the information age and the disproportionate concentration of power.

As an undergraduate, Rothkopf studied economics, but concentrated in English because he loved theater. “Abstract stories about power are not interesting,” he says. “Working for the Clinton administration taught me that people in government are more human than we imagine.”

Rothkopf calls his career “a lesson in improvisation.” Looking back at his Columbia years, he credits Peter Pouncey, then-College dean, and Michael Rosenthal, then-associate dean and now a professor of English, with encouraging him to pursue his ideas. “These guys showed me that you could talk about great books, but without a sense of humor, you’d be lost,” says Rothkopf. But he is quick to admit that luck plays a huge role. “While the system has become more of a meritorocracy, your birthplace and your parents’ background still affect who you become,” he notes. “A woman with your genetic structure and skills born in Papua New Guinea probably won’t have access to the decision-makers and won’t play the global game.”

Rothkopf looks forward to traveling with *Superclass*, which will be released in 21 foreign language editions and thus promises to draw a wide audience. Perhaps another book will be born on the road.


**CLASS NOTES**

David Rothkopf ’77 relaxing in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, where he worked on *Superclass* last summer.

PHOTO: ADRIAN ROTHKOPF
education and perspective to continue to meet the challenges of life today, and for that I am grateful. I hope I can give my sons the same skills and outlook on the world to meet their future.”

From St. Louis, David Pollack, who spent time on Oxford on a Kellett Fellowship, sees a former tutor of his regularly, and assures us that, “All in all, life is good.”

Finally, I will mention that I had a recent brush with mortality, or something, when six people died in a shooting at Northern Illinois University, where I work — in the building next door, as it happens. Except for feeling pretty crummy about seeing my institution and my town of DeKalb on the nightly news under these circumstances, I cannot say that I was directly affected. You always expect these things to happen some other place, of course. While there has been a well-publicized, and very welcome, reappearance of hope from across the country, what concerns me is where these events will leave my school, and its staff and students, six months later, or a year or two years later. Stayed tuned, maybe.

I am looking for new ideas as we head into the second half of our alumni experience (I figure 60 years post-graduation is about average these days, no?). Perhaps we should be doing more here with podcasts, YouTube or Facebook-like setups. Give me your “Web 2.0, but we are in our 50s now” views on how to make the role of alumni notes more relevant (now there’s a word from our youth) as we move forward.

Jack Lipari ’79 completed his 20th year as an assistant prosecutor in Atlantic County, N.J.

Finally, let me thank all of you for the opportunity to be your sticky fingers on the old Underwood (now that’s a stretch) for the past 30 years and the odd 150 columns. When they asked me to temporarily take the tiller in May 1975 until “a real” deputy secretary came along, I was happy to fill in.

I guess this is now a marathon with no finish line in sight, but I am delighted to keep the lines of communication going as long as you want or until one of the real journalists in the class retires and offers to grab the reins away.

Clearly, I am honored to have this great vantage point from which to watch us all grow, prosper and evolve. I have never turned down an offer to grab the reins away. Clearly, I am honored to have this great vantage point from which to watch us all grow, prosper and evolve. I have never turned down an offer to grab the reins away.

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Rolando has been elected to the Supreme Court of New York County in November 1997. Prior to his judicial experience, he held various positions with The Legal Aid Society from September 1982—May 1988 and from January 1994–December 1997, including a tour of duty in-charge of Legal Aid’s largest civil trial office. From May 1988–December 1993, Rolando was deputy commissioner for law enforcement and first deputy commissioner of the New York City Commission on Human Rights.

Mark F. Itzkowitz writes in for the first time with news that he has been “selected as one of the Massachusetts Super Lawyers of 2007, ostensibly placing me among the top 5 percent of Massachusetts practitioners based upon peer recognition and professional achievement.”

“I graduated from the National Law Center of The George Washington University in 1983. I have been a solo practitioner in Boston for the past dozen years and an associate and partner in several small firms here for the preceding 13 years. I generally represent plaintiffs in civil suits asserting recovery for violations of civil rights and police misconduct, discrimination, crime victim’s rights and premises liability. Many of my cases have generated media attention, including a pregnancy discrimination case against Mothers Work, the world’s largest maternity clothing chain, brought for discharging a district manager when she became pregnant; several cases alleging police misconduct, including one that resulted in the early retirement of a police chief who refused to protect a family victimized by domestic violence and an immediate change in that department’s domestic violence response policy; and a pending case against a police department for mishandling charges of sexual assault against one of its dispatchers who
Music Society (a wonderful vocal recital series). I also am a New York Giants fan and was happy with their season. Stay well!"

Richard H. Lo updates us: "It was a fun 2007. I left my consulting job and started with a privately-held company, NetCracker, that sells operational support systems software for the telecommunications industry. Since then, I’ve visited clients in every part of the world — an interesting experience. I’ve moved to Melbourne to head up the sales initiative for the Asia-Pac region.

"I climbed Aconcagua, or rather, tried to, via the Polish Glacier Traverse, but we failed to summit due to bad weather. I’ll try again in December, but use the easier Normal Route. Anybody else interested? I summited Kili manjaro in November ‘06, but that was a heck of a lot easier!"

Robert S. Martin writes, "The lovely Yvonne and I spent part of our 17th year together hiking from our small farm near the Appalachian Trail in northeast Tennessee to the wilds of Oakland in a 1919 Craftsman home just a few blocks from the San Francisco Bay. After I graduated in December ‘07 with an M.S. in computer science (with a 4.0 GPA, Phi Kappa Phi and Upsilon Pi Epsilon academic honor inductions), I decided to make a break from teaching computer science at East Tennessee State University, head back to Silicon Valley and find a high-tech thriller startup to work for. My employment at an endpoint protection platform software company was exciting and just like the roller coaster I anticipated. The market and end-of-year meltdowns were not kind to my new employer and I am again searching for a new adventure.

"Another part of our recent fun was having our first litter of rare Spanish Water Dog pups (www.spanishwaterdog.us) and having one of the pups go to a fellow anyone knows where he is and how to contact him, I’d appreciate the info."

Robert C. Klapper: "The emotional travel through time that our 25th reunion exposed me to pales in comparison to my current journey. In May, my daughter will graduate from the College. It’s one thing to reflect on the halcyon days of our own experience pre-computer, pre-cell, pre-fax, pre-iPod and pre-CD, but to experience the college experience through a student makes the place almost unrecognizable for one thing: the geniuses who created the Core Curriculum. Despite all the advances, it’s a beautiful thing to share this with generations to come. What amazes me most is how quickly the time has flown. I now better understand Michelangelo’s concept that best depicted Lorenzo de Medici’s entire life was to represent it as but a single day. Those four sculptures, day, night, dawn and dusk, is what I hope represents what our entire lives will be — essentially one day. So right about now, it’s dinner time — don’t forget to order dessert! Keep the calories coming!"

Michael Brown 669 Yorktown Pl. Paramus, NJ 07652 mcb58@columbia.edu

In Plato’s Republic (remember Contemporary Civilizations?), Socrates did not believe that his guardians, those philosophers chosen to rule over the city, be ready for politics until they are 50. He believed that the intellectual training necessary included immersion in math, dialectics and the development of reasoning powers by rational discussion. Education would be the key to success. Now that most of us are turning 50, take my advice — stay out of politics and read a good book!

Demetri Xistris ’80 is at Societe Generale in New York as a managing director, leading its 10-person equities and equity derivatives legal team for the Americas.

David recently retired from the United Way and is spending his time traveling and chairing the East Harlem Tutorial Program. Congratulations to Shawn FitzGerald and Jolyne Caruso ’81 Barna and Demetri Xistris ‘80.

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The Columbia basketball team had another good year, although a disappointing finish, in an extremely competitive league. Coach Joe Jones continues to get the most out of his players. It was nice to see Mario Biaggi, John McLaney, John Metaxas and Elliot Schachner at the games.

David Walker and I attended the John Jay Awards Dinner at Cipriani 42nd Street on March 5.

We are almost 50. We’ve seen some stuff.

Our youthful indiscretions are surely a thing of the past, happily committed before regrettable judgments were made indelible by the Internet. Instead, we have our memories, a far preferable backup. I’ll take 1977–81: four years of lightly orchestrated academic awakening set against the full-on chaos that was living in New York in close proximity to 500 guys. Sure, for many of us a light was turned on in the classroom as we were introduced to Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and company, but it was as much the luridy outside the classroom that made the place our own and that ties us together still. I’d put a midnight run through the neighborhood in search of bus stop posters on a par with Don Quixote any day.

My eldest goes off to college (Skidmore) in the fall, and I hope for less for her. I want her to have all of the triumphs and disappointments that come when you really engage, as we did way back then.

Say what you will about the Class of ’81, but it’s indisputable
Healthcare in NYC). I'm working on my third book, *The Medical-Industrial Complex: Essays on the Role of Greed in the Bastardization of the American Healthcare System.* I have joined the faculty at the new med school at Pacific Northwest University, where I am responsible for developing and teaching a pain medicine curriculum for first- and second-year medical students, which is unique within our medical education system.

Lou Orfanella '82 is releasing his 11th book, a poetry collection, *Objects in the Mirror are Closer Than They Appear,* in May.

"We spend lots of time skiing, snowshoeing, hiking and biking, and wish we had moved to the Pacific Northwest years ago."

In January 2007, Demetri Xistris '80 moved to Societe Generale in New York and went on to lead a 10-person equity and equity derivatives legal team for the Americas. Demetri is the firm's Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) representative on its derivatives products committee and co-chaired the International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA)'s 2006 Fund Derivatives Definitions project. He has been in New York for 26 years (with one year in Tokyo) and has two children, Effie and Sylvia. Send worthwhile thoughts of days gone by and/or snarky rejoinders to such at jnaudyk@yahoo.com

Andrew Weisman
710 Lawrence Ave.
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Greetings gentlemen.

As I compose this period's communication, two weeks have passed since the CC '82 mini reunion/basketball game/pizza fiesta (that got snowed out, but I went anyway because it stopped snowing ... who knew?). It turned out to be a fun event. Other diehards who made it that evening included Dave Filosa, Matt Stedman '83 and Max Dietsch (plus family). The Lions beat the Crimson on their home floor for the second year in a row.

Michael Schatman took time out from his busy schedule of "doing research" on the Internet to check in with some notes: "The first half of the book is a series of memoir poems inspired by my years at Columbia. It was a hard job, basically lost. Once again, our literary brethren have come through for us. First to write in was John Mastrominos. John had a reasonably unique experience while at the College; he lived off-campus, frequently played with his band, "Fast Car," and hit the CBGB's and Max's in 1982, opened the year's hiatus and finally joined the rest of us on that fateful day in May 1982. John maintained a passion for poetry since leaving the College. From 1990-94, he hosted the monthly poetry series at Maxwell's in Hoboken. Today, John is an adjunct professor at County College of Morris, where he teaches writing skills to students with learning disabilities (gets the "Good Guy" award this period) and is a member of the P.E. staff at the YMCA in Randolph, N.J. I was fortunate to receive a collection of some of this work, which included examples of rhyme and free verse. Submitted for your edification:

The Quiet
There is quiet in my room
It lies just beneath the radio
It lies just beneath a distant dog bark
Beneath the refrigerator's hum
Beneath a clock tick
There is quiet in my room
And the curtains wave
With the breath of some enchanted spirit
There is quiet in my room
As we embrace for the last time
Once and again
The quiet cannot be fooled
By these tender distractions
Yet, it beckons and settles itself
Amidst these happy commotions
It is of sole importance
This combination
It says we coexist
In the paradox of a marriage
Which slips into a silence
That speaks of unspeakable communion
For beneath this silence
Is found the cheering cry of the multitude
Enter the quiet
Enter
John sends his regards. Thanks for checking it!

We also were fortunate to hear this period from the widely-published Lou Orfanella. In May, Lou will release his 11th book, a poetry collection, *Objects in the Mirror are Closer Than They Appear.* He notes: "The first half of the book is a series of memoir poems inspired by my years at Columbia. It was a hard job, basically lost. Once again, our literary brethren have come through for us. First to write in was John Mastrominos. John had a reasonably unique experience while at the College; he lived off-campus, frequently played with his band, "Fast Car," at CBGB's and Max's in 1982, opened the year's hiatus and finally joined the rest of us on that fateful day in May 1982. John maintained a passion for poetry since leaving the College. From 1990-94, he hosted the monthly poetry series at Maxwell's in Hoboken. Today, John is an adjunct professor at County College of Morris, where he teaches writing skills to students with learning disabilities (gets the "Good Guy" award this period) and is a member of the P.E. staff at the YMCA in Randolph, N.J. I was fortunate to receive a collection of some of this work, which included examples of rhyme and free verse. Submitted for your edification:

The Quiet
There is quiet in my room
It lies just beneath the radio
It lies just beneath a distant dog bark
Beneath the refrigerator's hum
Beneath a clock tick
There is quiet in my room
And the curtains wave
With the breath of some enchanted spirit
There is quiet in my room
As we embrace for the last time
Once and again
The quiet cannot be fooled
By these tender distractions
Yet, it beckons and settles itself
Amidst these happy commotions
It is of sole importance
This combination
It says we coexist
In the paradox of a marriage
Which slips into a silence
That speaks of unspeakable communion
For beneath this silence
Is found the cheering cry of the multitude
Enter the quiet
Enter
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University and a J.D. from Case Western Reserve University.”

David, congratulations on your continuing achievements!

From the “Brother’s Getting Paid” department, we received notice that Christian Thomson recently was promoted to managing director at Wachovia Securities.

Congratulations, and don’t worry, Christian, your secret is safe with me; the kind folks in the alumni fundraising office will never know...

Keep those cards and letters coming!

Cheers, Andy.

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**Alumni Affairs**

**Reunion May 29-June 1**

**Alumni Office Contacts**

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**Development**

Marilyn Mullins

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**83**

Roy Permanantz

Babyking/Petking

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Jamaica, NY 11412

bkroy@msn.com

Four members of the ’83 CC/SEAS classes had children admitted early to Columbia. Nadia (Garabedian) Aphramian ’83E’s son, Daniel (Half Hollow Hills H.S. West) and Larry Cohen’s son, Raanan (SAR H.S.) were admitted to SEAS.

Steven Rubenstein’s son, Michael Seitzer-Rubenstein (Beverly Hills H.S.) and Dr. Jeffrey Thomas’ son, Alexander (Burlingame H.S.) were admitted to the College.

I also am pleased to report that the daughter of one of my closest friends from Columbia, Marc Ripp ’80, was accepted to Barnard College. Brandi, an outstanding student and athlete, will attend this fall.

**Howard Guess**

“Like Odysseus on his way home from the Trojan War, I wandered and meandered before returning to my alma mater. Twenty-five years have slipped by like sand through an hourglass. Graduating with a B.A. in English with a strong liberal arts background did little to secure jobs for me. And yet, I would not trade the knowledge! It has helped me in so many ways over the years.

“In 1989, I moved from Elverson, Pa., to Columbus, Ohio, to pursue my dream of becoming an attorney but failed law school after a year. I spent too much time at the bar rather than studying for it, a bad habit I perfected while president of Nu Sigma Chi fraternity. Three months later, on a hot September night of bacchanal sorrow drowning, I was the unfortunate victim of a robbery that put me in the hospital. I did a lot of life- and self-evaluation during those days. Tribulations and all, I gained a greater appreciation for just how fragile life can be after being brutalized by a couple of crackheads. A week later, with renewed determination to succeed, I checked out of the hospital, grateful to be alive. Hobbling around on a surgically repaired ankle the surgeon predicted I would depend on a cane for the rest of my life, I decided to continue my quest to become an attorney.

“I got my affairs in order and moved to San Diego in winter 1990 to attend an accredited law school to which I had been accepted. My second chance at law school went better. I was on Moot Court, managing editor of law review and wrote a published law review article about the White Latin Cross atop Mount Soledad (in a public park in San Diego) and California’s No Preference clause. I earned American Jurisprudence awards in torts, civil procedure and trial techniques and placed third overall in an oral advocacy competition in February, winning the second place winner in head-to-head competition.

“During the day, I worked a variety of odd jobs to support myself and took paralegal work whenever I could. I graduated from National University School of Law with a J.D. in 1993.

“After a decade of actual law practice experience as a paralegal starting in my Philadelphia work days, I had a hard time focusing on playing the hypothetical games required to pass the California bar exam but on my fourth attempt, in February 1996, passed it. While awaiting those results, I applied for a job with the City Attorney’s Office in San Diego as a civil litigation legal assistant because I was in desperate need of employment at 35. Twelve years and two-three week European vacations later, I take pride in my work, earn an honest living (don’t have 60-billable-hour weeks) and can retire to practice law at 55 after 20 years of public service with lifetime healthcare and pension benefits. Currently I am on a paid leave of absence to be the president of the San Diego Municipal Employees Association, the city’s largest labor union, representing 6,000 city workers.

“What jobs or positions I may as yet hold are unwritten chapters.

“I earned a varsity letter after four years on Columbia’s swim team, but in early 1998, I started a very different athletic/artist endeavor with ballroom dance. I found my personal bliss and began competing in a category known as Pro/Am, where an amateur dancer dances with a professional partner, like on Dancing with the Stars. In 2001, days before September 11, I won national titles in Miami Beach for Top Overall Male Pro/Am dancer, Top Male Latin, Rhythm and Standard amateur dancer and was second in American Smooth. My dance achievements, however, pale in comparison to the discrete events of 9-11. For everyone who lost loved ones to that dark day in American history, you are in my prayers.

“After decades of life as a swift-footed, window-shopping bachelo, I found true love and my life partner in Andrea in 2005. She is a fourth-grade teacher. We met on the Internet’s personals and were married in spring 2006. On that date, I not only became a husband but also a father with the phrase ‘I do’ as I held daughter who resides with us in Carlsbad, Calif. Andi and I hope for children of our own. My family looks forward to coming to New York early in the May reunion week. Unfortunately, my wife, daughter and son-in-law will be unable to attend any of the reunion events (I will) because of other commitments but as neither has been to New York City, they are both excited to see the Big Apple for the first time. I am equally excited to show them New York and to return to Columbia to visit with long misplaced friends.”

**Victor Cha**

“I returned to my professorship at Georgetown last fall after a public service leave from 2004-07 to be director of Asian affairs at the White House National Security Council [see www.college.columbia.edu/cct/event05/updates2.php]. Among things I was responsible for was helping to coordinate the response to the 2004 tsunami in Southeast Asia, visits by President Bush to Asia and by Asian leaders to the Unites States (including the visit by Bush and Japan Prime Minister Koizumi to Graceland!) and working on the denuclearization talks with North Korea, where I also was the U.S. deputy head of delegation for the Six Party Talks. At Georgetown, I teach international relations and act as director of Asian studies. I am writing a book on the politics of sport in Asia and the Beijing 08 Olympics.”

The following article on Victor appeared in The Washington Post, dated May 1, 2007. “Victor D. Cha, a Georgetown University international relations professor, started his job as an Asia special-

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**Submit Your Photo!**

**CCT** is happy to run high-quality photos of alumni gatherings, weddings and other important occasions. Photographs should include a minimum of two Columbia graduates; the more alumni, the better.

Photos may be print or digital (minimum 300 dpi jpg). Please include the name of the event, date, location, full names and class years of everyone pictured and photographer credit.

Send photo and caption information to Class Notes Editor, Columbia College Today, 475 Riverside Dr., Ste 917, New York, NY 10115-0998 or cct@columbia.edu.
Scrubs: Robert Maschio ’88 Is Nothing Like “The Todd”

By Yelena Shuster ’09

“I’m not famous,” Robert Maschio ’88 insists as we sit down at his favorite café in Santa Monica, Calif. But thousands of fans would disagree. As the high-flying frat boy sur¬geon known only as “The Todd” on the comedy series Scrubs, Maschio has appeared in more than 100 episodes during a run of seven seasons (with an eighth to come). Speaking in sexual innuendo and often wearing nothing more than a Speedo, The Todd has garnered a cult following.

The Emmy-nominated show, which at press time was expected to move from NBC to ABC next season, follows the lives of three interns at Sacred Heart Hospital as they adjust to the hectic schedules and responsibilities of adult life. Though Scrubs is perhaps best-known for the inner monologues of J.D., played by Zach Braff, Maschio is part of an ensemble cast that rounds out the comedy.

The American studies major grew up thinking he would be a lawyer. “I had no idea I wanted to go into acting,” he says. It wasn’t until his final year at Columbia, when he befriended fellow actors Dan Futterman ’89 and Lauren Graham ’89, that he discovered his passion for the stage.

Maschio met Futterman — who most recently starred as Daniel Pearl in A Mighty Heart (see January/February) — in Contemporary Civilization, and in their senior year they took “Eliot, Joyce and Pound” together. In CC, Maschio was a self-admitted skeptic who found the humor in some of the more naïve student comments. One day after class, Futterman told Maschio, “You know, you should consider acting. You’re very funny.”

His other inspiration came from Graham, widely loved as Lorelai, in The CW’s Gilmore Girls. Graham was a good friend of Maschio and his twin, Patrick ’88. In college, she performed with the all-female a cappella group The Metrotones. “They would sing and do sketches — she was really talented,” Maschio says. “She was smart and quick-witted in a comedic way.” Graham never forgot Maschio’s enthusiasm for her work, and their paths recently had opened, and the brothers were able to use its equipment on the weekends. “Rob’s an exhibitionist. At no point would he say, ‘I’m too shy to do that.’ You could put him in any situation you want, and he’d do it,” Patrick says. After shooting and editing the short films, they would have a viewing party at Furnald, “a cool place to live at the time,” says Maschio.

Maschio is nothing like his character on Scrubs. He wrote his senior thesis on the lack of objectivity in the media, and it won the Allen J. Willen Award for best thesis in a political science or history major. Maschio took that $750 cash prize and paid for the summer session in the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre, where he rehearsed classical acting, dancing and singing techniques from 9–6 every day. For a former jock, he had no trouble getting into his ballet and tap classes.

Despite Maschio’s persistence, however, it took him a decade to break into the industry — yes, he even worked as a waiter to pay the bills. That income was important, since in the mid-90s, an Off-Broadway gig paid $350 a week and stood up about $15 a set. Under the guidance of comedy teacher Wynn Handman, who also taught actors John Leguizamo and Allison Janney, Maschio began writing his material.

A decade before Scrubs, Maschio received one of his big breaks. While in Los Angeles, he saw an ad looking for a “baby faced yuppie in a contemporary comedy.” He auditioned on a whim and got the lead role. Full Cycle was so well-received that it ran for two months instead of the originally planned two weeks. Scrubs creator Bill Lawrence wrote the play; they have been friends since.

“I watched Rob audition and thought he was really good,” Lawrence says. “He’s just a comfortable guy, and that’s why he’s a good comedic actor. He doesn’t have to become someone else. I think that’s his strongest suit as a comedic performer.”

Maschio guest starred on Spin City, another Lawrence brainchild, before he got the call that would change his career. Lawrence told him that he was developing a comedy about medical interns and there may be a part in it for him — if he moves back to Los Angeles. Maschio decided to
father-in-law was a general and minister in the Roh Tae Woo government of South Korea, was also responsible for policy to Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific islands, reporting to Dennis Wilder, senior director for Asian affairs. But Cha has made his mark on North Korea policy, particularly after he was elevated last year to be the deputy U.S. negotiator at the North Korea talks, working closely with Assistant Secretary of State Christopher R. Hill, the chief negotiator.

David (3), Rebecca (5) and I sat next to Kevin Chapman and his son at the Columbia-Brown basketball game. Kevin took his family to spring training for the Mets this spring. We also bumped into Andy Gershon, Eric Wertz and Steven Greenfield at the game.

Libertarian Presidential hopeful Wayne Allyn Root’s campaign received a huge boost as he convincingly beat the Libertarian Presidential field — including California favorite son Steve Kubby and Libertarian Republican Ron Paul. California is the most populous Libertarian state, with the largest delegation to the national convention in Denver in May. The California Libertarian Preference Poll followed a grueling two-hour debate that gave delegates a detailed look at all the candidates seeking the Libertarian Party’s nomination for President. Delegates were given the option of voting for anyone they preferred, including Paul and “none of the above.” Wayne enjoyed a clear victory on all three ballots, and in the final runoff won with 60 percent of the vote. He said, “I am grateful to the delegates for having given me their trust and support. To have so convincingly won is a real boost to our campaign to secure the Presidential nomination.”

Meanwhile, as of this writing, Barack Obama leads Hillary Clinton in primary wins and delegate counts for the Democratic Presidential Nomination.

Our goal for the 25th reunion year is to achieve a 30 percent participation rate with $500,000 in total gifts to the College. All pledges must be received before June 30. Anyone who wants to contribute should please send me an e-mail or contribute online: www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/giving

We are thrilled to have Professor Charles Hamilton as our keynote speaker for our Class Dinner on Saturday, May 31, at Casa Italia. On Thursday evening, May 29, we are having a cocktail reception hosted by Ed Joyce at Heller Ehrman in Times Square. We have invited Barnard and SEAS ’83 graduates. Jamie Miller ’83 Barnard, one of the Barnard reunion organizers, sent Ed an e-mail stating that she will be flying in from Israel to attend the event! On Friday evening, May 30, there will be a family barbeque sponsored by Sharon and Kevin Chapman. We are expecting an overwhelming turnout.

Ed was kind enough to host a luncheon at his firm for some of the other organizers. Ed Harris ’82E, Kenny Chin, Bob Hughes, Andy Gershon, Elliot Sloane, Othon Prounis and myself participated. We also heard from Tai Park, Eduardo Diaz-Perez, George Wilson, Joe Keeney and Stuart Levi. Everyone looks forward to the reunion!

And the beat goes on! Congratulations to the newly-admitted College “freshman-elect,” Christopher, son of Kevin L. Coles. Yet another legacy!

Tom Sugre, a native Detroiter who teaches American history at Penn, recently spoke at Wayne State University Law School about his new book, Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Racial Equality in the North. The book, scheduled to be published in the fall, deals with the fight for civil rights in Detroit, Philadelphia, New York, Chicago and sometimes at the same time on the highly publicized battlefront in the South and largely have been ignored.

In an article on changing one’s name in the workplace, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette recently cited Newton Jones Burkett III, a correspondent for New York’s WABC-TV news station. Known to his colleagues and audiences as N.J. Burkett, Newt (as he is known to most of us) experiences his own version of Jay Leno’s “Jaywalking.” Burkett said that sometimes when he is busy on assignment, local viewers stop to ask what the initials stand for. Someone even asked him if the initials stood for ‘New Jersey.’ Mr. Burkett, who did grow up in Elizabeth, N.J., said he looked at the person dumbfounded and said, ‘That’s right — my mother named her son New Jersey.’ [See September/October 2006 for more on Newt.]

Now is the time to think about our 25th reunion, June 4-7, 2009.

Mark your calendars now, and please consider being on the reunion committee.

Jon White
16 South Ct.
Port Washington, NY 11050
jw@whitecoffee.com

Congratulations to Samuel Moed, whose son, Jonathan, a student at Friends School, Paramus, N.J., and Mauro Gabriele, whose son, Andrea, a student at Ecole Active Bilingue JM, Paris, France, were admitted early decision to the Class of 2012. Andrea will be joining his sister, Laura ‘11.

Raymond A. Perez ‘86 has joined FTI as a senior managing director in the Transaction Advisory Services practice, where he will lead the Corporate Finance Latin America practice. Ray specializes in serving clients in an advisory capacity in domestic and cross-border transactions throughout the United States, Latin American and Caribbean regions. He has advised government, numerous Fortune 500 companies, prominent private equity groups, hedge funds and other financial institutions on complex cross-border transactions covering a range of sectors, including consumer and industrial products, telecommunications, technology, energy, manufacturing and real estate. Ray’s technical expertise includes buy-side and sell-side financial due diligence, strategic business valuations, turnarounds and divestitures, valuations and deal structuring. Ray is a frequent public speaker on issues relating to cross-border transactions.

Matthew Samelson and his wife, Diane, are proud to announce the birth of twins (girl and boy) born on October 31 in New York City. These are their first children. Julia Ray, 6 lbs., 4 oz., was born at 6:15 p.m., and Nathaniel Joseph, 6 lbs., 10 oz., was born at 6:16 p.m. All are in excellent health!

Curtis L. Mo has joined the advisory committee of Nollenberger Capital Partners, a privately-held investment banking and investment advisory firm. Until recently, Curtis was a partner in the Corporate Practice Group at the law firm WilmerHale, where he has been since 2005. His representation includes emerging growth companies, major public companies, investment banks, venture capital funds and private equity funds in hundreds of public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, buyouts, venture capital
financings and other similar transactions. Curtis often acts as general outside counsel to public and private companies at all stages of development.

During his spare time, Curtis has lectured at the Practicing Law Institute (PLI) and in front of other professional groups. He has given legal commentary on emerging growth companies and other similar transactions. He has also served a number of community organizations, including as a member of the Board of Directors of the Joint Venture Silicon Valley Network. Curtis is the founder and co-chair of PLI’s Advanced Venture Capital Conference, was co-chair of the Annual Institute on Securities Regulation from 2001–06 and has been a member of the advisory board for the Annual Securities Regulation Institute in San Diego.

Dug Falby lives in London with his wife, Nicki, daughter, Clementine, and (comparatively) recent arrival, Haldane. Dug recently was invited to the 20th anniversary of LGFE, the first ad agency he worked at, and this made him feel a little on the old side. He “hopes all is well and curious to hear more about the crazy folk from 7 Jay.”

John DeVoe was executive director of WaterWatch of Oregon, the first organization in the West to advocate for the reform of antiquated water laws to restore streamflows and conserve Western rivers. Recent projects include the pending removal of Savage Rapids Dam from the Rogue River, arguably the most important dam removal project in the nation, successfully litigating a discriminatory electrical power rate to protect the internationally significant Klamath Basin from the effects of excessive ground water pumping and organizing a coalition of commercial fishing, tribal and conservation interests to defeat legislation that would have diverted 500,000 acre feet of water per year from the Columbia River at the expense of streamflows designated for salmon recovery. John also serves on the steering committee of the Oregon Conservation Network, an alliance that promotes a common environmental agenda in the Oregon legislature and on the board of Earth Share of Oregon. He looks forward to one day attending one of the ongoing ad hoc Sigma Nu reunions at V&T.

Evetter Weinberger 80 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B New York, NY 10023 everette6@gmail.com

Jonathan Rutchik enjoys life in Mill Valley, Calif., with his 1-year-old son, Rex, and wife, Beth. You often can find them on the trails of Mt. Tam, running, hiking or mountain biking, playing tennis and golf, and skiing or snowboarding. Last year, Jon completed his first double diapense, a 14-mile mountain run that begins at sea level in Stinson Beach and rises to above 1,000 feet, then back down to Mill Valley and then back up and then down to Stinson.

Jon practices neurology in the SF Bay area and focuses on patients with worker or environmental injuries and chemical exposures. He also consults to attorneys and industry. Jon visits NYC often and interviews Marlin County high school students for the College. He can be reached at jsrutch@neoma.com.

Brian Driscoll and his wife, Monique, live in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, and were featured in a northeastern Ohio periodical. Brian is director of advancement at Urban Community School, Cleveland; Monique is associate head of school at Hawken School, Gates Mills. Congratulations to the Honorable Gilbert Hong on his recent appointment as a Civil Court judge in New York. He had been interim Civil Court judge since last July.

Sarah A. Kass PO Box 30808 Brooklyn, NY 11230 sarahkassUK@gmail.com

Thanks to everyone who has been joining our Class of ‘87 Facebook Group! Please feel free to start adding to the group site your reunion pictures, wedding pictures, family pictures or anything else you would like to share with classmates. And if you already are a member, how about befriending some of the other members so that we can become friends with each other? That way we can have a real community! If you are not on Facebook or have an account but cannot find our group site, please e-mail me. The more members we have, the bigger our community grows. I hope we all develop closer and warmer bonds with each other.

Martha Duzx’Lynch ’88 and her husband of 10 years, James E. Lynch II, welcomed their first child, James E. III, on July 26. Martha, James and their dog, Cole, moved back to Martha’s hometown of Seattle in late 2005 after living in Austin, Memphis and Milwaukee, respectively, since 1995. She is a project manager for Premier Research Group and has been with them for 10 years. In March 2007, while pregnant with James (his first trip to New York City), Martha flew in to attend Deidre Facendola ‘87e’s wedding in New Jersey.

David Yum’s firm, David Yum Architects, received a 2008 Honor Award from the New Yorkchapter of the American Institute of Architects for a winery in Santa Barbara, Calif.

Please remember that I cannot make it in person, feel free to write!
Masha Belenky, and son, Toshai (8), announced the birth of their daughter and sister, Sonia, earlier this year. Jonathan teaches German literature at University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Masha recently was tenured in French at The George Washington University.

Diana Goldberg and her husband, Itzhak Tzvi, expanded their family with the arrival of their twins, a boy and a girl, Hanan-el and Hodaya, last July. Diana shares, "Big brother Yosef (4) is totally in love with them (as am we all). I am back to work full-time as a partner at my law firm (the mighty machine won't stop for twins, ya' know), Mound Cotton Woolen & Greengrass, in downtown NYC." Diana and her family live in Brooklyn.

Duane Bartsch and his wife, Dawn, welcomed their first baby, Madeline Louise, on November 26. Duane is loving the role of Daddy. He and his family live in Manhattan Beach, Calif., where Duane is a lawyer and Dawn is the editor of the local paper.

"I'm sorry my column is so brief this month. My list of excuses is long (and kind of lame), but my family and I are enduring a home renovation and we've stuffed all three of our children into one bedroom, are just about to lose our kitchen for a few months and the hours tick away with frightening speed. After I emerge from the dust, I'll write more — I promise. Take care, and please send mail.

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
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Silver Spring, MD 20901
cowan@jhu.edu

How wonderful to hear from Rachel Drosen Waldron, her first time writing to Class Notes! Here are 18 years in a nutshell: Rachel went to SUNY Stony Brook for medical school, did her residency at University of Illinois at Chicago in emergency medicine and has since been at her first job out of residency: an ER attending at New York Hospital Queens. The hospital has a very busy ER with patients from around the globe who present interesting cases. Rachel, her husband and their children (13, 10 and 3) live on Long Island, in Sea Cliff. Rachel says Amy Katzenberg is running an internet company in Manhattan, Barbara Bratter works for the Jewish Federation in Houston and Wendy Hayward, who is married with two children, does taxes in San Francisco.

Congratulations to Margaret Flynn and Dave Robison on the birth of their son, Carson Thomas Robison, on January 25. C.T. weighed 7 lbs. and arrived at 7:54 a.m. Mom and Dad are thrilled and sleepy.

On the other end of the childhood spectrum, congratulations go out to Rachel and Henry Quint. Her daughter, Tzipora, was admitted to Columbia early decision in December. And in between birth and college lies the coming of age ceremony for 12- and 13-year-old Jewish children: a bar/bat mitzvah. I had the joy of witnessing Robin Zornberg Wald '90E's eldest child celebrate her bat mitzvah on March 1 in Mt. Kisco, N.Y. It also served as a roommate reunion for Robin, because Sharon Rogers, Judy Shapshpanier and Laura Shaw Frank attended. We dragged our husbands and children with us for a very happy day. It doesn't take an occasion like this to remind us of what a special thing our group friendship is, and I hope those of you who are close to close to Robin's freshman roommate(s) today as you were in 1986 also have the chance to get together.

On the West Coast, Entravision Communications, a California-based diversified Spanish-language media company, promoted Christopher T. Young to EVP and CFO. Walter Ulloa, chairman and CEO, commented, "Chris has been a key contributor to our organization during the past eight years and we are pleased he will now lead our financial department. Chris is a seasoned executive who served as our Outdoor division's CFO prior to becoming president of the unit. With the sale of Outdoor, this will be a smooth transition as Chris knows our business.... We look forward to benefiting from his proven expertise as we continue to focus on strengthening our presence in the nation's fastest growing Hispanic markets."

Chris had been president of Entravision's Outdoor Division since 2004. Previously, he had been the Outdoor Division's CFO, a role he had held since 2000. Before joining Entravision, Chris had been with the Bank of Montreal, where he was responsible for its corporate finance activity for the broadcasting and outdoor advertising industries. His prior experience includes tenures at the Bank of Tokyo in its corporate finance group and Chase Manhattan Bank.

Across the pond, Stefan Unna has been appointed partner in the London office of the law firm Chadbourne & Parke. In 1997, Stefan received his J.D. from UCLA, where he was executive editor of the UCLA Law Review. He has advised project lenders and developers in the development and financing of power and other energy infrastructure projects around the world including Jordan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Uganda, Ukraine, the United States and Yemen. Stefan’s development work includes the drafting and negotiation of EPC contracts, power purchase agreements, fuel supply agreements and maintenance arrangements for projects. His financing experience includes extensive work with multi-lateral institutions and export credit development agencies as well as commercial lenders.

I was so glad to hear from Joseph Toth, who is one of the Stuyvesant '87/CC '91 people whom I’ve interviewed or seen recently. Unlike most of you who went to Stuyvesant, Joe actually pursued science as a career. He has a Ph.D. in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale and did post-doctoral studies at Boston Biomedical Research Institute and Tufts. Joe is at Merriam Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, Mass., where he is a “researcher developing novel biologics against oncology targets.” His wife, Rachelle Gaudet, is a faculty member at Harvard, and they live in Arlington, Mass. Joe comes to NYC around the holidays to visit family and sends greetings to classmates.

Thanks for your update, Joe, and I look forward to more news from the rest of you.

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Here’s to a fuller mailbag — not to mention a couple responses to my question about CC ’92ers who have run competitively since graduation.

One of my first e-mails this time around was from John Litzenberg ’93, a former Columbia cross country runner. Unsurprisingly, he’s still out there running often — testing himself at distances ranging from 5K to half-marathons on a regular basis. He’s won more than a few races, too. John also has competed in eight marathons — he said he tries to run a different one each year — in places as geographically diverse as Walt Disney World, Sacramento and Las Vegas. He also ran the New York Marathon in 2002.

John reported, aside from running, that he lives in the wine country of Sonoma, Calif., and is a physical therapist with developmentally disabled adults at the Sonoma Developmental Center. He also coaches the cross country team at Sonoma Valley H.S., his alma mater. He has a daughter, Mary (7).

John relayed a classic story from our graduation that I had not heard: He and Greg Yahn were standing as Katharine Hepburn, the most famous of 1992’s honorary degree recipients, made her way up the Low Library steps. I’ll let John’s words handle it from here: “We were on the aisle, and as she got near us, she stopped and looked up at Greg. As we stood there with our mouths open, she said ‘My, you’re tall’ with her classic voice and deadpan. I think Greg stammered a couple words then she just started walking again.” For those who don’t know, Greg stands at least 6-foot-7.

Brent Daniel walked onto Columbia’s cross country team as a first-year and has continued running since graduation. He picked up marathon running in 2006, completing his first (San Francisco) in 3:44. He betted that in 2007 with a 3:28 result, and, on the strength of a 3:11:57 at the California International Marathon this year, qualified for the prestigious Boston Marathon. Describing what running has meant to him recently, Brent said, “It gave me an outlet to combine fitness and achievement — I probably am the best shape of my life (even if I can’t run three miles as fast as I did when I was 18). All in all, it reminds me of something I knew when I was in high school: I am a runner!”

I’ll pass along more running stories as you share them with me — I know we have more marathoning success stories out there.

Jean-Luc Neptune wrote seeking to get back in touch with some classmates. He also sent an update: He married Sarah Deloe ’92 Barnard in 2004 and they have a 1-year-old son (Sebastien). Jean-Luc lives on the Upper West Side and works for a research company in New York, Gerson Lehrman Group, where he is responsible for managing their global network of experts. He manages about 200 people around the world including teams in New York, Austin, Washington, D.C., London, New Delhi and Shanghai.

It was reported to me that Dr. Sophie Fletcher, who is training in pelvic medicine and reconstruc-
A small group of classmates reunited, along with their children, at Barbara Caraballo '94's house in New York on December 23. From left to right, the adults: Iris Rodriguez '94, Caraballo and Karla Morales McGarry '94. Left to right, children: Maggie McGarry, Alex Tadjianovic, Madelyn McGarry and Christina McGarry (carried).

PHOTO: VIKTOR TADJIANOVIC

A small group of classmates reunited, along with their children, at Barbara Caraballo '94's house in New York on December 23. From left to right, the adults: Iris Rodriguez '94, Caraballo and Karla Morales McGarry '94. Left to right, children: Maggie McGarry, Alex Tadjianovic, Madelyn McGarry and Christina McGarry (carried).

PHOTO: VIKTOR TADJIANOVIC

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PHOTO: VIKTOR TADJIANOVIC

tive surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, is the recipient of the first chair of the Felecia Cain Fellowship in Urology at UT Southwestern. The fellowship for urology research is named for the wife of Cain Foundation trustee John Cain. The Class of 1992 was well represented at the final men’s basketball home game of the season, March 1 against Dartmouth. As always, Alex Oberweger patrolled the sidelines in his capacity as associate athletics director for strategic communications and event operations. At this particular contest, however, Ben Lawsky, Dave Goldberg, Michael Fisher and, of course, yours truly, were there to take in the action.

Till next time — and keep those e-mails and other updates coming!

REUNION MAY 29–JUNE 1 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Stella Miele-Zanedis mf2413@columbia.edu 212-870-2746 DEVELOPMENT Marilyn Mulhins mm2651@columbia.edu 212-870-3453

Thad Sheely
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With reunion right around the corner, I hope everyone has already signed up for every single event from the first Furnald Pub to the last Steps BBQ. There’ll be a tri-college wine tasting, Starlight Reception and a 1993 dinner at Butler as well as mini-Core courses and the other usual festivities. Please join us! And if you haven’t sent your college photos in for a surprise presentation, please do so ASAP to CO93reunion@gmail.com.

Is it just me, or do those college photos all of a sudden look so dated and dorky? While I knew (even then) that I didn’t look so cool in college, at least I thought some of my friends looked cool (sorry “friends”); now, when I look at those photos, I have the same feeling I had when I used to look at my junior high photos — awkward stage ... how did that happen? When did the glory days become the unmentionables? Oh well, we’re looking forward to seeing you in some classic college photos, and I promise Drew won’t make fun of you!

Although we may be one of the last ROLM classes, the pre–e-mail, pre-crackberry carefree days, when the Facebook was just a book and didn’t have any personal details other than your favorite cartoon character, we’re finally starting to catch on to this whole world wide web of the Web thing: The Class of 1993 now has a Facebook page! I know, crazy. I’m already friends with (in alphabetical order) Jessica Auth, Rebecca Boston, Alan Freeman, Kathryn Frew, Christine Raker Garcia, Addison Golladay, Betsy Gomez, Diego Hoic, Grant Janes ’94, Jennie Kim, Jacob Kramer, Rachel Mintz, Oliver Staley, Drew Stevens ’93E, Brad Stone and Margaret Wolf. Aside from being a gratuitous listing of names for the reunion column, Facebook actually is a great way to stay connected to all things Columbia, and an even better way to waste away the hours on Scrabulous.

So ... on to the mailbag!

Chris Wiggins is an associate professor in the Department of Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics, and the Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, at Columbia. He received his Ph.D. from Princeton in theoretical physics and was a visiting post-doc at the Curie Institute in Paris. In 2007, Chris received the Janette and Armen Avanessians Diversity Award. The award honors faculty members who have made a significant contribution to SEAS’s diversity. Most recently, Chris has been working with art historian Amy Gansell ’98 Barnard to examine female figures depicted in hundreds of decorative ivories from first-millennial B.C.E. Mesoopotamia, recording the shapes of eyes, noses and chins, whether hair is curly or if the women wear jewelry, and dozens of other details. Armed with more than 32,000 resulting pieces of data, Chris employed a new, high-powered type of statistical analysis, “machine learning,” which can reveal hidden patterns and associations amid huge data sets. Biologists use machine learning to understand the human genome, and political scientists use it to comb election results for voting trends.

Aileen Torres Martin writes that her son, Patrick (20 months), is adventurous and loves to talk in English and Spanish. She also has daughter, Lucia (4). Aileen continues to be involved at Columbia, volunteering for the Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University, the Reunion Committee and the Alumni Representative Committee. All this while running her own business as a speech pathologist!

Andrew Schmelz, in his first heralded appearance in CCT, writes with flair:

“After indulging in the stereotypical post-collegiate lifestyle living and working in Manhattan for a couple of years following graduation, I headed to the Midwest to attend the University of Chicago’s Graduate School of Business, where I earned an M.B.A. in marketing and finance. While there, I discovered that Hyde Park, in the south side of Chicago, is a distant second to Morningside Heights as an urban university mecca.”

Andy worked for Abbott Laboratories for the next seven years outside of Chicago, serving in a variety of U.S. sales and marketing roles while living in Evanston, Ill. In 2003, he moved to Montclair, N.J., to work for Pfizer at its NYC headquarters in its worldwide commercial development organization. With more than 12 years in the pharmaceutical industry, Andy writes that he has “learned to appreciate the inherent interdependence of the private sector with governments and civil society in advancing healthcare around the world.” He has been involved in projects throughout the past 15 years by far, though, is his family — he’s been happily married to Dayna Bandman for 11 years and has two boys — Jacob (6) and Jonah (3) — who keep him “smiling, honest and always on my toes.”

Seth Pinsky recently was named president of the New York City Economic Development Corp., where he will oversee nearly 400 employees engaged in an array of economic development projects in all five boroughs. In appointing Seth, Mayor Michael Bloomberg noted, “Seth Pinsky has a great blend of public and private sector experience, including nearly five years at EDC working on some of its most important projects. As we work to continue to be involved at Columbia, volunteering for the Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University, the Reunion Committee and the Alumni Representative Committee. All this while running her own business as a speech pathologist! Andrew Schmelz, in his first heralded appearance in CCT, writes with flair:

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Seth Pinsky ’93 is president of the New York City Economic Development Corp., overseeing nearly 400 employees.
The past eight months have been a busy time for David Eisenbach '94, '95 TC, '06 GSAS. When he's not teaching Columbia students Lit Hum or lecturing on the media and politics, Eisenbach has been hard at work as communications director for Democrat Mike Gravel, the former Alaska senator who is running a maverick campaign for his party's Presidential nomination.

Eisenbach, who earned an M.A. from Teachers College and a Ph.D. in American history from GSAS, teaches his students to approach politics and the media with a healthy degree of skepticism. Not long ago, though, he was on the receiving end.

"You talk so cynically about the media, you talk so cynically about politics," one student said at the beginning of his class "The Presidency Since 1945." "And yet you write books about politics and you work in politics. I don't understand!"

Eisenbach thought for a moment before responding. "Even though you're facing the tremendous odds of being able to change something so big as the American media and political situation, you try anyway — because you have a faith, deep down with all the cynicism, that it can be better," he replied.

For Eisenbach, working on Gravel's campaign is the closest way to bring about the seismic shift in political thinking that he says America needs. He admits that Gravel doesn't have much of a shot at the nomination, but says that Gravel's radical message has pushed the other candidates to be more progressive. Gravel says he is running for President because he believes the current system of representative government is broken. He supports a legislative package called the National Initiative, which includes an amendment to the Constitution and a federal statute that would give citizens the ability to make laws.

According to Gravel, Eisenbach's commitment to the cause is telling. "It says something about him that he's not been deterred by the fact that he hasn't been on a celebrity campaign," Gravel says. "Many people are interested in power above substance; David is interested in substance more than power."

Eisenbach first got in touch with Gravel last spring, when he invited the former two-term senator to be a speaker at the "Friendly Fire Series," a lecture series that Eisenbach and the Columbia Political Union launched to encourage free speech on campus. When Eisenbach and Gravel finally met, it became clear that they clicked politically. "We identify on the same approach," Gravel says. He asked Eisenbach to come on board the campaign, first as a speech writer and eventually as the media adviser.

On days when the campaign stresses him out, Eisenbach gets energized by teaching, and by his students. "When I walk into the classroom and I'm worrying about the Gravel campaign, or I'm worrying about the book I'm writing, or I'm worrying about how my book is selling, I get in there and all of a sudden I'm talking about Hamilton," he says. "And I'm seeing it through the eyes of someone who is reading it for the first time. It is a thrill and an honor."

Eisenbach, who grew up in suburban New Jersey, vividly remembers his early days at Columbia, as well as his biggest academic influences. One of them was James P. Shenton '49, the legendary history professor. "He taught me the power of storytelling," Eisenbach recalls. "If I had not met Jim Shenton, I would have been a totally different person. That's how great an impact he had on me."

Eisenbach studied modern European history as an undergraduate. "Every step of the way I was thinking about my history education as preparation for a real-world experience in politics," he says. "I felt that history was the best training for understanding how the real world of politics works."

These days, Eisenbach tries to bring that same "real world" component into the classroom. "You cannot hold the attention of 18-year-olds for two hours twice a week for an entire year without bringing a little theatricality to the classroom," he says. "You need to get them excited about books that are thousands of years old, and that requires forming a connection between the text and their everyday lives. They're not learning about what Plato wrote; they're learning about what Plato has to say to them."

Although Eisenbach says he wouldn't be opposed to running for office one day, for now he plans to continue teaching. "I wouldn't be happy just being a political operative; it's not rewarding to my soul the way that teaching in the classroom is," he says. "That's an oasis."

Kate Linthicum '08 Barnard majored in American studies. After graduation, she will head west for an internship at The Los Angeles Times.

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David Eisenbach '94 Combines Campaign, Classroom

BY KATE LINTHICUM '08 BARNARD

Though it was, for certain, a Columbia gathering, we stayed near Battery Park, and I don't think one of us made it above 50th Street that weekend. But we did, thanks to Mary, spend a lot of time looking at the Facebook (remember when it was an actual book?) and marveling at the fact that we've been friends for 18 years. Hard to believe it's been that long since we arrived at Columbia, isn't it?

Mary lives in New Orleans, where she moved in October 2006 to work as an abdominal transplant surgeon at Tulane. In early January, she attended an all-Ivy alumni cocktail hour organized by Mary and Leslie (Nass) Estrada, who is married with two children and an ophthalmologist. John owns his own media production company. Mary says, "Come visit and support New Orleans!"

Marina shared news about her husband, Erik Groothuis, who recently left Heller Ehrman to join the New York firm of Schlom Stone & Dolan to do commercial litigation.

Ayanna is on the faculty of Arizona State's English department. She was a featured guest on NPR's "Talk of the Nation" in February. (Here's the link, if you want to listen to a really fascinating discussion about non-traditional casting in theatrical productions: www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=18706620.)
On September 2, Elana Sinensky '98 married Adam Blumenthal at Tappan Hill in Tarrytown, N.Y. Here, the new Mrs. Blumenthal poses with her husband and some of the Columbians (and their significant others) in attendance. Top row, left to right: Mark Spatz; Polly Blietzer '98 and her fiancé, Mark Walkenstein; the bride; Eleanor Assa Bertrand '98 Barnard; Marrianna Ravitsky and her fiancé, Max Strongin '98; and Dr. Matt Albert '96 GSAS and his wife, Greta Angert '97. Bottom row, left to right: Sarah (Green) Spatz '00; Brenda (Alzadon) Kunzweller '98 Barnard; and Robert Kunzweller '98. Not pictured: Beth Roxland '98.

PHOTO: ANDREAS RENTSCH PHOTOGRAPHY

Karen Sender '94 is director of alumni relations at the Law School, overseeing alumni programming for its 19,000 graduates.

Hosner Mountain, just under two hours away. I see her often, since we like to get the kids together for fruit picking and other activities. Karla has three girls, Madelyn, Maggie and Christina. She works for IBM and has been there for nearly 10 years. I am a v.p. of business operations for Clear Channel and am responsible for the day-to-day operations of the mall advertising division.

Christopher A. Hutmaker has been appointed managing director at Bank of America.

Matthew Gross has been promoted to v.p. of development and planning at the New York City nonprofit PENCIL. Founded in 1995, PENCIL builds and supports customized relationships between business leaders and principals to inspire innovation and transform public schools. PENCIL always is looking for more NYC-based alumni to get involved! Visit www.pencil.org or contact Matt: mgross@pencil.org.

Matt began his career in the Teach For America program, where he taught elementary school music at C.S. 50 in the South Bronx. Later he was co-founder and president of Subm.
company, and he, his wife and daughter moved to London last December. They plan to spend two years in the United Kingdom. Katharine Nawaal Gratwick finished her Ph.D. and reports that entrepreneurial activity is soon to begin. She says, “Don’t hesitate between Fifth and Sixth Avenues where she is a writer. Dario is healthy and doing great. Carrie has returned to work at the Chicago office. Frank Zagar is a partner in the firm of Ropes & Gray as a partner. M. Grandon has joined the law firm. Gratwick@yahoo.com. Jonathan to visit when in Cape Town.”

Alumni Reunion news! Our class ’87 reunion is just a few weeks away. I hope many of you plan to attend. Some of the events scheduled for our class are a cocktail party on Thursday night; a casual dinner and the Young Alumni Casino Royale on Friday night; and a full day of activities as well as a wine tasting, dinner and Starlight Reception on Saturday night.

In honor of our reunion, I hope all of you will take the time to consider making a financial contribution to the College before Alumni Reunion Weekend. As of press time, we needed 113 donors and $27,414 more to fulfill the $100,000 challenge made by two generous members of our class. Now for some baby news, which seems to be arriving on a regular basis. Those ’98 offspring are Elijah Harcourt Edmonds, born on November 13 to happy parents Rachel Mazar and her husband, Jonathan Edmonds. Rachel and Jonathan are Brooklynites who teach at Brooklyn Friends — she teaches English in the middle and upper school, and he is a second-grade teacher at the lower school. Rachel writes: “Eli is a delightful little boy who is kind to his parents and actually lets us get a decent amount of sleep.” And now for the wedding news. Best wishes are in order for Elana Sinensky, who married Barry Mason takes place on October 6 in Washington D.C. Celebrating with the couple were Jennifer and Lisa Pernys Milton, Abigail Longe, Nam Tran Nguyen, Carolyn Wang Yong ‘98E and David Yong ‘97E. Congratulations, Celeste and Jim. That’s it for this edition. I know the next notes will be filled to the brim with reunion updates!

Daryl Reyes ’00 and Jennifer Chang ’00 met during their freshman year. Nine years later, on August 31, 2007, they were married on Long Beach Island, N.J. Columbia friends gathered to toast the union. Standing, from left to right: Rajat Gupta ’01E, Monica Gupta ’01, Sara Bleich ’00, Natalie Uy ’00, Eric Castillo ’00, Eric Mejia ’01, Melissa Mejia, Daniel Jethanamest ’00E, Nancy Pan, Rolando Villanueva ’00 and Ifiez Ohioturen ’01.

Not pictured: An Pham Jr. ’01.

PHOTO: CLY CREATION

Class Notes

Priscia Bae
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Hilary (Gerson) Schiraldi and Mike Schiraldi ’00E quit their jobs to travel around the world, and invite their classmates to follow their progress at www.spot hopping.com.

Barry Mason writes in with wonderful news of the birth of his son, Oliver Myles, on February 21. Oliver, Barry and his wife Pamela (née Parris) Mason ’00 Barnard live in Riverdale, N.Y. Barry has two more years to his urology residency at Montefiore Medical Center in New York, and Pam is back to work as a school psychologist in Andesy, N.Y.

Jamie Weiss Chilton is an associate agent at Andrea Brown Literary Agency, where she represents children’s books.

Hall. They were introduced by Dory Agazarian ’00, who remains one of her closest friends. Over the past year, Hilary has done a lot of traveling: a month road-tripping with Ognian through Bulgaria, Greece and Romania; August at the University of Salamanca (Spain); and two weeks in Berlin as well as Lisbon, Coimbra, Porto, Santiago de Compostela, Madrid, Paris and Barcelona. Hilary lives in West L.A. and would love to hear from classmates nearby (hilarasha@gmail.com).

Seth Unger’s twins, Jane and Georgia, turned 1 on January 29. Great pics are available at www.campuner.com/twins. Seth’s wife, Alii, works for Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and Seth spent the past year as a stay-at-home dad, which he reports was “fun and tiring.”

Ezra Dweck and his wife, Ilana, had a boy, Marc, in January. There were a handful of Columbia alumni
products and technologies to create a self-sustaining energy consumer. Andrea would love to be contacted by anyone who is interested in finding out more about the work, making a studio visit or collaborating on related projects. Andrea welcomes feedback from people in non-art fields as well as artists. Contact her at andrea@andreareising.com and check out her work at www.selfgenerationcorporation.com.

Sonia Dandona
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We are only a few months into the new year but I already have quite a bit of exciting news to share about our classmate. Daniel Goldberg embarked on a long-term world tour, starting on April 15, with his girlfriend. He plans to travel extensively throughout Western Europe, Japan, Southeast Asia, and India with the highlights including West Ireland, Scotland's Highlands, the French Riviera, the Swiss Alps, Japan by way of Kyoto, Thailand, New Zealand's south island and India. Before that, Daniel worked at Columbia College Information Technology as a Web designer for 1 1/2 years. He left the position to embark on this trip.

Margarita O'Donnell '04 and Garrett Eckman '03, '04 live together in Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn. Maggie is a second-year Root-Tilden-Kern Scholar at NYU Law and spent last summer working for a human rights NGO in Argentina. Garrett is at a new job as a project manager for construction at the National September 11th Memorial, downtown. Aryea Aranoff recently started her M.B.A. at Wharton and hopes to work on Wall Street this summer. Alii Lloyd's works in commercial real estate at CB Richard Ellis in NYC and co-chairs the Young American Friends of the Israel Museum. She writes, “We are always looking for new members!” Alii, Jackie (Cockrell) Karp and her husband, David Karp '99, recently attended Amber Ludwig '01 Bernard's wedding to Carlos Otero in Annandale, Md. Zecki Dossal recently took a position within Gerson Lehman Group's multi-sector research team, after spending five years building up the technology, media and telecommunications practice.

Varga at the Arlington Street Church in Boston. Andrew is pursuing a master's in international affairs at Tufts and a law degree at the University of Iowa.

Lastly, a very sad update. David Benjamin Fisch passed away on February 14 in New York City. He had lived in New York since graduation, working first at Hunton & Williams law firm, then International Biometric Group, and was at the time of his death employed with Crowell & Moring consulting firm. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, where a fund is being established in David's memory [see March/April Obituaries].

REUNION MAY 29-31, 2009

MAY/JUNE 2008

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I'm embarrassed by how short the column is this time around, but thankfully, I have two engagements to announce — in brevity there is levity!

Marla Goodman became engaged to Jay Zink. Marla is an attorney in Seattle, and Jay is a surgeon there. I recently had the good fortune of traveling to Seattle on business (regularly), so it's been lucky enough to attend the John Jay Awards Dinner, held at Cipriani 42nd Street in March.

Susan Freedman lives in N.Y. and teaches American history at the Winston Prep School, a high school for students with learning disabilities.

Finally, a few other Columbia alums I run into often are Latham & Watkins, where I am an associate. Also at my table were Latham partners Adel Aslani-Far and her husband, David Karp '99, Alii Lloyds works in commercial real estate at CB Richard Ellis in New York City and co-chairs the Young American Friends of the Israel Museum. She writes, "We are always looking for new members!" Alii, Jackie (Cockrell) Karp and her husband, David Karp '99, recently attended Amber Ludwig '01 Bernard’s wedding to Carlos Otero in Annandale, Md. Zecki Dossal recently took a position within Gerson Lehman Group’s multi-sector research team, after spending five years building up the technology, media and telecommunications practice.

The company recently closed a capital investment from Silver Lake Partners. Daniel Lupo and a fellow Beta Theta Pi alumnus, Richard Luthmann '01, started an Internet protocol television (IPTV) company, InterVision Streaming, under a parent company, InterVision Network (trade symbol TSV; www.ivnet.tv).

Andrew David Finkelman, recently married Lauren Marie

02

03

Alli Lloyd’s ‘02 works in commercial real estate in New York City and co-chairs the Young American Friends of the Israel Museum.
Jeremiah Boswell '05 plays professional basketball in Bulgaria; last year, he played in Brazil.

After graduating from Cornell Law, Rebecca Chung is an attorney at Dorsey & Whitney in Manhattan. Also in the field of law, Adam Kaufman recently was admitted to the New York State Bar. Esther Kim Chung, who switched into Morgan Stanley’s synthetic derivatives sales group, recently got back from a trip to Hong Kong and Korea, during which she met up with Jen Wang '04.

Mike Lee lives in Los Angeles and works for an Internet start-up, Done Right (www.doneright.com). He recently watched Jay Mung Done Right (www.doneright.com). He recently watched Jay Mung

Anna Bulbrook's band. The Air¬

Daniel Laskowski and his wife, the bride, the groom and Maurice Sheetz '90 P&S.

On January 5, Sarah Beato '06 married Nick Tarasecivich in Pit¬

man, N.J. From left are Lauren Johns '06, Kristina Fell '05, the bride, the groom and Maurice Sheetz '90 P&S. PHOTO: CALE OWENS

I can't believe another graduating class soon will join our ranks as the latest members of the College alumni family. Congratulations to the Class of 2008.

On April 4, I attended the second annual Columbia College Young Alumni Fund Spring Bene¬

Citing that “The Seven-Year "New York City" Ich” has finally caught him, Kristian Hansen relocated to Phoenix in April to run a start-up company, “living in a big empty house and sweating the desert heat.” He insists that anyone familiar with the city get in touch with him.

Jessica DiCamillo writes: “I am in my first year of law school at UC Berkeley and am excited to be interning with Communities for a Better Environment in Oakland this summer. I am engaged to be married to James Hollinger, a software engineer from Ottawa, Ontario. We are planning a summer 2009 wedding.” Congrats to Jessica and her fiancé!

Liza Dwoskin, who is doing a one-year master’s program at the Journalism School, is interning for the Metro Section of The New York Times. Her fellowship at The Village Voice starts this summer. And Jereme Boswell, who played professional basketball in Bulgaria last year, let us know he’s playing professionally in Bulgaria this year.

I’m hoping that the volume of notes from our classmates will increase the next time around. It was probably unwise of me to send out reminders over a holiday weekend. Please feel free to send me new updates about your whereabouts and doings anytime — I’ll be sure to include them in a batch soon. Hope all is well!

A number of our classmates are making a splash in the music scene. Christina Chung has been hard at work pursuing her pop music career. She recently released her debut EP, “Face to Face,” which can be downloaded from iTunes. Three classmates and an ’07er are making headlines across the country as their indie rock band, Vampire Weekend, continues to gain popularity. Band members include Ezra Koenig (vocal, guitar), Rostam Batmanglij (keyboard), Chris Tomson (drums) and Chris Baio ’07 (bass guitar). They have received critical acclaim, including songs No. 67 on Rolling Stone’s list of the top 100 songs for 2007, and performed on Saturday Night Live on March 8. To learn more about this band and to track its growing success, check out www.vampireweekend.com. For a New York CCT ran a year ago about Vampire Weekend, go to www.college. columbia.edu/cct/may_jun07/ updates3.php.

Laayla Naile lives in Dubai and is involved in media and real estate. She asks that you drop her a note if you’re interested in investment opportunities. Maiya Chard-Yaron, a former Columbia softball star and now a member of the Israeli national softball team, recently traveled to Argentina for the Pan American Macabiah Games, which occur every four years, in preparation for the Macabiah Games in Israel, where she made her first appearance on the world scene in summer 2005.

Rachel Shuf was recently promoted to senior associate consultant at Mars & Co., a management consulting firm specializing in business strategy. At Mars, Rachel has worked on a broad range of strategic engagements for Fortune 100 clients in the United States,
IvyGate Founders Summers and Beam Move On

By Kate Linthicum ’08 Barnard

T
two years ago, Nick Summers ’05 and Chris Beam ’06 saw a niche and set out to fill it. “There’s a blog about every single topic known to man,” Beam says, “but there was a gaping hole because there wasn’t a blog about higher education and the small circle of schools that Columbia belongs to.”

The pair considered the problem while vacationing with friends on the Jersey Shore. By the time the trip was over, they had more than just a tan: They had given birth to IvyGateBlog.com, a news and gossip blog about the Ivy League.

“That was the beginning of a long and horrible year,” remembers Summers — and he is only half-joking. Both had full-time jobs in journalism, Summers at Newsweek and Beam at Slate magazine, so they could only tend to the blog after work. They toiled each night until the early morning hours, posting quirky items about students and college life, often with unrewarding results. “In the beginning, we had a couple hundred hits a day,” Summers notes. “I’m sure 190 of those were me and Chris hitting the refresh button.”

Eventually, though, the site took off. “Once students realize they’re being written about, they’ll start reading it,” Beam says. Today, the site, which is for-profit but breaks about even, receives 15,000-20,000 hits daily and is considered by many students to be the go-to source for all things Ivy League.

IvyGate, according to its founders, is meant to provide a fun, tabloid-like escape for the typical overworked college student. “It should be a break,” Summers says. While it is updated daily with links to the biggest news stories on Ivy campuses, it also serves up a heavy dose of gossip. According to Summers, he and Beam chose the name to reflect this inclination: “It sounds like a scandal,” he says.

Indeed, IvyGate has played a part in many memorable Ivy League scandals. The most famous episode involved a Yale undergraduate who sent an investment banking firm a video resume flaunting his “superhuman” skills as a weight lifter, martial-arts expert and dancer. IvyGate posted the video and joked on its site, and the story was picked up by news outlets across the country.

Last fall, after more than a year of juggling day jobs and the blog, Summers and Beam handed over the reigns of IvyGate to a staff of three writers. They moved on from covering the biggest scandals in the Ivy League to the biggest story in the country: the 2008 Presidential campaign.

Summers, who is based in New York, is currently reporting on the Clinton campaign for a book to be published by Newsweek. Beam is based in Washington, D.C., but travels the country writing about the race on Slate’s “Trainhead” blog. Occasionally, they bump into each other on the campaign trail. “It’s pretty cool to see him where the real news is happening,” Summers says of his best friend.

The two met in Beam’s first year, when he was a cub reporter at Spectator. Summers was the editor who assigned him his first story. “(Summers) knew right from the beginning that Chris was a lot like me,” he says. “We have a similar sense of humor and also a healthy distrust for the status quo.”

It’s not surprising that Beam and Summers get along. Both are “journalism babies.” Summers’ mother, K.C., is an editor at The Washington Post and Beam’s father, Alex, is a columnist at The Boston Globe.

Although they couldn’t major in journalism as undergrads, Beam and Summers tailored their class schedules to make them better journalists. Both concentrated in American history and took James Shapiro ’77’s book review class. Summers also took President Lee C. Bollinger’s course on the First Amendment. “He would create some pretty fun hypothetical situations that would mirror real situations you would see in the newsroom,” Summers says.

Midway through his junior year, Summers became Spectator editor-in-chief. Beam wrote for Spectator and also was an editor for The Blue & White, Columbia’s undergraduate magazine. During his senior year, he wrote the script for The Varsity Show, an experience that sharpened his humor and would later serve as a.maxim at IvyGate. “If it’s not fun to write and to read,” Beam says, “it’s usually not worth it.”

Kate Linthicum ’08 Barnard majored in American studies. After graduation, she will head west for an internship at The Los Angeles Times.
It is hard to believe that we graduated from the College one year ago and we are all now technically "adults." Scary. Still, it has been an amazing year, and members of CC '07 are engaged in fascinating and inspiring activities post-graduation.

Chris Baio, Ezra Koenig '06, Chris Tomson '06 and Rostam Batmanglij '06 make up the acclaimed band Vampire Weekend, which recently released its self-titled debut album with much success. Their song "Cape Cod Kwassa Kwassa" was named No. 67 on "Rolling Stone" magazine's list of the 100 Best Songs of 2007. The band also was declared "The Year's Best New Band" in March by Spin magazine.

The New York Times writes, "Describing its sound as 'Upper West Side Soul,' the band combines library smarts with Afro-inflected pop; the lyrics name-drop reggaeton, Benetton and the Indian town of Dharmsala, and question the merits of certain punctuation marks in the band's single 'Oxford Comma.'"

Vampire Weekend also has been featured in The New York Observer and appeared on Letterman in February. Check out their music at www.vampireweekend.com. My favorite is "A-Punk." For a story in The New York Times magazine, "The Record, it was around 3 a.m. Recently, I went on a mission to Buenos Aires with the UJA/Federation of New York Generosity Group. The trip was very meaningful, as we met with Jewish organizations that UJA supports, visited all the noteworthy tourist sites and learned how to tango like an Argentine. I love living on the campaign trail."

Since this issue marks one year from our graduation, some members of the class have begun reminiscing on graduation memories.

Caitlin Shure writes, "My favorite memory of graduation is graduating with my roommate from the class who stood in our townhouse the night before commencement ... and breaking my ankle, but insisting it was only a sprain. I always did love EC."

Ana Ortiz shares a tale she's heard from a classmate: "A toe's rise to Infamy.

The night started with champagne, for celebration purposes, of course, and view of the Manhattan skyline from the roof of SIPA, which progressed to a lawn party at a nearby Amsterdam Club included on the lawn in front of the Math building. For those who don't remember, there is a lovely tree that branches out close to the ground, making it easy for climbing. People decided it would be a good idea to climb it, in addition to the requisite head/ hand stands, piggyback rides and drunk cuddling. Among those climbing the tree was Christina Giaccone '07 Barnard. After the temporary residents of the tree realized that the tree couldn't hold 10-plus college students, there was a mass exodus..."

"However, Christina lost her balance on the way down and was not able to control her landing. Her middle toe on her right foot hit a height of 45 degrees above the rest of her toes. Despite much insistence from others, she knew all was not well. Knowing that the Steps were covered in chairs, it would've taken CAVA forever to arrive. Therefore, Christina and I decided it would be best to walk to St. Luke's ... and by walk I mean hobble. For the record, it was around 3 a.m. During the course of the night, Christina was seen by three doctors and had two sets of x-rays. The most traumatizing minutes of the night were when her toe had to be popped back into place. At 4:30 a.m., we realized her parents would see the insurance bill, and that we had to tell them that this had happened. So we ask the doctor if it was 'believable' that she could have gotten this injury while packing up her room. He said yes. So at 4:30 a.m., we call her father, wake him up and tell him that Christina dropped a box on her toe while packing and was now in the hospital. He later told me that when we hung up, he told his wife that Christina had told him some made-up story. By 7:30 a.m., Christina was released from the hospital and quickly put the box back in its socket, but she could still barely walk. I promptly went back to bed, and wore the same clothes under my gown. Christina did not go back to bed and managed to shower before we got back to bed for commencement ceremonies at 9 a.m."

Lastly, on behalf of the Columbia College Class of 2007, congratulations CC '08!
Josh Lipsky plans to spend his summer in Denver working at the Democratic Convention. After that, he will be off to a battleground state like Ohio or Florida, and says he is “hoping for Florida for weather-related reasons.” Leon Levy, who has attended school with Josh since kindergarten, will join him on the campaign trail. This “means that after 17 years of doing the same thing each September, we’re going to add number 18 to our belts, except this time with Josh since kindergarten, will we’re off to win a Presidency.”

Andrew Ness is staying on campus until June 8 to participate in the IRA National Regatta with the heavyweight crew team. Afterward, he is going home to his boarding school, Northfield Mount Hermon, to be a TA for the summer session. In the fall, Andrew plans to return to NYC to pursue jobs in the government/public policy and international relations spheres. He notes, “I am excited to be in the city with so many other recent Columbia graduates!”

Henning Fog will spend this summer in Europe and Cape May, NJ. While unclear as to his plans next year, he knows “from those initial Columbia information pamphlets that whatever I do, I will be met with immediate success.” This summer, Calvin Sun will be in NYC deciding his future in med school while continuing on-camera VJing for MTV U on “The Freshmen” and planning his big trip across Europe and Asia.

Dana Pavarini will search for an apartment in NYC and then begin work as a product assistant in the executive product development program for Macy’s Merchandising Group in late June. “If you are going to be working in the city, be sure to keep in touch,” notes Dana.

Ian MacAvish writes, “I have neither a legitimate plan nor a clear destination for my time after graduation. That being said, wherever the wind and the tide may take me, I think that I will try to take care from architect Henry Powell Hopkins (Class of 1914 Arch.), who transplanted a figurative piece of Columbia, Low Library, in a distant land in the hopes of affecting positive change.”

John Gardner is looking forward to reconnecting with his Southern roots at home in Georgia this summer while applying for Columbia’s Henry Evans Traveling Fellowship, which he hopes to use to compare firsthand the Presidential campaigns in the United States to campaigns going on around the world in places such as Hong Kong and Ireland. “Whether or not I get the fellowship, the plan is to travel all over and blog about what I see,” John notes. In the fall, he will start work as a strategy consultant at Monitor Group’s New York office, where he hopes to specialize in the regional economic competitiveness practice.

Eric Wang will travel around China this summer before starting work with Scott Hughes at the mergers and acquisitions group at Merrill Lynch in New York. “I still can’t believe we are graduating. I wish we could turn back the clock,” says Eric. Chris Fleming will stay in New York City to work at Katzenbach Partners, though he hopes to throw in a road trip with Katie Simon ’08E this summer.

Stephanie Quan is looking forward to teaching biological sciences next year at an independent high school in Phoenix. She writes, “Life only gets more interesting from here, aided by the fact that we can now read books for leisure.” Come June, Olivia Gorry will be working at NBC in the Digital Media sector and living in NYC with Caley Bulinski.

Attending a university in Manhattan and working in a New York City firm proved in theory. “If you can make it in New York, you can make it anywhere” for Lindsey Lazopoulos. “I think it follows, “If you can make it at Columbia, you can make it anywhere,”” writes Lindsey. She plans to continue interning with Greenberg Traurig this summer and to matriculate at a respectable law school in the fall.

Rahul Jain will be in India for most of the summer, backpacking from the northernmost part of India (Mount Everest, Himalayas Mountains) and making his way straight down to the southernmost tip of India, “where two or three oceans meet, and the view of sunsets/sunrises is spectacular”! He will also spend some time working for a public-health NGO in Mumbai that deals with HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention. Rahul hopes to be back in New York City in the fall to start working in finance.

In planning for next year, Andy Barza knew that the one thing he wanted to do was to stay in New York. A few months ago, he eagerly accepted an offer to work at a consulting firm upon graduation. He will be working downtown, and notes, “While the transition from school to work will be a hard one, I take comfort in knowing that I will be in a city I have grown to love, and that many friends I have come to consider family will be staying in New York and experiencing this same transition with me.” Congratulations Class of 2008! Please continue to send me your updates so we can all keep in touch (and so I can boast like a proud classmate).
SERVICES

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Providing home-care for someone with Alzheimer’s, Dementia, or similar illness means care-givers have to know when their charge needs attention. Wandering and falling pose significant risks. Monitoring/paging system makes home-care manageable. Go to wwwnotifex.com for important information and help.


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Seeking Columbia Jester magazines from the 1930’s. Email: albert.romkema@sympatico.ca.

RENTALS

Naples, Florida: Luxury condominium overlooking Gulf, two-month minimum, 802-524-2108, James L. Levy CC’65, LAW’68.

Budapest, Hungary: Two bedrooms renovated, artfully furnished apartment; wrap around terrace, sweeping river views. Vacation rental or long term. westheimer@sprynet.com

MARTHA’S VINEYARD: Rent my Edgartown waterview timeshares. July 12 thru July 19, 2008. Contact Sid Kadish ’63C at 617-969-7548 or kadishs@ummchc.org for details.

Abaco, Bahamas, two bedroom condominium, tennis courts, pool, dballard@telus.net


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Before I explain the title, a little housekeeping. The end of my term as president of the College’s Alumni Association this summer also signifies the return of the Alumni Corner column to CCT Editor Alex Sachare ’71 and his staff. Alex plans to work with CCAA leadership and others to identify alumni who will take a turn at writing their Columbia thoughts and experiences. Trust me, it is great fun to see one’s ideas in print. Thank you, Alex, and keep up the terrific work at CCT.

While on the airplane heading home from early April’s excellent College Day and lively Capital Campaign dinner in Los Angeles, I read a New York Times article about Ivy League college admittance rates. The numbers jumped off the page at me. The College’s 8.68 percent selectivity for the Class of 2012 was only slightly behind Harvard (7.1 percent) and Yale (8.3 percent) and comfortably ahead of Brown and Dartmouth, according to the Times’ figures. For those of us who applied and matriculated in years gone by when the College’s admit rate was not as low as these schools, this continuing era of lofty selectivity is something that takes some getting used to. I don’t know if I will ever completely get used to it. I applaud what Columbia has accomplished on this score during the past decade or two. At the same time, it is vital that Columbia remains open and hospitable to first-generation, selective college families and to certain underrepresented minority and ethnic groups, and, dare I say it, less elitist than some of our peers. That is one of the reasons I am so proud to go around and tell people I attended Columbia College. I do not want our school to lose this attribute.

Given that Columbia is playing ball with the big boys in College admit rates, this momentum and success can and should be a springboard to achievements in other areas. As someone who has been an active alumnus for nearly three decades, I have a few simple thoughts on my utopian Columbia, my vision of a few guiding principles for the years to come. I start from a simple premise: Columbia College offers a serious and rigorous undergraduate education (quite possibly the best available) in the greatest city in the world.

The Core Curriculum: During my frequent campus visits on behalf of CCAA, I have gotten the sense that today’s students and faculty would like to tinker with the Core. This possibility must be considered in the broader context, however. To many alumni, the Core Curriculum in its fullest sense (i.e., one year each of CC and Lit Hum and one semester each of Art Hum and Music Hum, all taught in small, seminar-style classes, combined with science, major cultures, foreign language and writing requirements) is the very essence of the Columbia College experience. We do not have a house system or an annual football game attended by 40,000 alumni and students to bond us. A major overhaul or undoing of the Core would be viewed as a breach of trust (or worse) by generations of College alumni. Going forward, a balance needs to be struck on this issue. The centrality of the Core to the College experience needs to be affirmed publicly. Simultaneously, changes in the content of Core courses that are responsive to students’ and faculties’ desires need to be pursued.

The Role of Alumni: In summer 2009, the College and University alumni relations and development operations are moving to McVickar Hall, on 113th Street, west of Broadway. This move represents a tremendous opportunity for Columbia to make College alumni feel valued and connected to Columbia in ways they have not in years past. McVickar should be a welcoming point and gathering place for College alumni of all generations who historically have lacked such a locale on campus. It also represents an opportunity for the College and University alumni relations and development operations to work together in an integrated and cohesive fashion in ways not seen before, and for additional University resources to be made available to College alumni.

A key aspect of the success of McVickar, and indeed of alumni relations and development in the years to come, will be the retention of a “Columbia College” feel and flavor in all events and communications with alumni. The improved results of the Columbia College Fund in recent years and the growth in the spirit and attendance at College alumni functions directly correlate to the College identity and loyalty that the College administration and Alumni Office staff have worked so hard to develop during the past decade. My friends and I always say we went to and support “Columbia College” or “Columbia Engineering.” Rather than homogenizing the Columbia alumni experience, the McVickar move hopefully will elevate the commitment to the College and the generosity of our alumni and encourage those who have not been active previously to reengage.

What the Undergrads Deserve: This fall, work is expected to (Continued on page 86)
Columbia Traditions

We all remember the rites of passage that marked our progress through college. Some were raucous (“Primal Scream” and “Orgo Night”), others were reflective and mellow (“Tree Lighting”). Looking back, which ritual makes you most nostalgic? See if you can find the one you liked best in this word puzzle (Marching Band members, we know what you’re looking for!).

ANSWERS ON PAGE 86.

| G R E U N I O N W T P P G N I |
| C L C Y A Y A J H R R Z N B F |
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| O A K G K Y B D I K R F N B R |
| M E S Q V K N B H S A O U C R |
| G N I T H G I L E E R T C C X |
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| I N D H V K J F H P M B V Q S |

1. GLASS HOUSE ROCKS  2. HOMECOMING  3. REUNION  4. ORGO NIGHT
5. PRIMAL SCREAM  6. TREE LIGHTING  7. YULE LOG  8. VARSITY SHOW
The John Jay Awards dinner, which raised $2.2 million for the College, was held at Cipriani 42nd Street. The ornate space formerly was a branch of the Bowery Savings Bank, and some of the original décor remains in place.
Player of the Year Henry Perkins '08 batted .384 to lead Columbia to its first Ivy title in 31 years.

Below, from left: Coach Brett Boretti (No. 7) gives instructions to Ron Williams '09; Rookie of the Year Nick Cox '11 makes a diving catch; Noah Cooper '08 led the Ivies by hitting .507; the Lions celebrate with the Ivy League championship trophy.

Lions Baseball Rules Ivy League
Many thanks to the Columbia College alumni, parents and friends who supported the College this year.

On behalf of the students you serve,

thank you!

Enjoy your summer.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND
Office of Alumni Affairs and Development
COVER STORY

16 Baseball Wins Ivy Crown
After 31 years, the Lions baseball team is back on top, thanks to a solid roster and the rebuilding efforts of coach Brett Boretti.
By Stephen Eschenbach

FEATURES

14 Klein Addresses Newest Alumni
Joel Klein ’67, chancellor of New York City’s Department of Education, delivered the 2008 Class Day keynote address and urged the graduates not to be afraid to confront career challenges.
Photos by Eileen Barroso

20 Columbia Forum
In this essay from Luc Sante ’76’s book, Kill All Your Darlings: Pieces, 1990–2005, the author recalls a New York City where sanitation strikes, decorating by dumpster diving and muggings were the norm.

ALUMNI NEWS

27 Bookshelf
Featured: Meredith Norton ’92 recalls her unconventional attitude while battling a rare form of breast cancer in her memoir Lopsided: How Having Breast Cancer Can Be Really Distracting.

29 Entertainment Center
Alumni recordings and films, July 2007–June 2008

30 Obituaries

32 Class Notes
Alumni Update
58 Ellen Gustafson ’02

64 Alumni Corner
A young teacher describes how he was able to use Barack Obama ’83’s “Yes We Can” speech to inspire his South Bronx high school students.
By Jackson Slafer ’03

DEPARTMENTS

2 Letters to the Editor
4 Within the Family
4 Around the Quads
4 Dean Quigley To Step Down in July 2009
6 2008 Academic Awards and Prizes
8 Roar Lion Roar
10 2008 Senior Dinner
10 Save the Date!
10 Chinese Sculpture at Wallach Gallery
11 5 Minutes with … Christopher Peacocke
12 Student Spotlight: Luis Quero ’10
13 Campus News, In Lumine Tuo, Transitions
13 2008 Van Doren and Trilling Awards
Letters to the Editor

Spring ’68
This May marked the 40th anniversary of the Columbia student riot, a historical microcosm in which I actively participated as a member of the Majority Coalition opposed to the building occupiers. This event led to some immediate and long-term positive changes at Columbia, but it also caused a great deal of schism, alienation and upset to students and alumni. Negative effects of these happenings were apparent for many years afterward in terms of public image, financial support and perception of our school. And however spun, because of political rhetoric Harlem lost access to a community facility that it still does not have and it desperately needs.

The intervening years have moderated the positions of most of the participants, myself included. While some of the ’68 participants still mistakenly believe that their actions “shook the world,” I was and am more impressed by the demonstration of activism on the part of moderate students who would have preferred not to be involved but were forced to action by those trying to agitate their rights. Each to his own.

I am, however, disappointed in the disco, if not official, disavowal of this most historic happening by our various administrations. For good or ill, this was the most significant physical occurrence in the 20th century on our campus. Yet it is dismissed or ignored, seemingly as an embarrassment. I contrast this to the way in which UC Berkeley has embraced its ’64 experience as something that marks it as unique and has become for it a badge of historical honor. Columbia has no significant physical occurrence in the 20th century in perspective is difficult, especially in view of today’s political, economic and military urgencies and conflicts. How many children from the surrounding Harlem neighborhood were fighting and dying in the jungles, rice paddies and mountains of Vietnam? I use the word “children” because many combat soldiers were only 18 and 19 years old, at a time when the voting age was 21. Unlike almost all of the Columbia demonstrators, these kids could not get draft deferments or stateside jobs. Neither could large numbers of young men from the neighborhoods or barrios of the big cities, or from the farms and small towns across America. Sadly, many of them were vilified by their fellow citizens and then failed by the V.A. and civilian medical establishment when they returned.

Putting the events that occurred at Columbia in 1968 in perspective is difficult, especially in view of today’s political, economic and military urgencies and conflicts. However, 40 years later, I can only hope that my fellow Columbians and I can “do the right thing,” and treat the young men and women who are serving our country with the care and respect they deserve.

Dr. Michael T. Hare ‘62
San Jose, Calif.

I was disappointed in the amount of space, time and effort that was accorded the 1968 travesty in the May/June issue. No one involved in those events covered themselves with honor and glory (if those are the correct words) during those days to warrant
revisiting the matter 40 years later.

But the College and the University took a huge public relations hit that took years to overcome, and, to me, it just doesn’t seem right to bring it all up again. It was one of the University’s darkest hours, and should be left to the historians, not to a publication like CCT, to discuss.

Some things are best forgotten.

Lee J. Dunn Jr. ’65
BOSTON

Spring 1968 revealed to me that I had learned something at Columbia — the location of campus pay phones. A reporter for Reuters news agency, I covered the events on Morningside Heights with pad and pen and a pocketful of dimes and nickels with which to call my office. Those were every reporter’s tools — no cell or satellite phones or credit or calling cards for us, certainly no computers or digital recorders. As a recent alumnus, I had an edge on the competition when it came time to dictate updates to the running story to someone at a typewriter at the other end of the phone. While other reporters raced to the very visible phone booths in the lobbies of the residence halls and in Ferris Booth Hall, I headed for such solitary and obscure locations as the basement of Low Library, near the rowing tanks, and the hallway outside the art history library on a high floor of Schermerhorn. I never had to resort to the frequent tactic of posting a handmade and bogus out-of-order sign on a phone to reserve it for future use.

Jerry Oster ’64
CHAPEL HILL, N.C.

I read the May/June issue with great interest. It is a masterpiece. It is summa cum laude.

Art Thomas ’50
GREENWICH, CONN.

Over and over again, I find my breath taken away by individuals insufferably impressed by their own impeccable morality, who cannot resist any opportunity to bash the state of Israel. Now we have the spectacle of Steve Goldfield ’68 [May/June], who congratulates himself for spending his “life to date trying to undermine ... corrupt institutions in any way [he] can.”

But where does he find causes worthy of his life’s work? In China, or Russia, or Sudan, scenes of unspeakable brutality, suppression and mass murder? No, none of these. Yes, though, to Israeli apartheid.

Please, Steve, give the Israel-bashing a rest. You don’t have to look much past Israel to see real apartheid: in Jordan, where a Jew cannot become a citizen, or in Saudi Arabia, where it is illegal to be a Jew in any identifiable way. And if you’re not much concerned with anti-Jewish discrimination, there’s always the plight of women in North Africa, or Tibetans in China. Surely you can find something to distract yourself from tiny Israel, besieged for its entire history by hostile neighbors who make no bones about seeking to destroy it.

Joseph Kashlick ’69, ’75 GSAS
AMHERST, MASS.

Picture 6 in the photo spread on pp. 32–33 of the May/June issue says all that needs to be said — a bunch of Marxists and hooligans looking for some way to embarrass Columbia. Would any of those who wrote so glowingly of what transpired in April 1968 care to explain what it was that Lenin and Fidel “won”? Perhaps I have been reading the wrong history books all these years that document the appalling results of the takeovers of their respective countries.

I didn’t read any recollections condemning what occurred 40 years ago. Does that mean everyone on campus at that time remembers the events fondly? Too bad there weren’t more Dean Barretts around to scare off the “brave” rabble.

Do any from the Class of ’68 know the background of Dwight MacDonald, who spoke at the counter-Commencement and was a prominent voice during the sit-ins? He wrote frequent articles in the Partisan Review, acknowledged to be an organ of the Communist Party in America. Despite attempts by some to cast him as a “combative journalist and activist,” he was just another unremarkable fellow traveler attempting to disruptive our country.

Columbia has never recovered from this disgraceful time, right up to the recent elevation of Mr. Ahmadinejad as an important voice that Columbia should honor. I wonder how many U.N. resolutions will be passed before action is taken against his regime? Or how often will “useful idiots” raise their voices in support of Iran to discourage any U.N. action? After all, if Mr. Ahmadinejad hates the United States of America, he can’t be that bad.

Don Beattie ’51
JACKSONVILLE, Fla.

I was simply delighted with your “Memories, and Lessons, from Spring ’68” [Within the Family, May/June]. I agree with many of the things you said. Perhaps you will be interested in a letter of mine that appeared in amNew York:

“There is something missing from most accounts of the Columbia University riots that took place in 1968. Two policemen were seriously injured. Frank Gucciardi was standing under a balcony at Hamilton Hall when a student jumped and landed on him. Gucciardi was paralyzed for three years [from the waist down] and then recovered. Bernard Wease was kicked in the chest at Fayerweather Hall and suffered permanent heart damage.

“Students at Columbia closed the University for a week. Shortly after that, students in Paris closed the Sorbonne. And in China, the Cultural Revolution closed all high schools and colleges all over the country. Movements that are simultaneously irresponsible and harmful occasionally sweep the world. Playwright Eugene Ionesco wrote about this in his play Rhinoceros, in which people turn into rhinoceroses because everybody else is doing it.”

George Jochnowitz ’58, ’60 GSAS, ’67 GSAS
NEW YORK CITY

CCT’s retrospective on 1968 was interesting. What I found most striking was the almost adolescent tenor of self-righteousness and self-congratulation expressed by a good portion of the participants. One would have thought the intervention of many years might have added a measure of grace, even humility, to perspective. Though fascinating, the retelling of events provided little that was worthy of veneration (much less emulation). However, I would like to thank Colonel [Stanley G.] Maratos ’53 and Captain [Richard B.] Curtis ’62 for giving the best years of their lives to our country even if many imbued with the “Spirit of ’68” were too self-indulgent to follow, much less appreciate, their selfless and courageous example.

Arthur “Grant” Lacerte Jr. ’88
KISSIMMEE, FLA.

(Continued on page 62)
Dean Austin Quigley To Step Down in July 2009

Columbia College Alumni Association To Honor Quigley with 2008 Alexander Hamilton Medal

By Alex Sachare '71

When Austin Quigley steps down as dean of Columbia College and Lucy G. Moses Professor in July 2009, he will have headed the College longer than all but one of those who preceded him. Only Herbert E. Hawkes, dean of the College from 1918-43, will have served longer than Quigley's 14 years.

“Deciding when to move on from a position of responsibility is always a challenge, but wisdom is on the side of doing so when things continue to go well, so that a successor will have an opportunity to steer that positive momentum toward new priorities,” said Quigley, who announced his plans in a letter to members of the Columbia community on May 21.

In recognition of Quigley’s distinguished service and accomplishments, the Columbia College Alumni Association will present him with the 2008 Alexander Hamilton Medal at the Museum of Natural History in New York on November 13. “Austin Quigley has been a remarkable presence in the Dean’s Office, and his 14-year tenure has been an extraordinary period for Columbia College,” said CCAA President Geoff Colvin ’74. “He reinvigorated the College, enhanced its reputation and generated renewed support among its alumni. It is appropriate that, as Austin enters his final year as dean, he receive the highest honor that the College bestows.”

President Lee C. Bollinger has announced that after Quigley steps down as dean, Quigley would continue as the Brander Matthews Professor of Dramatic Literature and also serve as special adviser to the president for undergraduate education.

“Fourteen years is a remarkable tenure in any academic leadership role, and Austin has presided during an era of extraordinary transformation at the College,” said Bollinger. “The quality and manifold diversity of our students, the ways in which they engage with the institution and its faculty while they’re here, the involvement of our alumni and parents — all this and more is a tribute to Austin’s leadership. In the year ahead, we will have ample opportunity to celebrate Austin’s tenure. For now, please join me in thanking him for his exceptional service to Columbia as Dean of the College.”

Quigley has headed the College at a time of remarkable progress, as reflected in admissions statistics, facilities renewal, fundraising levels, faculty investments, curricular innovations, student achievements, financial-aid upgrades, student services enhancements, alumni program initiatives and more.

For example, when Quigley became dean on July 1, 1995, the College had received 8,714 applications for the Class of 1999. Applications have increased every year since then, despite calamitous events such 9-11 and economic downturns; this past year, the College received a record 19,116 applications for the Class of 2012.

Other measures include selectivity, the percentage of applicants offered admission, and yield, the percentage of accepted students who matriculate. Selectivity has improved from 23 percent in 1995 to 8.68 percent last year, making the College one of the most selective schools in the country, and yield has increased from 41 percent to more than 60 percent.

Quigley’s tenure as dean has been marked by the construction of the Alfred Lemer Hall student center — which includes the Roone Arledge Auditorium, new facilities for WKCR and the Double Discovery Center, a home for the Office of Multicultural Affairs, modern restaurants and theater and orchestra rooms for student use — and the renovations of Furnald Residence Hall, Butler Library, including the Milstein Family College Library.
and Hamilton Hall, including 37 completely refurbished classrooms. Admissions and financial aid for the College and SEAS have been consolidated under one Office of Student Affairs, streamlining these administrative functions, and the relationship among the College, SEAS and Barnard has become closer than ever.

There has been a vast upgrading and expansion of student services, from Orientation through Class Day, and a concurrent growth in alumni relations and development, as reflected by increased attendance at events such as Alumni Reunion Weekend and Homecoming, greater than three-fold growth in College Fund and Parent Fund giving, and development of a Senior Fund that this year set a record with 85 percent participation. There have been significant investments in faculty enhancement and expansion, including an increase in endowed chairs for faculty from five in 1988-95 to 38 at present, as well as in curricular innovation, including the addition of “Frontiers of Science” to the Core Curriculum, the proliferation of interdisciplinary majors and the creation of a Center for the Core Curriculum in Hamilton Hall. During Quigley’s tenure, there has been the largest upgrade in College financial aid in history, funded in significant part by a $400 million pledge by John Kluge ’37, the largest individual gift ever devoted exclusively to student aid, half of which is dedicated to the College.

“The fundamental responsibility of any dean of the College is to leave the institution in better shape than one found it, and I have sought every year to pursue that goal,” observed Quigley. “Success on so many fronts is always collective success, not that of any single individual. It has been my good fortune to work closely with a talented College staff, a dedicated faculty, a creative and supportive University leadership, a deeply committed group of alumni and parents and a remarkably talented student body. Together, we have strengthened an already prestigious undergraduate College to make it one of the most sought-after educational institutions in the land, carefully preserving its long-established historical character while setting new goals and instituting new traditions.”

Born in Northumbria, near the English border with Scotland, Quigley earned his bachelor’s in English literature from Nottingham University and his master’s in linguistics at Birmingham University before moving to the United States, where he earned his Ph.D. in English and comparative literature and literary theory at UC Santa Cruz. Before coming to Columbia in 1990, Quigley taught at the University of Massachusetts and the University of Virginia, where he chaired the English department. He also has taught at the University of Geneva, the University of Konstanz and the University of Nottingham.

At Columbia, Quigley established the undergraduate major in drama and theatre arts, revived the doctoral program in theatre and helped reinvigorate the M.F.A. program in theatre at the School of the Arts. He served for three years as chair of the Lionel Trilling Seminar series and has continued to teach and write during his term as dean, publishing a book and several articles. He also has served as president of the national Association of Literary Scholars and Critics.

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The 2008 Academic Awards and Prizes

In these most competitive of academic times, where applications to schools such as Columbia rise annually, the prizewinners represented “the best of the best among our outstanding students.” Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis, who praised the students for their dedication and devotion to academics, presented the awards, along with several noted faculty members. Following are the 2008 recipients:

Special Achievements

Presented by Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn B. Yatrakis

THE HARRY J. CARMAN FELLOWSHIP
Julian Thomas Smith-Newman '08
THE GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS PRIZE IN ORATORY
Andrea Lee '10
THE JARVIS AND CONSTANCE DOCTOROW FELLOWSHIP
Ari Solomon Mazor '08
THE HENRY EVANS TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP
Matthew Alexander Spinelli '08
THE JOSHUA A. FEIGENBAUM PRIZE IN LITERATURE HUMANITIES
Alejandra Nicole Aponte '10
Ari Reuven Zolin '10
THE SOLOMON AND SEYMOUR FISHER CIVIL LIBERTIES FELLOWSHIP
Sherif Gamal Farrag '08
THE WALLACE A. GRAY PRIZE IN LITERATURE IMPASSE
Allison Gillian Rush '10
THE EURETTA J. KELLETT FELLOWSHIP
Kevin Joseph Coco '05
Matthew Hoover Birkhold '08
THE HOLTHUSEN-SCHINDLER ENDOWMENT FUND
Theothras Udomgampola '10
THE DEAN HAWKES MEMORIAL PRIZE
Erin Marie Meyer '09
THE NOLISHUS-SCHEINDLER ENDOVEMENT FUND
Matthew Hoover Birkhold '08
Kevin Joseph Coco '05
Kinaara Ann Flatt '08
THE EURETTA J. KELLETT FELLOWSHIPS
Andrew Strand Ollett '08
Marbre Caryl Staehler-Butts '08
THE RICHARD LEWIS KOHN TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP

Prizes in Science and Mathematics

Presented by Professor James J. Valenti, chair, Department of Chemistry

THE JAMES P. SHENTON PRIZE IN CONTEMPORARY CIVILIZATION
John Bodian Klopfer '09
RACHEL ELIZABETH ANDERSON '09 (Honorable Mention)
DANIEL REUVEN MAZOR '08 (Honorable Mention)
THE LOUIS SULDER PRIZE IN THE ARTS
Reneka Marie Hines '08
SARAH B. G. RAY '08 (Honorable Mention)
JOSEPH NATHANIEL RUBINSTEIN '08 (Honorable Mention)
ANDREW SCHLEISER '08 (Honorable Mention)
THE DAVID B. TRUMAN ALUMNI AWARD
Sydney Harter Cochran '08
ANDREW SCHLEISER '08 (Honorable Mention)
SALUTATORIAN
Julia Ann Kalow '08
VALEDICTORIAN
Maxim Pinkovsky '08

Prizes in the Social Sciences

Presented by Professor John D. Huber, chair, Department of Political Science

THE CHARLES A. BEARD SENIOR THESIS PRIZE IN HISTORY
Briana Elizabeth Dima '08
THE CARL B. BOYER MEMORIAL PRIZE
Tzvetomira Vladimirova Atanasova '08
THE CHANLER HISTORICAL PRIZE
JASON ZACHARY RENKOFF '08
THE ALBERT MARION ELSBERG PRIZE
Julia Coyner Robinson '08
THE LILY PRIZE IN HISTORY
Julia Coyner Robinson '08
THE SANFORD S. PARKER PRIZE
Maxim Pinkovsky '08
THE EDWIN ROBBINS ACADEMIC RESEARCH & PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
Rudi Emmaus Batzell '09
Sonia Tracey Tycko '09
THE EDWIN ROBBINS ACADEMIC RESEARCH & PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS IN POLITICAL SCIENCE
Shaday Lamarr Stewart '09
THE HENRY EVANS TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP
Christian John Westcott '08
THE CHARLES PATERNO BARRATT-BROWN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Christopher John Westcott '08
THE KAREN OSNEY BROWNSTEIN WRITING PRIZE
Sara Marie Davis '08
Julia Ann Kalow '08
Margie Abigail Rosebrock '08
THE BUNNER PRIZE
Finn Walter Dusenbery '08
THE DOUGLAS GARBER Oratory CAVERLY PRIZE
Andrew Strand Ollett '08
THE EARLE PRIZE IN CLASSICS
Andrew Strand Ollett '08
THE JAMES GUTMAN PRIZE IN PHILOSOPHY
Owain Rhys Evans '08
THE JOHN VINCENT HICKLEY PRIZE
Jefferson Dean Baum '08
THE ADAM LEROY JONES PRIZE IN LOGIC
Stephen Ezra Weinberger '08
THE JONATHAN THIENKO KOPIT PRIZE IN LOGIC AND RHETORIC
Amelia Maxine Josephson '11
THE HELEN AND HOWARD MARRERO PRIZE
Matthew Alexander Spinelli '08
THE PHILEXIAN PRIZE FUND
Hannah Lilith Assadi '08
Shaday Lamarr Stewart '08
THE BENJAMIN F. ROMANIE PRIZE
Andrew Strand Ollett '08
THE ERNEST STADLER PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE STUDY OF CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY
Sydney Harter Cochran '08
THE MARINA GRISWOLD VAN REUSELEN PRIZE
Marguerite Jane Van Cook '09
THE DEUTSCHER VEREIN PRIZE IN GERMAN
Jamie Lynn Richardson '08
THE SUSAN HUNTINGTON VERNON PRIZE
Luis David Lucas '08
THE RICHMOND B. WILLIAMS TRAVELER FELLOWSHIP
Taylor Heywood Cowdery '09

PERSUASIVE ORATORY
The Arthur Rose Teaching Assistantship
Rudi Emmaus Batzell '09
Emma Curran Hulse '09
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Richard Gordon ’83CC

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Henry Black, M.D., ’63CC

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MEN’S GOLF: Columbia’s men’s golf team rode top-10 finishes by Clark Granum ’11, Cashel Rosier ’10 and Austin Quinten ’11 to defeat Yale by nine strokes and capture the 2008 Ivy League championship on April 20 at Absecon, N.J. It was Columbia’s first Ivy men’s golf title since 1999 and only the second in the program’s history.

Granum powered Columbia with a final round low score of 72 on his way to shooting nine-over-par 222 for the tournament. Rosier tied for fourth individually and Quinten tied for sixth and joined Granum in winning All-Ivy honors. Columbia was the only school to have all five of its golfers finish in the top half of the 40-man field as Justin Lee ’11 finished 14th and Gus Quarizararo ’08 tied for 20th.

“It was a great event for all involved, and I’m really proud of my kids,” said Lions coach Richard Mueller. “The win, I believe, meant more to me as a coach because the kids really bought into the game plan for the weekend. A year ago we came into the final round with the lead and succumbed to the pressure. This year our goal was to hopefully play the first round well enough so that we could be in the mix in the final 18.”

The Lions, who rallied from two strokes back on the last day, shot a final round low score of 304 on their way to a 900 for the tournament.

Columbia’s women’s golf team, meanwhile, finished second in the Ivies, 10 strokes behind Harvard and one shot ahead of Princeton, after posting the lowest score (304) in the final day of competition. Three Lions earned All-Ivy honors: Stevy Loy ’10 (fourth), Jenn Adyorough ’11 (fifth) and Nancy Shon ’09 Barnard (seventh).

HONORED: John Baumann ’08 and Emily Jacobson ’08 won the Connie S. Mantatti [’43] Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Awards at the 87th Varsity ’C’ Celebration on May 6 in LeFrak Gymnasium. The event, which honors Columbia’s 800 student-athletes, also featured the presentation of the Athletics Alumni Award to Donna Herlinessky MacPhee ’89 (tennis) and the watch award presentations for the senior student-athletes earning the highest cumulative grade-point averages and at least two varsity letters. Jane “Tally” Pucher ’08 (rowing) earned the Marion R. Phillips Watch, and Drew Ford ’08 (soccer) earned the Dwight D. Eisenhower watch.

Baumann has earned first team All-Ivy League twice in basketball and second-team all-league in baseball. Jacobson was a four-time first-team All-American fencer who won the 2005 NCAA title in saber and finished with a career record of 131-16 [see Student Spotlight, September/October 2007].

ARCHERY: Columbia won the women’s Recurve team title at the U.S. Intercollegiate Archery Championship on May 17 and five Lions earned All-American honors, led by Margot Stuchin ’11. All-Americans are determined by adding the individual round scores at the Indoor Nationals in March and the USIAC outdoor competition, with the top 10 receiving the honor. Stuchin edged Annette Gorelik of Claremont Mudd Scripps for the top spot by shooting 1,114 at the Indoor Nationals and 1,151 at USIAC for a total of 2,265 to Gorelik’s 1,070 indoors, 1,153 outdoors and 2,223 total.

Other Columbia All-Americans were Sara Mancini ’09, who finished third; Robin Liang ’08 (fifth); Sara Goshorn ’10 (sixth); and Alexandra Garry ’11 Barnard (10th). The All-American honor was the third for Liang, who made it as a sophomore and junior, and Mancini, who made it as a first-year and sophomore.

ROBERTSON FIELD: On April 26, Columbia’s baseball field was renamed Hal Robertson Field at the Baker Field Athletics Complex in recognition of the support of Hal Robertson ’81E, an industrial engineer and banker. Since 1970, the field had been named for former coach Andy Coakley, whose legacy to the baseball program was honored with a plaque unveiled the same day.

Robertson played varsity football and baseball at Columbia and was co-captain of the baseball team as a senior. “I thought about how much the University has meant to me over the last 30 years...”
and thought it was the right thing to do,” said Robertson. “Columbia gave me my start to my professional career and this was an opportunity to give back.” Thanks to Robertson’s $1 million commitment, the baseball team was able to install a state-of-the-art artificial surface called FieldTurf that is a hybrid fiber, rubber and sand infill blend, designed to have a more consistent feel. “Hal has taken the facilities for Columbia baseball to the top of the Ivy League,” noted head coach Brett Boretti.

ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME NAMES SECOND CLASS

Former NFL players Marty Domres ’69 and Bruce Gehrke ’48 and former NBA player and coach Walt Budko ’48 are among 18 student-athletes included in the second class of inductees to the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. Also to be honored are two former coaches, two teams, two individuals for special contributions to the athletics program and one former athletics staff member.

The honorees, who will be recognized at a dinner in Low Library on October 2 and at halftime of the Columbia-Princeton football game on Homecoming, October 4, were chosen by a vote of a selection committee of Columbia Athletics affiliates, including alumni, athletics staff and representatives of Columbia’s Varsity ‘C’ Club.

Among the members of the hall’s inaugural class, inducted in 2006, were baseball Hall of Famers Lou Gehrig ’25 and Eddie Collins (Class of 1907), college football legends Sid Luckman ’39 and Lou Little (head coach) as well as former Olympic gold medalist swimmer and Honda-Broderick Award-winner Cristina Teuscher ’00.

Nominees were submitted by the general public in eight categories. The members of the Second Class of the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame are:

**FORMER MALE STUDENT-ATHLETES – HERITAGE ERA (1852–1954)**
- John Azary ’51, basketball, posthumous
- Walt Budko ’48, baseball
- Bruce Gehrke ’48, baseball/basketball/football, posthumous
- Gene Rossides ’49, football
- Bill Sanford ’30, rowing, posthumous
- George Shaw ’53, track and field, posthumous

**FORMER MALE STUDENT-ATHLETES – MODERN ERA (1954–PRESENT)**
- Rolando Acosta ’79, baseball
- Ben Atkins ’93, fencing
- Alton Byrd ’79, basketball
- Marty Domres ’69, football
- Leonard “Buck” Jenkins ’93, basketball
- Steve Sirtis ’84, soccer
- Russ Warren ’62, football

**FORMER FEMALE STUDENT-ATHLETES**
- Stacey Borgman ’98 Barnard, rowing
- Ellen Bossert ’86, basketball
- Carrie Daly ’84 Barnard, track and field
- Janette Kizer-Antiles ’92, tennis
- Tzu Moy ’91, fencing

**COACH – HERITAGE ERA (1852–1954)**
- Andy Coakley, head coach of baseball (1915–51), posthumous

**COACH – MODERN ERA (1954–PRESENT)**
- Irv DeKoff, head coach of fencing (1952–67), posthumous

**TEAMS – HERITAGE ERA (1852–1954)**
- 1950–51 men’s basketball team

**TEAMS – MODERN ERA (1954–PRESENT)**
- 1983 men’s soccer team

**ATHLETICS STAFF**
- Frank Dobbins, equipment manager (1962–98), posthumous

**SPECIAL CATEGORY FOR INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT**
- George Baker, posthumous
- Lawrence A. Wien ’25, ’27, posthumous

Columbia College Today
Class of 2008 Enjoys Senior Dinner

And on their last day of classes, they partied! On May 5, members of the Class of 2008 celebrated their final day of classes by dressing up for a gala Senior Dinner under a huge tent on South Field. More than 900 seniors attended the affair and cheered as Dean Austin Quigley noted, "In spite of your parents' doubts, you've managed to feed and clothe yourselves for four years!" Quigley received a prolonged standing ovation following his remarks, which also included this observation: "The good news is these are the best years of your lives. The bad news is they are almost over. But you still have two weeks, so make the most of them!"

The dinner, which has become one of the highlights of the graduation season, was chaired by Lauren Abbott '08 and Chris Tortoriello '08 and included a welcome by Senior Class President Neda Navab '08 and remarks from outgoing Alumni Association President Brian C. Krisberg '81. Also, Senior Fund chair Dana Pavarini '08 announced that the Senior Fund Gift Committee (left) had received gifts from 85 percent of the class, setting a record for any Ivy League liberal arts school by topping the Class of 2007's mark of 84.5 percent.

Save the Date!

FALL SEMESTER 2008

**Monday**
- **AUGUST 25**
  - Convocation

**Friday-Saturday**
- **OCTOBER 3-4**
  - First-Year Family Weekend

**Wednesday**
- **OCTOBER 15**
  - October Degrees Conferred

**Thursday**
- **NOVEMBER 13**
  - Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner

**Monday**
- **DECEMBER 8**
  - Last Day of Classes

**Tuesday**
- **SEPTEMBER 2**
  - First Day of Classes

**Saturday**
- **OCTOBER 4**
  - Homecoming vs. Princeton

**Tuesday**
- **NOVEMBER 4**
  - Election Day – University Holiday

**Thursday-Friday**
- **NOVEMBER 27-28**
  - Thanksgiving Holiday

**Friday**
- **DECEMBER 19**
  - Fall Term Ends

For more information, please call the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development, 866-CC-ALUMNI, or visit the College’s alumni events Web site: www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events.

Treasures Rediscovered

A group of 22 little-known stone devotional objects and architectural fragments that collectively represent major developments in Chinese religion and mortuary culture, from the Han (206 BCE–220 CE) through the Tang (618–907) Dynasty, were displayed at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach [‘29, ’31L] Art Gallery in "Treasures Rediscovered: Chinese Stone Sculpture from the Sackler Collections at Columbia University."

Lauded by The New York Times as an "eye-opening show" of works whose "quality is unexpectedly high," it ran on campus March 26–June 21 and will travel to the John and Mabel Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota, Fla., the University of Michigan Museum of Art and the University of Virginia Art Museum. The objects in "Treasures Rediscovered" represent highlights of the Chinese stone sculptures that form part of the collections of East Asian and other non-Western art at the University established by Dr. Arthur M. Sackler (1913–87).

Leopold Swergold '62 and Eileen Hsiang-ling Hsu ’92 GS, ’96 GSAS, ’99 GSAS are co-curators of the exhibition. Since retiring from a career on Wall Street, Swergold has been engaged in a comprehensive independent study of the Sackler Collections under the guidance of Professor Robert E. Harrist Jr., chairman of the Department of Art History and Archaeology and a specialist in Chinese art. A collector of Chinese art for more than 20 years, Swergold is a trustee of the Freer and Sackler Galleries at the Smithsonian Institution.
Christopher Peacocke, professor of philosophy, was formerly the Waynflete Professor of Metaphysical Philosophy at Oxford. He is a fellow of the British Academy and holds the Richard Wollheim Chair of Philosophy at University College London, where he teaches in the summer. His latest book, *Truly Understood*, proposes a substantive theory of understanding and applies it to central issues in the philosophy of mind. *CCT* caught up with him in the spring to find out more.

**Where did you grow up?**
Oxford.

**What might you be, if you weren't doing what you're doing now?**
I would be a musicologist. I taught Music Humanities in the spring semester, for the first time — teaching music was extremely difficult and hasn't been satisfactorily dealt with. You get live data all the time on this central issue in the philosophy of mind. *CCT* caught up with him in the spring to find out more.

**In philosophy, one of my interests is the philosophy of perception. For anybody who thinks about perception or consciousness, their mind turns (if only on holidays or weekends) to the perception of music. The foundational question of what it is to perceive emotion in a piece of music is extremely difficult and hasn't been satisfactorily dealt with.**

**You've spent most of your life in England, but you have ties to America, too.**
I had a Kennedy scholarship at Harvard, and my first teaching job was at Berkeley. My wife's American, even though she trained as a London barrister. She's the first American woman at the English chancery bar — the kind of bar that's discussed in *Bleak House*.

**How did you get interested in philosophy?**
When I went up to Oxford I read PPE (politics, philosophy and economics). My economics tutor tried to persuade me to have a career in economics, and he had quite a good argument. His argument was that economics was only about 100 years old, and you didn't have to be particularly bright to have your name on lots of important theorems ... whereas philosophy had been going for 2,000 years and the chance of making any kind of contribution was virtually negligible.

**And he was right in some respects, you know.**
But once you get interested in meaning and truth, you can't spend your life in economics. Everything else seems like a minor problem.

**You taught at King's College London, Oxford and NYU. When did you come to Columbia?**
We moved here in 2004, and we've become a Columbia family. My son is at Columbia, and my daughter recently was awarded a John Jay Scholarship.

**What do you like here?**
The library. I can't understand why my colleagues don't spend more time in this absolutely magnificent library where you can work undisturbed. I just love it.

**What's your favorite food?**
Chocolate. [Laughs.] Probably goes with having a taste for red wine.

**How do you recharge?**
I left Oxford. You have access to unbelievable cellars, so I stocked up as much as I could.

**What is something your students would never guess about you?**
They'd probably be surprised that I am very interested in wine. They think of me as more austere than I am. I got seriously interested in wine, especially French wines, before I left Oxford. You have access to unbelievable cellars, so I stocked up as much as I could.

**Interview: Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard**

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Luis Quero ’10 Balances School, Work and Family

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

Beginning college usually means moving away from home for the first time. But for Luis Quero ’10, the decision to attend the College actually brought him closer to home.

Born and raised in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, Quero left to pursue his educational dreams at 14 when he decided to attend Westminster School, a small boarding high school in Connecticut.

Quero, whose family is from Puerto Rico, was able to attend Westminster thanks to Prep for Prep, a not-for-profit organization that identifies promising minority students, prepares them academically, and then places them in independent high schools that reserve places for Prep for Prep participants. The organization provides students with ongoing counseling and career services throughout high school and college.

“It definitely opened my eyes to the real world,” says Quero of leaving home at such a young age. “It’s given me an independence that I’m very grateful for.”

Despite having limited financial resources, Quero set his sights on higher education at a young age. “I had always known that I was going to attend college in some fashion. My mother instilled in me that in me when I was young and I strove to make it happen,” he says.

Not afraid to work for his goals, Quero knew he would need an income in order to pursue his dream of obtaining a college degree. Though he considered attending school outside of New York, he chose the College partly because of the employment opportunities living in New York City affords.

“Financially, it would have been a lot more difficult [to attend college elsewhere],” says Quero. “Columbia also gave me the opportunity to be close to home.”

Since summer 2006, Quero has held several positions with Time Inc., a Time Warner company, where he works more than 20 hours a week during the semester and full-time during the summer. He has been a communications intern, a recruitment operations intern and a production finance assistant. Quero also works a few hours a week as a tutor for Champion Learning Center, where he provides math and English training to underprivileged high school students in the outer boroughs.

Though Quero lives on campus, he has not relinquished his familial responsibilities, going home periodically for the weekend to help his 15-year old brother with homework and assisting his family financially.

As a result of his experiences working at Time, Quero plans to pursue a career in corporate finance. In the meantime, rather than take a traditional path toward his goal by studying economics, he is using his time in the College to explore other interests. “I would be myopic in my thought process if I didn’t consider other coursework,” he suggests.

Quero is majoring in urban studies, an interdisciplinary subject, because he wants to “begin to understand how socioeconomic, racial and political factors influence the way in which we live and are raised. I grew up in an urban environment. My experience of leaving … and going to prep school for four years and seeing how different my classmates’ lifestyles were fascinated me,” he explains.

Quero, whose musical tastes are wide-ranging (an opera aficionado, he also started a salsa club in high school) was involved with Let’s Get Ready, a volunteer SAT preparation program near campus at the Frederick Douglass Academy in Harlem. He also was a member of the Ballroom Dancing Team during his first year at the College, but could not continue because of time constraints.

“There are so many great clubs, so many great activities. There are just not enough hours in the day. I do feel [having to work] has taken something away from my experience here. If I had the choice to not work, I wouldn’t,” says Quero, who nonetheless is considering finding the time to join the rugby team.

Quero, however, has not felt deprived in his experiences with the Core Curriculum. He says Roberta and William Campbell Professor of the Humanities Michael Rosenthal made Lit Hum one of the best experiences of his college career so far. “He found a way to make [the texts] relevant to our lives,” notes Quero.

Jay Orenduff, Quero’s adviser, has been impressed by Quero’s demeanor even through the most stressful times. “Luis is the epitome of positivity,” he says. “He is always upbeat. He always lifts up the spirits of those who are around him.”

That positive attitude is allowing Quero to make the most of his experience in the College. “I love the fact that there’s always something going on campus,” he says, “and the people that I get to meet. You can find someone from a corner of the world you’ve never heard of.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Sunnyside, Queens, majored in American Studies. She is a freelance reporter and an avid New York Yankees fan.
CAMPUS COLLEGE NEWS

KAVLI PRIZE: Columbia scientists Louis E. Brus and Thomas Jessell were among the first recipients of the Kavli Prize, announced on May 28 at the opening of the World Science Festival in Low Library. They are among seven pioneering scientists who, according to the Kavli Foundation, have transformed and advanced the fields of nanoscience, neuroscience and astrophysics. The winners, who hail from the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, Japan and the United States, will each receive a scroll and medal and share the $1 million prize awarded under each category.

Brus is the Samuel Latham Mitchell Professor of Chemistry and professor of chemical engineering, and Jessell is the Claire Tow Professor in Neuroscience & Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics at the Center for Neurobiology and Behavior at the Medical Center.

The prize is named after and funded by Fred Kavli and is a partnership between the Kavli Foundation, the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters and the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research.

‘68 REVISITED: Hundreds of alumni and guests participated in a four-day conference on campus that marked the 40th anniversary of the students protest of Spring ‘68. The gathering, organized by a group of alumni participants in the events, included several panel discussions about various aspects of the protests as well as broader issues of race, war and the role of the university; readings by several writers from that period; and screenings of a number of films of the events that have been completed or are in production. According to organizers, an archive of the Columbia 1968-68 conference is under construction and will be posted online this summer. For information, go to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CL68-08Event.

JAY PAPERS: The Columbia University Libraries recently received a one-year, $150,000 grant from the National Historical Publications & Records Commission for continued support to produce a series of un-published papers of John Jay (Class of 1764), America’s first Chief Justice, architect of the Treaty of Paris and an author of The Federalist. The Rare Book & Manuscript Library is producing a multi-volume scholarly edition of Jay’s papers, The Selected Papers of John Jay, designed to revise and complete work begun in the late 1950s by Richard B. Morris, an eminent Jay scholar and Columbia professor, who supplemented the major collection of original Jay Papers at Columbia with copies of Jay documents secured from archives throughout the world. The project complements the online database The Papers of John Jay (www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/jay).

IN LUMINE TUA

ELECTED: Five Columbia professors recently were elected to the 2008 Class of Fellows of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. They are Peter Bearman, the Cole Professor of Social Science; Richard A. Friesner, professor of chemistry; Orhan Pamuk, professor of comparative literature (and 2006 Nobel Prize winner); Paul G. Richards, the Mellon Professor of Natural Sciences; and Pedro Sanchez, director of the Tropical Agriculture Program.

Three Columbia professors have been elected members of the National Academy of Sciences for their excellence in original scientific research. They are Paul E. Olsen, the Storke Memorial Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory; Carol Prives, the DaCosta Professor of Biology and an American Cancer Society Research Professor; and Gary Stuhl, professor in the Department of Genetics and Development at P&S and an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

DELBANCO: Adjunct Assistant Professor for Art History and Archeology Dawn Delbanco was confirmed by the Senate in March for a six-year term on the National Council on the Humanities. Delbanco teaches Western and East Asian art and has curated an exhibition of ritual Chinese bronzes from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections at the Fogg Art Museum. She also has published on other aspects of Chinese art, including painting, woodblock prints and snuff bottles.

FRISCH: H. Harold Gumm / Harry and Albert von Tilzer Professor of Music Walter Frisch has been honored with the 15th annual Wm. Theodore de Bary ‘41 Award for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum by the Heyman Center for the Humanities. Frisch is director of Music Humanities for the Department of Music.

KESSLER-HARRIS: R. Gordon Hoxie Professor of American History Alice Kessler-Harris has been named v.p. and president-elect of the Organization of American Historians. Kessler-Harris, who also specializes in the history of American labor and the comparative and interdisciplinary exploration of women and gender.

SLAUGHTER: Joseph Slaughter, professor of English and comparative literature, was awarded the 2008 Welleck Prize by the American Comparative Literature Association for his 2007 book, Human Rights, Inc.: The World Novel, Narrative Form, and International Law. The prize recognizes outstanding work in the field of literary and cultural theory and is given in alternate years.

TRANSITIONS

ALUMNI OFFICE: Director of Operations Nona Russell ’85 SIPA retired from Columbia in April after 29 years of service. Russell previously worked at GSAS in the operations and financial affairs department. At the Alumni Office, she oversaw operations, human resources, finance and administration. Many Columbians will know Russell from her yearly march as a Commencement marshal, while her vast knowledge of Columbia personnel and systems made her a valued asset to the Alumni Office and all her colleagues.

SIPA DEAN: John Coatsworth has been appointed dean of the School of International and Public Affairs. He had been serving as acting dean during the past academic year. Coatsworth is a leading expert on Latin American economic and international history. He joined Columbia as a visiting professor in 2006-07 and joined the faculty in 2007 before becoming acting dean.

Nathan, Massad Receive Van Doren, Trilling Awards

Andrew Nathan, the Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, was awarded the 47th Mark Van Doren Award for his humanity, devotion to truth and inspiration of leadership as demonstrated in his commitment to undergraduate teaching. Joseph Massad, professor of modern Arab politics and intellectual history, was awarded the 33rd Lionel Trilling ’25 Award for his book Desiring Arabs. The awards, which were presented at Faculty House on May 7, are unique in that the winners are determined by the College undergraduates who form the Academic Awards Committee of the Columbia College Student Council. Christopher Yang ’09 presented Massad with his award, and Guanhua Puah ’08 presented to Nathan.

From left, co-chairs Ian Corey-Boulet ’08 and Elizabeth Grefrath ’08, co-chairs of the Academic Awards Committee of the Columbia College Student Council, joined Isabel Bauer-Nathan, her father, Andrew Nathan, Joseph Massad and Dean Austin Quigley at the awards presentation.

PHOTO: TINA GAO ’10 BARNARD
Klein: “We are the architects of our own destiny.”

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

Joel Klein ’67, chancellor of New York City’s Department of Education, delivered the Class Day 2008 keynote address on May 19 and urged the graduating seniors not to be afraid to confront the challenges they will face in their careers.

“Hard as it may be, you’ve got to get outside your current comfort zone sooner or later, and if you want my advice, sooner is better,” Klein told members of the Class of 2008. “We are all so programmed, so eager to know what we are expected to do next, that all too often we don’t realize that we are the architects of our own destiny. Rejoice in that knowledge. It’s truly empowering.”

Dean Austin Quigley drew rousing cheers as he addressed the College’s latest graduates, who also heard from salutatorian Julia Ann Kalow ’08 and class president Neda Navab ’08. President Lee C. Bollinger also addressed the approximately 1,000 seniors but saved his lengthier remarks for the University Commencement on May 21. Several awards and prizes were handed out by Dean of Student Affairs Chris Colombo, Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn Yatrakis and President of the College Alumni Association Brian C. Krisberg ’81.

Two days later (the schedule was changed this year so that South Field could accommodate Barnard’s Class Day, which had to be moved from the Barnard campus due to construction, on May 20), more than 30,000 students, family members, faculty, alumni and guests filled Low Plaza for Commencement, at which approximately 11,600 students received University degrees.

Pianist Emanuel Ax ’70 was one of seven recipients of honorary degrees at Commencement. The others were anti-poverty organizer Fazle Hasan Abed, philanthropist Dawn Greene (widow of Jerome Greene ’26, ’28L), medical researcher Eric Lander, former Columbia professor of history William Leuchtenburg, pioneering engineer and SEAS professor emerita Gertrude Neumark ’51 GSAS and cultural anthropologist and retiring Barnard president Judith Shapiro ’72 GSAS.

Alicia Graf ’03 GS, a modern dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, received the University’s Medal of Excellence, awarded annually to an outstanding University graduate under 45. Mark L. Amsterdam ’66, ’69L and Christophe Alain Mathieu Knox ’95 were among 10 Alumni Medal recipients.

Alex Sachare ’71
NYC Department of Education Chancellor Joel Klein '67 (above), the keynote speaker at Class Day, urged graduates to take chances and not be afraid of twists and turns in their career paths. The text of his speech may be found at www.college.columbia.edu/include/morestory.php?populations=&StoryID=14516&Story_Version=1.

Top, from right, Paul Homer ’48, Jim Nugent ’48 and George Dermksian ’48 are cheered as they carry their class banner during the Alumni Parade of Classes. Above, Senior Fund Gift Chair Dana Pavorini ’08 presents Dean Austin Quigley with a scroll containing the names of the 865 donors to the Senior Fund, whose 85 percent participation set a record for Ivy League liberal arts colleges.

Commencement on May 21.
Second baseman and co-captain Henry Perkins '08, the Ivy League Player of the Year, finished his Columbia career among the top five in hits (186), doubles (34) and triples (11).

PHOTO: GENE BOYARS
The last time Columbia won a baseball title, in 1977, Jimmy Carter was President, a gallon of gasoline cost 65 cents and Rocky won an Academy Award for Best Picture. Columbia tied Cornell for a share of the Eastern Intercollegiate Baseball League (the eight Ivy schools plus Army and Navy) championship that year, after winning the title outright the year before.

More than 30 years later, the Lions are back on top. Columbia, mired in last place as recently as three years ago, captured its first Ivy League baseball championship this spring (the EIBL gave way to the Ivy League in 1993) by beating Dartmouth in a best-of-three playoff series.

“It’s a great feeling,” says co-captain Henry Perkins ’08, the Ivy League’s Player of the Year. “For us to come full circle after four years and to finish on top of the league is fantastic.”

The Ivy title earned Columbia a berth in the NCAA baseball championships, but the Lions were ousted from the double-elimination tournament by Coastal Carolina and East Carolina. Despite those defeats, the experience was a positive one, according to coach Brett Boretti, who has headed the team for three years. “We got a little taste,” he says. “We know we belong, and we want to get back here.”

“The biggest positive is to realize this wasn’t a fluke thing for Columbia,” declares John Baumann ’08, a pitcher as well as a four-year starter on the basketball team. “We would have liked to have fared better here, but Columbia is going to be a perennial powerhouse in the Ivy League. That’s the most gratifying thing.”
Columbia's baseball fortunes began changing when Boretti was named coach. "The whole mentality changed. We started expecting to win," recalls Baumann, who predates Boretti's tenure and was a freshman on the 2005 team that had only five Ivy wins.

Boretti came to Columbia from Franklin and Marshall, where he compiled a 116-82 record over five seasons and won a conference championship, and brought with him a positive attitude. "It's about confidence, the way you approach things," says Boretti. "You have a purpose every time you practice."

Practice became a conduit through which Boretti changed the team's attitude. "The energy Boretti brings to the field ... he's intense," notes Noah Cooper '08, who won the 2008 Blair Bat for leading the league with a .507 average. Motivation also was delivered in the form of positive messages played through speakers during practice.

Boretti also structured practices to make them more goal-oriented. Intrasquad games became skins games, where sides win individual innings, and, according to Cooper, the lesson being "focus on one pitch at a time, what you can control." The necessary mental changes followed. Instead of thinking "Don't swing at a high pitch," Cooper explains, "you're thinking 'swing in the zone.'" For Baumann, it was the realization that "baseball is a process-oriented game. As a pitcher you can control the tempo, and imagine yourself succeeding."

Emphasis on defense is another feature of a Boretti practice, the coach explains, because "players are always going to find time to hit." The new defensive emphasis has shown up in games. Princeton coach Scott Bradley agrees, noting "They're much better defensively, much more solid in the infield."

Baseball also is the beneficiary of a rejuvenated athletics program under the guidance of Athletics Director M. Dianne Murphy. Increased resources are directed to teams, which are evaluated against "set measures and targets for athletics success," writes Murphy in an e-mail. "We go out every year looking to win championships and achieve competitive success in all sports."

Indeed, baseball's title was one of four for Columbia in the 2007-08 academic year, along with men's and women's fencing. Added to the five Ivy crowns won in 2006-07, this marks the highest two-year total of Ivy championships in Columbia history. Those teams proved, according to Murphy, that "there is room for top-rate academics and championship-level athletics to coexist in college sports."

Boretti says that the baseball budget is "like night and day from three years ago," with the team benefiting from a new batting cage, bullpens and, most importantly, a new artificial surface for its home field, renamed this spring for Hal Robertson '81E, a former varsity baseball and football player. It also was a signal to the University community to get behind athletics. "People didn't know what was going on" with baseball before the increased funding, says Perkins. "Now we feel the University is behind us." To Boretti, bigger budgets are a sign "the culture of athletics" has changed.

In Boretti's first season, the Lions won games in the Ivy League, which is divided into two divisions. In the next season, they reached the .500 mark, at 10-10, for the first time since 2002. To Boretti, that season proved they could win the Gehrig Division, pointing out, "We were 8-4 in our own division, we knew what we could do."

Coming into 2008, Boretti knew that "you've got to have four starters," to anchor a rotation for a championship team, and that Baumann, Bill Purdy '08 and Joe Scarlata '09 would fill three slots. They had combined for a 10-6 mark in 2007, with Scarlata injured for most of the season.

Boretti's efforts in positive thinking also were bearing fruit. "We struggled with attitude the first couple of years," remembers Baumann, but this season "we thought, 'why not us, why not now?'" Perkins agrees: "We were believing we're in this league to win."

This positive attitude was tested when Columbia lost its first eight games, all on the road, but Boretti wasn't worried. "It wasn't a big deal," he explains. "We were playing an aggressive sched-

"Columbia is going to ule." Columbia broke through with an 8-5 win over Georgia Southern, but at the beginning of league play had a modest 4-14 record. The question of who would be the fourth starting pitcher, however, was answered by Geoff Whitaker '11, who picked up two of the team's four wins, had the most strikeouts on the pitching staff and won Ivy Rookie of the Week honors.

The first weekend of league play indicated it might be Columbia's year when the Lions swept both games of the Brown series for the first time since 1997. This was followed by a split with Yale, then a sweep of Harvard, the first in 15 years. Scarlata earned Ivy Co-Pitcher of the Week honors with his Harvard win, a 2-0 complete game shutout.

After a split with Dartmouth, the Lions went into a pivotal Princeton series with a two-game lead over the Tigers, winners of seven of the last 10 Gehrig Division flags and five Ivy titles in that span. That lead was erased when Princeton took the first two games of the four-game series, but the Lions bounced back.

"The next day they were confident, and beat us in a pitcher's duel," says Bradley, the Princeton coach. A Baumann three-hitter reclaimed the division lead, then Columbia expanded the lead with an extra innings 7-4 win. "They're a tough, gritty bunch of kids who competed every game. It was a real defining moment," notes Bradley.

After Princeton's first-day sweep, Boretti told the Lions that they "can't worry about what happened," and to focus on the next day's
games. The resulting wins restored Columbia's lead in the Gehrig Division and more importantly, "gave us a little bit of space," says Perkins.

Columbia never looked back. A four-game split with Cornell gave them a three-game cushion, and a win against Penn brought Columbia its first Gehrig Division championship since 1993, coincidentally on the day the field was renamed in honor of Robertson. Columbia went on to a first-ever four-game sweep of Penn.

Among those in the crowd when the Lions clinched the division title was Rolando Acosta '79, '82L, a star pitcher on the EIBL champion 1976 team and now a New York State Supreme Court Justice. The 1976 team was successful on and off the field, with players becoming lawyers, physicians and business executives. For example, catcher Joe Greenaway Jr. '78 is a federal judge, pitcher Bob Klapisch '79 is a well-known sportswriter and pitcher Ralph Izzo '78E is president and CEO of Public Service Enterprise Group, a $12-billion electric and power utility corporation.

Acosta says of the present team, "They not only have the talent that I remember from the 1976 champions, they also have a sense of team spirit and confidence that I think makes them winners. Like the 1976 team, I am confident that these guys will do fine on and off the field."

Next up for the Lions was Dartmouth, winner of the Red Rolfe Division with a 15-5 Ivy record that matched Columbia's, in a best-of-three playoff for the league championship. Columbia's most impressive game of the series may have been its second game loss. After winning the first game 11-7, the Lions fell behind 14—3 in Game 2. They scored 12 runs over four innings to tie the game, but more than plug the fourth starter's hole in Boretti's rotation, leading the staff in wins with a 6-3 record. Cox was second on the team with a .355 overall batting average, and Ferrera "was huge at shortstop, stabilizing the infield," Boretti notes.

With the league championship decided on May 7 and the NCAA tournament starting the weekend of May 30, there was a long layoff that other schools don't have to contend with. "It's a little frustrating, but we can't control it," says Boretti, who arranged a three-game series against Patriot League champion Bucknell to keep the Lions sharp.

The championship did not go unnoticed. Murphy reported receiving "congratulatory e-mails and phone calls from alumni from all over the world — as well as from excited University trustees and many of my University colleagues." Eight Lions earned All-Ivy honors, with Perkins a unanimous choice for the First Team, where he was joined by Baumann and Cooper. Nick Cox '11 was unanimously named Rookie of the Year, made the All-Ivy Second Team and was one of 20 outfielders named to the Freshman All-American team by Collegiate Baseball newspaper and Louisville Slugger, the bat manufacturer.

Rookies played a pivotal role in Columbia's success. "The first-years contributed immediately," says Cooper. Whitaker did much

The Lions pile on in celebration after winning the Ivy League championship at Dartmouth with a 7-5 victory in the deciding game of their best-of-3 series on May 7.

Boretti's enthusiasm and energy transferred to his players and helped them overcome a slow start to the season.

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a ninth-inning run by Dartmouth gave the Big Green a 16-15 victory and forced a Game 3.

After jumping to a 3-0 lead, Columbia fell behind 5-3, but a three-run homer by Alex Ferrera '11, his second of the day, gave the Lions a lead they would not relinquish. Perkins homered for an insurance run and also pitched four innings to save the 7-5 win.

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Rookies played a pivotal role in Columbia's success. "The first-years contributed immediately," says Cooper. Whitaker did much

Columbia was seeded fourth in an NCAA Regional pool that included Coastal Carolina, Eastern Carolina and Alabama, with the games to be played in Conway, S.C. In the first game, Mike Malfettone '08 gave Columbia its only lead in the series with a solo home run in the third inning, but Coastal Carolina, ranked 17th in the country, rolled to a 10-2 victory. In the next game, the Lions were shut out by East Carolina 9-0, and their season was done.

"I'm very proud of my team and what they accomplished this season," says Boretti, whose club had a 22-30 overall record despite playing 38 of 52 games on the road. "We got a taste of the next level, now we have to get back to work and do it all over again. I told the team it is much easier to become a champion than to stay a champion. That is what we have to work toward now."

Stephen Eschenbach of Millburn, N.J. recently was the lead writer for the Ivy League's 50th anniversary online celebration (www.ivy50.com).
My Lost City

By Luc Sante '76

The idea of writing a book about New York City first entered my head around 1980, when I was a writer more wishfully than in actual fact, spending my nights in clubs and bars and my days rather casually employed in the mailroom of the New York Review of Books. It was there that Rem Koolhaas's epochal Delirious New York fell into my hands. “New York is a city that will be replaced by another city,” is the phrase that sticks in my mind. Koolhaas’s book, published in 1978 as a paean to the unfinished project of New York the Wonder City, seemed like an archeological reverie, an evocation of the hubris and ambition of a dead city. I gazed wondrously at its illustrations, which showed sights as dazzling and remote as Nineveh and Tyre. The irony is that many of their subjects stood within walking distance: the Chrysler Building, the McGraw-Hill Building, Rockefeller Center. But they didn’t convey the feeling they had when they were new. In Koolhaas’s pages New York City was manifestly the location of the utopian and dystopian fantasies of the silent-film era. It was Metropolis, with elevated roadways, giant searchlights probing the heavens, flying machines navigating the skyscraper canyons. It was permanently set in the future.

The New York I lived in, on the other hand, was rapidly regressing. It was a ruin in the making, and my friends and I were camped out amid its potsherds and tumuli. This did not distress me — quite the contrary. I was enthralled by decay and eager for more: ailanthus trees growing through cracks in the asphalt, ponds and streams forming in leveled blocks and slowly making their way to the shoreline, wild animals returning from centuries of exile. Such a scenario did not seem so farfetched then. Already in the mid-'70s, when I was a student at Columbia, my windows gave out onto the plaza of the School of International Affairs, where on winter nights troops of feral dogs would arrive to bed down on the heating grates. Since then the city had lapsed even further. On Canal Street stood a five-story building empty of human tenants that had been taken over from top to bottom by pigeons. If you walked east on Houston Street from the Bowery on a summer night, the jungle growth of vacant blocks gave a foretaste of the impending wilderness, when lianas would engird the skyscrapers and mushrooms would cover Times Square.

At that time much of Manhattan felt depopulated even in daylight. Aside from the high-intensity blocks of Midtown and the financial district, the place seemed to be inhabited principally by slouchers and loungers, loose-joints vendors and teenage...
hustlers, panhandlers and site-specific drunks, persons whose fleabags put them out on the street at eight and only permitted reentry at six. Many businesses seemed to remain open solely to give their owners shelter from the elements. How often did a dollar cross the counter of the plastic-lettering concern, or the prosthetic-limb showroom, or the place that ostensibly traded in office furniture but displayed in its window a Chinese typewriter and a stuffed two-headed calf? Outside under an awning on a hot afternoon would be a card table, textured like an old suitcase with four metal corners, and around it four guys playing dominos. Maybe they’d have a little TV set, up on a milk crate, plugged into the base of a streetlight, emitting baseball. On every corner was a storefront that advertised Optimo or Te-Amo or Romeo y Julieta, and besides cigars they sold smut and soda pop and rubbers and candy and glassine envelopes and sometimes police equipment. And there were Donuts Muffins Snack Bar and Chinas Comidas and Hand Laundry and Cold Beer Grocery and Barber College, all old friends. Those places weren’t like commercial establishments, exactly, more like rooms in your house. They tended to advertise just their descriptions; their names, like those of deities, were kept hidden, could be discovered only by reading the license tacked up somewhere behind the cash register. At the bodega you could buy plantains and coffee and lard, or a single cigarette — a loosie — or a sheet of paper, an envelope, and a stamp.

I drifted down from the Upper West Side to the Lower East Side in 1978. Most of my friends made the transition around the same time. You could have an apartment all to yourself for less than a hundred and fifty dollars a month. In addition, the place was happening. It was happening, that is, in two or at most three dingy bars that doubled as clubs, a bookstore or a beauty parlor that had stood on Avenue C near Third Street, probably in the 1920s. I marveled at it, unable to picture something as sedate as a beauty parlor anywhere near that corner, by then a heroin souk.

The neighborhood was desolate, so underpopulated that landlords would give you a month’s free rent just for signing a lease, many buildings being less than half-full, but it was far from tranquil. We might feel smug about being robbed on the street, since none of us had any money, and we looked it, and junkies — as distinct from the crackheads of a decade later — would generally not stab you for chump change. Nevertheless, if you did not have the wherewithal to install gates on your windows you would be burglarized repeatedly, and where would you be without your stereo? In the blocks east of Avenue A the situation was dramatically worse. In 1978 I got used to seeing large fires in that direction every night, usually set by arsonists hired by landlords of empty buildings who found it an easy choice to make, between paying property taxes and collecting insurance. By 1980 Avenue C was a lunar landscape of vacant blocks and hollow tenement shells. Over there, commerce — in food or clothing, say — was often conducted out of car trunks, but the most thriving industry was junk, and it alone made use of marginally viable specimens of the building stock. The charred stairwells, the gaping floorboards, the lack of lighting, the entryways consisting of holes torn in ground-floor walls — all served the psychological imperatives of the heroin trade.

Dealers knew that white middle-class junkies thrived on squalor, that it was a component of their masochism, and that their masochism, with an admixture of bourgeois guilt, was what had drawn them to the neighborhood. The dealers proved this thesis daily, at least to themselves, by requiring their customers to stand for an hour in pouring rain before allowing them inside, for example, and then shifting them up five flights with interstitial waits on the landings, and then possibly, whimsically, refusing to sell to them once they finally arrived in front of the slotted door. Of course, a junkie becomes a masochist by virtue of his habit, and any of those people would have done much worse to obtain a fix, but the dealers were correct to a degree. Some did indeed come to the neighborhood to revel in squalor, and junkiedom was part of the package, as surfing would be if they had moved to Hawaii instead. They were down with the romance of it, had read the books and gazed upon the pop stars. Junkiehood could happen to anyone, for a complex of reasons that included availability, boredom, anxiety, depression, and self-loathing, but many were tourists of scag, and if they wiped out as a consequence it was part of the package, as surfing would be if they had moved to Hawaii instead. They were down with the romance of it, had read the books and gazed upon the pop stars. Junkiehood could happen to anyone, for a complex of reasons that included availability, boredom, anxiety, depression, and self-loathing, but many were tourists of scag, and if they wiped out as a consequence it was the inevitable effect of a natural law, like gravity. They had been culled.

For those of us who had been in the city for a while, squalor was not an issue. Most of the city was squalid. If this troubled you, you left, and if you were taken by the romance of it, a long regimen of squalor in everyday life would eventually scrub your illusions gray. At this remove I’m sometimes retrospectively amazed by what I took for granted. Large fires a few blocks away every night for a couple of years would seem conducive to a perpetually troubled state of mind, but they just became weather. I spent the summer of 1975 in a top-floor apartment on 107th Street, where at night the windows were lit by the glow of fires along Amsterdam Avenue. A sanitation strike

By 1980 Avenue C was a lunar landscape of vacant blocks and hollow tenements.
was in progress, and mounds of refuse, reeking in the heat, decorated the curbs of every neighborhood, not excepting those whose houses were manned by doormen. Here, though, instead of being double-bagged in plastic, they were simply set on fire every night. The spectacle achieved the transition from apocalyptic to dully normal in a matter of days.

Two summers later I was living with two roommates in a tall building on Broadway at 101st Street. It had both a doorman and an elevator operator; most of the other tenants were elderly European Jews; our rent for five large rooms was four hundred dollars a month. I note these facts because the other buildings lining Broadway in that area were mainly single-room-occupancy hotels, tenanted by the luckless, the bereft, the unemployable, dipsomaniacs, junkies, released mental patients — exactly that portion of the population that would be turned out and left to conduct its existence in shelters or doorways or drain-pipes or jails in the following decade. What those people had in common was that they could not blend into mainstream society; otherwise there was no stereotyping them. For example, a rather eerie daily entertainment in the warmer months was provided by a group of middle-aged transvestites who would lean against parked cars in their mini-dresses and bouffantes and issue forth perfect four-part doo-wop harmonies. You had to wonder in which volume of the Relic label’s “Golden Groups” series they might figure, perhaps pictured on the sleeve in younger, thinner, pencil-mustached, tuxedo-clad incarnations. For them, as for most people on the street — including, we liked to think, us — New York City was the only imaginable home, the only place that posted no outer limit on appearance or behavior.

When the blackout happened, on the evening of July 13, 1977, it briefly seemed as though the hour of reckoning had arrived, when all those outsiders would seize control. Naturally, no such thing occurred. The outsiders seized televisions and toaster ovens and three-piece suits and standing rib roasts and quarts of Old Mr. Boston and cartons of Newports and perhaps sectional sofas, but few would have known what to do with the levers of society had they been presented to them in a velvet-lined box. But then, my friends and I wouldn’t have known, either. For all the obvious differences between the SRO-dwellers and ourselves, we were alike in our disconnection from any but the most parochial idea of community. In the end the mob dissolved like a fist when you open your hand, and the benches on the Broadway traffic islands were repopulated by loungers occasionally pulling down a bottle hanging by a string from a leaf-enshrouded tree branch overhead.

The looters were exemplary Americans, whose immediate impulse in a crisis was to see to the acquisition of consumable goods. They had no interest in power. Neither did anyone I knew. We just wanted power to go away. Sometimes it seemed as though it already had. In those days the police, when not altogether invisible, were nearly benign, or at least showed no interest in the likes of us, being occupied with actual violent crime. Almost everybody had a story about walking down the street smoking a joint and suddenly realizing they had just passed a uniformed patrolman, who could not possibly have failed to detect the odor but
resolutely looked the other way. Casual illegality was unremarkable and quotidian, a matter of drug use and theft of goods and services, petty things. We slid by in weasel jobs, in part because we were preoccupied with our avocations and in part because a certain lassitude had come over us, a brand of the era.

The revolution was deferred indefinitely, then, because we were too comfortable. Not, mind you, that we didn’t live in dumps where the floors slanted and the walls were held together with duct tape and the window frames had last been caulked in 1912 and the heat regularly went off for a week at a time in the depths of winter. The landlords were the primary villains and the most visible manifestations of authority. Very few still went from door to door collecting rents, but most could be physically located, sitting on the telephone at a secondhand metal desk in some decrepit two-room office, and that included the ones who went home to mansions in Great Neck. Real estate was a buyer’s market, and owners needed to hustle for every dollar, and were correspondingly reluctant to make expenditures that would be any greater than the anticipated legal costs of not making them. At the same time, you could let the rent go for a while and not face eviction, because the eviction process itself would cost the landlord some kaie, besides which it might be hard to find anyone else to take up the lease, so that a tenant who only paid every other month was better than nothing. We were comfortable because we could live on very little, satisfying most requirements in a fiercely minimal style for which we had developed a defining and mitigating aesthetic. It was lucky if not altogether coincidental that the threadbare overcoat you could obtain for a reasonable three dollars just happened to be the height of fashion.

While we were dozing money crept in, making its presence felt slowly, in oddly assorted and apparently peripheral ways.

Suspicion in the hinterlands of New York City’s moral fiber and quality of life, rampant since the early nineteenth century, reached new heights during the 1970s. Hadn’t the President himself urged the city to drop dead? If you told people almost anywhere in the country then that you lived in New York, they tended to look at you as if you had boasted of dining on wormwood and gall. Images of the city on big or small screens, fictional or ostensibly journalistic, were a blur of violence, drugs, and squalor. A sort of apotheosis appeared in John Carpenter’s *Escape from New York* (1981), in which the city has become a maximum-security prison by default. The last honest folk having abandoned the place, the authorities have merely locked it up, permitting the scum within to rule themselves, with the understanding that they will forever long kill one another off. The story may have been a futuristic action-adventure, but for most Americans the premise was strict naturalism, with the sole exception of the looks, which ought by rights have been in place. Aside from the matter of actual violence, drugs, and squalor, there was the fact that in the 1970s New York City was not a part of the United States at all. It was an offshore interzone with no shopping malls, few major chains, very few born-again Christians who had not been sent there on a mission, no golf courses, no subdivisions.

Downtown we were proud of this, naturally. We thought of the place as a free city, like one of those pre-war nests of intrigue and licentiousness where exiles and lamsters and refugees found shelter in a tangle of improbable juxtapositions. I had never gotten around to changing my nationality from the one assigned me at birth, but I would have declared myself a citizen of New York City had such a stateless state existed, its flag a solid black. But what happened instead is that Reagan was elected and the musk of profit once again scented the air. It took all of us a while to realize that this might affect us in intimate ways — we were fixated on nuclear war. So while we were dozing money crept in, making its presence felt slowly, in oddly assorted and apparently peripheral ways. The first sign was the new phenomenon of street vendors. Before the early 1980s you never saw people selling old books or miscellaneous refuse from flattened boxes on the sidewalk. If you truly wanted to sell things you could rent a storefront for next to nothing, assuming you weren’t choosy about location.

What it meant, though, was that people who had previously gotten by on charm and serendipity now needed ready cash. It also meant that there now existed consumers who would pay folding money for stuff that had once been available for nothing to anyone who read the sidewalks. Part of the reason the Luftmenschen had to have dollars was the vast increase in heroin traffic, caused by a steep plunge in prices. All of a sudden people who had been strictly holiday users were getting themselves strung out. While this was happening the neighborhood was filling up, rapidly. Every day the streets were visibly more congested than the day before. The vacancy rate fell to near zero. Speculators were buying up even gutted shells, even tenements so unsound they would require a fortune to fix. Was the fall in the price index of junk connected to the rise in that of real estate? Street-corner theorists were certain we were all marked for death. It was obvious, no? If you OD’d or went to jail your apartment would become vacant, and legally subject to a substantial rent increase. A folklore emerged, with tales of people paying rent to sleep on examination tables in medical offices, of landlords murdering rent-controlled tenants or simply locking them out and disposing of their chattel. Whether those tales were true or not, everyone spent increasing amounts of time in housing court, battling the fourth or fifth landlord in as many months, who all but treated the property as vacant. The neighborhood was subjected to lifestyle pieces in the glossies; a crowd of galleries sprang up. You could spot millionaires making the rounds in old sweaters.

The more I felt I was losing my city the more preoccupied I became with it. I gradually became interested in its past, an interest that grew into an obsession. It was triggered by what seemed like chance — by things I spotted on the flattened cardboard boxes on the sidewalk. On Astor Place I acquired for a dollar a disintegrating copy of Junius Henry Browne’s *The Great Metropolis* (1868) and, a week later, Joseph Mitchell’s incomparable *McSorley’s Wonderfull Saloon*, a 1940s paperback with a ridiculous cover that almost dissuaded me from picking it up — I had never heard of it or him. In
a heap of miscellanea on Seventh Street I found a pristine copy of Chuck Connors's very rare Bowery Life, and took it home for fifty cents. In a parking lot on Canal Street I bought a stereoscope card of the Second Avenue El; a table outside a junkshop on Thirtieth Street yielded lithographs pulled from nineteenth-century copies of Valentine's Manual. These things were mysterious, slices of a complex past of which I had little sense. I was already fascinated by the strange process whereby the glamorous city of the 1920s had become the entropic slum that was my home; now I was discovering that the slum had far deeper roots.

One day, probably early in 1980, a film crew commandeered Eleventh Street between Avenues A and B and, with minimal adjustments, returned the block to the way it had looked in 1910. All they did was pull the plywood coverings off storefront windows, paint names in gold letters on those windows, and pile goods up behind them. They spread straw in the gutters and hung washlines across the street. They fitted selected residents with period clothes and called forth a parade of horse-drawn conveyances. They were shooting a few scenes of Ragtime (Milos Forman, 1981). After the production packed up a week later, the Dominican evangelical church on Avenue A held a sort of exorcism ceremony in the middle of the intersection. I hadn't paid much attention to the goings-on, but I had been struck by how little effort was needed to conjure up a seemingly unimaginable past. When I walked down that street at night, with all the trappings up but the crew absent, I felt like a ghost. The tenements were aspects of the natural landscape, like caves or rock ledges, across which all of us — inhabitants, landlords, dope dealers, beat cops, tourists — flitted for a few seasons, like the pigeons and the cockroaches and the rats, barely registering as individuals in the ceaseless churning of generations.

And now everything was up for grabs. The tenements were old and unstable; the speculators were undoubtedly buying them up for the value of their lots. One day in the near future they would be razed and containment units at least superficially more upscale would be built. Maybe the whole neighborhood would be reconfigured, the way Washington Market and the far Lower East Side were swept, to the point where whole streets had disappeared. Within a decade, all of us who had lived there in the last days of the tenement era might seem as distant and insubstantial as the first people to move in when the buildings were new. I told myself it was inevitable. I remembered Baudelairé's warning that the city changes faster than the human heart. I thought of my grandfather saying that progress was a zero-sum game in which every improvement carried with it an equivalent loss, and decided that the reverse was also true. I considered that at the very least nobody in the future would have to contend with a stiff wind sucking out an entire loose windowpane, as had once happened to me. Then I pictured the high-rises themselves falling inch by inch into ruin. I bore an old-timer's resentment toward the children of privilege who were moving into tastefully done-up flats and about to start calling themselves New Yorkers, even Lower East Siders, and might spend decades without once having spent a winter sitting in front of an open oven wearing an overcoat and hat, or having to move pots and pans and furniture by subway in the middle of the night, or having bottles thrown at them by crack dealers, or having to walk home from Brooklyn in the rain for want of carfare. But it was for more than personal reasons that I wanted to prevent amnesia from setting in.

Now, more than a decade after I finally finished my book Low Life, the city has changed in ways I could not have pictured. The tenements are mostly still standing, but I could not afford to live in any of my former apartments, including the ones I found desperately shabby when I was much more inured to shabbiness. Downtown, even the places that used to seem permanently beyond the pale have been colonized by prosperity. Instead of disappearing, local history has been preserved as a seasoning, most visibly in names of bars. The economy has gone bad, but money shows no signs of loosening its grip. New York is neither the Wonder City nor a half-populated ruin but a vulnerable, overcrowded, anxious, half-deluded, all-too-human town, shaken by a cataclysm nobody could have foreseen. I don't live there anymore, and I have trouble going there and walking around because the streets are too haunted by the ghosts of my own history. I wasn't born in New York, and I may never live there again, and just thinking about it makes me melancholy, but I was changed forever by it, and my imagination is manacled to it, and I wear its mark the way you wear a scar. Whatever happens, whether I like it or not, New York City is fated always to remain my home.

Keynote speaker Joel Klein ’67, chancellor of the NYC Department of Education, gives a thumbs-up to graduating seniors at Class Day.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
General Thermodynamics by D.R. Olmder '33. This engineering textbook combines elements from mechanical and chemical engineering, chemistry, materials science and biology to present a broader view of thermodynamics (CRC Press, $89.95).

Exploring Ethics: An Introductory Anthology edited by Steven M. Cahn '63. In this concise introduction to moral philosophy for students, the editor tackles three topics: challenges to morality, moral theories and moral problems (Oxford University Press, $44.95).

Exploring Philosophy of Religion: An Introductory Anthology edited by Steven M. Cahn '63. Cahn's collection of classic and contemporary writings is geared toward undergraduates and covers seven major topics: the concept of God, the existence of God, religious language, miracles and mysticism, belief in God, resurrection and immortality, and religious pluralism (Oxford University Press, $45).

Classic Cliffhangers: Volume 1, 1914–1940 by Hank Davis '63. In early American low-budget filmmaking, movies were made as fast, as well and with as little money as possible. This book describes the well-known movie serials from each year of this era (Midnight Marquee Press, $25).

Hollywood Hybrids: Mixing Genres in Contemporary Films by Ira Jaffe '64. A look at genre mixing in contemporary cinema, as shown in the works of such American filmmakers as Quentin Tarantino, Todd Haynes, the Coen brothers and Errol Morris (Rowman & Littlefield, $24.95).

For the Love of God and People: A Philosophy of Jewish Law by Elliot N. Dorff '65. Dorff, a Conservative rabbi and philosophy professor, provides a guide to the philosophy of the Jewish legal system and explores its role in the modern world (Jewish Publication Society, $35).

Jeff May's Healthy Home Tips: A Workbook for Detecting, Diagnosing, and Eliminating Pesky Pests, Stinky Stenches, Musty Mold, and Other Aggravating Home Problems by Jeffrey C. May '66 and Connie L. May. An easy step-by-step guide that offers tools for overcoming indoor air pollution, including what to avoid, what to look for and how to fix it (Johns Hopkins University Press, $16.95).

Wake Up Now: A Guide to the Journey of Spiritual Awakening by Stephan Bodian '69. In this practical guidebook for a spiritual journey, the author offers a step-by-step map from the first stage of seeking a deeper understanding to the last stages of finding spiritual awakening and how to embody it in your everyday life (McGraw-Hill, $22.95).

The Nightlife of Saints by Fernando D. Castro '75. Castro's stanzas and extended lines are dense with imagery and meaning in this new collection of poems (TAYER Books, $15).


Poet in New York: Federico García Lorca translated by Pablo Medina and Mark Steinman '80. Lorca did not like Manhattan much while he was a GS student from 1929–30, and that is reflected in this book of poetry. The collection portrays Lorca's passionate perception of a city overwhelmed with poverty, racism and social turbulence (Grove Press, $14). [See May/June Bookshelf, featured book.]

Metropolis: The American City in Popular Culture by Robert Zecker '84. Zecker, a professor at St. Francis Xavier University, looks at the ways American cities have been portrayed throughout our culture, from A Raisin in the Sun's Chicago to The Sopranos' Newark (Froget Publishers, $49.95).

The Corpus Parisinum: A Critical Edition of the Greek Text with Commentary and English Translation (A Medieval Anthology of Greek Texts from the Pre-Socratics to the Church Fathers, 600 B.C.–700 A.D.) translated, with commentary and introduction, by Denis M. Searby '85. The Corpus Parisinum is an anthology of Greek gnomologies. The author describes the text in a wider context, previous scholarship on it, commentaries on individual excerpts and additional analyses of its relationship to cognate collections, in this two-book volume (Edwin Mellen Press, $189.95).

The Man Who Pushed America to War: The Extraordinary Life, Adventures, and Obsessions of Ahmad Chalabi by Aram Roston 88. The extraordinary life of Chalabi, who went from privilege and prestige in his native Iraq to exile overseas and later became a major influence in the U.S. administration's decision to go to war (Nation Books, $27.50).

Fatal Misconception: The Struggle to Control World Population by Matthew Connolly '90, associate professor of history. This volume is the first global history of the population control movement, its struggle with the Catholic Church's ban on contraception and with national leaders, and the suffering of the women and children caught in between (Harvard University Press, $35).

Ling Ling Looked in the Mirror by Ming Chen and Wei Chen '92. A child's book about a young girl, accompanied by her panda friend Bao Bao, and what she dreams she will become when she grows up (Chameleon, $15.95).

The Cute Book of Ugly Words by Kathryn Huldeck '94. A comedic guide to American English for native Mandarin Chinese speakers; includes illustrations of double entendres, idioms and taboo topics...
Meredith Norton ’92’s Lopsided: Not Your Ordinary Cancer Memoir

By Maryam Parhizkar ’09

“Does this happen with any other ailment? Do fellow hemorrhoid sufferers clasp hands and chant, ‘Die hemorrhoids!’?” writes Meredith Norton ’92, reflecting upon awkward encounters with other cancer patients and survivors in public places.

For most people, cancer is no laughing matter. For Norton, however, humor seems to have been a key ingredient in her approach to the disease, as reflected in her debut book, Lopsided: How Having Breast Cancer Can Be Really Distracting ($23.95, Viking).

By 34, Norton had been everything from a public school teacher to small-company CEO, but not long after marrying and giving birth she found herself combating inflammatory breast cancer (IBC), an often lethal but rare form of the disease. In Lopsided, she has created a witty memoir chronicling her medical struggle from her strange symptoms while in Paris (“After all the smug misdiagnoses and placebos I’d been given at the hands of French physicians, I had more faith in a troop of trained chimpanzees”) to her return home to California, where she underwent treatment.

While undergoing chemotherapy and surgery, Norton received many sympathetic gifts from friends, including several hats, “at least two wigs in the mailbox every week,” and various books. “There were lots of books by Lance Armstrong [written by a ghostwriter] ... although they were mostly copies of one book, Every Second Counts,” she writes, as part of her running motif involving her impressions of Armstrong throughout her cancer experience. “Give me some fat slob on welfare who never graduated from junior high and can’t ride around the block without choking on his cigarette, and yet manages to pull himself together, go macrobiotic, and beat cancer, and I will show you one inspired Meredith Norton.”

In the same chapter, Norton draws a parallel between Armstrong’s photograph on his book cover and one of herself that had been on the Columbia College homepage for some time during her years as a student. Norton includes various allusions to her experience as an undergraduate, including her experiences with theCore Curriculum science requirement taking the ‘Dinosaurs and Life’ and ‘Physics for Poets’ courses. She also mentions the inspiration she found in listening to Gertrude Elion, a Nobel Prize-winning biochemist and pharmacologist, give her honorary degree speech at her commencement. “Another honorary degree went to Katharine Hepburn,” Norton says. “What dying children had she saved from sexually transmitted diseases?”

The Columbia references are only a part of Norton’s memoir, which is mostly about her cancer treatment but is frequently interspersed with anecdotes and asides from her atypical life experiences outside of cancer. Her stories range from accounts of a family reunion at an alligator farm to bizarre experiences with ex-boyfriends. Aided by her varying sources of inspiration — whether they be Armstrong, family members or strangers — Norton ultimately beat the odds of a 40 percent survival rate and prevailed in the fight for her life, although not without the necessary struggles. It is storytelling that critics have found reminiscent of David Sedaris or Augusten Burroughs, with funny and poignant moments gracefully intertwined. “Currently, there is no fire to put out, but things aren’t static enough to be suspenseful, either,” she writes in her closing paragraphs. “There is none of that quiet waiting for disaster to strike. My life is back to being as normal as it ever was.”

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Norton majored in film studies with a special concentration in creative writing. After graduating, she briefly worked in documentary filmmaking and then took up teaching junior high school history in Oakland, Calif., while briefly co-running her own pillow-making company (see November 2001). In between that and her move to France, Norton’s occupations included hymnal editor, art re-storer, game show producer, Hollywood talent agent assistant and engineering graduate student. This year, though, Norton will spend the summer promoting her memoir in California and in New York. She lives in Sonoma County with her son, Lucas.

Maryam Parhizkar ’09 is a Houstonian, violist, new music enthusiast and English major. She contributes to CCT and The Blue and White, Columbia’s monthly undergraduate magazine (www.bwog.net).

not seen in a standard textbook.
In English and simplified Chinese
(China Machine Press, $8).


By examining state and local policy, the author demonstrates how the growing transportation needs of an industrializing society reconfigured state politics and brought about a revolution in governance toward more state bureaucracy (University Press of Kansas, $39.95).

The Merchants of Zigong: Industrial Entrepreneurship in Early Modern China by Madeleine Zelin, the Dean Lung Professor of Chinese Studies. Salt production in Zigong was one of the largest industries in 19th-century China. Historian Zelin studies the ways in which merchants mobilized capital through financial-industrial networks and spurred growth by developing new technologies, capturing markets and building integrated business organizations (Columbia University Press, $24.50).

Agents of Bioterrorism: Pathogens and Their Weaponization by Geoffrey Zubay, professor of biology, et al., including eight CC young alumni. A thorough account of the threats posed by 13 disease-causing agents, including anthrax, salmonella and SARS (Columbia University Press, $27.50).

Carmen Jo Ponce ’08

CCT presents its fourth listing of recordings and films in which alumni artists were involved. If we inadvertently omitted you or someone you know, or if you are releasing work within the next year, please e-mail cct@columbia.edu, and we will include you in a future listing.

Compiled by Lisa Palladino and Carmen Jo Ponce '08

**RECORDINGS**

**ARMEN DONELIAN '72**  
Pianist: Donelian's Trio's Oasis, jazz  
(Sunnyside)

**DR. LOUIE**  
(KEITH LUIS '72)  
Author/vocalist/percussionist, with Evan Johns'  
A Holiday Gift for You, holiday  
(Jellyroll Records)

**DAVID MONTE CRISTO**  
(MICHAEL PERPICH '77)  
Musician: Halloween Faces, soundtrack that accompanies the DVD NY's Village Halloween Parade 2006  
(both from Monte Cristo Records)

**GAIL JAVITT '90**  
Singer: Like a Braided Candle: Songs for Havdalah, Jewish ceremony  
(independently produced)

**STEPHANIE FINUCANE '91**  
Keyboardist/singer: Baskervilles' Twilight, indie pop  
(Secret Crush Records)

**K.P. DEVLIN '93**  
Singer/songwriter: Year of the Snake, pop/rock  
(independently produced)

**NICO MUHLY '03**  
Composer: Mothertongue, classical/experimental  
(Bedroom Community)

**PATRICK HIGGINS '06**  
Musician: Animal with Archaeopteryx's Horror Orr, instrumental rock  
(Un-Fun Records)

**FILMS**

**BRIAN DENNEHY '60**  
Actor: Welcome to Paradise, drama/family  
(Out of Pocket Films)

**MICHAEL AZERRAD '83**  
Producer: Kurt Cobain: About a Son, documentary  
(Bonfire Films of America)

**MACKY ALSTON '87**  
Director: Hard Road Home, documentary  
(GreenHouse Pictures)

**MATTHEW FOX '89**  
Actor: Vantage Point, action/drama/thriller  
(Columbia Pictures)

**AMANDA PEET '94**  
Voice: Terra, animation/adventure  
(MeniThings)  
Actor: Martian Child, drama/sci-fi  
(Hanna Rachel Production Services Ltd., New Line Cinema)

**RAMIN BAHRAJNI '96**  
Director/writer: Chop Shop, drama  
(Muskat Filmed Properties)

**RACHEL NICHOLS '03**  
Actor: P2, horror  
(P2 Productions)

**RIDER STRONG '04**  
Actor/writer/director: Irish Twins, short drama  
(Redwood Shire Productions)  
Actor: Tooth & Nail, horror/thriller  
(Morningstar Films)
Orlin W. Donaldson, retired photographer, Newtown Square, Pa., on February 6, 2008. Donaldson was born and raised in Manhattan and attended the Breith-Whitney School. After college, he became a professional photographer in New York and worked for three studios before opening his own in 1947. In 1953, Donaldson became the head of the photography department at Bethlehem Steel, from which he retired in 1939. He was active in civil affairs as Honorary French Consul for Oregon, president of the Oregon Symphony and a member of the board of directors of the Portland Art Museum. Donaldson loved the outdoors, particularly skiing, swimming and tennis. He trekked to the Mt. Everest base camp in his 30s, heli-skied the Bugaboos in his 60s and hang-glided over Rio de Janeiro Bay in his 70s. Kolisch is survived by his wife of 65 years; children, Leslie, Christine and E. Pierre; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Oregon Symphony.

Charles A. Webster, cardiologist, Piedmont, Calif., on March 6, 2008. Webster rowed while a CU student based upon his M.A. from GSAS in 1947. He was the leader of a Columbia alumni group in California for many years and made his home available for Columbia events. Webster was a University Alumni Medallist in 1989. He is survived by his former wife, Wendy Willrich; children, Wendy, Charlie, Aileen and Heather; and eight grandchildren.

Roland H. Brownlee, retired business executive, Vero Beach, Fla., on March 31, 2008. Brownlee was born in Stuart, Neb., the son of Methodist missionaries/ministers, and raised in Costa Rica as a young child. He graduated from the College at 19 with a Phi Beta Kappa key and a degree in economics. Brownlee married Frances Schaffer and embarked upon a career in the State Department's Diplomatic Service, stationed in Managua, Nicaragua, under the aegis of the American Embassy. He controlled and administered imports and exports to and from Nicaragua to the United States during WWII. Brownlee served as a first lieutenant in the Sixth Army Air Force in Texas and Panama, completed special courses in statistics at Harvard to head an Air Force training program and after the war became a successful business executive for several Fortune 500 companies. His final career years were spent in Wisconsin, where he was given a full professorship based upon his M.A. from GSAS (’68) and a Ph.D. credit equivalency from the University of Wisconsin with recognition of his leadership of OASIS 2000. Brownlee retired in 1983 as professor emeritus. His first wife died in 1989. He also was predeceased by a sister, Jocelyn King. Brownlee is survived by his second wife, Shirley (nee Flint), whom he married in 1988; daughter, Martha Brownlee Duffee and her husband, Michael; sons, Michael and his wife, Karen, and Kevin and his wife, Marina; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the VNA Hospice House, 1110 35th Ln., Vero Beach, FL 32960.

Louis A. Silverstone, retired physician, Arlington, Mass., on March 17, 2008. Silverstone was born in Augusta, Ga. He attended Harvard Medical School and had further training at Boston City Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago. From 1945–47, Silverstone served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He practiced internal medicine in Cambridge, Mass., and was on the staff of the Mt. Auburn Hospital from 1940 until his retirement in 1985. He also was an assistant professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School. Silverstone’s wife, Anne Driscoll Silverstone, died in 1983. He also was predeceased by a brother, Bertram ’37, in 1993. He is survived by his wife, Bernice Norman ’45; sister-in-law, Gladys (Bobbie); and several nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mt. Auburn Hospital, Cambridge, Mass.

Robert D. Lundy, retired v.p., Lake Oswego, Ore., on January 3, 2008. Lundy was born in Kansas City, Mo., on July 1, 1926. He started his college education at the University of Kansas at 16, before the war sent him into the Navy, where he served as an Electronic Technician’s Mate 2/C. Lundy married Miriam E. Collins in 1947. The G.I. Bill allowed him to attend Columbia, where he earned a B.A. and then an M.A. in English and comparative literature in 1949 from GSAS. Lundy earned a Ph.D. in American literature from UC Berkeley. He taught there as well as at Southern Cal and was a Fulbright lecturer in American studies at the Universita Bocconi in Milan from 1956–58. Lundy joined TRW Space Technology Laboratories in 1960, where he held various positions, including director of communications and public affairs. In 1972, he became v.p. of public relations and advertising for TRW; he retired in 1988. Lundy was a Scoutmaster and member of the School Board of Palos Verdes, Calif., as well as a trustee of the Western Reserve Historical Society of Cleveland, Ohio. He is survived by his wife; sons, Bruce, Douglas, and Gordon and his wife, Jerry; and three grandchildren, including Megan ’08. Memorial contributions may be made to the Oregon Health and Sciences University Foundation.

Roger L. Smith, retired professor, Tampa, Fla., on March 7, 2008. Smith was an Army sergeant and WWII veteran who received three degrees from Columbia, including an M.S. in mathematics (’49E) and a Ph.D. in industrial engineering (’59E). He was a professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and Saint Leo University. He loved boating and celestial navigation and was a member of the Tampa Power Squadron. Smith was active on the University Village resident board as president, v.p. and secretary. He chaired the finance committee and created University Village’s scholarship committee. Smith is survived by his wife of 62 years, Doris; daughter, Sandy Anderson; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Henry Ebel, retired academic, West Hartford, Conn., on April 4, 2008. Ebel was born in Berlin on July 3, 1938, and came to New York when he was three months old. At the College, he concentrated in English and history. Along with his friend, David Rosand ’59, he co-edited *Fest*. Ebel graduated summa cum laude and received a two-year Kellett Grant to study at Cambridge. He earned a Ph.D. in 1965 from GSAS and was a SIFPA international fellow. Between 1976–80, Ebel was editor of *Behavior Today*, a weekly psychiatry newsletter. He returned to academic employment, holding various positions, most notably at the University of Hartford and The George Washington University, until his retirement in 2001. Ebel was the author of several books and numerous essays and articles, including a three-volume anthology compiled by Bernhard Grunewald in 2004. In addition to his wife, Linda Ericson-Ebel, Ebel is survived by a son, Andrew; daughter, Kathy Ebel; and her husband, John.
Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in the next issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.

Erwin T. Michaelson, ob/gyn, Lauderdale, Fla., on April 22, 2008. Michaelson earned a degree in 1935 from F&S.
1933 M. Stephen Schwartz, retired physician, New York City, on March 2, 2008. Schwartz earned a degree in 1937 from F&S.
1939 Floyd A. Swanger, retired metalurgical engineer, Columbus, Ohio, on December 21, 2007. Swanger earned a B.S. and an M.S. in 1940 and 1941, respectively, from the Engineering School.
1947 George W. Cooper, attorney; Stamford, Conn., on May 22, 2008. Cooper earned a degree in 1950 from the Law School. He was his class' CCT Class Notes correspondent for three decades.
1948 Fed Bracilano Sr., retired minister, Columbus, Ohio, on January 27, 2008.
1949 Frank J. Mackain, retired trader and investment adviser, Salt Lake City, Utah, on March 24, 2008.
1951 Jerome J. Botkin, physician, San Francisco, on April 15, 2008.
1959 David Z. Kitay, physician, Ormond Beach, Fla., on March 10, 2008.
1960 Cormac H. Ryan, retired, Dallas, on May 9, 2008.
1963 Bobc C. Vladeck, physician, Monroe, N.Y., on April 19, 2008.
1974 Jeffrey S. Rosecan, physician, St. Louis, Mo., on May 6, 2008. Rosecan earned a degree in 1978 from F&S.
1978 Peter Christopher, professor, Statesboro, Ga., on April 15, 2008.

Arthur J. Spring Jr. ’59

Arthur J. Spring Jr., teacher and scholar, St. Cloud, Minn., on February 29, 2008. Born in Worcester, Mass., on January 15, 1938, Spring grew up in Rhode Island, Virginia, Florida and New York City before graduating from the College with degrees in English and history. He taught high school while earning his master’s in English from Columbia. In 1964, Spring went to Tunisia with the Peace Corps and spent the next seven years traveling around West Africa and the United States, teaching and training new Peace Corps volunteers for service in Tunisia, Togo, Niger and Liberia. Spring earned his Ph.D. in teacher education at the University of North Dakota in 1980 and taught at St. Mary’s College of Minnesota until 1999. As head of an honors program at St. Mary’s, he introduced volunteering with the city’s physically and mentally challenged into the curriculum Spring moved to St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minn., where he was a professor of geography and education. He spent summers teaching at elder hostels. Spring is survived by his wife, Rosamond; 10 children; and six grandchildren.

1941 Emanuel M. Migliorisi, business executive, Sebastian, Fla., on February 20, 2008. Migliorisi was born on March 17, 1939. He earned an M.B.A. from Columbia and was a manager for Westinghouse, Baltimore. Migliorisi was an avid Pittsburg Steelers fan and played for the Westinghouse football, basketball and bowling teams and the Columbia football team. He is survived by his son, Gregory, and his wife. Traditional memorial contributions may be made to the Zambian Children’s Fund, PO Box 750, New York, NY 10131 or The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. 6th St., New York, NY 10003.

Michael Lesch, New York City, cardiologist and medical educator, on March 19, 2008. Lesch was born on June 30, 1939, in Queens. After graduating summa cum laude from the College, he earned a medical degree from Johns Hopkins in 1964 and trained there in internal medicine. Lesch later did research at the National Institute of Mental Health and trained in cardiology at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital (now Brigham and Women’s Hospital). While at Johns Hopkins in the early 1960s, he and his mentor, Dr. William L. Nyhan, discovered a rare disorder known as Lesch-Nyhan syndrome, characterized by frequent episodes of painfully biting fingers and lips and due to a deficiency of the enzyme hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyltransferase, or HPRT. It is incurable. From 1966-68, Lesch worked with the United States Public Health Service, from 1968-76, at Harvard as a chief resident physician; and from 1976-89 as chief of cardiology at Northwestern University Medical School. He then was chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Henry Ford Hospital and Health System in Detroit until he moved to New York. Lesch had been chairman of St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital’s Department of Internal Medicine since 1998 and was John H. Keating Sr., Professor of Medicine at F&S, where he worked to advance physician education and training. Since 1971, he was co-editor of Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases. Lesch is survived by his wife, Bella Samuels Lesch; daughter, Leah; son, Ian; and six grandchildren.

1960 Alexander K.D. Sosik ‘80

Alexander K.D. Sosik, physician, Franklin Square, N.Y., on March 10, 2008. Sosik was born on December 10, 1938, in Manhattan and was raised in Forest Hills. He earned his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Prior to entering medical school in his 30s, Sosik was an expert on insects. Although he developed and patented a number of machines in the medical field, one of which was a breath-activated metered-dose inhaler to automatically dispense medication into the respiratory system area, Sosik’s true love were his car collection and his involvement in automobile clubs: Lincoln of Distinction (Mark VIII’s), International Thunderbirds Club and squarebirds.com (founder). His 1959 Thunderbird “squarebird” was a multiple winner at car shows. He always was involved in automobiles and helped many others on the Web site, at meetings and at car shows. Sosik is survived by his wife, Julie; father, Wasyly; sister, Marianne; two nieces; and many relatives in Germany, Ukraine and the United States. Memorial contributions may be made to Memorial Sloan Kettering Sarcoma Research Fund, PO Box 750, New York, NY 10013 or The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. 6th St., New York, NY 10003.

Lisa Palladino

Lisa Palladino
Sol Fisher ’36 reminisces about a fellow alumnus: “David Cook ’35, an Englishman, came to Columbia in his third year, I believe. He joined the fight (I think with the Brits) against the Franco-Hitler Mussolini fascist insurrection against the elected Republican Government of Spain. In WWII, he served in the British Army as a ‘Leutenant’ in Southeast Asia. Given his choice of relocation, he chose to go to China, where he married the daughter of Canadian missionaries and taught in Beijing Foreign Studies University. After Mao’s death, the ‘Gang of Four’ imprisoned him (and detained his wife in a dorm room), until Chou En-Lai secured his release. In the mid-’90s, he came to Berkeley on leave and visited former missionaries he had known in China. I brought him to meet Milton Wolf, the last commander of the Lincoln Battalion of XV International Brigade, and he went there in a dorm room, until Chou En-Lai secured his release. In the mid-’90s, he came to Berkeley on leave and visited former missionaries he had known in China. I brought him to meet Milton Wolf, the last commander of the Lincoln Battalion of XV International Brigade (American volunteers who fought Franco’s fascist troops in the Spanish Civil War), who then lived near Berkeley. They had each written a book of their experiences in Spain. Wolf’s, A Back of Another Hill: An Autobiographical Novel, was published by the University of Illinois Press. I do not know if Cook is still among the living, or whether his book was published.” [Editor’s note: Cook died on December 1, 2000.]

Melvin Hershkovitz 3 Regency Plaza, Apt. 1001-E Providence, RI 02903 DRMEL23@cox.net

On March 16, Dr. Gerald Klingon, our intrepid retired neurologist, medical historian and classy fielding first baseman, sent me a copy of his Letter to the Editor of CTT, criticizing and disagreeing with the views of Oliver Sacks, professor of neurology and psychiatry, as expressed on page 27 of the March/April issue. According to Gerry, Sacks’ analyses of brain function in relationship to musicophilia and musicophobia may be completely erroneous, and he explains why in his letter [see Letters to the Editor].

In his spare time, Gerry, always an ardent financial and spiritual supporter of Columbia football, keeps me informed on coach Norries Wilson’s recruiting efforts for a brighter future in the Ivy League. Gerry reports that in September we might see 285-lb. and 293-lb. tackles in Columbia uniforms at Wien Stadium.

I am delighted to report that Don Mankiewicz, retired in Monrovia, Calif., after a long career as a novelist, screenwriter, and television writer and producer, received the prestigious Morgan Cox Award from the Writers Guild of America to Don, published in the April issue of the WGAW journal, Written By, was done by his son, John, who has followed in the Mankiewicz family tradition (after grandfather Herman J. Mankiewicz ’17 and uncle Joseph Mankiewicz ’28) as a successful screen and TV writer. John is an executive producer of the popular TV show House M.D., and was on the original creative team for the recently successful TV show New Amsterdam.

Don remains as modest as ever and never boasts about himself, but tells me he is proud of John’s talent, which seems to be part of the Mankiewicz family genetic endowment for brilliant movie and television writing. The official presentation to Don and other honorees was held at the Writers Guild Honorary Awards Luncheon at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles on April 23. The press release about Don’s award summarized his significant film and TV work, including writing the pilots for the long-running TV series Cornerstone and Marcus Welby, M.D.; six TV episodes of Profiles in Courage, with narration by President Kennedy; the screenplay for the film I Want to Live (nominated for an Academy Award); and the novel Trial, which won the Harper Prize in 1958. Don also has been active in the political arena as vice-chair of the Nassau County, N.Y., Democratic Committee and an elected delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1960 (for John F. Kennedy), 1968 (for Robert F. Kennedy) and 1972 (for George McGovern).

Congratulations to Don and son John, and a salute to the extraordinary Mankiewicz family tradition at Columbia!

Connie Maniatty 650 5th Ave., 24th Floor New York, NY 10019 connie.smaniatty@citigroup.com

From Giulio J. D’Angio: “You asked for Class Notes, and here are two for the price of one. My brother, Dr. Carl D’Angio ’41, ‘44 NYU School of Medicine, recently closed his medical office in Mt. Vernon, N.Y., at age 88-plus. He is well except for moderately severe deafness, like me. ‘I am still active at the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Radiation Oncology. I share in...”
Joe is “just coming out of the grieving period” for his wife, Ruth, who died in August 2006, and is “beginning to work on my writing again.” Joe, who retired from The Research Institute of America in 1982, has authored a number of novels, shorter fiction and plays as well as some business books. His major addiction is a biography (planned to be “brief”) on John Adams, on which he has been working on and off since the Sixties. He’s back to it again. “I’m close to the end, but I love the reading and just can’t stop myself doing more and more research.”

Joe, who lives in Southold on the Northern Fork of Long Island, also is “still working part-time at the Seafield Services Alcoholism Outpatient Program in Riverhead, which helps alcoholics and drug addicts recover from their disease. I enjoy the work very much.” The 43-year-old has been working on his night owl lifestyle. “I get up usually in the early afternoon, get ready for work or a meeting, watch a movie when I get home, then settle down at the computer for a few hours to write. Then I read for an hour or two or three before going to bed.” Sure enough, his informative e-mail to your correspondent was timed just before bedtime at 6:09 a.m. Happy dreams, Joe.

And now a note to the rest of you: 44 youngsters. It’s time to wake up and prove we’re still around and to be reckoned with. So send in your news or thoughts.

traditional turkey dinner. These three events make the holiday of Thanksgiving such a special event for me. Further, I think this holiday as a whole has a place (even a prominent later) and gives so much — a four-day weekend. Of course, much is asked of the one preparing the holiday meal, usually the wife. But this situation is as old as the giving of the Ten Commandments on Mt. Sinai some 3,300 years ago.

You will recall the fourth commandment (the third for Roman Catholics and Lutherans, but that is another story) about observing the Sabbath Day. After directing work for six days, the commandments states: “But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy mantservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates” (Exodus 20:8-11). Biblical commentaries do not indicate that the “wife” is omitted from the list of family members directed not to work. To realize the significance of this situation, it should be realized that the Judoce penalty for working on the Sabbath is death (Exodus 35:3). The Sabbath meal was prepared before the holy day, but the meal had to be served, and that was regarded as work. Therefore, this task fell upon the shoulders of the wife, who was exempt from the prohibition of Sabbath work. And, ladies, who might be reading this column, thus has it been ever since. This will be of interest to Columbians steeped in the study of the humanities. Henry David Thoreau makes this statement in Walden:

"I know that Alexander carried the Iliad with him on his expeditions in a precious casket. A written word is the choicest of relics. It is something at once more intimate with us and more universal than any other work of art. It is the work of art nearest to life itself. ... Books are the treasured wealth of the world and the fit inheritance of generation and nations ... Their authors are a natural and irresistible aristocracy in every society, and, more than kings or emperors, exert an influence on mankind." (pages 73 and 5.4). Biblical commentaries ask so little of participants (compared before the holy day, but the meal had to be served, and that was regarded as work. Therefore, this task fell upon the shoulders of the wife, who was exempt from the prohibition of Sabbath work. And, ladies, who might be reading this column, thus has it been ever since. This will be of interest to Columbians steeped in the study of the humanities. Henry David Thoreau makes this statement in Walden:

No questionnaires seeking information for this column were returned by the four honorees to whom they were sent, so I am going fishing for what will follow to give you some reading material. A communication was received from the Rev. Louis W. Pitt Jr. '44 of Bedford, Mass., for the address of George T. Wright Jr., who lives in Tucson, Ariz. I was glad to have, but it requested information, which I sent to Louis along with pleasant memories of being a pre-theological student at the College. In a coincidental way, I told Louis that I had been in his hometown of Bedford for the Thanksgiving Day football game between Bedford and nearby Concord-Carlisle H.S. My wife, Jean, and I were visiting my daughter, Mary Roberts, and her family in Carlisle for the holiday that always includes attendance at the local Thanksgiving eve ecumenical service and the local football game plus the giving is 31.3 by the Class of 1958 with the lowest of 7.8 of a much later class. May I make a request? For class members who do not continue to have a relationship to the College, you must have some reason for not doing so. Would you please inform me of the reason? The report can be anonymous; it should make an interesting little survey.

On a far different note, it was uplifting to have Pope Benedict XVI visit America. Some years ago, while visiting my daughter, Martha '78 SW, in Poland, Jean and I were in an open field outside Sopot in northwestern Poland with literally a million of the faithful for a visit by John Paul II, who passed by in his Popemobile 15 yards away. It was a thrilling experience.

Apropos to the subject, a Catholic friend told me a joke about the Holy Father that you might have heard. The present pope has a driving licence and a license to drive in the Vatican. When he came to America and was being driven from the airport to his place to stay, the pope asked the driver to give him a turn at the wheel. Of course, the driver could not return it, but the pope got stopped for speeding. The officer involved was flabbergasted when he surveayed the situation, leading him to contact the chief of police with this request: “Chief, I have a problem here and need your advice. I have just stopped a car for speeding, and the passenger must be a very important person; he has the pope as his chauffeur.”

Honorees this time to whom class information questionnaires will be sent are Albert S. Beasley of Wes Welcoming, and Robert Colp Jr. of New York City; Robert S. Goldman of New York City; and Joseph M. Stein of Topeka, Kan. May I hear from or about these classmates?

Plan on joining your classmates for lunch in October. Details for the NYC gathering will follow.

Fritz Stern continues to be a highly sought-after speaker. This spring he spoke at an evening event of Columbia Friends of the Libraries. His topic: “Freshman to Emeritus?” Perhaps an appropriate subtitle would be “Columbia — My Life.”

From Memphis, Gordon Mathes '45 e-mailed about the late Dr. Joshua Lederberg '44 saying, “I knew him at College and at F&S. After our second year, he announced to the dean that he was
dropping out of medical school to return to bacteriology. Dean Rappleye offered him a full scholarship to stay on but he said 'No, thanks.' The rest is history — Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine at age 38." Gordon adds, "I am lucky to have been in our College '46 class."

Niel Wald, professor at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health and the School of Medicine, has had a stellar career in radiation medicine, and I asked him to share some of his experiences. Wryly, he commented that his entering this field was predestined because as a child he lived a block away from the Robert Oppenheimer family residence.

A pre-med at the College, Niel went on to NYU School of Medicine. He continues: "I was a M.D. training in internal medicine and hematology when the Korean War came along. My draft board offered an opportunity I could not refuse, and I joined the Air Force as a medical officer. I was sent to Randolph AFB and found I had been requisitioned by the radiology department of the School of Air Force Medicine (SAM), which was doing primate research on radiation effects related to nuclear energy propelled aircraft. I was amazed to meet physicians who really understood physics as more than just a pre-med requirement and learned that a health physics profession existed."

"One year later I got back to New York to marry the girl I left behind. Our honeymoon was a week's drive back to San Antonio, where I dropped her off and headed for a month at Los Alamos."

"Once again at SAM, I met renowned radiation pathologist Dr. Shields Warren, who encouraged me to join the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission (ABC) when my military service was concluded. The challenge to continue my work in radiation was hard to resist, especially when combined with the chance to go to Japan via a three-week sea voyage. Here at last was our belated honeymoon."

"My role as senior hematologist in Hiroshima (1954–57) was to direct and perform the clinical diagnosis of hematological disorders in members of the study population. At the same time, I was a consultant in Hiroshima hospitals and procured medications unavailable in Japan, for their use."

"There were issues at ABC that had not been fully addressed. One was the limitations of the dosimetric information used where, despite elegant individual shielding histories, the relevant dose data were not fully available. My concerns were somewhat alleviated when health physicists from Oak Ridge National Laboratory visited in 1956 and 1957 and began to develop the necessary dosimetry and shielding program."

"Not being an epidemiologist, I was less aware of ABCC's denominator problem, i.e., the preponderance of diagnostic effort going to the fanwell-exposed population as compared to the well and/or underexposed people. Fortunately, a review committee and consultants set the program on an improved scientific course."

"After three years in Japan, my wife and I felt that our two young boys, who were born there, deserved to grow up in their homeland."

Niel went to work at the Oak Ridge Laboratory but felt the need to restore a better balance between clinical and laboratory research and accepted the post of associate research professor at the University of Pittsburgh. He was soon elevated to professor. Niel looks back on all his prior experiences as the main basis for his success in radiobiological research during the past 50 years. The Chernobyl and Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accidents are among events that called upon Niel's expertise.

48

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Along with our year-long trolling for news in general, every once in a while we look for specific memoirs. This month I'm interested in if any class members, aside from me and Dave McConnell, have memories of living at Union Theological Seminary, where Columbia rented the sixth and seventh floors of Hastings Hall at Broadway and 222nd Street for undergraduates beginning in fall 1943. That was when the Navy fully occupied Livingston, Hartley and John Jay. A student, Danny Choy '44, edited a mimeographed newspaper, Seventh Heaven. Send your thoughts to me at one of the addresses at the top of the column.

Allen Ginsberg may be gone, but his influence lives on. The Springfield, Mass., daily, The Republican, did a story on the recent selection of Leslie Newman as poet laureate of the college and had the opportunity to walk through the marketplace of American poetry, is perhaps best known for her 1991 children's book, Heather Has Two Mommies, about a little girl with lesbian parents. Allen, by the way, was a fellow resident of Hastings Hall during the fall, winter and spring of 1943–44.

Merrill went back to CBS as "pushing scenery for movie biographies on the greats of the dance world and on playwright Tennessee Williams. Entries on Google, which present excerpts of his work, describe him as "a master filmmaker who trusts the dancing" and "a legend in dance presentation."

Merrill also gives a hand to the College Admissions Office by interviewing applicants from the Santa Fe area. We were saddened to learn of the death of Lyn Bergeson, wife of Ed Bergeson, of Portland, Ore., and a fellow of the Orchises Press, is available at Amazon.com.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

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CCT is sorry to report that George Cooper, Class of '47 class correspondent for three decades, passed away on May 22, 2008. An obituary is scheduled for the September/October issue. We thank George for his many years of service and welcome Bert Susman as the new correspondent. Send news to him at 155 W. 68th St., Apt. 27D, New York, NY 10023 or shirbrt@nyc.rr.com.

Dan Hoffman shared some news with CCT: "My editing and writing the preface for Over the Summer Water, by my late wife, Elizabeth McFarland, has led to her poems being reprinted in several online anthologies and featured in the spring online magazine www.percontra.net and in Crossroads, the former Journal of The Young Society of America. As poetry editor of The Ladies' Home Journal (1948–61), she published the major and the most promising younger poets of the period — Auden, Marianne Moore, Mark Van Doren, Maxine Kumin, Sylvia Plath, Donald Hall and many others. Her book, from Orchises Press, is available at Amazon.com.

47

Columbia College Today
JULY/AUGUST 2008
34
“living the lone life after 58 years of marriage” is not easy, “but fortunately Portland is a friendly and vibrantly liberal city in which to survive.”

Ed has not lost his zest for politics. He puts in a plug for Barack Obama ‘83. (For those who might not remember: CCT profiled Obama in its January 2005 issue, right after his November election to the Senate. A prescient article? It was titled, “Is He the New Face of the Democratic Party?”)

We also were saddened to see the names of three classmates in the Obituaries section of the May / June issue: David Portz of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., died on August 30; John M. Miner of Santa Monica, Calif., on February 11; and Roger L. Smith of Tampa, Fla., on March 7. Some ‘49ers will remember David as a member of the Rifle Club, the University Christian Association and the Delta Chi Fraternity B.S. He retired in 1990 from the Engineering School. John, a retired insurance executive, belonged to the University Christian Association and to Beta Theta Pi. Roger had an M.S. (1949) and a Ph.D. (1959) from Engineering. [See Obituaries.] Our condolences go out to their families.

If all has gone according to schedule, Bob DeMaria is currently enjoying the cooling Mediterranean breezes in the village of Deia on the island of Mallorca, where he goes every summer. Bob’s Vineyard Press has half a dozen expatriate authors the Mediterranean Institute, a year of younger men. Bob carries a torch enjoying the cooling Mediterranean of classmates. Frank Mackain left their families and when we must note the passing is based upon its twin commitments of inclusiveness and excellence. Quigley noted this year’s applications for College admission exceeded 19,000 and only 1,600, and families with incomes between $60,000 will be eliminated, and families with incomes below $60,000 and $100,000 will have their parental contributions significantly reduced. April 12 brought Dean’s Day once again to the Morningside campus. In his opening remarks, Dean Austin Quigley reiterated that Columbia’s national standing is based upon its twin commitments to inclusiveness and excellence. Quigley noted this year’s applications for College admission exceeded 19,000 and only 1,600, and families with incomes between $60,000 and $100,000 will have their parental contributions significantly reduced.

Good news for students and families. In case you missed the announcement, Columbia announced in March that student loans will be replaced by grants across all income bands; parental contributions for families with incomes below $60,000 will be eliminated, and families with incomes between $60,000 and $100,000 will have their parental contributions significantly reduced.

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Wealthy people are not the only ones to "owe money to the state." Anyone who file...
reached 75, I am ready to reestablish some contact with the University, particularly with our class. My biography is that I live in the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C., with my wife, Lois. I have two daughters and a son. I retired from teaching in 2003, and I am a professor emeritus in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park. I am the author of two textbooks.

Welcome back, Bruce. We look forward to seeing you at our next reunion.

Bruce King and his wife live in Paris overlooking Canal Saint Martin. They were in Bellagio, Italy, during February, as Bruce had a Rockefeller Fellowship to work on his next book on Indian literature. His book on Robert Graves will be published this year.

Max Fisher has been battling cancer for the past two years. An article published this week tells fortuitously that he is enjoying good health.

George Dallas became another "go west, young man" classmate. George and his wife, Norma, moved to Albuquerque, N.M., in 2006. He has been working with a prominent commercial banking. They and their daughter, Melissa '93, are involved in their community, with George a trustee of the N.M. Symphony Orchestra as well as of Albuquerque International Association and the Albuquerque Committee on Foreign Relations.

I hear from Peter Ehrenhaft, for whom I am grateful, and he fairly often writes news about himself and classmates. His last epistle included an article he had written for The College Group Commercial Society Quarterly Newsletter, which included a picture of President Harry Truman, Roy Schotland and Peter Schotland. Roy was law clerk to Justice William Brennan and Peter was senior law clerk to Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Please share news of yourself with our classmates. You would be surprised at the number of Bicentennial Class members who enjoy hearing from you.

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Columbia makes sure there is enough intellectual stimulation either in Morningside Heights or in the rest of the world. (Is there a world beyond Columbia?) Locally, Professor Henry Graff, at the head of the Westchester Columbia Club, gave a strong lecture on "The Plight of the Presidency" at West Point a couple of months ago. Professor Graff gets better and better with each dissertation. On campus there was a revisiting of the esteemed legacy of Jack Kerouac '44 for the fourth consecutive year in events held in Buell Hall, Philosophy and Butler's Rare Book and Manuscript Library — "How! A Celebration of the Beats." Renowned Professor Kenneth Jackson will be giving alumni a tour in the Ukraine at the end of the summer and as part of the Travel Study Program, Professor Thomas Bernstein will be taking a huge group of people to China in the latter part of '08. "From Beijing to the Yunnan Province." If you haven't made your reservations, there is an element of urgency to do so — spaces are going quickly. Allen Hyman (Manhattan) and Myron Liptzin (Chapel Hill, N.C.) have taken part in Travel Study Programs and have had a lot of feedback overseas. Recently, as part of the Café Society series held monthly at Picnic Restaurant, a dozen blocks from College Walk, physicist Alberto Nicolas talked about "Dark Energy and Dark Matter — The Convent's Soup's Secret Ingredients" to a big-time crowd of scientists and non-scientists alike.

As for physical activity, the annual Columbia Community Out-reach was held around the world in late spring. Alumni, students, administrators etc. went into local communities to work on special projects designed to improve neighborhoods. More than 1,000 people joined this effort in the New York City area alone. The 114th Annual Varsity Show was once again a huge success. This year, the various group of undergraduates did not hold back — nobody was spared the biting humor from the performers, the writers and the producers. Once again, there was no Pony Ballet, Dave Weiss, the group may resurface, however.

Where are our classmaters and what are they doing?

Santa Monica's Al Ginepra, whose daughter set a world record for traveling for Human Rights Watch in 2007 (many cities at the corners of the world in less than a year), confesses that, although he won the Class of 1913 Cup twice for highest grades on the football team, he now feels that Ed Botwinick '56 should have been the winner in 1954. (Is Al thinking of returning the cup — any cup to Ed?) Abe Ashkenazi, who resides in Berlin, was in New York City recently to attend his son's musical about Mark Twain. Abe had a peripatetic year, which included guest appearances in many venues. Dean's Day has come and gone and the Class of '55 (once again) had the most people attending the stimulating and sometimes provocative lectures — from Long Island were Larry Balfus and Herman Okoan. Taking the lead on campus were Chuck Solomon, Don Lauffer, Aaron Hamburger, Elliott Gross and Bob Brown, representing New Jersey was Bob Pearman '55E, from upstate New York came Herb Finkelstein and driving down the New England Turnpike from Connecticut, Paul Frank. What do Paul, Norm Robbins and Ted Baker have in common besides being part of Columbia College's most esteemed class? They all went to Forest Hills H.S. (in Queens), Norm lives in Cleveland and is professor emeritus at Case Western Reserve University. Ted (the old sprinter) is a private tutor in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Along the East Coast in McLean, Va., lives John Pearman, retired vice president of the government for Mobil Oil, and in Maryland, Jack Swanson, also retired, as an analyst with the CIA. A little further south in Chapel Hill, N.C., Myron Liptzin, mentioned earlier in this column, is a clinical professor at the UNC School of Medicine.

Always have to give a plug to athletics, especially when the news is good or great. The baseball team won its division in the Ivy League, the team to last step before going to the NCAA tournament. (First time in more than 15 years.) [See story in this issue.] At the division clincher were Jack Freeman and a couple of his cronies, Charlie Brown '56 and Paul Taormina '56. We missed the start of the year — Dave Suppert, the crafty left-hander living in Florida, Tony Palladino, in Florida, Ben Kaplan, Manhattan, and Walt Deupla '56 from way out west. The heavyweight crew won the Blackwell Cup for the first time in more than 65 years, with the win with a strong Yale boat. Did we hear those cheers from John LaRosa, Bob Hanson, Bill Mink, Terry Dornmus, Dan Hovey and Bob Banz? It's been a long time coming.

On the West Coast, Jim Hudson is the new Dir. — how did Jim arrive at this age so fast? We keep up our monthly class lunches during the colder weather at Faculty House or the Columbia/Princeton Club (Columbia always first). During the warmer weather we try to go to classmates' country clubs, where there can be tennis and golf in addition to lunch and, we think, good conversation. We are a rotating group of 15-20 depending on who can make it, and would be overjoyed to have more of you join us. Nor on Apr. 22 (did you want to attend the annual Dean's Day, with some female participation. Attending
were Steve Easton, Jerry Fine, Ralph Kaslick, Ralph Longsworth, Ray Sherman, Bob Stroy and Stan Soren. Lenny Wolfe was registered but needed unexpected bypass cardiac surgery — he is doing well. Dean’s Day is really fun and educational. More of you should consider joining us. I went to three lectures picked from of a choice of about 18 and really enjoyed myself with discussions of art, the Core Curriculum and the Presidential campaign.

Jerry Fine and his wife, Barbara, recently went to D.C. to hear their son, Doug, talk at National Geographic about his new and second book, Farewell, My Subaru: An Epic Adventure in Local Living. A serious environmentalist, Doug moved to New Mexico in 2005 and has developed a largely oil-free lifestyle, which included ditching his Subaru and converting to a carbon-neutral, vegetable oil-powered vehicle. He lives on the Funky Butte Ranch with chickens, ducks and goats, and coyotes trying to interfere with his livestock. He has certainly lived in a life after graduating from Stanford and being a journalist in many war zones, and living in Alaska for five years, which led to his first book, Not Really an Alaskan Mountain Man, and writing, lecturing and also contributing to NPR. His girlfriend, Amanda, who was expected to deliver their first child in June, has joined him in this interesting lifestyle. Who can predict what our children will be doing in 2050? I’m sure the music of the times will be heard in our grandchildren. If anyone has great kids, please let me know. I’d love to meet them. And if you have a great day, please let me know. I’d love to hear about it.

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Marty Fisher: “On March 19, 14
hardy souls braved a bad NYC
rainstorm to visit the University
Club for our bimonthly luncheon.
Jon Lubin was in town from
Pasadena, Calif. We reminisced
about our rock ’n’ roll roommate,
George Randall Scott, from Roscoe,
Pa. George ... was far ahead of
his time in his musical taste. Little
did I realize in 1954, when Alan Freed
was the only R ’n’ R deejay in NYC
and Bill Haley’s Rock Around the
Clock was the only [rock] movie.
The movie was supposed to in-
dicate the immaturity of the rock
music boom in 1953. We all know
now that rock would take over the
musical and pop cultural scene for
the remainder of the decade, and
beyond ... I thought it was just a
passing fad ... but I didn’t GET the
Beatles ... I’ll take rap anytime!
I also chatted with Joe Diamond,
who invited me to his Millbrook
country retreat in 2012 (yes, 2012).
Like Mr. Blandings, it may take Joe
that long to rebuild his dream house
to his liking ... or maybe he just
wants to delay my visit.

“Here is the cast of [the other]
characters: Bob Klipstein, Dave
Kinne, Carlos Muñoz, Ted Dwyer,
Martin Brothers, Stan Barnett
(from Rhode Island), Bob Fleischer
(from West Hartford, Conn.), Ed
Weinstein, Paul Zola and Sal
Franchino.”

Marty also noted the death of
Harry Marks: “What a wonderful
guy! I still hear the scars received
when he met me, along with
about 17 other hyper-ambitious
freshmen, for fresh class president
in 1953.” Classmates may wish
to send condolences to Harry’s
widow, Marcia, at 226 Wilshire,
Corpus Christi, TX 78411, or phone
361-853-9904.

Amie Nachmanoff noted of
Harry: “I was glad to see Harry
at our [50th] reunion last year.
We talked on the phone a couple of
times [in February 2008]. Harry
was in good humor, telling me
about his daughter’s recent wedd-
ing and kidding about politics.
He was a good guy and good
friend going back to Freshman
Orientation in 1953, and I’m sure
we will all miss him.”

Steve Ronai said of him: “Harry
was a stalwart and a fine guy, and
my experiences with him were part of the
foundation of the education and the
life that he helped me build.”

Steve is embarking “on a new
career in sustainability, consistent
with my continued tenure as Of Counsel
to Murtha Cullina, as I will be pro-
viding mediation and arbitration services as a qualified Commercial
Panel member of the American
Arbitration Association’s National
Roster of Neutrals and as a certi-
fied member of the American
Health Lawyers Association’s
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Service. My affiliation as a neutral
mediator and arbitrator, with the
administrative assistance of these
two organizations, will provide me
with a procedural framework in
which I can draw upon my 35
years of health care regulatory and
transactional experience to bring
provider (physicians, hospitals and
nursing homes) and payer contro-
versies to a practical, prompt and
cost-efficient non-litigation resolu-
tion.” Steve’s contact information is
2 Whitney Ave., 4th Floor, PO Box
704, New Haven, CT 06503-0704,
203-772-7712, fax 203-772-7723.

Robert T. Kossler, finance and busi-
ness executive, died in Towanda,
Pa., on February 13. [An obituary
will be published in a future issue.]

On April 13, yours truly attended
a panel discussion in Washing-
ton, D.C., during the American
Society of Newspaper Editors/
Newspaper Association of America
Conference, ELECTION ’08: Cov-
ering the Presidential Campaign.
Panelists were Professor Tom
Eddsall, Journalism School; James
Rosen ’80j, McClatchy Newspapers;
Michael Scherer ’02j, Time; and
Katharine Sellee ’78j, The New
York Times.

Barry Dickman
arbitrary choice as the judge’s lawyer; they have a history, going back to when Bernie was editor-in-chief of Spectator and the judge was Judy Smith ‘58 Barnard, editor of Barnard Bulletin.

After a long career as a social worker, Sid Jones has retired; he and his wife, Yolanda, now live just outside Charlotte, N.C. The next issue will include a report on our 50th reunion.

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month, in the Grill Room of the Princeton/Columbia Club, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). E-mail Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

59

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GW President Emeritus Emeritus and University Professor of Public Service Stephen Joel Trachtenberg received the 2008 Allen F. Spieles Award for Outstanding Service from the Council of Independent Colleges. He has also been selected as a recipient of the 2008 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. The medal was presented on Ellis Island on May 10.

Ray LaRaja reports that, “After 40-plus years of general surgery, running a residency program and being chairman of a surgery department, I have retired at last! I still maintain my professorship in surgery at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, where I teach medical students in surgery from time to time.

“My wife, Adriana, and I have been doing some exciting traveling since my retirement. Last year we went to Southeast Asia to include Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. You can, I think, imagine the emotional impact I sustained revisiting Vietnam, where I served as a busy Army surgeon in 1968–69 — a totally different world now, and believe or not, they now love Americans. We will never forget watching eight or nine hotels was incredible. We will decide to live there — a marvelous trip to India, of all places!”

In 1981 I was hired to shoot a film on a pilot project in California for a specialized method of disposing of municipal waste. It was basically a gasification system using a process called destructive distillation, which was both energy efficient and ecologically far cleaner than incineration. I thought so much of the system that I started trying to get the towns on Long Island interested in investigating the process. Eventually, I arranged to form my own company and became the exclusive Long Island distributor. For the next 10 years, I spent most of my time trying to overcome the political barriers that the very well financed incinerator industry put up to stop us. Again, I won’t go into detail, but it is true that we came very close a number of times, but in the end we were never able to break through and get a plant on line.

“Toward the end of 2003 we sold the last house in Greenport and moved up to Maine full-time. I began designing a timber frame home with the waterfront land in Stonington, and we started construction in the beginning of 2004. I became the general contractor, as well as carpenter, hired a number of subcontractors, and the house was mostly finished by the late fall. My wife’s son moved into the Blue Hill property. I created a small organic farm in Sedgwick, growing mostly for our own use, but selling some vegetables and fruit. We have done some exciting travel — a totally different world now, and was doing the renovations. We became lovers, and one day she asked me if I minded if my bills were paid by a woman. Since I had no objection, she asked me to give up the house I was renting and move in with her house was a Spanish-Victorian that was at the time being used as a two-family house with the upstairs rented out. It needed a great deal of work to bring it back to its earlier glory, and I set to work to convert it. Meanwhile, we took turns in Maine to explore, and after going up and down every peninsula from Harpswell to Eastport, we decided we liked the Blue Hill Peninsula best. In 2000, she traded two other rental houses she had for two pieces of land in Maine — a 14-acre piece in Blue Hill and a 14-acre piece in Blue Hill that had an almost-complete cottage and a partially complete barn.

“‘And that’s where things stand now. I’m fighting to retain half of the farm property, and half of the value of the Stonington house. The Stonington land is worth about $1.5M. There’s no question totally hers, as is the Blue Hill property, except for the rental income this past year, and any improvements done since 2002. And as I said at the beginning, at the age of 69, after spending the last 10 years working to build a comfortable, beautiful place to spend the rest of my days, along with what I thought was a very sharing wife, I will have to start life all over with every little in the way of equity or income, and so, in this not the best of economic times I will be looking for a way to make a living — preferably something where I can make use of my ecologic background to do something meaningful that will aid in the greening of the planet.”

Dr. Stephen M. Schain has been nominated for the Jean R. Oliver Master Teacher Award in Pathology by the Alumni Association, College of Medicine, SUNY Downstate Medical Center. The award is given to those who have demonstrated a life-long interest in teaching.

During his professional career, Bruce has taught medical students, interns, residents, medical technology students and fellow pathologists via lecture, at the microscope and by precept. He has been an inspector and South Carolina governor for the College of American Pathologists’ Laboratory Inspection and Accreditation Program. This program is a clinical laboratory education and inspection system that guides prompt, accurate and appropriate testing of patient specimens.

Bruce also has been director
of laboratories for the Greenville Hospital System and Pathology Associates of Greenville, Pa. He is teaching digital photography in Furman University’s “Learning in Retirement” and “Lifelong Learning” programs.

Frederick Lober reports that, “I’m doing consulting work for the Naval Postgraduate School. Established in 1909, NPS is the world’s largest and most prestigious defense-oriented institution. “Being at the school and meeting the young men and women who have chosen careers in the military, I realize that the war in Iraq and the inept civilian leadership of the military has presented a very biased public image of the military. Protecting safety and well-being at home and abroad has always been an honorable profession. I was thinking of writing a Class Note about this. For example, the resistance to ROTC and military on-campus recruitments is stupid. A military career is honorable (and, in fact, necessary), as good a place to start for IBM or Shearson Lehman.”

From Peter Birnbaum we learn that his “…oldest daughter, Saivya, recently gave birth to a perfect little girl, Lily Nirmalya Ann Wheeler. She seems to have an endless repertoire of funny lively facial expressions.” An observation from “the doting grandfather.”

Joe Calarco: “I’m on sabbatical this semester, writing, and will be going to work for IBM or Shearson Lehman.”

Al Smith reports that, “After Columbia, I spent seven years in the Navy. Last two in D.C.; did graduate work in economics at night. Turned down an opportunity to command a ship going to the South China Sea where things were heating up. “Instead, took a job at North Carolina National Bank in the management program, which meant commanding a 10-key adding machine. Worked up to chief economist of what was, by then, NationsBank Corp. Moved over to interest rate risk management before the advent of CDOs or CDOs squared. Retired just before the bank became Bank of America. Currently fish the Outer Banks of North Carolina and the Great Barrier Reef, grow numerous long leaf pine trees and invest.

“Married, divorced and remarried. Oldest son 49, youngest daughter 15. None yet at Columbia but one more chance.”

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The first Thursday in October — October 2 to be precise — with the promise of the delights of autumn, brisk and refreshing breezes and trees adorned with multi-hued foliage, may seem light-years away as we await with trepidation the dog days of summer, but it is not so distant that it can be disregarded. If you happen to have misplaced the hold-the-date notice from the Alumni Office, mark that date on your calendar, and if you are at all ambitious and so inclined, plan to attend the class lunch at the Columbia Club at noon. It is then that we will begin in earnest to discuss the events for our 50th reunion. The reunion committee, in coordination, and the participation of every member of the class is encouraged and valued. If you wish to be involved, to whatever extent your time and interest permit, please e-mail me at the address at the top of the column. In the event of your inability to directly be involved with the reunion committee, there will be a Web site dedicated to matters pertaining to the reunion that will make information available to all.

For many members of the class, a 70-year old milestone is close at hand. Art Delmont reported that he attended a celebration of Miles McDonald’s 70th birthday in March. Miles practices law in Connecticut. Customarily, April 1 is the day on which to expect the unexpected, a day to be approached with caution. But for Bob Berne, this April 1 was a day he happily anticipated and one that was filled with joy. Bob’s daughter, Elizabeth, presented him with a grandson, Frederick. Bob is now blessed with a grandson and a granddaughter.

On March 21 received a phone message from Mike Hein that shook me to the core. In a voice cracking with emotion, Mike advised that Mike Lesch had died in his sleep the night before while on a fishing trip in Argentina. It was not that long ago that the three of us had gotten together for lunch and to catch up on our lives. If Mike was aware of any condition that might abbreviate his stay on Earth, he betrayed no sign. For months and even days before, he spoke of his work as chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital; of his family, his wife Bella Samuels Lesch, daughter, Leah, son Ian, and his six grandchildren; and of his passion for fishing, which for him was an annual solo indulgence that took him to Alaska, Brazil and wherever the fish presented a challenge. He spoke of his plans to take time off to fish in Patagonia. And of course we reminisced on our undergraduate experiences and the escapades that have become more humorous and embellished with the passage of time.

Mike’s untimely death ended a brilliant medical career. Mike was chief of cardiology at Northwestern’s Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago and then chairman of the Department of Medicine at the Henry Ford Hospital and Health System in Detroit before assuming his position at St. Luke’s-Roosevelt. Perhaps one of his most important contributions to the profession was as a medical educator. At St. Luke’s-Roosevelt, Mike supervised more than 200 residents and fellows each year in one of the largest teaching programs of medicine in the country. Mike Hein would tease me, however, that notwithstanding his continuing enduring work in his medical maturity, he would forever be remembered for his work on a rare hereditary disorder that he identified as a medical student. Indeed, the good-natured ribbing was somewhat prophetic as 2 1/2 of the top 10 columns of the obituary could not be directly involved with the reunion committee, there will be a Web site dedicated to matters pertaining to the reunion that will make information available to all.

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Glenn has five grandchildren, and the oldest will be off to college this fall after being selected Homecoming Queen at the largest public coed high school in Ohio. Glenn enjoys golf, college basketball and being treasurer of the largest nonprofit organization youth baseball organization in the tri-state area (30,000 kids). He enjoyed meeting Bill Campbell ’62 last year when Bill was in Cincinnati to kick off the $4 billion capital campaign.

For the fourth consecutive year, “Super Lawyers,” in conjunction with New Jersey Monthly magazine, selected both Ed McCreedy and his son, Jim, as “a super lawyer.” Ed thinks they’re the only father/son selections in the state. Ed has also been selected as a “Top 100” lawyer in the state for the third consecutive year by the same people.

Morrow Wilson conceived and performed the “Bovine Bystander Night” show at Coward 101. The show is directed by Rue McClanahan, Morrow’s wife. It is an hour of songs and gius from the “master” who seized the imagination of the 20th century and defined high style for generations. It was presented Tuesday and Thursday and in September, October, and November. The show started on Tuesday at the Main Stage and in April at the National Arts Club. On May 12, the show started at the Oak Room at the Algonquin Hotel on West 44th Street, where it ran through June.

Allan J. Schwartz Ph.D., associate professor of psychiatry and senior staff psychologist at the University of Rochester’s University Counseling Center, has been selected by the American College Health Association as the recipient of the Clifford B. Reifler Award for 2008. Dr. Schwartz was selected both last year as the ACHA annual meeting in June in Orlando. The award recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions to the Journal of American College Health, the defining journal in the field in the United States. Allan was cited for his long and distinguished service as the journal’s statistical editor.

An ACHA fellow since 1976, this is the second major award Allan has received from it. In 1995, he received the Edward Hitchcock award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of College Health.” This award recognized his scholarship, particularly in respect to suicide among students at U.S. colleges and universities. Allan is a nationally recognized expert in this area and the author of two recent publications on this topic.

During our annual ski trip to Copper Mountain in March, we again had the opportunity to spend an enjoyable week and ski with Dennis and Alex Liebowitz. The second annual Bob Rennick birthday get-together (a tradition since 2007) was canceled due to inclement weather but we did get a chance to visit Bob and Lisa in Colorado Springs on the drive home. Lisa is recovering nicely from knee replacement surgery and hopes to be skiing again next season.

On a sad note, I learned that Manny Migliorisi passed away in Sebastian, Fla., on February 20. [See Obituaries.]

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Mma culpa encore! A week before writing this, my hard drive expired, and I was not fully backed up. Consequently, I lost all the e-mails you sent to me in February, March and April. If you were good enough to have written, please resubmit your message. I promise to save it and submit it for a future issue.

By the way. I recently visited Columbia with my son, Abe, who is a junior in high school. Both he and I were tremendously impressed. The campus looks lovely. The lobby of Hamilton Hall, where you may remember a pall of tobacco smoke and walls of a complementary shade, is now fresh and bright, decorated with College memorabilia. Abe and I were even more impressed by four other matters: (1) Nearly 30 percent of the undergraduate student body self-identify as people of color; and even a brief stroll along College Walk makes that clear. (2) All first-year students and a majority of undergraduates live in the dorms facing the campus; (3) The schedule of classes is every second Thursday of the month at the Columbia Club in Manhattan.

I was more — strengthening the union's success. We did much more — strengthening the union’s financial reporting and transparancy, putting it on a firm financial footing and undertaking important programmatic initiatives including a major social justice advocacy initiative, Just Congregations, expanding the union’s camping system, which serves 10,000 children, and publishing a widely used new curriculum for our religious schools. It was a productive four years for me and I believe for the union.

“All four years for me and I believe for the union. “On April 30, I was awarded an honorary doctorate, Doctor of Humane Letters, by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform Jewish seminary and the academic center of progressive Jewish thought in North America, in recognition of my service to the Reform Movement, including my work as chair of the union.”

Congratulations, Bob! I’ve added a link on the www.ccf3ers.com Web site with the college’s announcement and a photograph of you.

Mark H. Willes has joined the board of directors of AxisPointe, a leader in facility asset management and outsourced post-construction customer service. Mark is chairman of the board for the Polytechnic Cultural Center in Laie, Hawaii, and is a director of Black & Decker.

David Pittinsky writes, “I have been for 40 years, and continue to be at 65, a commercial litigator.”

Harley Frankel reports that College Match, the mentoring organization that he founded and directs (www.collegematchla.org; see March/April), has had an extraordinarily successful year, “All 100 percent of our low-income seniors got into a top-ranked college. We did especially well at Columbia College, with five kids getting in. Three have enrolled and will be on campus in the fall.”

John Ake writes, “I’ve returned from a month teaching law in Estonia (which I’ll describe in a future e-mail) and I’m now catching up with work at the office so my attention will now be primarily a function of how far underwater I was at the end of May.”

John, I hope you made it!

Keep in touch and let your classmates know what you’re up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

Norman Olch
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I’ve been nursing a torn meniscus in my left knee. Many thanks to Nick Rudd, who pinch-hit for me — and took notes — at the informal class lunch, which is held every second Thursday of the month at the Columbia Club in Manhattan.

Recent lunch attendees were Steve Case, Marty Isserlis, Gil Kahn, Fred Kantor, Larry Kessler and Beril Lapson, who is back from one of his frequent business trips to Turkey.

Michael Gunter, in New York for an academic conference, stopped by for lunch. Mike is a professor of political science at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville, Tenn., where he specializes in the history, culture and mores of the Kurds.

His son Steven’s political science at Rollins in Florida.

For the past seven years Mike has spent May and June teaching at the International University. As I write this column, Mike sent an e-mail from Vienna with greetings to classmates he met in lunch.

Marty Isserlis brought one of his College fraternity brothers, Eliot Kornberg, to lunch. Eliot was in New York visiting his daughter, son-in-law and 2-year-old granddaughter. Eliot’s son and daughter-in-law live in Northern California with their other 2-year-old granddaughter.
Elliot has retired from the practice of general surgery in Cocoa Beach, Fla., where he and his wife live in a penthouse that overlooks the beach and has a view of the launches from the Kennedy Space Center. Last year they traveled to China, India and Bhutan, where Elliot could indulge his photography hobby.

Nick reports that Elliot “spoke with awe” of the road traffic in India. While in College and in medical school, Elliot was a Teamster truck driver delivering Keebler cookies, but he had never seen anything like a two- or three-lane highway in India: trucks, cars, bicycles, scooters, ox-carts, cows, pedestrians and anything else that moves.

Bob Friedman received a John Jay Award in March. Attending the awards dinner were Joe Ellis, Nick Rudd, Allan Spelling and Peter Thall. Nick reports: “Bob was the star speaker of the evening, cracking jokes about the low tuition we paid compared with today’s rates, and speaking without notes but to great effect.” Bob is the chief legal officer of the Blackstone Group.

Steve Rosenfield will retire at the end of this year after 51 years as a litigator at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York. He will continue to chair the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board and the Board of Visitors of the Law School at CUNY. Beginning in spring 2009, he will teach a course in government ethics at the Law School.

Steve’s daughter Kathy, a freelance writer and editor, was married in Chicago in June. His daughter Liz, a video and performance artist, is headed to Berlin, where she will make a documentary film. Steve writes that after the death of his wife, Naomi, from leukemia, “I have been blessed by a wonderful new love and marriage to the fairest of women, who has given me boundless joy — and four instant grandchildren.”

If you are in New York visiting, be sure to join us for lunch on the second Thursday of the month at the Columbia Club.

John Sexton, and believe you me, Ed has been blessed by a wonderful new love and marriage to the fairest of women, who has given me boundless joy — and four instant grandchildren.

Don Bachman. A few weeks later, I had lunch with another Boston area classmate — physician Allen Steele. Allen invited me to join him in his research lab office in the Charlestown Navy Yard, an area with buildings that go back to the Revolutionary era. Allen has two other offices, including one at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he sees patients every week. Allen is doing cutting-edge research into the nature and adding to its power.

Cliff Geertz was the sponsor of my work in Morocco. His final academic position was chairman of the School of Social Sciences at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, which he occupied until his death late last year. In 1979, Cambridge University Press published 72 pages of my photos, according them their own chapter in his *Mandingo and Order in Moroccan Society: Three Essays in Cultural Analysis*. This usage was, in some ways, unprecedented. The chapter was designed by Bea Feitler, renowned art director of *Harper’s Bazaar* and *Rolling Stone* and a major force in Annie Leibovitz’s development. I was privileged to have her ‘eyes’ and graphic design skills.

“…my success. I entered the field as a commercial photography career, I realized that I would be a lot happier and have a lot more freedom artistically outside the world of commercial photography....”

“Several years ago, to resolve the conflict with artistic freedom and the need to make a living, I formed my own licensed real estate consulting firm, PHP Realty Services. Our vertically integrated program includes time spent in Vietnam. In August 1964, when the news of the attack on U.S. ships in the Gulf of Tonkin broke, I was sharing a Quonset hut in the Northern Virginia woods with 40 other officer candidates. On a sweltering evening, excitement crackled in the air as we wondered, only half-jokingly, whether the Marine Corps would let us return to Vietnam. Within six months, President Johnson ordered Marine officers in Vietnam and oppose the NVA.”

In my last column, I mentioned that while I was in Boston for radiation treatment, I met up with Don Bachman. A few weeks later, I had lunch with another Boston area classmate — physician Allen Steele. Allen invited me to join him in his research lab office in the Charlestown Navy Yard, an area with buildings that go back to the Revolutionary era. Allen has two other offices, including one at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he sees patients every week. Allen is doing cutting-edge research into the
links between infectious agents and the triggering of autoimmune diseases, particularly rheumatoid arthritis. His work is so cutting-edge and fascinating, and he is so clearly at the peak of his professional game, that I asked him about his plans. We talked about the role of work in our lives and the plans we are making to continue or change our work. Noting that some of his friends and colleagues have had their careers interrupted by illnesses, Allen also pointed out that some of the senior researchers in his laboratories are in their 90s. He is essentially thinking about his future in five-year blocks.

I would like to hear from more of you about your insights and plans from the perspective of the middle of our seventh decade. What plans are you making to continue your work, to change your work or to put your work behind you? The rest of us will be interested to hear from you.

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David Dorenfeld writes, "Here’s a brief summary of what’s happened to me during the past 40 years. After graduating from Columbia and being drafted into the Army, I got my master’s in economics from the University of Michigan. My Russian studies at Columbia were helpful. The Army gave me training by an interrogator, and because of my Russian language skills, sent me to Germany instead of Vietnam. Since there were not too many Russians in Germany at the time, the Army taught me German and sent me to live and work in a beautiful civilian-statutory setting in Bavaria doing liaison work with the German border police. "After leaving the Army, I returned to Ann Arbor, finished the coursework for my Ph.D. and completed the thesis while teaching at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. I then moved on to a job in Toronto as a staff economist with Imperial Oil, Exxon’s Canadian affiliate, and eventually became chief economist there. Later, after assignments at Exxon in Houston and New York, and eventually moving to Dallas, I ended up in Houston as the head of the economics group of Exxon, U.S.A. My work was mainly in support of the attorneys for litigation-related economic issues and in developing and communicating company positions on public policy. One of my more interesting assignments was the Exxon Valdez civil litigation. Not only was this case unusually complex and interesting, but I also had the chance to be in Alaska from March to October 1989. This experience truly has a fleeting moment of fame to me in the world of our history. My wife, Kathy, and I are selling our Glen Rock, N.J., home now that our son is off to school, and ultimately relocating to Ocean Grove, N.J., down by the Jersey shore. I am looking forward to spending time with old friends at their various expensive vacation homes, while I follow up on my lifelong avocation of counseling troubled and attractive young women. I recommend that you come and join the "next-to-last" reunion, and I hope you come and join the next-to-last reunion, and I hope you will do it."

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I was e-mailing and calling folks for the reunion — that is my excuse for this no-news column. I have some news that I will hold for the next issue. It now looks like we will have had a larger turnout possibly by a mile than our last one. David Shapiro will have spoken at our dinner and we will have had a grand time. I would like to try to report on the reunion ... I hope that the bio that folks sent in will go to out the class. They are fascinating, [at the time of this writing], Frank Costello is coming in from Los Angeles, Bob Carlson from Sitka, Alaska, Paul Bronson from Virginia, Bill Hendrich from Texas, Phil Mandelker from Israel, Chris Friedrichs and Alan Weiss from Canada and Steve Pierce from Texas. I think Tony Kao will make it in from Tokyo, too. I hope John Tait makes it in from Idaho, or hot water for him. Art Schmidt, I believe, will make it in from Seattle, and so many others. I am amazed at how far ahead we were in numbers of signups with a month to go, so it could be an extraordinary turnout. I was looking forwarding to seeing many of you for the first time in 40 years. I hope you will have had a great spring and a fun reunion. Hope all is well with you.

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I asked Hilton Obenzinger, a member of the organizing committee for the 40th anniversary program on Columbia 1968, to share a brief report on the event; he replied: "We met with almost the same intensity of 40 years ago — minus the police. It’s rare to revisit a historical moment, and the revelations, reconciliations, dialogues and reexaminations were deeply moving, bearing tears to my eyes — and I wasn’t the only one. Most remarkable was ‘What Happened,’ during which a narrative of events starting on April 12, 1968, unfolded with participants describing their experiences at each point. Eventually, this narrative—testimony will be brought together as an audio and textual document, hopefully with additional accounts by members of the Majority Coalition, the police, professors and others. "Black alumni shared just how badly they had been treated at Columbia and Barnard, and the white former students at the conference were shocked to see the revelations of constant harassment, overt discrimination and gross humiliations. Strike participants had all agreed on the racist dimensions of the gym and of conditions in Harlem and the country generally, but black participants had not fully understood the pain our classmates endured, and the shock was electric. Along with that realization, we were able to break away from the media construction of the events that placed SDS and Mark Rudd solely at the center of the rebellion, rendering SAS invisible. Without denying SDS’ crucial position, we affirmed the decisive, leading role of SAS and the black students in Hamilton Hall. At the same time, black alumni came to understand the motivations and actions of the rest of the overwhelmingly white students. For example, Mark discussed how he spent years ‘un-becoming’ the media construction of Mark Rudd, and how the views he projected of the ‘action faction’ of exemplary radical action after the strike led to disaster.

"Many from CC ‘69 were there — although, to be sure, we mainly identified by the buildings we occupied or our position in the strike, not by our class. The organizing committee for the conference included myself, Robert Friedman and Tom Hurwitz, along with Nancy Biberman, Thulani Davis ’70 Barnard and Laura Pinsky of Barnard. Paul Auster wrote an Op-Ed in The New York Times that provoked lively debate, and he joined other writers, including myself, Davis, Mary Gordon, Bob Holman ’70, James Simon Kunen ’70, Sharon Olds, Jonah Raskin ’63, 64 GSAS, Kathy Seal ’69 Barnard, Nitozake Shange ’70 Barnard ’68, Paul Spike ‘70 and Meredith Sue
Willis in a stunning 1968 literary reading.

“The memorial was presided over by Davis and Alan Senauke, Buddhist priests, at which John Jacobson (5) and Samuel (2) stories, acknowledged that the takeover had a profound influence on me. Although I missed the reunion of 1968-style revolutionary, I brood about those times quite a bit. Clearly the experience of confronting the University and the police in 1966 helped me identify the purpose of engaging in my turn, with one exception. I felt then that for me, ending the war was the issue of paramount importance, and that the takeover was not help and might even hurt; that the Lowenstein-inspired Dempsey, be clean for Gene (McCarthy), dump Gene for Bobby (Kennedy) though exhausting and unromantic, did far more to galvanize the country against the war than did the knew of later years. I see as a matter of confronting state-sponsored violence and upholding constitutional values. It also gives me a way to struggle against racism and to help those enmeshed in a bit. I am close friends with a few people from Columbia and remember those times as days filled with hope and energy, I feel I’ve been fortunate to have had the opportunity to be at Columbia at a time when my fellow students were so optimistic and socially progressive, and I hope that today’s students will surpass those of my age in promoting meaningful social change.”

Bob Rabinoff reports two weddings in the past year or so. His daughter Shoshannah, married in '07 to Erik Wilkerson, USMC, in Hawaii in February 2007. “Erik left for his second deployment in Iraq shortly thereafter and has since returned safely, thank Gd. They are buying a condo near Honolulu.” Son Joseph ’03 Harvard married Kirsten Wickelgren, daughter of the late Wayne Wickelgren and Norma Graham, both of the Columbia psychology faculty. That wedding took place in Bob’s backyard in Fairfield, Iowa, last July 15. The couple are finishing their first year now in Engineering school in mathematics at Stanford. Bob adds: “Two down, two to go … Anyone curious enough to want to see pictures can go to shadowfax.homelinux.net (note: no www), click on ‘Pictures’ and log in as Rabinoff. Click on the gallery you want to peruse; they’re arranged thematically.”

Steve Silverblatt offers some news, and his reflections on 1968: "I’m glad you reached out to me, though I’m not sure that my recollections are particularly in

sperational. I’ve been an attorney in the criminal defense practice of the Legal Aid Society since 1973, when I graduated from the Law School. I defend people accused of crimes, and train others to do this. Since 1989, I’ve been a supervising attorney at Legal Aid’s office in Queens. I’ve also taught a research seminar in criminology in the Metropolitan Studies Program at NYU for more than 20 years. I am not famous and hopefully, not notorious. I don’t make much money, but I’ve found my practice rewarding and exciting, and I have no regrets about the way I’ve spent the last 35 years. My experiences at Columbia had a profound influence on me. Although I missed the reunion of 1968-style revolutionary, I brood about those times quite a bit. Clearly the experience of confronting the University and the police in 1966 helped me identify the purpose of engaging in my turn, with one exception. I felt then that for me, ending the war was the issue of paramount importance, and that the takeover was not help and might even hurt; that the Lowenstein-inspired Dempsey, be clean for Gene (McCarthy), dump Gene for Bobby (Kennedy) though exhausting and unromantic, did far more to galvanize the country against the war than did the knew of later years. I see as a matter of confronting state-sponsored violence and upholding constitutional values. It also gives me a way to struggle against racism and to help those enmeshed in a bit. I am close friends with a few people from Columbia and remember those times as days filled with hope and energy, I feel I’ve been fortunate to have had the opportunity to be at Columbia at a time when my fellow students were so optimistic and socially progressive, and I hope that today’s students will surpass those of my age in promoting meaningful social change.”

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Bob’s daughter Eve graduated with a master’s in liberal arts from St. John’s College in Santa Fe, N.M., and will begin her Ph.D. program in philosophy at BC. Son Daniel graduated in philosophy from the University of Manitoba and will continue on for a master’s degree there. Bob is still doing freelance software development, taking care of the children (Marie, who has MS) and “fixing time for Torah.” He can be reached at rar113@columbia.edu.

From Mike Rosenblatt: “I’m in my fifth year as dean of Tufts University School of Medicine and enjoying it very much. I’ve assembled a great leadership team and the university is moving upward. But medical schools face enormous challenges now. Research funding from the National Institutes of Health has had the longest and deepest decline since NIH’s founding. Health care delivery and its finances are changing rapidly, and competition is intense. Nevertheless, each year the students entering medical school are there for the right reasons. They are committed to improving health and the definition of ‘community’ is global. An added plus is that some of the students are the children of colleges or medical school classmates.”

“My family has expanded in the last few years. My daughter and son are married. Patty and I have three grandchildren; two live close by. Our 1-year-old grandson lives in Menlo Park. I had a great time at our 35th reunion and am looking forward to next year.”

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Actual News Report: Hats off to Michael Braun for hearing my plea for news and filing this comprehensive report: “2007 turned out to be a pretty eventful year. My son, Jake ’09, came back to Columbia after a year in Madrid doing ‘independent study’ i.e., no college credits. His study included studio art and Japanese but he spent most of his time — when friends and family weren’t visiting — teaching English to junior high and high school students and teachers training to be English teachers. He said the teachers and students were similar — all they wanted to learn was bad words in English. Jake is now, supposedly, fluent in Spanish; he says ‘the Castilian Spanish, not the South American kind of Spanish they teach here at Columbia’ (a little snobism, maybe). It sounds good to me, but then — how would I know? After Spain, he traveled around Europe with a friend, or friends, depending on where he was. I saw numerous photos of him with long, flowing hair and a head band — very
we need a dean with the vision and passion to further develop the 10 years in downtown Fort Worth, Golden Gate Law School. The cisco's Golden Gate Law School. previously been dean at San Francisco University School of Law. He had a plan for this coming year — when My 35th Law School reunion was in Rochester for three days. The theater reporter got exuberance we brought to their dinner libations and an invitation establishment that evening, result offered the show. That’s getting the coverage. ... [but] the Times missed the meta of the conceptual art part: getting the Times to review it. That’s a story I also want to hear. John: “The theater reporter got everything they asked for. He had to edit his article down by half because he had so much material. “As for the meta, one of my friends says that I took a crowbar to the zeitgeist with this one. That’s pretty much what happened. I did nothing except produce the show and have the art center send out an e-mail. The Times came to me.... “Campbell Robertson is the theater reporter for the Times. He is young (32) and beloved because of his interesting take on what constitutes theater. He looks way beyond traditional Broadway theater subjects. He is also one terrific writer. He came up to Rochester for three days. The Times also hired a local photographer to shoot the play. “This is what clinched the deal: We were talking about the play and he asked if he would have an opportunity to talk to the cast. I said, yes, that we were holding our cast party in a bowling alley. I heard a slight gasp followed by a pause. Then he said, ‘I’ll be there tomorrow around 6.’ ”

Fred White ’70 was named dean of Texas Wesleyan University School of Law.

Frat Boys at 60 Report: A mixed class dinner of Betas to celebrate Steve Hecht ’69 (“Tape”) and his annual pilgrimage to New York from his Guatemalan home was held at Keen’s Chop House, a venerable N.Y. institution. In attendance, with your faithful albeit unreliable reporter, were N.Y. personal injury lawyer Phil Russell, banker and baseballer Dennis Graham, who has played a significant role in the resurgence of the Yonkers <t>II team. The team has crowned 2008 Ivy baseball champ [see story in this issue], Bill Poppe, N.Y. lawyer and best Gold Rail bartender ever, John Macdonald ’71, a financial adviser, Bowen Pak ’70E and Harry Coates ’72E. It was a great evening. It’s too bad, however, that Keen’s management did not appreciate the collegiate exuberance we brought to their establishment that evening, resulting in our being cut off after dinner libations and an invitation to leave the premises. It amused me somewhat of our sojourns to Steak and Brew during our college days, where the supply of beer was unlimited. Oh, well. Next year it appears we’ll be switching to Smith and Wollensky.

“practice law at MoFo (Morison & Foerster) in New York doing mostly Japanese and a lot of life science (pharmaceutical) stuff. My 35th Law School reunion was in June. Family-wise, our great plan for this coming year — when I turn 60 — is for all of us to go to Belize and get PADI certified for SCUBA.”

Congrats to another class lawyer, Fred White. Fred recently was named president of Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. He had previously been dean at San Francisco’s Golden Gate Law School. The Fort Worth Star-Telegram highlighted this appointment: “The verdict is in: The new dean of Texas Wesleyan University School of Law will be Frederic White. White is currently dean at San Francisco’s Golden Gate Law School.”

“as the law school celebrates 10 years in downtown Fort Worth, we need a dean with the vision and passion to further develop the law school to its fullest potential,” Wesleyan President Harold Jeffcoat said in a statement. ‘Dean White has the experience and knowledge to do this, and the entire law school community will benefit from his appointment.’”

Now if only our football and basketball teams could improve, we’ll really have something to crow about. It’s great we have an 8.68 percent acceptance rate at the College, but Ivy titles in football and basketball would be a lot more gratifying, at least to your faithful (and growingly crusty) reporter. In any event, please send in some news or you’ll have to endure more old-frat-boys-at-play adventures. Hope to see many of you guys up at Robert K. Kraft Field in the fall. Go Lions!

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John Borek: “Well, I’ve achieved my lifelong goal in the Times article of being enviably and ridiculed at the same time.” John sent the following links: Times article (complete): www.nytimes.com/2008/04/21/theater/21moos.html?r=1&oref=login; International Herald Tribune (truncated): www.vhn.com/articles/2008/04/23/arts/flip.php; was told by John: “loved your cleverness and gumpson, and the coverage. ... [but] the Times missed the meta of the conceptual art part: getting the Times to review it. That’s a story I also want to hear.” John: “The theater reporter got everything they asked for. He had to edit his article down by half because he had so much material.

“As for the meta, one of my friends says that I took a crowbar to the zeitgeist with this one. That’s pretty much what happened. I did nothing except produce the show and have the art center send out an e-mail. The Times came to me.... “Campbell Robertson is the theater reporter for the Times. He is young (32) and beloved because of his interesting take on what constitutes theater. He looks way beyond traditional Broadway theater subjects. He is also one terrific writer. He came up to Rochester for three days. The Times also hired a local photographer to shoot the play. “This is what clinched the deal: We were talking about the play and he asked if he would have an opportunity to talk to the cast. I said, yes, that we were holding our cast party in a bowling alley. I heard a slight gasp followed by a pause. Then he said, ‘I’ll be there tomorrow around 6.’”

David Bruce Wallace: “I live in Blacksburg, Va., where my father, Bruce Wallace ’41, also lives. I collect Yomud tent bags and West African art. I am in touch with Andy Argo, Counts From Larry Sacks, Larry Ryan ’70, David Siegel and Walter Topolnicki.”

I asked him what Yomud tent bags are. “Fine, bathmat-sized pile weavings from Turkmenistan. They have burdak backs and are open along the top side. Used as large saddle bags when the nomads move, or as storage containers inside the yurts, offering decoration and insulation. Practical beauty.”

Bob Brintz: “I was diagnosed with ALS in May 2007.... For the moment, I’m concentrating more on living than dying, and my legacy remains far from complete. ... “If I wrote my obituary now, it would include the following: Fueled by his love for his wife and children and by a powerful and unceasing desire to live, Bob survived an ‘untreatable’ and ‘incurable’ disease and lived a long and happy life. His first backpacking trip in the Grand Canyon was just two months before his diagnosis. After his diagnosis, he made 25 additional international backpacking trips to the Grand Canyon, after which he decided from then on to backpack elsewhere.”

As I am writing this column in early May, I have an update from Bob: “True to my word, I will be backpacking in the Grand Canyon, anniversary one [of 25], for four days starting on May 25 followed by two days of day-hiking in the Sedona area. My daughter, who will graduate from Brandeis on the 18th, will join me. My son, who is a sophomore at Duke College, and my wife, Susan (who I met and ‘roomed’ with while at Columbia), have declined to make the trip — they are not into backpacking. “My ALS has progressed. I can’t extend three fingers on my right hand although I can feel them and grip things with them. I have limited mobility of the right thumb and index finger. Fine motor control for that hand is a challenge — I can barely write. My right arm is very weak, as motor neurons have died and the muscles have wasted. My upper back and shoulders, which were very powerful, also have wasted, and that is affecting the strength of both arms, though my left arm and hand are still reasonably strong and fully functional and my legs remain powerful. It is beginning to affect my speaking in subtle ways that are not yet audible to others, as I’m able to compensate. “There are lots of good news about my ALS:...

“(1) When I was diagnosed,
about a year ago, my neurologist (a director of an MDA/ALS clinic and also a Columbia alumnus) told me that the most encouraging sign was my FVC (forced vital capacity) [a measure of how forcefully one can blow air out of the lungs] of 111 percent, which means it was 11 percent higher than that of a healthy person. He said it was impossible to predict how any given patient would do with ALS, but based on his many years of experience, a high FVC was the best indicator that someone might do well. This makes sense, as death results in ALS when the muscles supporting breathing waste away, resulting in suffocation, and a seriously declining FVC is a sign of impending death. I return to the clinic once every three months for a full-day work-up to monitor my progression. My FVC has increased at each three-month interval: 111 percent, 116 percent, 121 percent, 130 percent, and May 2008. The respiratory specialist seemed baffled and asked how I was doing this. I think the answer is deep nasal breathing (as done in yoga).

(2) My progression thus far has been relatively slow.

(3) I’m taking an experimental drug, lithium carbonate, which based on a recent small study, if confirmed, may be the first treatment for ALS to actually slow progression and extend life. Perhaps this means a bridge to a cure? Larger formal studies are coming soon. I wasn’t willing to wait and instead joined a patient-driven study.

(4) A few weeks ago I experienced a momentary sense of perfect well-being, total elation, nirvana.

(5) Every day is precious.

You can email Bob at bibrinitz@comcast.net.

Spring ’68: The 40th anniversary of the Spring ’68 occupation and bust was in April. In my last column (May/June, submitted in March), I made some observations regarding how history regards Spring ’68. I also believed that those who observed or were otherwise impacted by Spring ’68 but who were not politically active on either side had deeply held reactions that I had seen in submissions to the 71C eNews or in not-for-publication reactions to the eNews, but which I (correctly) believed would be underrepresented among those desiring to report history, such as in response to CCT’s call for submissions for its May/June 2008 Spring ’68 cover story. I am, after all, a class correspondent. I was disappointed that SAS and various non-SDS factions did not contribute to the cover story. A reader might conclude that, except for those in the military, nearly all Colombians at the time were non-Hamilton occupants, or serving as buffers around Fayerweather or Avery, or observing (as I was) or being beaten.

I’ve thought more about Spring ’68 and from a meta perspective I’ve reached these conclusions:

(1) The discussion usually assumes the competing views reflect a difference politically. I think how Spring ’68 is viewed depends as much upon the context in which those events are placed. On what basis should the events be viewed? Personally (was I transformed, and how)? Columbia issues (the gym, IDA, amnesia)? The “burst” (police action and the University’s role in it)? National issues (racegenerally, the war)? Political system (revolution, academic freedom, power sharing)? These are each different layers, and as even a single person shifts his or her focus, what is seen can shift dramatically.

(2) The transformative national issue over the last 40 years has been feminism’s leading to the opening up of opportunity regardless of gender. (The College became coeducational in 1983.) This was not an issue in Spring ’68, in part because to the extent that its absence propelled feminism forward, Spring ’68 was deeply felt by our class and was a life experience. Nevertheless, Spring ’68 is best seen in that context, at that time. I don’t see how it can be drawn forward through the 60s without a major discussion of how the participants (on all sides) could have been so oblivious to the issues underlying incipient feminism, and of how the lack of such discussion is just more obliviousness.

(3) In preparation for graduation 2008, I had the pleasure of seeing the small but excellent exhibit “Columbia in Crisis” in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, tucked away in Butler Library and curated by Joan Wilk and Julie Collia. In particular, seeing the blueprints for the division of the Morningside gym make a stronger case for blocking gym construction than does the oft-repeated separate entrances argument.

Another thought about history. SAC’s in Hamilton was disciplined and did not subject its followers and others to police beatings. The administration took notice. Though “the demands” and history state the gym as the anti-racist success, the real change at the College was the acceptance of black students for admission increased from 58 in 1968 to 115 in 1969 (and yield from 29 to 51). At Barnard, the increase was from 33 to 81 (and 20 to 40). Similar increases elsewhere was the real meaning of “one, two, three, many Colombians.”

I leave you with several thought-provoking quotations for your review. As always, check the original sources for a fuller picture.

President Lee C. Bollinger, in an interview with the Columbia University Record, an administration publication: “The Columbia lesson is very clear to him. ‘You just do not call in the police,’ he says. ‘When emotions get very, very high, and the conflict seems unresolvable, there is a strong tendency to say “enough, we have the power to end this.”’ That temptation is usually coupled with a lack of appreciation of what happens when you call in the police. The police operate by different norms than a university community. ’” (April 28, 2008, page 6,ellipsis in original)

When the Spring ’68 anniversary occurred in April, there was a commemoration, “Columbia 1968-2008,” organized by alumni, that brought hundreds back to campus. I was particularly surprised to find that most of whom we were occupiers celebrating and examining old times.

The New York Times, in John Kifner’s April 28 coverage of the commemoration, “Columbia’s Radicals of 1968 Hold a Bittersweet Reunion,” noted that “the most stunning moments came Friday night during an elaborately planned reconstruction of the events of April 1968 as black students—who had ordered the white radical members of Students for Democratic Society out of the building they had occupied, Hamilton Hall — poured out bitter recollections of their experiences at Columbia. …”

“Listening to the criticisms, some white radicals realized that they had not only been holding separate demonstrations, but ‘living separate lives back then — and in large part now.” ’ If in fact it took that long to realize this, that is more stunning.)

Why did white SDS occupy Low Library on April 24, 1968, after black SDS ordered them out of Hamilton Hall? According to Mark Rudd ’69’s Web site, “in order ‘to not let the blacks down.”

So there you have it. The University president says to never call in the cops. Whites seem surprised 40 years later that black thought they were racist. Whites took over a building ostensibly on behalf of blacks, not their own interests. Meanwhile, followers, sympathizers and observers, having seen or felt unbridled police power up close, write of the positive transformation of nature of their experience, in their remembrances to CCT. This jumble cannot make any sense, except that different people are looking at different layers of the same thing, so they are not looking at the same thing at all.
Josh, a senior at Yale, has been busier or happier. His eldest, Ken reports, "I've never seen someone as busy as my son in high school." His attention to detail and commitment to his studies have surpassed expectations.

The Greater Los Angeles area has been a hub for many Columbia alumni, with COO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles. The organization supports a wide array of social service and educational programs.

Ken Krug has ended "29 very satisfying years at RAND" and moved on to become e.v.p. and COO of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad. As a political appointee, his career will end soon after the November elections. Most likely, Brad says he will return to the canyons of Wall Street, where he previously spent more than 20 years with Goldman Sachs, CS First Boston and Bear Sterns. He says he is looking forward to being able to spend more time with his wife and daughter, Skyler (15).

With great sadness I report the passing of Rick Agresta, who lives in Darien, Conn. Since his passing, the Agrestafest has ceased to exist. The name had put on T-shirts to celebrate his kids' three graduation ceremonies they would celebrate within a 45-day span: Michael (receiving an M.F.A. from Texas), Kathleen (an M.B.A. from Stanford) and Tess (graduating from Boston College). Rick is the president and CEO of IIS North America, the U.S. subsidiary of a 200-year-old Austrian kitchen appliance company.

News from down South (Palm Beach, Fla.) comes from Will Willis, who never stays still for too long. You may recall that he was the head of a consulting firm that sold to Colgate, opened Jeno's Pizza and was president of Instaform (an infrastructure company). Now he is in the process of starting a new company, perhaps an outshoot of his investment banking business (Willis & Associates). In "spare" time, he is also completing his third book. Despite the above, Will seems most excited about the arrival of his first grandchild. (With four daughters, 15-34, there will likely be a lot more excitement to report!)

It's not easy to get the assistant secretary of state on the line, but Brad Higgins managed to squeeze in a few moments between a weekend meeting he was hosting in D.C. and before he left for a two-week business trip to Africa. Brad says his original commitment to returning to the CFO of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Baghdad somehow has now morphed into 54 months of service to our nation. As a political appointee, he expects this part of his career will end soon after the November elections. Most likely, Brad says he will return to the canyons of Wall Street, where he previously spent more than 20 years with Goldman Sachs, CS First Boston and Bear Sterns. He says he is looking forward to being able to spend more time with his wife and daughter, Skyler (15).

With great sadness I report the death of Dr. Jeff Roseman in early May. A world-renowned expert in substance addiction, Jeff was featured on the front page of The New York Times, interviewed on The Today Show and widely quoted in news magazines such as Time. He changed the lives of many patients in his private practice as well as those of us who knew him.

The poems are highly personal statements, complex and packed with imagery. Coming from someone we've known (only from Fernando's listed profession in the Columbia directory) as an architect and transportation planner, they are a surprise and delight. Fernando writes, "My writing vocation came late in my life, but it was the CC foundation that allowed me to develop a part of myself I didn't know existed. Creativity also led to teaching community arts and the eventual involvement I had with GLBT immigrants."

Member of Meyer, Sueozzi, English & Klein Richard S. Corenthal concentrates in the broad areas of labor and employment matters. He represents public and private sector labor unions and multi-employer/union benefit funds and is a former assistant attorney general and deputy chief of the Labor Bureau under New York State Attorney General Robert Abrams. Richard has taught at Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Pace's School of Law and Hunter College - School of Health Sciences. He was a special assistant to the New York State Assembly from 1996-98 and is rated "AV," the highest level of professional excellence and ethics, by Martindale-Hubbell. Daughter Lilly is a sophomore at Middlebury and son Michael is a junior at Mamaroneck. H.S. Wife Andra, a Barnard grad, is a pediatrician at Bellevue.

Vittorio Fiorenza is a member of Albany Gastroenterology Consultants and was chief of gastroenterology at St. Peter's Hospital. He was honored as the Capital District Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America's Physician of the Year and is a golfer and fly fisherman.

Waichiro Hayashi is a managing partner of Comites Asia, an affiliate company of D&I & Associates in Japan. After receiving his College degree, Waichiro went to MIT, participating in the Future of Automobile Program, later managing programs for The Future Workplace and Building Technology and earning a master's in city planning. His career experiences took him back to his birth nation, Japan, where he has held numerous executive and management positions. Waichiro has managed the United Technologies Research Center's China effort (developing collaborative corporate, university and government efforts...
to design and develop innovative mass housing in China) and led another firm’s automobile practice for the Asia-Pacific region. In his position with Comites Asia, Waichiro brings and provides consultative support and expertise for firms believing that leadership change and/or counseling will dramatically improve performance.

Gerry Keating recently won two victories in the Florida Supreme Court, which reversed two murder/death penalty convictions for Roy McDuffie based on Constitutional errors in his original trial and claims of actual innocence. Gerry was lead counsel in the seven-week trial. McDuffie is the sixth person Gerry has saved from death row.

Elaine Pagels. Gerry sends his respect for Terry Mulry, Sig Gross and a wonderful pied-à-terre in Vermont.

I am personally energized every industry and business sector. He is an accredited senior appraiser in business valuation, a CPA accredited in business valuation, a chartered financial analyst, a certified management accountant, an enrolled agent and an accredited tax adviser. Robert has authored more than 300 professional journal articles on valuation-related topics, is an editor for the ABI Journal and is the intellectual property editor for Valuation Strategies.

As I write this column. With my deadline before April 6, 2008, the real news from the faculty of the Colorado College Vocal Arts Symposium, where I coached and performed selections from opera and musical theater. Steve hopes to return to the University of Arkansas, where he has directed a number of student productions and once assisted Sarah Caldwell. In addition, he is “doing some vocal coaching and private teaching, and writing CD reviews,” which appear regularly in print in Opera News and, occasionally, in Time Out/New York, and online at MusicWeb International and audioMusings. For some reason, he describes all this as “running in place.” Well, I won’t quarrel with the “running” part...

Gordon Bock ’77 shared the news that he has rejoined the journalism community as managing editor of the weekly Northfield (Vt.) News and Transcript. Gordon was with UPI, U.S. News & World Report, Business Week and Time before moving to Northfield, Vermont, where he has largely worked in sales and marketing for a decade or so. He and his wife, Kathleen, advertising manager of the News and Transcript, have a daughter, Hadarah (6), Says Gordon: “Don’t let the ‘managing editor’ title sound too impressive. Mostly, I am managing myself and a great bunch of dedicated stringers who typify the best values in community journalism.”


David Gorman

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So, in a recent e-mail to some of you, I kiddingly said that, though I didn’t insist on Big News Only, if anyone had, say, conducted any orchestras recently, they might let me know. kiddingly, I said, kidding, I am such a kidder. I forgot that Steve Vasta actually goes in for doing things like this.

In 2007, the self-described “free-lance musician/journalist” was in Naples, Fla. (“not Italy, alas”), conducting a Gilbert and Sullivan production with Opera Naples. Thereafter, Steve was involved in the launch of the Brooklyn Repertory Opera, presiding over the orchestra during one six-performance run of Mozart’s Così fan tutte and another of Beethoven’s Fidelio. Steve has been on the faculty of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy since 1993, and last summer, through what he intriguingly describes as “a series of Internet-related fuxkes,” joined the faculty of the Colorado College Vocal Arts Symposium, “where I coached and performed selections from opera and musical theater.” Steve hopes to return to the University of Arkansas, where he has directed a number of student productions and once assisted Sarah Caldwell. In addition, he is “doing some vocal coaching and private teaching, and writing CD reviews,” which appear regularly in print in Opera News and, occasionally, in Time Out/New York, and online at MusicWeb International and audioMusings. For some reason, he describes all this as “running in place.” Well, I won’t quarrel with the “running” part...

**Matthew Nemerson**

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The reunion is over. The grass on South Field is wilted under the hot summer sun. More than 100 of us have just sworn to keep in better touch and to really come in to the city and have lunch with an old friend. But, more of all this next column. With my deadline before the end of May, the real news from the 30th will have to wait a few more months.

I recently asked you who you were supporting for President and other questions that might have been thrown out at a CC study group meeting about the state of the country and your lives, so here we go:

David Jachimczyk, “As I write this I am getting the lineup ready for my son Benjamin’s (7) Little League game. I don’t have enough time to fill you in on all the details of my current life of unemployment after working for 20 years on...
the floor of the NYSE for a small brokerage firm.

"I have been married for 10 years to a beautiful and smart woman named Carrie from Chica-
goland. She is a graduate of Baruch College in New York City. We also have a 6-year-old son, Danny. Yes, our boys are 13 months apart—so much for breastfeeding as a contrac-
tive pill..."

"Furthermore, what makes you so sure we all are supporting a "democratic" candidate for Presi-
dent? Perhaps you have lived too long in what my brother refers to as the independent republic of New Haven."

"Back to finishing the lineup—can't wait to get yelled at by a bunch of 7-8-year-olds who all want to pitch and bat first—but it sure does beat getting yelled at by customers on Wall Street..."

"Staying with the theme of old dad-stories, Kid Pique notes, "I have had a habit (for bet-
ter or for worse) of doing things at my own pace. Consistent with that, at the tender age of 48, I finally got married, and at age 50, finally got the opportunity to be a dad! Our little girl, of course, the light of our life, and it's a real trip going through all of the infant and toddler stuff at this age. Hopefully, a little bit of wisdom from age makes up for the lack of the physical skills I had when I was a younger man!"

Michael Wilhite and his jumper are back east. Roaming the city like he did in center field long ago, he is doing good in the outer boroughs...

"Despite the recent economic climate, there is always room for optimism. My list is to make a living, sometimes when change is so imminent it scares some people to no end. Usually it never as bad as it was made out to be. It just depends on your attitude.

"I wish all the little distractions that we en
ter the current state of the country. "With
globalization' of the labor force and increased energy usage and dwindling supply, America and its industries are headed economically. We will continue to excel, I suspect, at mass entertain-
ment and military gadgetry."

I favor Obama who, although astutely political, displays a measure of class and even an oc-
casional touch of grace. The Hillary alternative was a combination of the petty deceitfulness of her husband, the self-righteousness of Eliot Spitzer and the calculating vengeance of Nixon. Remember, too, that she was a voluntary mem-
ber of the Goldwater youth." But, there is worse (if not Bush worst) — for McCain is the politically corrupted spawn of multi-generations of military command-
ers. As a Republican, he ap-
ppeals to the avocational avirulence of the murder of the five Panamanian presi-
dent wealth they would hoard. If elected, he will be a vassal of those for whom wealth is no illusion as he commits us to warring." Former Spectator sports editor Robert S. Anthony is a bit mild in comparison. "It's nice to be back in the

"I'm back living in New Haven. I am a student Amittai Aviram doesn't have much to say about the circum-
surrounding school. I remain hopeful they will be able to prevail in the fall and bring the tragic and shameful era of George W. Bush to a close."

"Flag pins prominently shining, these folks have been fit to routine-
liness trample on the most cherished principles upon which our country was founded, from free and fair elections to abhorrence of torture to equal justice. In the 'decisive' February 5 primary, I was with the majority of New Jersey Democrats voting for Obama. I believe in the candidate in part by arguments and reports of my sons from campuses in the Bronx and Boston (and my daugh-
ter, 15) as well as an extraordinary number of die-hard Republicans with whom they would vote for him but not Hillary in the fall."

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sular firing squad, I remain hopeful they will be able to prevail in the fall and bring the tragic and shameful era of George W. Bush to a close."

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ter, 15) as well as an extraordinary number of die-hard Republicans with whom they would vote for him but not Hillary in the fall."

Lawyer Larry C. Friedman wrote, "I have been telling people that I cannot support Obama because if he is elected, it will be a milestone that I cannot accept—he would be the first President who would be younger than I. (And from my baby brother David's Class of 1983 no less, your humble scribe.)"

"But I am willing to overlook that—we could use a CC grad in the White House..."

"I have a daughter (Hannah, 20) and son (Josh, 18) who both will be at Boston University this fall. My wife, Phyllis, is an associate profes-
sor of clinical psychology at Saint Louis University. If any classmates find their way to Saint Louis, I would be happy to see them."

Jeff Becker leaves few un-
scathed with his insights into the current state of the country. "With 'globalization' of the labor force and increased energy usage and dwindling supply, America and its industries are headed economically. We will continue to excel, I suspect, at mass entertain-
ment and military gadgetry."

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dent wealth they would hoard. If elected, he will be a vassal of those for whom wealth is no illusion as he commits us to warring." Former Spectator sports editor Robert S. Anthony is a bit mild in comparison. "It's nice to be back in the newspaper business. I'm finally getting used to writing tabloid-style headlines at the New York Daily News. For example, for a story on a

"I have a daughter (Hannah, 20) and son (Josh, 18) who both will be at Boston University this fall. My wife, Phyllis, is an associate profes-
sor of clinical psychology at Saint Louis University. If any classmates find their way to Saint Louis, I would be happy to see them."

"I am the chairman emeritus of Republicans Abroad chapter, and this election am serving as one of the Unconvention volunteers for the Federal Elections Commission. Israel is the fastest-growing overseas voting district, given the fact that all of our children are begin-
ing to come of age to vote—and we all have significant numbers of children younger than I."

"I have been on the faculty of in the Graduate School of Business at Hebrew University and Ben Gurion University since 2001, but no longer actively lecture. We had a series of national faculty strikes recently that destroyed Israeli academia and set it back at least a generation. Very sad given all that has been contributed over the years in time, effort and dona-
tions worldwide.

"I am chairman of the local Conservatives and was looking forward to our major annual event in June. All alumni who 'commute' or visit Israel are welcome to join and keep abreast of our events year-round.

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tions worldwide.
back to New York from Jerusalem, but run into him from time to time during the holiday season when the Americans invade. He has married his longtime girlfriend, has a lovely daughter and is in VC work, residing nearby campus. Finally, all alumni passing through Israel should contact me at the local Columbia chapter via gp212@columbia.edu.

I hope the energy of the reunion carries over the years, and thanks, everyone for your recent updates.

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David Silberklang updates us with news that he has been made "editor-in-chief of Yad Vashem Publications. The job responsibility comes on top of all the previous responsibilities — lots of work. My daughter Yael, is engaged to Matti Rosenbaum, and they will wed in August."

Writing to the column for the first time is Felice John Viti, who graduated from Fordham Law School in 1983. "I was an assistant district attorney in the Bronx D.A.'s Office from 1983-90. In 1990, I became a special agent for the FBI and was assigned to the Salt Lake Division. In 1995, I became a Department of Justice assistant United States attorney for the District of Utah. I am still an assistant United States attorney. During my tenure with DOJ, I have worked in rule of law positions in post-war Bosnia. In 2006, I was a member of DOJ's Regime Crimes Liaison Office in Baghdad, Iraq, where I was a trial chamber adviser to the judges who were involved in the trial of Saddam Hussein. I was in Iraq for a little more than six months. I am on assignment for DOJ assisting in the military commissions prosecution of a high value al-Qaeda detainee who was involved in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, in 1998."

"I am married to FBI Senior Supervisory Agent Lynda L. Viti, and in March, we adopted our first child, a daughter, Alessandra."

"Hello to all my friends from Columbia."

Andrew Shaw: "With both of my kids now in college (Emily at Haverford, Alex entering the College with the Class of '12), my wife, Cindy '84 P&S, and I are empty-nesters. My research (immunology and kidney disease) is going well, and I recently was appointed an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which was a lifesaver in the current and difficult NIH budget crisis. In addition to teaching medical and graduate students, I started teaching immunology to undergraduates at Washington University this year, which has been fun. My current 5-10-year project is writing a systems biology/signal transduction textbook. My obsession continues to be golf; I broke 80 for the first time last year." Dr. Robert C. Klapper: "As I write this column, I am two weeks away from visiting Columbia for graduation, where my daughter will accept her diploma from the College."

"Talk about your life coming full circle! It's quite a special moment. I think this is one of those times in the baseball game where Vic Scully doesn't say a thing, and lets the crowd and the thoughts speak for themselves. So I'm just going to end the column as Scully would, for your imagination and my wish that all of you will experience such a high."

"God bless and keep in touch."

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"Hot town, summer in the city, back of my neck getting dirty and gritty; been down, isn't it a pity, doesn't seem to be a shadow in the city."

"Lovin' Spoonful"

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We kick things off with this touching tale of family tradition. It comes from Jack O'Loughlin, proud father of Columbia College freshman-to-be, John. John has been waiting 30 years to pass down a cherished and hard-won memento from our college days. Jack picks up the story: "I've already passed down my Columbia flag. What Columbia flag, you ask? John continues: "I stole it off the flagpole in broad daylight with some help from Sean D'Arcy and Chip Quadri in December 1977 after taking a CC final. My son's acceptance came 30 years later (plus or minus a few days). Not sure if that's a good omen or not, but apparently the administration doesn't hold a grudge."

Jack, the administration may not hold a grudge, but there's an 80th CC field campus cop close on your trail.

In other touching father-son moments, Andy Farren writes: "My father gave me only a few words of advice upon graduation: 'Do not work on Wall Street.' I have spent 26 years later on Wall Street, working mainly at Morgan Stanley and Merrill Lynch with a brief foray at Drexel in the early '80s and about a five-year period of management consulting for a few major investment banks and hedge funds."

"On the personal front, my partner, Julian, and I have made our home in Oyster Bay for the last 10 years. It's a rather remote and somewhat unsupplied town in the Northeast corner of Nassau County on Long Island with roots into the 17th century. I spend a bit of my spare time working on lo-
cal open space and preservation causes. The community is focused on sailing, and we spend a good bit of time on the water, mainly in kayaks and a Force Five. Julian's family is split between the United States and Argentina, so we've spent a good deal of time visiting the other side of the planet. Done a good bit of hiking through Patagonia down as far as Ushuaia and in the north near Iguazu. Julian and I attended a Farren family reunion, which included members of the Classes of '39 (Business) '49, '57, '81 and '02, including the first female grad of the Business School and a recent female grad of the College."

Despite Tim Landry's continued pining over his poor Patriots and their humiliation at the hands of our N.Y. Giants, he encourages classmates to pay him a visit this summer on Martha's Vineyard, where his much younger wife, Christine, and his rainbow coalition of children will be roughing it. "We'll serve you and yours a glass of wine and some brie or perhaps a mojito, unless there is a newer, better, vogue drink this coming summer, in which case, we'll have that," Tim declares.

When Stuart Cohen decides to get away, he gets away. "Flashback to graduation, I remember an overwhelming desire to get clear of NYC, which I did by going to Alaska. I have been living in Juneau since 1982. In 1983, I self-published a pornographic satire of the logging industry, which I sold on the street here. Shortly afterward I started an import company, now called Invisible World, importing silk, alpaca and cashmere from Asia and South America. I travel quite a bit. I've also published two novels, Invisible World, (HarperCollins 1998) and The Stone Angels (Orion, 2003), which together have been translated into 10 languages and were both optioned. In my most recent novel, Army of the Republic, (St. Martin's Press, September 2008) is about insurgency and is set in Seattle. Of course, the flip side of this autobiography would make it more interesting: the failures, errors, setbacks and so forth, but I'll leave that adventure to some future novel, as we all do. Suffice it to say that I'm happily married to a wonderful acupuncturist and we have two handsome and brilliant boys: Orion and Gabriel. I'm obsessed with snowboarding, teach Sunday school and karate and am still reading many of the texts I should have read in college."

One of many questions, Stuart: A "self-published pornographic satire of the logging industry" — is that some kind of euphemism unknown to those of us on the lower 48?

Bill Zimmerman writes from the equally exotic Enfield, Conn.:
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Greetings gentlemen. I trust all is well. (Basically because I’m not that bright …) As I assemble this period’s communiqué, we are on the brink of Mother’s Day. This year I decided to present my mother with a gallon of gasoline. I know it’s an excessive gift, but what the heck, I only have one mother.

This period’s report is a special “Captains of Industry” edition. Reporting in (literally) this period was famed Reuters news anchor Fred Katayama ’83f. Fred wrote, “Today (April 17, 2008) marked the birth of the global information company, Thomson Reuters, the product of a $16 billion merger between (Canadian company) Thomson and (UK company) Reuters. I happened to interview a fellow classmate, Tom Glocer ’81, on one of the biggest days of his illustrious career; for Tom, as you may know, is the highly regarded CEO of (the newly formed) Reuters Thomson. Until yesterday, Tom was the CEO of Reuters. So there you have it; two Columbia classmates working together.” For those of you who didn’t have the opportunity to watch the interview in real-time, you can watch it in the comfort of whatever room you deem most comfortable by making use of the following link: http://in.reuters.com/news/video/videoId=80779&videoChannel=104. [See photo.]

It’s a fascinating interview. Fred covered Tom on the Club of Rome’s goal of providing “intelligent information,” its economic prospects given the current downturn in the economy, the scope of its future news coverage and the mechanics of combining two such large entities.

For those of you who haven’t been following Fred’s career, he’s been having quite a run, including anchoring and reporting for CNN, CBS, CNBC and Fortune; he’s also been honored for his fine work by the Overseas Press Club, -> America and the Asian American Journalists Association. Thanks for checking in, Fred.

In other developments (in the mood to borrow a little media phraseology), on the 28th of April The New York Times published a story covering a farewell party honoring Stuart Karle and held at The Grill Room in the World Financial Center; Stuart had just resigned as general counsel of The Wall Street Journal. While the article focused on the utility of the Journal in the wake of its purchase by Rupert Murdoch, the story made a point of describing Stuart as a respected “tenacious defender of journalism who is regarded as a reporter’s lawyer.” I must admit that it’s a real source of pride to have such a distinguished classmate.

Keep those cards and letters coming in. Cheers.

The next scheduled program presentation will be in Jacksonville, Fl., where I will have the honor and privilege to work with Michael Durant, the Blackhawk helicopter pilot shot down in Mogadishu in 1993. This program, by far, is the one that I cherish most.

Manny Tirado lets us know that Ricardo Salaman was promoted last year to a managing director position at Goldman Sachs. As for Manny, “I plan to enjoy my newest hobby — boating. Recently, I bought a 24-foot cruiser that I’ll be sailing, and fishing in Green-Wood Lake this spring/summer. Hopefully, I’ll catch some trout for dinner.”

Mark Allen is a professor at Pepperdine. He recently delivered the keynote address at the Global Council of Corporate Universities Forum in Paris. He lives in Redondo Beach, Calif., with his wife, Dayna, and their children, Skye (13) and Dylan (9).

David Palasits is director of workforce development for Catholic Relief Services at the world headquarters in Baltimore. David has lived in Columbia, Md., since 1985, and his wife, Sarah, have three children, Teresa (19), a sophomore at Bryn Mawr and a mathematics major; John (16), a sophomore in high school who enjoys jazz band and drama, and Michael (10) who is eager to finish elementary school. And finally, David Wasserman, a real estate developer, was profiled in an article about his firm’s projects in Florida in the St. Petersburg Times. Among the tidbits in the article: David lives part-time in the Chelsea Hotel. Obviously, he’s trying to recreate the Greenwich Village experience.

Send tales of derring-do, past and present, to jgundyk@yahoo.com.
Several '84 classmates got together on April 18 in Los Angeles. Clockwise, from left bottom, Adam Belanoff ’84, Peter Lunenfeld ’84, Phil Donahue’s son, Ryan, had lunch at the commissary at Raleigh Studios, where Belanoff is a producer for TNT’s The Closer. Donahue and his son were in town to tour USC.

PHOTO: COURTESY ADAM BELANOFF ’84

Eddy Friedfeld moderated another memorable comedy event at the 92nd Street Y. The Y catalogue stated, “Join entertainment journalist and historian Eddy Friedfeld and comedians Robert Klein and Richard Belzer for a look back at the stand-up comedy stars of the ’70s. Watch film clips and discover what made these comedians great. Klein is the author of The Amorous Busboy of Decatur Avenue: A Child of the Fifties Looks Back, Belzer plays Detective John Munch on NBC’s Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. His first in a series of novels, I Am Not A Cop, will be published by Four Walls Eight Windows. Richard Zoglin is a senior editor and writer at Time and the author of the recent publication Comedy at the Edge: How Stand-up Changed America.”

Nicholas Paone has pointed out that in my Class Notes column I made a mistake concerning his wedding 20 years ago. (My mistake wasn’t 20 years ago, but just a few months ago.) Though it has been a long time, Nick told me that he distinctly recalls that he had only one best man, Robert Sansone. Albert Lee was in the wedding party but did not make the cut. Nevertheless, he did attend the wedding.

The New York Times reported, “Marcus W. Brauchli will step down as the top-ranking editor of The Wall Street Journal after less than a year in the job, four people briefed on the matter said on Monday, just four months after Rupert Murdoch took control of the paper. Mr. Brauchli, 46, will announce his resignation soon, according to friends and current and former colleagues, all of whom requested anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter. They differed as to whether he was being forced out as managing editor of The Journal, one of the most coveted posts in journalism, or leaving out of frustration. The news of his pending resignation was first reported on Time magazine’s Web site. Since December, when Mr. Murdoch’s News Corporation bought Dow Jones & Company, publisher of The Journal, he has immersed himself in the newspaper’s daily operations and quickly made changes in its shape and style. Friends and colleagues say that Mr. Brauchli has been frustrated with some changes, and with the sense that he did not have the control over the newspaper that he had promised. On Monday night, both Mr. Murdoch and Mr. Brauchli attended a dinner of the Curtis Publishing group promoting international cooperation, at which Mr. Murdoch was being honored. Approached there, Mr. Murdoch declined to comment about any change in editors; Mr. Brauchli said, ‘I can’t talk.’ Mr. Murdoch has said publicly that he wants to make The Journal more of a general-interest newspaper, to compete more directly with The New York Times, though he insists he will not diminish its coverage of international affairs; Mr. Brauchli said, ‘I can’t talk.’ Mr. Murdoch has said publicly that he wants to make The Journal more of a general-interest newspaper, to compete more directly with The New York Times, though he insists he will not diminish its coverage of international affairs; Mr. Brauchli said, ‘I can’t talk.’ Mr. Murdoch has said publicly that he wants to make The Journal more of a general-interest newspaper, to compete more directly with The New York Times, though he insists he will not diminish its coverage of international affairs; Mr. Brauchli said, ‘I can’t talk.’ Mr. Murdoch has said publicly that he wants to make The Journal more of a general-interest newspaper, to compete more directly with The New York Times, though he insists he will not diminish its coverage of international affairs; 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Mr. Brauchli said, ‘I can’t talk.’
and my classmate at Hunter College, H.S., Dr. Laura Brumberg, at Columbia College Women’s First Annual Tea Party, an event for mentors and their mentees. Laura and I have been involved in CCW’s mentoring program for several years, and for those of you in the New York metropolitan area, I would strongly recommend participating in next year’s program. It is highly rewarding to connect with a College junior or senior, and the potential benefits for mentor and mentee are tremendous. Plus, the tea party was held at Alice’s Tea Cup, and you cannot beat the tea, scones and pastries there.

Remember, I cannot do this column without you, so please keep sending in your contributions. And please join our Facebook group and network with other Columbians on LinkedIn! Our social and business networks are growing larger every day. Feel free to e-mail me for additional information.

Thanks to all who wrote in for this month’s column. By the time you read this, reunion will be over — if you made it, I hope you had fun; if you didn’t, we hope to see you in five years (if not sooner).

My wife, Anya ’90 Barnard, and I had a lovely visit with Rebecca Welker, who was in Boston for a conference. Rebecca and her husband, Searl, live in L.A. and have two kids, Ezra and Leo. Rebecca is coordinating a cancer screening program from public health into radio production; she’s been working with a local independent producer who creates segments for NPR.

Rebecca’s neighbor, Eve Makoff Newhart, wrote in with information about a similar career path: “Since I didn’t make it to the reunion, I figured I would write in once. I live in L.A., where I worked for my residency in internal medicine in 1995. I am an internist and a kidney specialist (nephrologist) and have a private practice and have been working in this field for some years. I love it. I have four children and travel a lot. I enjoy spending time with my kids and doing volunteer work. I am an avid reader and enjoy spending time with my husband, Joe.”

Some Columbians are doctors and have stayed on the East Coast, including old friend Jenna Wright. Jenna and I traded middle-age war stories; I think my leg fractures (broken knee, elbow and ribs) for those of us who are past our prime (not in the field) beats her torn meniscus; Jenna says that “even though it’s not a big deal,” according to my orthopedist, Stephen Feely ’91, it really still isn’t right six months later.

I know how she feels, and I imagine many of you do, too. Jenna admonishes us not to wallow in self-pity, however: “Enough of the middle-age whining! I’m an internist; I work at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, and I have four awesome children: Sarah (12), Jack (9), Grace (7) and Caroline (3). I’ve been married for 15 years to John McCarthy, who is an attorney, and we live in Rockville Centre on Long Island. Pretty plain vanilla stuff.”

Maybe plain vanilla, but it sounds like a pretty good life. I was hoping to have a column with Jenna to read.

From Long Island to White Plains, where Shira Stein Goldman is raising her three kids. She writes, “Here’s the Cliff’s Notes version of my life since graduation. I was a bit overeager to play house and have kids, but I got about 10 minutes too soon after graduation — in July 1988 — to Dov Goldman ’86. Also in July, we settled in White Plains, N.Y., where I continue to live — a wonderful city/suburban enclave, by the way, for anyone considering a move. My marriage ended in divorce a number of years ago, but produced three incredible children, Adina (12), Akiva (11) and Ariella (9). In December 2006, I obtained my master’s in integrated marketing communications, which I pursued through a part-time program at Virginia University. Those two years of working full-time, writing papers at night and being a single mom of three were rather daunting, so I’m glad to have the studies behind me and a shiny new diploma to show for it. Since March 2007, I’ve been working in midtown as a senior product marketing specialist at Franklin Templeton Investments, in its institutional division.”

At this writing, Shira was planning to attend reunion, so hopefully that means you got a chance to catch up with her.

I also had a fun e-mail exchange with Martin Prince ’87. Martin is executive director of business management, operations, with UBS Wealth Management International. He writes, “It’s been a busy past few years for me. I received my M.B.A. last May from Cornell’s Johnson School of Business in its executive M.B.A. program. One of my first classes was stats with a Columbia professor who is a CCB alum, so I had a chance to share my torn allegiances to Ivy rivals. It was a great experience (happy to have my weekends back) and shows you can teach an old dog new tricks. A busy travel schedule has kept me on the move, including trips to the Bahamas, Mexico City, Toronto and Rio de Janeiro. He reminds us that “It sounds more glamorous than it is... I’m in ops, not sales!”

Thanks again to all who wrote — and if you didn’t make this column, send me something for a future one!

We start this month’s column with a note from Garth Stein, who has never contributed Class Notes. Welcome, Garth!

He writes: “My new novel (my third) was published on May 13 by HarperCollins. It’s being published in 17 languages, so it’ll pretty much be everywhere. It’s called The Art of Racing in the Rain, and it’s told from the point of view of a dog whose master is a racecar driver. The dog, Enzo, is convinced that in his next lifetime, he’ll be reincarnated as a man. He sees that the principles that make his master a good racecar driver — balance, patience, anticipation — also apply off the track, and he knows he will be a good person when he gets his chance. For more information, you can check out www.goendo.com or www.garthstein.com.

“Oh, and my third son was born last May. Dashiel joins brothers Caleb (11) and Eamon (9), my wife (their mother), Andrea ’91 Arts, our dog, Comet, and our mice, Jimi and Billie. We’ve been in Seattle since 2001 and love it, though I miss the city and get back when I can.”

I saw our Columbia classmate Reacher” political thriller series.

Aaron Gerow teaches Japanese cinema at Yale and recently came out with a book on director Kitano Takeshi.
years back, I married my longtime partner (climbing and otherwise), Alan Bowman, who also was a Columbia attendee (GS, ’92–’97). We have a fantastic life together, with lots of travel and great interests. I’m in European brokerage — now a Swiss specialist — heading the N.Y. office for Bank Vontobel, a Swiss private bank. I enjoy the job, as it allows me to simultaneously use all my languages and stage talents while giving me great travel destinations, like Interlaken (!) or Kansas City (?), to name the most recent two. Our offices are at 1540 B’way, smack in the middle of Times Square. In a neat Columbia twist, I visited this building during its embryonic construction phase while on a Freshman Orientation trip. How’s that for N.Y. karma?”

Michael Behringer, who is unofficially my co-columnist (he has bailed me out several times by writing lengthy Class Notes updates just in time for the event), has bailed me out several times by writing the Carman Awards Dinner spring as a guest of Peter Schnur and his law firm, Blank Rome, which hosted a table. Michael writes: “My Carman 8 floormates had a strong showing that night. Matt Assiff flew in from Texas, and was catcheshaking hands with his freshman sateante, Jay Timmer. Matt is CFO at Copaeno Energy and lives in Houston, and Jay is a freelance writer who lives in N.Y. with his wife. Aside from the tuxedos, Peter, Matt and Jay looked the same as they did freshman year (although they no longer sport their then-fashionable mullets). Sitting with Matt and Jay was our ubiquitous Carman RA, Phillippa Feldman ’86 Barnard, Donna Herlnsky MacPhee and several members of the women’s tennis team who were at the support John Jay Award recipient Alexandria Wallace Creed ’88.

Former Federalist Paper contributors Victor Mendelson and Tony Calanda ’88 were at the event to support Jonathan Lavine ’88, who also was honored that night (a good night for the Class of ’88). Victor is president of the Electronic Technologies Group at HEICO Corp., an aerospace, defense and electronics company. He had me laughing at his joke of pretending to be a Democrat in a Republican town. I also had a chance to say hello to Stephanie Falcone Bernik, who received a John Jay Award in 2004, and Frank Seminara, who is an investment adviser in N.Y.C. at UBS. The Barry clan was well-represented: Mike Barry, his brother, Dave Barry ’87, and sister-in-law, Kyra Tirana Barry ’87, were there. Mike and Dave live in New Jersey and are partners in their family’s real estate development business.

This was my first John Jay Awards Dinner, but definitely not my last. I had a great time seeing old friends and supporting a good cause, the John Jay National Scholarship program.

Mike continues, “I have been reconnecting with classmates on LinkedIn and Facebook the past few months, and am amazed to see how many people are signing up each day (although I don’t understand what ‘poking’ is all about). After reconnecting with Jon Dwyer on LinkedIn, we got together in NYC in April for drinks with fellow Fijis Adel Aslani-Far ’90, Brian Kenneth ’90, Craig Nobert ’90 and Brian O’Connell. Brian is a principal in Rockaway Beach, N.Y., and Jon lives in San Diego, where he is s.v.p., sales, at FatTail, a software company. Most impressively, Jon has forsaken the concept of sleep and is the proud father of an impressive five children. After many drinks that night, JD regaled us with an uncanny and hysterical impersonation of Duane Barch. The climax of the evening was the story of a birthday party Jon and Duane hosted at their California apartment years ago where a drunk-en Duane was served as a human birthday cake (aka the ‘Candle in the Wind’ story). Jon had us falling from our chairs and the family of five dining next to us fleeing in horror. It was (almost) as good as having Duane there in person.

“A few Colombians made it out to Connecticut this spring for the opening of new operations — including Josh Krefft, his wife, Marcy Nislow ’90 Barnard, Craig Nobert ’90 and Dean Temple ’90. Josh volunteers as drama coach at Scarsdale Middle School, where he directed the spring musical, Oklahoma! I’m now a director group, and attended the production. I continue to be impressed by Josh’s musical talents. In addition to directing, he also stepped in as an extra for a few of the larger scenes. The price of a ticket for the play was just $7, but the sight of Krefft singing and twostepping in cowboy boots, 10-gallon hat and chaps: priceless.”

Thanks, Mike!

Looking forward to hearing from everyone. Until then, thanks!”

Rachel Cowan Jacobs 313 Lexington Dr. Silver Spring, MD 20901 cowan@jhu.edu

What wonderful news from Laura Shaw Frank, Judy Shampianier and Sharon Rogers with a weekend getaway to celebrate our 40ths this year. Robin Zornberg Wald ’90e sprained her ankle jumping on a trampoline and had to stay home and rest. Moral of the story: If you’re planning a trip out of town, don’t bounce on a trampoline until you get back.

Rachel Cowan Jacobs 313 Lexington Dr. Silver Spring, MD 20901 cowan@jhu.edu

Columbia College Today 475 Riverside Dr, Ste 917 New York, NY 10115 cct@columbia.edu

CCT thanks Dana Wu for her 3½ years as service as a class correspondent. This is her last column. We welcome Antonio Ocasio as the new correspondent.

Jeremy Feinberg 315 E. 56th St. #3F New York, NY 10021 jeremy.feinberg@verizon.net

Much news this time, true believers, so let’s get right to it:

I first heard about Scott Wells via e-mail. Scott, I am advised, defended his dissertation from NYU in medieval history, and then began a tenure track assistant professorship in history at California State, Los Angeles in 2003. More recently, Scott was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to develop the university’s religious studies program. He is co-editor (with Katherine Allen Smith) of Negotiating Community and Difference in Medieval Europe, forthcoming from Brill Academic Publishers.

Joe Brady and I reconnected on LinkedIn, and promptly set up lunch at Virgil’s restaurant in Times Square. Joe is the CFO for Broadway Video in New York City. Over some great barbecue, we recounted our days jointly covering the men’s basketball team, as well as our activities on the part of the Columbia baseball team. Joe is also an avid golfer. He is interested in hearing from other alumni who are also avid golfers and would love to hear from you.

Here is an update from Corey Wallach: “I have finally finished my orthopaedic residency, with an orthopaedic trauma surgery and shoulder and elbow fellowship, and am now, at last, practicing spine surgery in Northern Virginia at the Anderson Orthopaedic Clinic — www.andersonspine.com — just outside of D.C. Who knew that 12 years of post-college training would take so long? Our family is enjoying settling in, especially after hopping between coasts these past years, and hoping that this is where we will make our home for some time. My wife, Stacey, and kids, Zoe (4) and 2-year-old twins, Cole and Drew, are having a great time, and we are happy to be back in Virginia. Changing leaves, nature walks and the occasional sun shower are all welcome in our backyard — as are any of you who manage to drift down to the D.C. area.

“Keep up with a few classmates — Joel Barron, Bowman Hasty, John Chun, Matt Baldwin, Kif Schiller and Gino Lomato. Though certainly not as much as I would like to, I hope all is well with all of you, and please let me know if you are ever close to D.C.”

Congratulations to Corey and other classmates who continue to connect and catch up. It is great to see in their careers and joys in their daily lives — enjoy the summer!”
as comparing notes on the current men's basketball squad. Joe's big- 
gest news is that he got married to Amy May in February. The two 
had met several years earlier while participating in the same running 
club in New York City. They live in Windsor Terrace, Brooklyn.

Chris Watanabe, with whom I fondly remember making late-
night food runs to Columbia Hot Bagels from John Jay, wrote to 
me about a recent first update in a long while. Chris and his wife of 
four years, Lauryn, had their first child, Amanda, in October. The three 
live in Virginia, where Chris works for the federal government and 
Lauryn is a manager in a financial services company. Chris com- 
mented that his current stint on the East Coast is much better than his 
last — it's much easier, with satellite and digital cable, to follow his 
beloved Dodgers and Lakers.

On a more personal note, I am delighted to bring you a few new 
notes. There are two for Jennifer, a fellow in hematology-
oncology at the Hospital of the 
University of Pennsylvania. Tom Venkatesh, a former graduate student of mine, is now a fellow at Abigail Gabriela Riemer, my wonderful daughter. The wedding took place in San Juan. Estelamari is a fellow in hematology-oncology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Phila-
adelphia. She received her medical degree from SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn and also has a master's in public health from the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid in Spain.

Congratulations to Shawn Landres, who, with his wife, Zuzana, 

Photo: Kim Rogoff Silverstein


Thanks to Adlar Garcia for passing along news from Mohit Das-
wani. Mohit left his job at FT Ven-
tures for JMI Equity, where he will 
continue to focus on growth equity and 
buyout investing in the services and software sectors. He and his 
wife, Elizabeth Olesh, displayed her photopaintings — photographs 
that look like paintings — this 
spring at the Port Washington Public 
Library on Long Island.

Thanks for the updates, and 
keep the news coming.

Thad Sheely 535 W. 110th St., Apt. 6C New York, NY 10025 tsheely@jets.nfl.com

Christina Kim "is enjoying her time off from movie projects to 
swim with her sons, try out more

interesting chicken recipes and jog under the live oaks of New 
Orleans. Recently, she art-directed a feature film, Welcome to Academia, which was (loosely) based on Columbia. And it was a treat to 
meet Noah Wyle on the set of The Librarian: The Curse of the Judas Chalice. Thankfully, New Orleans has been pulling in film projects 
nonstop since 2003. Fingers crossed that this will continue! She hopes 
to make the next reunion (and visit her beloved Film Forum)."

Lots of exciting baby news! Amy Jane Longo '96, and her husband, 
Steve Pesce, welcomed their first child, Leonardo Nicholas ("Leo") on May 4. He arrived at 9:58 a.m., weighing 7 lbs, 15 oz. and mea-
suring 20 inches. They couldn't be happier! The family resides in 
Santa Monica, Calif.

My apologies to Brad Stone for the inexcusable delay in the baby 
announcement: Brad and his wife, Jennifer, had twins on December 8 — Isabella, 6 lbs, 13 oz., and Callista, 5 lbs, 7 oz. Brad is a tech-
ology reporter for The New York Times in San Francisco — look for 
his business page articles.

Joe Saba and his wife, Jen, now have a second child, J.J. (1), who 
joins playing with sister Carly (4). Betsy Comperz and her hus-
band, Michael Pachindu, welcomed William Henry on April 18. Will 
weighed 8 lbs, 1 oz., and was 20 ½ inches long. Brother Thomas is re-
 lucantly accepting his new role as a big brother, and Betsy is adjusting 
to life in a home full of boy!

Leyla Kokmen 440 Thirteenth Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55405 leylak@emailhink.net

Estelamari Rodriguez married Louis Valente in March. The wed-
ding took place in San Juan. Este-
lamari is a fellow in hematology-
oncology at the Hospital of the 
University of Pennsylvania in Phila-
delphia. She received her medical degree from SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn and also has a master's in public health from the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid in Spain.

Congratulations to Shawn Landres, who, with his wife, Zuzana, 
welcomed Abigail Gabriela Riemer Landres on February 24. "Abby Gabby," as her friends already call her, is at least the third future 
Landres holding

bottom row, left to right: Michal Bunin Benor '95, Rabbi Sharon Brous '95, Mark Bunin Benor '97 and Michael Brous '99. [See photo.] James Williams '95, who started with our class and did the five-year B.S./B.A. program, and his wife, Laura, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter. The Williams family lives in Larchmont, N.Y., and James works at a hedge fund.

That's it for this time! I hope you're all doing wonderfully. Drop 
me a note and let us know what you're up to!

Janet Lorin 127 W. 96th St., #2GH New York, NY 10025 jrl0@columbia.edu

Brian Lang is enjoying life in France. After six years in London trading credit derivatives for a German bank, he moved to Paris to do the same thing for a Benelux bank, the Western European economic union that includes Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. "Not surprisingly, the jobs are strikingly similar, but I get 49 days of vacation which, being France, I have to use, so my snowboarding/skiing should improve dramatically," he writes. "Now I am just looking forward to the first real strike

so I can improve my cycling."

In between traveling and French classes, Brian is training for his 14th marathon and fifth Ironman triathlon. He said training allows him to continue to enjoy the wonderful French food, especially the desserts.

Thanks to Adlar Garcia for passing along news from Mohit Das-
wani. Mohit left his job at FT Ven-
tures for JMI Equity, where he will 
continue to focus on growth equity and buyout investing in the services and software sectors. He and his 
wife, Elizabeth Olesh, displayed her photopaintings — photographs 
that look like paintings — this 
spring at the Port Washington Public 
Library on Long Island.

Thanks for the updates, and 
keep the news coming.

Ana S. Salper 125 Prospect Park West, Apt. 4A Brooklyn, NY 11215 asalper@yahoo.com

Greetings, classmates! Summer is finally here, and with its arrival I 
bring you a few new notes.

Sameer Ahuja lives in New York City with his wife, Sima '96 
Barnard. Sameer reports that the development firm that he helped to 
found a few years ago to build urban 
tourist attractions just opened its first project, the Sports Museum of 
America, the nation's first and 
only interactive, multimedia sports museum experience, right here in 
New York. The 80,000-square-foot attraction contains one-of-a-kind
Laura Colarussu ‘99 and Jason Saretsky ‘99 were married on September 8 at Historic Waynesborough in the Philadelphia suburbs. At the festivities were (left to right) Bo Kiss ‘01E, Sameer Shahzad ‘99, Riaz Ali ‘99, Mike Christian ‘00E, the bride, Ray Biersbach ‘00E, the groom, Dave Liebowitz ‘99, Mike Contopoulos ‘00 and Tom Kloos ‘99.

PHOTO: JEFF REEDER

1997

Sarah Katz

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Scott Sherman and Venessa (Marcel) ‘98 welcomed their second child, Jackson Gavin, on March 11. Mom, baby and big sis are all doing well, if not getting much in the way of sleep. Johanna (Parker) Hall took time off from getting her master’s in education, focusing on gender equity in science education, to have her fourth child this summer. Matthew Rothfleisch and Dr. Allison Platoff-Kleifisch ‘98 of Barnes are pleased to welcome their daughter, Sadie Lily. Sadie was born on February 22 and also is welcomed by her 2-year-old brother, Sheldon Nolan. Sonia (Bhatnager) Lowenberg and her husband, Anthony, recently traveled to Mumbai, India, to pick up their new daughter, Maya Jini. Maya was born on February 22, 2007, and became a Lowenberg on March 11, 2008. She joins her 3-year-old brother, Myles, in their home in Dallas, where Sonia and Anthony are practicing attorneys.

Amrit Nagpal reports that things in San Francisco are going well. Reyna is almost 3 and Jay turned 1 in February. Amrit played with the Columbia men’s golf team while they were in Northern California for spring break. Afterward, he joined the team and some alumni, including Doug Miller ’01, at a function in Palo Alto. Manish Parikh finished his fellowship in laparoscopic/bariatric (weight loss) surgery at Cornell/Columbia and returned to NYU Medical Center.

Bellevue Hospital to work as the director of the laparoscopic bariatric program at Bellevue. This is New York City’s largest public hospital, and the program is geared toward the indigent of New York who lack access to appropriate health care. Benjamin (Jamie) Lederer is wrapping up his second year as the USAF psychiatrist in South Korea and heading for a similar position in August at Aviano AB in Italy. Visitors always welcome.

Jennifer Northrop finished a fellowship in gastroenterology in June at the University of Texas at Houston and will join a private gastroenterology practice in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., on July 1. Though she loved her time in Texas, Jennifer is looking forward to moving back to the East Coast and would love to hear from any alumni in the upstate N.Y. area! Richard Lee is a lead pastor in a local church in Fort Lee (right across the bridge). There are a bunch of Columbia students and alumni at the church. It’s called Bethany Well (www.bethanywell.org). Jesse Levitt wants everyone to know he now owns a bar in Brooklyn, and invites everyone to stop by. The place is called Kings County, located at 286 Sigel St. (between White and Bogart) in Bushwick, next to the Morgan Avenue stop on the L train.

On April 12, in Long Branch, N.J., Ellie Rivkin married Michael Wiesenfeld Hopkins. In attendance were Susan Carter Turrell Celente, Kris Concepcion ‘97E, Cristina Rumbaltis del Rio and Jon Speier ‘97E. John O’Neill flew in from Basel, Switzerland, David Johnson flew in from London and Tanya Keely flew in from Chicago.

Matthew Wang wrote with a comprehensive update: Last Labor Day weekend, Matt saw a bunch of Columbians at Jon Chou ‘96’s wedding in Newport, R.I. Guests included Rick De Los Reyes and his wife, Dani; Jim Anthony and his wife, Sarah Corathers ‘96 Barnard; Justin Alevizos, Kip Hamilton, Sarah Schell ‘97 Barnard and Pete Janda ‘97E. Kip, Sarah and their daughter, Maggie, welcomed Quinn into the family in February. They live in L.A. Rick and Dani live in Baltimore with their sons, Thomas and Samuel. Rick is a metals and mining analyst for T. Rowe Price. Justin Alevizos and Sarah Schell ’97 Barnard are married and have been living in Hong Kong for several years, where they are investment bankers.

Matt also reports that Charlie Dimmler recently left Geron Corp. to join Solazyme as a director of business development. Charlie and his wife, Laura, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Sadie Lily. Charlie and Laura are practicing attorneys and have been living in Hong Kong for several years, which they have found to be fulfilling.

In New York, Matt spends time watching the Yankees with Marco Capasso, who recently left his legal position at Schering-Plough to pursue another legal position in his New Jersey hometown.Marco and Matt often head to Queens to visit Rushika Richards Conroy, her husband, Dan, and their son, Nevin (1). Rushika finished her chief residency at Schneider Children’s Hospital and will pursue a fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at Children’s Hospital of New York- Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center. Matt also sees Joanne Kwong and her husband, Gene Hu ‘97E. Joanne works at Barnard in a legal and media relations capacity. Matt runs his Chelsea-based game design company, To Be Continued. They consult and offer advice to companies on various topics in the game industry ranging from design strategy, development process and marketing. They have a product in the works that will help design and develop for 4Kids Entertainment, Chaotic, an online and offline collectible card game for kids. He spends an inordinate amount of time at conventions like the recent New York Comic Con getting chased by young fans wielding light sabers. He recently celebrated his eighth year as chapter adviser for the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Columbia.

1998

Sandra P. Angulo Chen

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Hello, Class of 1998, I hope you’re all having a wonderful summer. Although the last school year is over, the fun is just beginning. Two weeks after reunion, the deadline was a few weeks beforehand, so you won’t get the monster reunion column until your next CCT!

Big news about one of our classmates: In March, Christopher Bolten became the editor of Interviews magazine, succeeding Ingrid Sischo, whose tenure lasted 19 years. According to a New York Observer profile of Christopher, he hopes to shake up and improve many aspects of the magazine Andy Warhol launched in the late ’60s. Before his editorship at Interviews, Christopher spent four years as editor of V, a magazine about the “downtown fashion and art scene.” He lives in the West Village.

As always seems to be the case these past couple of years, there are a few baby announcements. Congratulations are in order for Scott Ostfield and his wife, Jen Maxfield Ostfield ‘99, who had their second child, Vivian Shirley, on February 7. Vivian joins Trevor Samuel, who was born in October. The Ostfields live in Hoboken, Scott
works at Jana Partners, a hedge fund in Manhattan, and Jen is a familiar face to news watchers in the tri-state area as a reporter for WABC-TV Eyewitness News. [See September/October 2006.]

Justin Garrett and his wife, Rachel, also welcomed a girl, Jane Belfa, who was born on April 26. Jane is the Garretts' firstborn, and she has also madequite a stir on Justin's Facebook page, where some of us have been able to see her coo and smile in video uploads. The family lives in Park Slope, the same Brooklyn 'hood where her proud papa grew up! Congratulations, Justin and Rachel.

One month between little Vivian and Jane, my son, Jonah Thomas Angulo Chen, arrived on the scene. He was born March 13 at our home in Silver Spring, Md. He looks just like his father, Hans Chen '97. His siblings, Elias (6½) and Delia (3½), are thrilled to have a new baby brother. As for me, with three kids is easier than I expected, but it's still exhausting!

Lastly, a quick reminder: You don't have to save updates for weddings and births. We'd all love to hear from our single and non-parent classmates too!

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Congratulations to Laura Colarusso and Jason Saretsky, who after nine years of dating, were married on September 8. [See photo.] The wedding took place at Historic Waynesborough, the birthplace of Revolutionary War general Anthony Wayne, in the suburbs of Philadelphia. Jason and Laura have been pursuing careers that have kept them living apart for the last few years. Laura has been in Washington, D.C., covering the military for a Cannett paper, while Jason was in New York coaching track and field at Iona College.

The happy couple have since moved to Cambridge, Mass., where Jason is distance track and field and cross country for men and women at Harvard. Laura and Jason will be spending some time apart again soon, however, as Laura returns to alma mater to attend the Journalism School, while Jason continues to coach at Harvard.

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Lots of weddings this issue! Nugi Jakobishvili and Isabelle Levy '05 were married last August in Tribeca. Isabelle is a Ph.D. student in comparative literature at Harvard, and Nugi works in the advisory group at Blackrock in New York. They met downtown at a film festival in February 2005 when they were both in New York. The happy couple then spent a year in Europe, where Isabelle was a Fulbright Scholar in Spain and Nugi completed a graduate degree in economics at Oxford. Nugi and Isabelle had more than 20 Columbia grads at their wedding. [See photo.]

Xiaoqian (Cynthia) Zhang and Jun Hou '06 were married in Shanghai on October 21. The couple met on their first day of orientation and celebrated the wedding with many Columbia friends. From left to right: Xin Jin '98E, Donglei (Lei) Zhou '00E, Yan Lou '99, '05 Business, the groom, the bride, Yiting (Coco) Shen '01E, '02E, Weijia Sun '02, Haolin Lou '99 and Zhengyu Wu '05 SIPA.

PHOTO: MR. CAO AND MR. QIAO FROM SHANGHAI TELEVISION

Jonathan Vogel wrote, "After a year as a professor in the economics department at UCLA, I'm moving back to Morningside Heights next academic year to become a professor in the economics department at Columbia. Genna Weinsten is finishing up at NYU's Stern School of Business and moving to Washington, D.C., to work for The Advisory Board Company." Maya Nath married Sgt. Benjamin A. Curtis on March 29 in Antelope, Mass. Maya works in Denver as an associate in the products liability department of the Phoenix law firm Snell & Wilmer. She received a law degree from NYU. Her husband is in an airborne infantry unit stationed at the Army base in Fort Carson, Colo. He returned last year from a two-month deployment in Iraq and expects another deployment. He graduated from Pace.

Finally, please update your contact information so that we can keep you in touch with Columbia: www.alumniconnections.com/clic/pub/COL/oldintro/oldintro.cgi. I hope everyone is having a great summer! Please keep in touch.

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Jessica Kaplan Rosenblum and Jeremy Rosenblum are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Benjamin Chanon, born January 26. Hannah Selinger recently was hired as the beverage director for the entire Momofuku group.

Natalie Robin writes: "I finally graduated with my M.F.A. in lighting design from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. I recently designed The Winter's Tale, directed
Ellen Gustafson ’02 Helps To Feed the World

By Helaine Olen

When Ellen Gustafson ’02 graduated, she wasn’t sure what she wanted to do next. She’d studied foreign policy but she also loved musical theater and had taken classes at Juilliard while at Columbia. Probably the last thing she expected to be was an entrepreneur.

Six years later, Gustafson is the director of the Feed Projects, a firm she founded in 2006 with model/social activist Lauren Bush. The company manufactures and markets fashion products with a twist: A portion of the money raised from the sale of each of the items goes to feed children in school for the academic year.

Feed’s debut product — an organic cotton and burlap carryall designed by Bush to resemble the sacks of grain given out to children in the Third World by relief agencies — was a surprise fashion hit last year. It was even dubbed an “It bag” by The Guardian.

“I never imagined I would be a businesswoman when I graduated from Columbia,” Gustafson says. “I thought big, bad business was the last thing I would do.”

Gustafson says she can barely recall a time when she did not want to attend Columbia. Her grandmother, Agnes Nevin ’72 Sw, always talked fondly about her years at Columbia. “Her beautiful Columbia degree was hanging on her wall, and I always used to ask about it,” Gustafson recalls. “By the time I was 5, it was the only school I wanted to go to.” When the time came to apply to college, the Berwyn, Pa., resident applied to Columbia as an early decision candidate. “It was literally the only application I filled out,” she says with a laugh.

Gustafson says the Core classes in art and music are among her favorite academic memories. But it was the American foreign policy seminar she signed up for in her senior year that changed her life. On the first day of class, Gustafson told lecturer Gideon Rose — also the managing editor of the journal Foreign Affairs — that she would love the opportunity to work with his organization. Rose took Gustafson up on her offer, helping to arrange an internship at the Council on Foreign Relations’ communications department. Gustafson stayed on after college, working for a time as a research associate with the group.

Gustafson remembers her time at CFR as “one of the most interesting years of my life," but she wanted to experiment with other careers. She tried music and then TV news, but neither was the right fit. In early 2006, Gustafson saw a job posting on Idealist.org for a communications specialist for the United Nations’ World Food Programme (WFP), and she leapt at the opportunity. That’s where she met Bush, an internationally known model (and the niece of President George W. Bush) who has been an honorary spokesperson for the program since 2004. The two quickly became friends, and Bush shared with Gustafson an idea she had to market an organic tote bag to raise money to help eliminate world hunger.

“It was Ellen who realized we needed to start our own company to do this,” says Bush. “I definitely feel her energy and go-getter attitude helped Feed come to fruition. Ellen is a great partner, and I am lucky to have her working with me.”

The Feed bag went on sale on April 1, 2007, on Amazon.com and quickly rose to No. 1 on the apparel sales list, where it remained for several months. The tote also is carried at various stores in Europe, including Harrods. Twenty dollars from each sale is donated to WFP. Gustafson believes her group is responsible for making sure at least 38,000 school children have been fed through the program’s school meal initiative.

Feed teamed up with Whole Foods to release a new bag, which went on sale May 1. The natural foods behemoth plans to sell the latest version of the Feed tote for $29.95, with $10 from each sale going to feed a Rwandan child one meal a day for 100 days. Whole Foods has placed an initial order for 400,000 of the cotton and burlap carryalls — meaning that if all goes according to plan, Feed will raise $4 million for WFP from this one item.

In fact, Feed has been so successful that Gustafson and Bush are now in the process of setting up their own nonprofit foundation, with the hopes that they can donate their proceeds to other worthy causes and programs. But despite her hectic schedule, which includes traveling everywhere from Africa to Asia to the World Economic Forum in Davos on behalf of Feed, Gustafson remains intimately involved with Columbia. She co-chaired her fifth reunion’s planning committee and was on the host committee for the Second Annual Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit, held in April.

Gustafson also continues with voice lessons, saying: “I still love to sing, but now I sing at all my Columbia friends’ weddings.”

Helaine Olen is the co-author of Office Mate: The Employee Handbook for Finding — and Managing — Romance on the Job (www.helaineolen.com).

by Jonathan Rosenberg. I live in Washington Heights and plan to freelance as a lighting designer. I see Sandy London, who is writing his second book and lives in Carroll Gardens with Tim and their dog, Baxter, and Sarah Bishop-Stone ’04, who is a first-year in the Yale School of Drama, getting her master’s in dramaturgy.”

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The Second Annual Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit at the Tennis & Racquet Club was a smashing success, and I’m sure our five-year reunion, which will have taken place by the time you read this, will be, too. The following classmates deserve recognition for serving on the Reunion Planning Committee: Kwam Aidoo, Sam Arora, John Church, Monica Conley, Eleanor Coufos, Colleen Cusick, Charlotte Evans, Joey Hoepf, Claudia Huerta, Jonathan Klein, Eric Kriegerstein, Dan Moss, Chris Motley, Nathania Nisonson, Michael Novielli, Jeff Peate, Johanna Quinn, Carter Reum, Andrew Shannahann, Tamar Simon, Nicole Tartak Warner, Geoff Williams and Preslaysa Williams. I’d also like to acknowledge the following classmates who served with me on the Spring Benefit Host Committee: Priscilla Cipriano, Katie Day, Na-
thania Nisonson, Consuelo Rem- 
erton, Michael C. Foss and Eleanor 
Coflos. Special thanks to Nathania 
for chairing the Host Committee.

Now, on to the updates. In wed-
dings, Michelle Davidowitz, a 
Fordham Law graduate and as-
ociate in the New York office of 
Fulbright & Jaworski, married Jed 
Schwartz on March 8 in the 
Rainbow Room. Lee Schutzman 
mated Kristen Kupchik ’03E on May 9 
at the Bethwood in New Jersey. Lee 
is an investment banking associate 
at Peter J. Solomon Co. On August 10, 
Erin Raggio and Kevin Eriksen 
were married in Concord, Mass. 
Erie teaches high school social stud-
ies and Kevin practices law.

Previn Waran writes, “As a 
member of the Brooklyn Law School 
Moos Court Honor Society’s Labor 
Law Appellate Team, I argued in the 
Robert F. Wagner National Labor 
and Employment Law Competition 
at New York Law in March. Finishing 
up second year at NYU Law, 
and am looking forward to my 
first experience working in a firm 
setting this summer at Proskauer 
Rose. Picked up an obsession with 
food and wine somewhere between 
graduation and now wander the 
streets of New York looking for new 
and delicious things to eat.”

Victoria Sharon finished up 
her medical internship at Brigham 
and Women’s Hospital in June and 
will move on to her residency in 
dermatology at UC Davis Medical 
Center. In Sacramento, Calif. Bram 
Welch-Horan is now a “triple C- 
umbian, having graduated from 
medical school at P&S, celebrated 
our fifth college reunion in May 
and started my residency in pedia-
trics at the Children’s Hospital of 
New York. Nathan Sabatini is a 
Columbia University Medical Center.”

Lindsey Stephenson writes, “I 
teach Spanish and geography in 
Bradenton, Fla. I went to Amers-
dam in May with the US Severs 
Rugby Team. I’m hoping to make 
the World Cup Team that will play in 
Dubai in 2009.” Shari Neshel- 
wat writes, “Since graduation from 
Columbia, I have graduated from 
law school and passed the New 
York and Connecticut bar exams. 
I have joined a firm that works for 
commercial banks and New York 
and Manhattan D.A.’s offices and 
for the Army at West Point in the 
JAG office. I am a prosecutor at 
the Bronx D.A.’s office in the In-
vestigations Division, prosecuting 
economic crimes in a specialized 
bureau called the Anson, Auto 
and Economic Crimes Bureau. On 
another note, I am a mentor of a 
college student with the Eagle 
Foundation (a scholarship that helped put 
me through college) and also am 
a mentor of a high school student 
with the Eagle Academy for Young 
Men in the South Bronx. I bought a 
condo in Riverdale, N.Y., last year 
and I am getting married to Sarah 
Kelly ’05 Barnard this summer.”

Brooke Waller will begin a 
Ph.D. program in philosophy at 
Emory in the fall. She writes, “I 
tend to continue what I started at 
Columbia as an undergrad — 19th- 
and 20th-century German phi-
losophy, and especially Nietzsche 
and Foucault, and computational 
theory.” Afia Owusu-
Sekyere recently graduated from 
the Duke M.B.A. program. Tamar 
Simon is a development executive 
at Straight Up Films.

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Margarita O’Donnell and Gareth 
Eckman ’02, ’03E, ’04E (master’s) 
live together in the Carroll Gardens 
neighborhood of Brooklyn. Maggie 
finished her second-year as a 
Root-Tilden-Kern Scholar at NYU 
Law and recently spent time working 
for a human rights NGO in Argen-
tina. Gareth is a project manager 
for construction at the National 
September 11th Memorial downtown. 
Brad Weinstein shares, “I graduated from the 
Harvard School of Dental Medicine in June 
and am moving back to NYC to 
do a one-year general practice resi-
dency at the Manhattan Veterans 
Affairs hospital on First Avenue 
and 23rd Street. I’ll live in the West 
Village with my girlfriend, and am 
looking forward to reconnecting 
with everyone still in New York.”

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Our driven classmates are making 
great strides in their academic pur-
uits. This edition of Class Notes is 
dominated by updates from class-
mates gearing up for their return 
to school in the fall, and those 
wrapping up their degrees and 
looking ahead to the next phase of 
their lives.

Smith Kidkarnde graduated 
from Pace in May with an M.A. 
in psychology and will attend 
Pace’s Doctoral Program in School-
Clinical Child Psychology. Natasha 
Shapiro welcomed her 25th 
birthday in May by studying for 
Step 1 of the United States Medical 
Licensing Examination at Albert 
Einstein College of Medicine in the 
Bronx. Graham Donald finished 
his third year at USC Medical 
School. One of his supervising 
residents is Sheila Nazarian ’01, a 
plastic surgery resident.

Kimberly Seibel will start 
her Ph.D. this fall in cultural an-
thropology, with an emphasis on 
Africa studies, at Northwestern. 
Molly Friedensohn, who recently 
visited Israel to connect with her 
Jewish heritage through Birthright, 
is headed to Harvard Business 
School this fall. David Pullins 
will be leaving his job at The Frick 
Collection to begin a Ph.D. in art 
history at Harvard, while Lauren 
Mancia will start her Ph.D. pro-
gram in history at Yale in Septem-
ber. Lauren will continue to be a 
lecturer at The Cloisters during her 
time in graduate school.

Zac T. Rose, who’s been enjoy-
ing his year at Cambridge studying 
architectural history, is excited for 
his move to Belgium this fall to 
begin a Fulbright project about 
Brussels and the European Com-
mission. Steve Mumford, who 
graduated from the University of 
Washington’s Evans School of Pub-
lic Affairs in March with an M.P.A., 
is looking for work with nonprofits 
in the Seattle area. "Finally time to 
start paying off that student debt!" he 
writes. "Looking forward to great 
time hanging out with Kat Velas ’05E 
and Michelle Morse ’05 Barnard.

Evita Mendiola loved her first 
year at the School of Social Work, 
where she is pursuing a clinical 
m.S.W. in contemporary social is-
sues. She recently was elected as 
her class representative and is pas-
sionate about making sure her peers 
love CUSSW. Jeannelle Folkes, 
who works at CUSSW, will begin attend-
ing Teachers College part-time this 
fall for the higher and postsecond-
ary education master’s program.

Rebekah Pazmino, having 
finished her first year at Brooklyn 
Law, is spending the summer at 
the Louisiana Capital Assistance 
Center, a nonprofit that provides 
capital defense at the trial level. 
She’ll also begin serving in the fall 
as e.v.p. for the Latin American 
education network. Our driven 
classmates are making great strides 
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as e.v.p. for the Latin American 
education network.
Isabelle Levy '05 and Nugi Jakobishvili '00 were married in August in NYC’s Tribeca. More than 20 Columbia alumni were at the wedding, including (back row) David Pullins '05, Anjali Dayal '05, Naomi Sugie '03, Dan Lichtenberg '03, Katerina Seligmann '05, Larissa Brewer Garcia '05, Emily Beeney '05, David Shamoony '05, Alan Moses '00, Ommed Sathe '00, Eli Schleifer '02 and Isaac Nesser '06; (middle row) Ramsey McClazner '05, Rachel Kwi '05, Nicole Bryant '05, Tian Zhang '05, the bride, the groom, Miranda Calderon '01, Claire de Saint Vincent '05 and Deborah Murad '01 Barnard; and (front row) Rebecca Jacobs '05, Ellen Reid '05, Patrick Young '05 and Joyce Kim '05.

PHOTO: GREG KESSLER

July/August 2008
I hope that everyone is enjoying the summer. Thank you again to everyone who has submitted Class Notes. It sounds as though members of the Class of 2007 are doing amazing things. On April 4, The New York Tennis and Racquet Club was packed with Columbians for a night of dancing at the Second Annual Columbia College Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit. Among the attendees were Todd Abrams, Michael A. Accordino, Monica Erin Agor, Allison Alter, Benjamin John Baker, Nina E Bell, Aaron Clayton Bruker, Clara E Bryant, Amy Cass, David Chait, Riley E Clegg, Luciana Colapinto, Nishanti Dicit, Kirstin Lee Ericson, Christina Fang, Samantha Feingold, Anna German, Jessica Lynn Glavin, Julija Sarah Israel, Adam Kyle Kaufman '04, Sarena Khera, Freda Laulicht '08E, Casey Levy, Marian Liang, Mike Nadler, Jacob S. Olson, Alexandria Pinto, Martha Drake Reeves '05, Andrew Richard Russeth, Roderick Salguero '06, Peter Safer Shalek, Daniel Jonathan Shapiro, Zoe Elizabeth Shea, Paul Sonne, Carly Sullivan, Hilary Sullivan, Maura Bernadette Walsh, Andrew Mark Walther and Andrew James Hayden Ward.

Tao Tan reports that the Columbia Alumni Association of Australia is up and running! Tao adds, “Drop us a line at columbia.australia@gmail.com if you’re ever down under, mate.”

Tom Lightcap recently joined Perry Capital, a $1 billion hedge fund headquartered in midtown New York. Tom resides in the Flatiron District and is gearing up for the summer softball season.

Carolyn Braff also started a new job. She shared, “I recently left my job at the CBS College Sports Network to head up a new initiative at a sports technology association, the Sports Video Group. We connect the technology side of sports to the broadcast and business side in order to advance the production and distribution of sports content, and my job is to open up our work to the college market. It’s a fascinating field that involves me evaluating things such as 3D-HDTV broadcasts of NBA games, so I can’t complain! Feel free to share exciting sports technology news stories that we should be covering: carolyn@sportsvideo.org.”

Many of our classmates will be heading back to school this fall. Yell N. Yasin is returning to alma mater to start the Ph.D. program in the Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures. Yell writes, “I am ecstatic to come back to Columbia and New York City after such a short break. Life cannot get much better than getting paid to read, write and sip coffee at Butler.”

Seth Wiener shares, “This fall, I will begin my 1L year at Harvard Law School, in a city besides World City. I am excited; I am scared. Between now and then, I hope to continue with my research position and maybe travel somewhere. Otherwise, everything’s pretty much status quo.”

April Nizlek is back from her winter holiday in India. Cole will start her M.Sc. this fall in econometrics and mathematical econ at the London School of Economics.

Ngozi Okoh will start at Penn’s Dental School at the end of August after spending her summer in Nigeria “enjoying the good life before grad school starts.”

Alison Levine lives in Urbanchall, India, and is the program director of the Taknor Women’s Health Collective, providing basic health training to women of remote villages in the Tamil Nadu region. Alison will start her M.Sc. this fall in econometrics and mathematical econ at the London School of Economics.

Demetri Arnaoutakis plans to do a year in remote villages in the Islands of Milos, Naxos, and Amorgos. He will start her M.Sc. this fall in econometrics and mathematical econ at the London School of Economics.

Ngozi Okoh will start at Penn’s Dental School at the end of August after spending her summer in Nigeria “enjoying the good life before grad school starts.”

Lauren McCabe shares some exciting news: “I won a trip to Thailand from a photo I submitted to Conde Nast Traveler’s ‘Win the Cover’ contest. I’ll take the trip in February, and plan to spend the next six to 12 months traveling Southeast Asia with camera, surfboard and laptop in hand. The trip will culminate with the completion of my novel about mermaids.” Congratulations! Enjoy the rest of the summer!

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It is strange to think that we have been out of college for two months now. As we settle into our new lives, or wait for them to begin (for those of us lucky enough to have the summer off), our classmates are around the world with some incredible updates to share. Like, ‘I left for Spain, and I am excited to travel “beyond where the West ends.” She adds, “If you are going to be in Europe at all this summer, let me know … I would love to meet you there for a drink.”

After graduation, Jeremy Colvin traveled with friends throughout Europe. He will begin his full-time employment in mid-July at Goldman Sachs in its investment banking division. He thanks his friends of the Class of 2008 for a great four years.

Dalinez Martinez will work at JP Morgan Chase as a finance analyst in the New York Metro area. She is engaged to be married soon, so “look for pictures in a future issue.” She adds, “I would like to thank my classmates and things such as 3D-HDTV broadcasts of NBA games.”

Danielle Slutzky will travel with friends in Central America and the Middle East this summer before moving back to the city, north of Hell’s Kitchen. She is excited to join McKinsey’s New York office in the fall.

Neda Navab also will be joining McKinsey in the New York office, in September. By the time this issue comes out, she hopes to have found her dream apartment (read: better than Ruggles) with Lauren Abbott and Michelle Nicole Diamond. Michelle is thrilled to be staying in the city and working for Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. The good news is that I will be exploring many of the rest of the summer doing volunteer work in Boston. This summer, Nick Folly plans to become Aerobics and Fitness Association of America certified and do personal training at 24 Hour Fitness. I will move back to Morningside Heights and will begin studying at the Law School.

Robert Wu is going with friends and family to Europe and China this summer. Upon his return, he will move to Los Angeles to start as an analyst at Bel-Air Investment Advisors. Although he is excited about moving out West, he will visit his friends dollar dearly. In two years, Rob plans to return to N.Y. and enroll in a reputable M.B.A. program. “I’ll get to you better come visit L.A.”

Rachel Cooper began her career in June as a product developer/marketing assistant for OXO, the company known for its kitchen and home products. She lives in Hudson Heights in Manhattan. “I wish good luck to all my fellow graduates in their future endeavors and hope that life allows them great opportunities and takes them far,” she says.

Alison Schecter is spending the summer in Durham, N.C.
where she is the publicist assistant for the American Dance Festival. She is thrilled to be involved in the ADF’s 75th anniversary season. "I really enjoy being a part of this community and look forward to the excitement inside my classroom. To my amazement, the campaign responded to my e-mail and suggested that the words of my students be shared with a larger audience. Two months later, a 13-minute video was posted on the Obama campaign Web site (available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/ watch?v=r9IdaegAB0) that featured my students discussing the themes of race and empowerment in their lives.

The response we have received from this video is hard for me to comprehend. It has had approximately 400,000 hits and has been featured in classrooms across America and abroad as an example of inspired teaching and student engagement in the classroom. My students have received hundreds of personal responses from Nigerians in New Zealand thanking us for sharing their voices and opinions. Many people expressed their desire for my students to be the future leaders of the world. The same students who thought the White House was reserved for white people were being listened to, appreciated and celebrated.

I became a teacher because of Columbia. It was there that I honed my skills as an actor, thinker, activist, partner, friend, academic adviser, artist and tutor. I learned how to live, love and learn during those thought-filled years in Morningside Heights. The greatest lesson I learned in my history and English majors is that group-oriented thinking is the cause of most of the strife and discord throughout history. Transcending this became a life goal and a consistent theme inside my classroom. I would like to share with the greater Columbia community the vision that all people need and deserve the chance to believe in themselves as individuals. I took for granted my inherent faith that I would be able to succeed in college. We need to empower future generations to believe that they can succeed in college and in life no matter who they are, where they come from or what they look like.

John (Jackson) Shafer ’05 was awarded a New York City Teaching Fellowship upon his graduation. During the last three years, he has taught English, ESL, theater and advising (a class dedicated to helping adolescents adjust to the academic and social realities of adulthood) at the Bronx H.S. for Performance and Stagedraft.

Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 64)

In time, the troubles simmered down and life went on as usual. Other universities also experienced disruptions. A few of them had buildings burnt; we only had them occupied.

Harry Coleman ’46, dean of students, was temporarily confined to his office in Hamilton Hall. Incidentally, when I was assistant dean in the College — one of the first two assistant deans in the University, the other being my friend Wes Hennessey ’51 GS in Engineering — I was in charge of scholarships and when they hit the $1 million mark we needed a new bank. Harry started as my assistant.

Some of the Ivy League colleges succumbed to pressure to change degree requirements. Columbia rejected any such changes and was smart enough to retain its Core Curriculum, which continues to receive kudos.

William A. "Bill" Hance '38, '49 GSAS
Professor Emeritus
NANTUCKET, MASS.

Sundial

A quiz for the most astute, observant and knowledgeable Columbians:

In May/June, there is a picture of our beloved sundial (the full sundial, not just the base that remains today). Can you find it? (Note: I am not counting the picture above the table of contents, in which, below the policeman’s left elbow, we can see a jumble of cars and headlights — and perhaps a bit of the sundial as well.)

For answer, see bottom of page.

Bill Cole ’94

SITGES (BARCELONA), SPAIN

Musicophilia

In regard to the article on Dr. Oliver Sacks concerning music [Bookshelf, March/April], I would say musicophilia among humans is an uneven phenomenon — it is estimated that but 3 percent of New Yorkers listen to classical music. I doubt that many appreciate Kern, Rogers, Gershwin et al. Why is this? Freud stated that meaningful music, idiot-savants aside, as well as the function of figure-ground (segregated unit), of major importance in apperception.

One should not overly localize brain function. If one is reminded of Freud’s observation that the finite number of nerve fibers in the spinal cord cannot anatomically explain all its functions and apply this to the brain, it’s enough to boggle the mind — at least mine.

Dr. G.H. Klingon ’42
NEW YORK CITY

Answer to Sundial question: On page 45 of May/June is reproduced the cover of a new edition of a book by Federico Garcia Lorca. In the picture on the right, the poet is seated in front of a large dark marble sphere. Bingo!
SERVICES

CLASSIC DIXIELAND — For your dances, weddings, parties, picnics, and celebrations, handsome veterans of the Woody Allen band, Michael’s Pub, the Cajun Restaurant, the New York scene, play music that keeps your feet tapping and your face smiling. The Wildcat Jazz Band, Dick Dreiwitz ’58C, 201-488-3482.

COLUMBIA FOOTBALL MEMORABILIA: 8-ft long green bench from 1983 Baker Field before stadium rebuild, perfect condition, best offer accepted. tjlicata@aol.com.

Seeking Columbia Jester magazines from the 1930’s. Email: albert.romkema@sympatico.ca.

Date Smart/Party Smart. Join the introduction network exclusively for graduates students and faculty of the ivies, MIT, Stanford and other great schools. The Right Stuff, www.rightstuffdating.com, 800-988-5288.


Providing home-care for someone with Alzheimer’s, Dementia, or similar illness means care-givers have to know when their charge needs attention. Wandering and falling pose significant risks. Monitoring/paging system makes home-care manageable. Go to www.Notifex.com for important information and help.


RENTALS

Abaco, Bahamas, two bedroom condominium, tennis courts, pool, dbaillard@telus.net.

Budapest, Hungary. Two bedrooms renovated, artfully furnished apartment; wrap around terrace, sweeping river views. Vacation rental or long term. wedtheimer@sprynet.com.


Maine luxury lakefront town homes for sale on pristine Kezar Lake. WWW.kezarlakecondos.com or 713-988-2382.

MARTHA’S VINEYARD: Rent my Edgartown waterview timeshares. July 12 thru July 19, 2008. Contact Sid Kadish ’63C at 617-969-7548 or kadishs@ummhc.org for details.

Naples, Florida: Luxury condominium overlooking Gulf, two month minimum, 802-524-2108 James L. Levy CC ’65, LAW ’68.
I remember the moment in my Literature Humanities class when I realized I needed to be a teacher. My professor, the phenomenal Julie Bleha ’96 GSAS, ’98 GSAS, inspired me to sink my teeth into the intimidating morass of Virginia Woolf’s narrative. Pained by the thought that we wouldn’t get to fully explore the previous night’s reading, dating morass of Virginia Woolf’s narrative.

I, of course, encouraged them to apply to Columbia, an educational institution I believe provides one of the most balanced and inspiring core curricula.

I work in the South Bronx at a high school of 400 students. I found my way into this classroom as a member of New York City Teaching Fellows immediately following college. The Teaching Fellows program allows an alternative route to certification while providing under-resourced schools with young and motivated teachers. I quickly learned that my students had never been very interested in politics or in issues facing the world outside of the South Bronx. When I asked many of them who our Vice President is, most responded with blank stares. It saddened me that my students felt so little connection to their federal government. I only realized the full extent of these disenfranchised feelings when multiple students asked me, “Is the White House named ‘white’ because it was meant to be exclusively for white people?” These students believed that not only did their voices not matter but that their leaders were explicitly determined to quiet their voices and protests.

As I walked into the teacher’s lounge on January 4, I found two of my colleagues so emotional that they couldn’t speak. I asked them what was wrong and they told me that they never thought they would live to see the day that a state that was 94 percent white would vote for a black man. I realized that my students had to know about this. In my 12th-grade English Honors class we had been discussing race in American literature. We had spent the fall reading James McBride, Toni Morrison, Zora Neale Hurston and Harriet Beecher Stowe, and the students’ understanding of race and racial politics in America had become nuanced and profound. I brought in the New York Times article that described Barack Obama ‘83’s Democratic primary win in Iowa and shared it with my students. We discussed it as a postscript to the literature and history we had been discussing in class. One of my students raised his hand and with tears in his eyes told me that he had never believed that someone who looked like him could ever really be accepted by white people and rise to a position of power and authority. The class was stunned. The “us versus them” mentality that had surrounded their lives was beginning to crumble.

Students were suddenly talking elections and politics. Thirty minutes before class I found my classroom full of inquiring students wanting to know about the next elections. I started to teach the electoral process to my English Language Learners. These students are from Ghana, Yemen, Honduras, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Cambodia, Puerto Rico, Peru and Ecuador, but they all became inspired by the new messages of hope and unity. Students began to regale me with stories about debates they were having with their parents. Parents were blown away with how much their children cared and how knowledgeable they had become. The day after Super Tuesday, my room was packed with students wanting to hear my analysis. The same students who hadn’t known who our Vice President was asked me about demographic breakdowns, exit polling and voter trends.

Then Obama’s “Yes We Can” speech altered the dialogue in my classroom. Students were transfixed. They asked if they could write their own Yes We Can speeches. Seeing this as an ideal teaching opportunity, I agreed. These speeches motivated my classroom. I needed only to mention “yes we can” and watch homework, classwork, attention and the level of respect improve within the classroom.

Inspired, I sent an e-mail to the Obama campaign alerting them...
What’s with the guy who sits in front of Philosophy Hall? He’s definitely a hunk. Is he really French?
For the times you drove me to school when I was late, for the times you brought me that assignment I left at home, for the times you persuaded me to study instead of goofing off, for all your support through all the years, thank you!
Columbia College
Alumni Reunion Weekend 2008

More than 1,900 alumni and guests celebrated their reunion from May 29–June 1 on campus and in venues across New York City.
Alumni Reconnect

Alumni Reunion Weekend 2008 kicked off on May 29 with welcome receptions and cocktail parties, many hosted by alumni. Attendees visited Morningside Heights favorite Havana Central at The West End and also journeyed downtown to Lincoln Center, Times Square, the Columbia Club and beyond to join classmates in getting the party started. Dean Austin Quigley was a welcome guest at many of these receptions.
Meet and Mingle on Campus

The best part of reunion may be the thrill of seeing long-lost friends. Or perhaps it's seeing Alma Mater in all her glory on Low Steps. Or maybe it's bringing your family to the place you spent four important, happy years. Whatever the case may be, reunion was a wonderful time to be on campus and to enjoy the beautiful grounds, visit with classmates and hang out on Low Plaza.
Lunches and dinners were some of the busiest events during reunion, as alumni and guests took advantage of the opportunity to eat and drink with old friends while making new ones. All classes were offered class-specific meals, with many at elegant campus locations such as Casa Italiana and Low Rotunda, as well as an old stomping ground, John Jay Dining Hall, and a new favorite, Alfred Lerner Hall.

Two classes also got to eat in Butler Library, a no-no in their student days. Some classes invited guest speakers such as a beloved professor, while others invited classmates to share undergraduate memories.
Family Fun

Alumni Reunion Weekend was fun for the entire family. Many of the weekend events were family-friendly, especially the barbecues under the big tents on South Field. And while alumni, spouses and guests were attending panel discussions, lectures, a wine-tasting or formal class dinners on Saturday, Camp Columbia kept children entertained with activities, clowns, face-painting, movies, treats and more.
Back to the Classroom

A trip to campus wouldn’t be complete without reliving the days of being in a Hamilton or Schermerhorn classroom. This time around, however, alumni enjoyed Mini-Core Course lectures, led by current College professors, or listened to, learned from and sometimes challenged classmates (just like the old days!) at class-specific panels. Some panels included members of the newest group of alumni, the Class of 2008, who gave a feel for what the College is like today. Meanwhile, at an all-class convocation, Joe Cabrera ’82 (bottom right) received the President’s Cup for service to a reunion class from last year’s recipient, Brian C. Krisberg ’81.
Party into the Night

Two of reunion’s highlights each year are the Young Alumni Casino Royale and the Starlight Reception. On Friday, about 1,000 young alumni gathered at the Nokia Theatre in Times Square for gaming to win Columbia-themed prizes and dancing into the wee hours of the morning. On Saturday, after a full day of panels, lunches, classes, a wine-tasting and dinners, hundreds of alumni, spouses and guests converged for desserts and dancing under the tent on Low Steps.
**2008 Dean’s Pin Recipients**

Dean’s Pins are given to members of each class' reunion committee who have demonstrated particular dedication to and involvement in their reunion.

| CLASS OF 1943 | Joseph Kelly |
| CLASS OF 1948 | Bob Clayton, George Demrksian, Sears Edwards, Robert Mellins, Jim Nugent, Bernard Polak, Seth Rubenstein, Robert Silbert |
| CLASS OF 1953 | Joel Danzinger, Jay Kane, George Lowry, Stas "Pete" Pellet, Lew Robins, Jules Ross, Jim Steiner |
| CLASS OF 1958 | James L. Bast, Ernest Brod, Peter F. Cohn, Barry Dickman, Joseph Dorinson, Charles R. Feuer, Harvey S. Feuerstein, Marshall B. Front, Paul A. Gomperz, Peter Gruenberger, Laurence E. Harris, Joseph M. Klein, Theodore S. Line * |
| CLASS OF 1978 | Thomas Bisdale, Chuck Callan, Joseph Cirigliano, Ted Farone, John Flores, Chuck Geneslaw, Joseph Giovannelli, Mitch Helpem, Peter Kovalenko, John Ohman, Joel Levinson, Tom Mariam, Matthew Nemerson, Mark Silverschotz |
| CLASS OF 2003 | Kwamenia Aidoo, Samir Arora, Nicholas Bender, Ruby Bola, Mayra Cabrera, John Church, Monica Conley, Eleanor L. Coufos, Colleen Cusick, Charlotte Evans, Michael Foss, Tailahza Gonzalez, Kimberly Grant, Elizabeth Greene, Bari Handwerger, Lauren Harrison, Joseph Hoep, Dana Hopp, Claudia Huerta, Jonathan Klein, Eier Kriegstein, James Maclean, Anna Maria Mannino, Daniel Moss, Erik Moss, Christopher Motley, Nathania Nisonson, Michael J. Novielli, Jeffrey Peate, Johanna Quinn, Carter Reum, Andrew Shannahan, Tamar Simon, Jessica Slutsky, Nicole Tarkat Warner, Kendra Webb, Geoffrey Williams, Preslaysa Williams |

* POSTHUMOUSLY