Meet the New Dean, Michele Moody-Adams

Moral philosopher is a strong advocate for undergraduate education

“The Core Curriculum represents the kind of education that is crucial for anybody who values the liberal arts. I will do everything I can to protect the Core.”

PLUS

Conservatism exhausted: Sean Wilentz ’72 on the end of the Reagan era

Damon Winter ’97’s Pulitzer Prize-winning photography
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COVER STORY

MEET THE NEW DEAN
Michele Moody-Adams is a moral philosopher who is dedicated to the Core Curriculum, to working side-by-side with faculty and administrators, and to taking the occasional roller coaster ride. Meet her in this Q&A with CCT editor Alex Sachare '71.

FEATURES

PHOTO DRIVEN
New York Times photographer Damon Winter '97 won a Pulitzer Prize for his campaign photos of President Barack Obama '83. Here is Winter's story and a selection of his prize-winning photos, accompanied by his thoughts on each.
By David McKay Wilson

COLUMBIA FORUM
Princeton professor and political expert Sean Wilentz '72 explains why he thinks conservatism is exhausted and the Reagan Era is over.

BOOKSHELF
Featured: One Nation Under Dog: Adventures in the New World of Prozac-Popping Puppies, Dog-Park Politics, and Organic Pet Food, by Michael Schaffer '95, explores why we spoil our pets as we do.

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Bernard Nussbaum '58 received this year’s President’s Cup at reunion and gave a thoughtful acceptance speech on the adventure of attending Columbia.

Web Exclusives at www.college.columbia.edu/cct
THE CORE BLOG
Relive Lit Hum with a blog and online book discussion. Alumni can read along and share your thoughts on the great books of Western civilization. Up now: Pride and Prejudice.

MOODY-ADAMS IN HER OWN WORDS
Watch an interview with Dean Michele Moody-Adams shortly after she accepted her new position at Columbia.

5 MORE MINUTES
Watch Professor Donald Hood discuss in detail the evolving relationship between the College and Arts and Sciences.
Letters to the Editor

The Jazz Man
I very much enjoyed your cover story on Professor Robert G. O’Meally in the May/June issue. I was a history major at Columbia who went across the street to take a literature course at Barnard my senior year that was taught by Professor O’Meally. Among many distinguished faculty, Professor O’Meally stood out then to me as an outstanding teacher, and his course was a favorite. I am really pleased to read about him and just wanted to congratulate Professor O’Meally for all of his wonderful accomplishments; Columbia and its students are obviously quite lucky to have him.

Ted Stern ’91, ’94L Washington, D.C.

A Day Off
I rummage around archives in my day job, or at least as a diversion for which I can claim pay from my dean. This is a terrific find:

Massachusetts Spy (Worcester, Mass.)
April 20, 1786

"On the 11th inft. the first Commencement of Columbia College was holden at New York. The Hon. The Congress suspended the public business on that day, to support the important interests of education by their contenance, and grace the exhibitions by their august present."

Calvin Johnson ’66 Austin, Texas

[Editor’s note: The writer is a professor at Texas Law School. Inft. is an abbreviation for instant, meaning this month. It’s nice to know the business of the nation’s government once came to a halt to mark College Commencement.]

Publishing Online
[Editor’s note: We received many letters concerning our decision to publish the July/August issue online only as a cost-saving measure. Following is a sampling.]

I wholeheartedly support the concept of publishing CCT online only — for this issue, and all future issues. It will conserve paper (doesn’t everybody want to be greener?) and save Columbia’s monetary resources that are surely scarce in this environment. Alumni should consider the sacrifice of a paper copy a donation — both to Columbia and the planet.

Anna Politzer ’07 New York City

I’m afraid it doesn’t work for me. Reading something very brief online is OK. A whole magazine — not possible.

Richard Nochimson ’61, ’67 GSAS Bronx, N.Y.

I think an online-only edition of Columbia College Today is a great idea, so long as older issues remain available. Sometimes I find myself going back to old editions of the magazine to look something up. Keep up the good work!

Sogol Somekh ’04 Great Neck, N.Y.

I love the magazine. It’s a daily physical presence in our house. I would think of Columbia much less without receiving it. I know the online mag is just an experiment, but I’m sincerely hoping that it does not become a pattern.

James Alexander ’00 Atlanta

I love it! I have received all of my newspapers and most of my mags online for years. It’s good for the environment and I actually read (sometimes scan) pubs that in print days I often would have thrown out unread. Keep them coming!

Ed Botwinick ’56, ’58E Trustee Emeritus Linville, N.C.

As one who spends more time at my keyboard and terminal than I’d like, I have to say that I much prefer sitting down in a comfortable chair and leafing through the paper version of Columbia College Today. So, please don’t make a habit of the cyber-edition.

Henry S. Jackson ’69 Suffern, N.Y.

Although I welcome the online edition and am intrigued by the increased wealth of online links and resources, I am not in favor of an online-only edition. The printed page is still the form factor (to use a computer term) that I prefer for reading. I hope that the Col-

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DEAN OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT
Derek A. Wittner ’65

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CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine, but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not CCT, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space and clarity. Please direct letters for publication “TO THE EDITOR.”

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

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Thank you to all who provided feedback on our experimental online-only July/August edition, either in response to the request in my last column or by filling out the survey we sent shortly after publication. Your feedback will go a long way toward helping us decide future publication policy.

For those of you who have not yet sorted through your summer vacation mail and e-mail, we did not publish a print edition of the July/August issue of Columbia College Today, instead offering our normal content only online (our magazine has been available online as well as in print since 1999). Although this was environmentally friendly, that was not the reason we did it. The reason was money.

As I explained last issue, each unit of the College has been asked to scale back its budget in these difficult economic times. Publishing a magazine is a costly undertaking, and printing and postage represent a major portion of those costs. In order to permit the College to devote a greater share of its resources to its core mission of academic affairs and student services, we decided to publish an issue online only. We also determined to make our best effort to gather reader feedback, in order to better inform future publishing decisions.

The feedback is still being compiled, but so far it has been fascinating, as I hope the sampling printed in this issue’s Letters to the Editor reflects. Many of you who contacted us directly were upset by the loss of the print edition and asked us never to repeat this experiment, while others were perfectly happy to read the magazine online in the future and urged us to save money and trees by not printing. Interestingly, responses seemed to cross generations; we received e-mails from alumni who graduated in the 1950s and 1960s praising the online delivery, and others from alumni in the 1990s and 2000s saying they preferred a print edition — not all, to be sure, but enough to buck the stereotype.

We conducted an online survey in late July to obtain further feedback. We received 835 responses in the first two days after it was sent out, and of that initial batch, only 25 percent said they had read our online-only issue, even though 74 percent said they usually read every issue of CCT. Class Notes is the section liked the most, with 77 percent reporting “like a lot.” Given four options for future delivery of CCT, bimonthly print and online was by far most popular and bimonthly online only was least popular. More than 52 percent of those early respondents checked “dislike a lot” to the concept of bimonthly online-only delivery, showing that at least among CCT readers, print is not dead.

We hope to be able to report survey results in greater detail in a future issue.

Meanwhile, we thank all of you who responded to the survey or shared your thoughts by contacting us directly. Anyone who would like to take the survey but has not done so can log onto www.college.columbia.edu/cct/survey.

We value your feedback, and it will help us determine what we do in the future, because CCT is, after all, your alumni magazine and not mine. Well, it’s mine too since I’m an alumnus, but you know what I mean.

Paul Neshamkin ’63
Hoboken, N.J.

I don’t know about the wisdom of making it available online only, but I think you should offer everyone the choice of online versus print. I would choose online and forego receiving any more print copies.

Stephen Goldman ’66
Asheville, N.C.

I hate reading something like CCT or newspapers online. However, if costs do not permit paper publication I assume I will have to adapt and challenge my eyesight.

Karl Walter ’53
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO

I implore you to continue sending Columbia College Today in print form. Reading online

(Continued on page 78)
Columbia College will honor Conrad H. Lung '72 with the Alexander Hamilton Medal. The medal, given at the Alexander Hamilton Dinner in Low Rotunda, is the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College community. It is awarded annually by the Columbia College Alumni Association to an alumnus/a or faculty member for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

Lung was born in Canton, China, and attended schools in Hong Kong before matriculating at the College, where he majored in Oriental studies. He then earned a master's and an M.Phil. at Yale, where he taught briefly and was a tutor. In 1977, Lung was hired by a Hong Kong apparel manufacturer to start a marketing operation in New York, Wrightfox International, which was acquired by Jordache Jeans in 1979. He moved to Maurice Sassoon Jeans as v.p. of operations and in 1981 was hired by New York Jean Co. as v.p. in charge of merchandising and marketing.

Lung co-founded Sunnex, Inc., a manufacturer and wholesaler of women's career clothing that develops and markets five brands in the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe and China, in 1985. The next year, he co-founded Sun On-Sunnex International Holding Corp. in Hong Kong as a buying office for Sunnex. In 1987, Lung co-founded China Silk Enterprise Ltd., which operates manufacturing facilities in the People’s Republic of China. In 1992, Lung co-founded Sun On Trust, a not-for-profit organization that performs charitable work in China. In 2003, Lung sold Sunnex and its related companies to various Asia investors, and in 2004 he participated, with a group of Asia investors and two College alumni, in a leveraged buy-out of Mudd Jeans in New York. Lung then became its president. In the same year, he co-founded, with a group of College alumni, a consulting and boutique investment banking firm, Ivy Capital Management LLC, as well as a brand management and marketing firm, Collegiate Brand Management Group, both based in New York.

Lung has been extensively involved with the College and alumni affairs. He helped found the Asia Columbia Alumni Association and was the group’s first president, and, along with other alumni, assisted in the founding of the Columbia Club in Singapore and improved the link between Columbia and various Columbia Clubs in Asia. Lung serves the College as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and as an emeritus member of the Board of Visitors. The College honored him for his distinguished professional achievements with a 2002 John Jay Award.

Lung is married to Yin Yee Lung ’74 Barnard, and they have three children: Jennifer ’01E, ’08 P&S; Stephanie ’04 and Jonathan ’05E.

For more information on this event, contact Tullio "Ted" Borri at 732-548-0574 or tjb63@columbia.edu, or Anna Longobardo at 914-779-2443 or longobardo@optonline.net.

Lisa Palladino
Columbia Takes on Penn at Homecoming 2009

Homecoming 2009 on Saturday, October 17, will feature the Lions taking on Ivy League rival Penn in the afternoon football game at Baker Athletics Complex. Prior to the game, there will be a gourmet barbecue buffet lunch under the Big Tent and family fun at the Columbia Homecoming Carnival, featuring face painting, balloon making, magic, games, prizes and interactive activities for fans of all ages.

The tent opens for lunch and mingling with alumni, parents, students and friends at 11 a.m. Kickoff at Robert K. Kraft Field is at 1:30 p.m.

Picnic tickets are $20 for adults and $10 for children under 12 if purchased online by Thursday, October 15: www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming. Picnic tickets also are available on site: $22 for adults and $12 for children. Each picnic ticket includes an all-you-can-eat barbecue buffet lunch, soft drinks and admittance to the Columbia Homecoming Carnival. Beer, wine and cocktails will be available at an additional cost. There also will be limited cash-and-carry items.

To purchase football tickets, which are separate from picnic tickets, call 888-LIONS-11 or purchase online: www.gocolumbialions.com/tickets. Premium chairback seats are $25; reserved bench seats are $15.

There are several options for getting to the Baker Athletics Complex. Shuttle buses from the Morningside campus will be available beginning at 11 a.m. and will return immediately following the game, running between the Broadway gates and the northwest corner of West 218th Street and Broadway. Log on to www.gocolumbialions.com prior to the game for updated information.

Fans also may use mass transit. By subway, take the 1 train to 215th Street or the A train to 207th Street and walk north to West 218th Street and Broadway. By bus, the M100, Bx20 and Bx7 stop nearby. By Metro-North, the Marble Hill station is located on the north shore of Spuyten Duyvil, just across the Broadway Bridge from the Baker Athletics Complex. Log on to www.mta.info prior to the game for any service advisories.

On-site preferred parking at Baker Athletics Complex is available as a benefit only to those making qualifying gifts to Columbia football. Single-game parking passes are not available. Fans arriving by vehicle without on-site preferred parking passes will be directed to public parking facilities.

For more information about Baker Athletics Complex 2009 football game day policies and procedures, public parking options, fans code of conduct and more, log on to www.gocolumbialions.com/footballgameday.

Lisa Palladino

Travel with Columbia

FEATURED PROGRAM: MYSTICAL INDIA
JANUARY 24–FEBRUARY 10, 2010

The Columbia Alumni Association invites you to discover India. In a small group of 24 travelers, explore the diversity of one of the world’s most populous democracies and one of the fastest-growing economies. This air-inclusive educational adventure will feature visits to Delhi, the bustling capital; Agra, home of the exquisite Taj Mahal; a two-night stay at Ranthambore Tiger Preserve; and a visit to the legendary “pink city” of Jaipur.

For more information about any of our trips, visit alumni.columbia.edu/travel or call 866-325-8664.

Winter and Spring 2010 Offerings

Tanzania Safari
February 7–17, 2010

Antarctica
February 9–23, 2010

Africa by Private Jet
February 26–March 20, 2010

Antiquities of the Nile Valley and Red Sea
March 3–13, 2010

Galapagos and Ecuador
With Professor Mark Cane
March 5–13, 2010

Hidden Corners Around the World by Private Jet
March 21–May 3, 2010

Desert Crossroads and the Himalayas,
March 21–April 3

Sacred Places of Asia, April 5–19

The Ancient Silk Road, April 20–May 3

Tropical Rivers and Rain Forests
April 18–May 2, 2010

Waterways of Holland and Belgium
April 25–May 1, 2010

Venice and the Medieval World
May 13–21, 2010

Tropical Rivers and Rain Forests
April 18–May 2, 2010

Waterways of Holland and Belgium
April 25–May 1, 2010

Venice and the Medieval World
May 13–21, 2010

Learn more Stay connected
alumni.columbia.edu
Donald Hood is the James F. Bender Professor of Psychology. He received his Ph.D. from Brown and just started his fifth decade teaching at Columbia. He has won all of the College’s major teaching awards and was the first v.p. of Arts and Sciences. Hood’s research focuses on normal and abnormal human vision.

Where did you grow up?
Merrick, Long Island.

What did you want to be when you grew up?
I had no idea what I wanted to be. I started out as a math major — I wanted to become a psychologist or a scientist, so I gravitated toward the most scientific part of psychology. If I told you what I do, you would say, “Is that really psychology?”

What are you working on?
One of the things I’m working on is the anatomy of the cellular basis of glaucoma. Glaucoma leads to blindness. It kills the cells that make up your optic nerve. By the time the current test detects glaucoma, something like 25 percent of those cells could be dead. We’re working on new ways of studying your anatomy without cutting you open. You can now image the back of your eye with a technique that uses light the way sonar uses sound, so you can actually see cellular layers that are only fractions of a millimeter at the back of the eye, and you can actually see the layer that glaucoma kills. Because glaucoma is treatable, one clinical question of interest is, “Can we detect early damage by measuring this layer?” The basic neuroscience is, “How does the thickness of that layer relate to how sensitive you are to light?”

How did you end up at Columbia?
This was the best job available 40 years ago. I almost left college to work for IBM. They said they’d hire me, but they advised me to stay in school. I checked with my advisor if I could finish my B.A. in two years. If he said yes, I would go work for IBM. He said yes, so I said, “Let’s try that and then let’s try going to graduate school.” I had no idea what graduate school was like. I was accepted into Brown for my Ph.D. work, and it changed my life.

Can you talk about your experience being the first v.p. of Arts and Science?
The vice president of Arts and Science (VPAS) has reporting to him or her the deans of the Arts and Sciences schools. At that point, there were four schools: General Studies, International Affairs, GSAS and Columbia College. Now, there’s also the School of the Arts. It is a traditional dean of faculty job in the sense that all the chairs report to the position. It’s also similar to a provost at some schools, as deans and schools report to the VPAS. It didn’t exist when I took the job because the graduate dean was the de facto dean of Arts and Sciences. He held the budgets for all the departments, and he had to get the other schools to cooperate somehow when it came to setting tuition and so on. The political part was that the faculty for a long time wanted a faculty of Arts and Sciences with a single leader.

What are you teaching?
“Frontiers of Science.” I am in charge of the course for the fall semester. I also will teach the three modules on brain and behavior, as well as a section of 21 first-year College students whom I meet with once a week.

Where do you live?
I live around the corner on Riverside Drive.

Five Minutes with ... Donald Hood

What is your favorite spot in New York?
Riverside Park down by the water.

How do you recharge?
When we’re not working, my wife and I are either walking together, or, in the summertime, biking or kayaking. If I just want to escape by myself, I pick up a historical biography.

What’s the last great book you read for pleasure?
The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court by Jeffrey Toobin.

What’s your favorite food?
I like fruit. I eat a lot of fruit. I could probably live on bananas, apples and oranges, although a good steak every once in a while would be nice, too.

If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be?
We’re pretty lucky because we travel a lot; it would be some place beautiful where we can walk, bike and/or kayak. That could be almost anywhere.

What on your résumé are you most proud of?
My teaching awards. I’ve won the Mark Van Doren and Great Teacher Awards and the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching. The other thing I’m proud of is that I’ve been able to do all three aspects of an academic’s job, teaching, research and doing administration. Although I’ve spent different parts of my career emphasizing one or the other, I am told that I have done all three reasonably well.

Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen ’04

To see video of Hood discussing the relationship between the College and Arts and Sciences, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.
Especially Open House

You’re always welcome. But for two days this fall the new Columbia Alumni Center will be especially open.

Come by for refreshments, giveaways, help with benefits, a look around the library, lounge, and courtesy office, and a chance to win a Columbia University Club membership and other prizes.

For Center hours and more on the Especially Open House, visit us at alumnicenter.columbia.edu

It’s all happening on October 15 and 16, just before Homecoming. So come on home.
Columbia Alumni Center To Host Open House

The Columbia Alumni Center, located at 622 W. 113th St., between Broadway and Riverside Drive, has been home to College and University Alumni and Development since January. But now that the finishing touches have been completed on the renovated, LEED-certified building, the Alumni Center officially will open for visitors this fall.

While alumni and students have been welcome to visit and use the Center since April 1 (and more than 500 have done so), the Thursday, October 15–Friday, October 16 “Especially Open House” will feature refreshments, giveaways and a drawing for prizes. Alumni of all Columbia schools are invited to this special event, to be held 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m. on Thursday and 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. on Friday.

Open house guests will be able to tour the Alumni Center’s first-floor welcome center, set up especially for alumni with the latest University news, computers for checking e-mail or surfing the Web, staff to assist with exploring alumni benefits, old yearbooks and other items of Columbiana to take a walk down memory lane and refreshments such as coffee and tea.

“Alumni are an integral part of the Columbia community, and it’s wonderful that they have a home on campus,” says Donna MacPhee ’89, Columbia Alumni Association president and the University’s v.p. for alumni relations.

“The welcome center is run by Director Jennifer Shaw and Assistant Director Barbara Rodriguez. For more information on the open house or on the Columbia Alumni Center and its services, e-mail welcome.center@columbia.edu, call 212-851-7398 or stop by during business hours.

Lisa Palladino

We’ve got you covered.

Through Columbia Alumni Association, life insurance is available in amounts up to $1,000,000, underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company (NY, NY 10010).

For details about eligibility, coverage amounts, rates, exclusions and renewal provisions, please visit alumni.columbia.edu/insurance or call the plan administrator at 800-223-1147

College Fund Exceeds Goal, Raises Record $14.64 Million

Despite challenging economic times, alumni, parent and Class of 2009 donors to the Columbia College Fund showed record levels of support, enabling the fund to exceed its Fiscal Year 2008–09 goal of $14 million by more than $500,000 and set a record of $14.6 million.

Giving was up 12 percent from the $13.1 million raised in FY08. This increased support came from 11,217 donors, about the same number as in FY08, which also is quite an achievement. Thanks to a matching gift program held in April, more than 1,000 donors made gifts, resulting in a $100,000 gift from Robert Berme ’60.

The Senior Fund also set a record, with 90.5 percent participation, beating all other classes and soaring past the Class of 2008 record of 85 percent. The Senator Fund, led by Assistant Director Amanda Kessler and Senior Fund Chair Kristin Kramer ’09, is part of the Young Alumni Fund, led by Director Eleanor L. Cofnas ’03 and Chair Michael C. Foss ’03. The YA Fund raised more than $300,000 from more than 2,500 donors — both significant increases from last year.

Parents also were exceptionally generous. The Parents Fund, under the leadership of Director Susan Rautenberg and Co-chairs Francis and Jayanne Tedesco ‘P11, exceeded its goal of $1.6 million and brought in $1.7 million, up from $1.5 million last year.

The development staff, led by Executive Director of the College Fund Susan L. Birnbaum, worked with Fund Chair Mark L. Amsterdam ’66, Fund Development Chair Craig Brod ’77, Alumni Association President Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74, Class Agent Chair Ira B. Malin ’75 and all of the volunteer members of their committees to achieve this result. The Alumni Association, the Board of Visitors, the Class Agents and the dedicated staff of the Alumni Office, under the leadership of Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development 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 enriches the Core Curriculum. Gifts to the Columbia College Fund count toward the $4 billion goal of the Columbia Campaign, which launched in 2005. This fiscal year the Columbia Campaign brought in $388 million in new gifts and pledges.

To make a gift to the Columbia College Fund, go to www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline, or call 212-851-7488.
Howard Gutman '77, considered one of the best lawyers in Washington, D.C., will be leaving private practice to serve as the U.S. ambassador to Belgium under President Barack Obama '83. Gutman is a partner with Williams & Connolly, where he focuses on commercial litigation. His clients have included Fortune 500 companies, sports teams and political candidates, and his work earned mention as one of "Washington's Top Lawyers" in Washingtonian magazine. A graduate of Harvard Law, Gutman has served as a special assistant to F.B.I. Director William Webster, a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart and a law clerk to Appeals Court Judge Irving Goldberg.

After spending a year as the acting director, Michael Leiter '91 was confirmed by the Senate as director of the National Counterterrorism Center. Initially appointed by George W. Bush, Leiter received President Barack Obama '83's support to lead the government organization in charge of analysis and integration of terrorism intelligence as well as operational planning for counterterrorism. He reports to the President and the director of National Intelligence. Leiter has served as deputy chief of staff for the director of national intelligence and was assistant director of the President's Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the U.S. Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction. For more on Leiter, see Columbia magazine's profile at www.columbia.edu/cu/alumni/Magazine/Summer2009/feature2.html.

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Raphael Graybill '10 Works Toward Career in Politics, Government

BY NATALIE ALONSO '08

Before Raphael Graybill '10 could cast his vote for Barack Obama '83 at the 2008 Democratic National Convention, he first had to win an election of delegate to the DNC and at 19 became the youngest member of Montana's delegation.

"It's an actual election. You go out there and meet people and shake hands and tell them why you should be a delegate. It's a fun process," explains Graybill. "I ran like anyone else, and I was taken seriously. I was the candidate who happened to be younger."

Graybill, who majors in political science, found that the convention in Denver lived up to the clamor surrounding it. "It was all the excitement you see on television magnified 10 times over. It's exciting and it's also humbling," recalls Graybill, whose father, a retired attorney, also was 19 when he was elected to be a delegate to the 1972 DNC. Graybill's mother is the Lutheran bishop for the state of Montana.

At the time of the 2008 DNC, Graybill was working for the Montana Democratic Party as a paid staff aide. In that role he advised statewide candidates on various campaign strategies and created political messaging for television and mailings.

In 2008, Graybill received the Front Line Leaders Academy Fellowship offered by the People for the American Way Foundation. Each year, the program selects 20 young people with recognized leadership potential to receive several months of campaign training from other young figures in politics in cities throughout the country. "It's an organization that takes young people seriously," he says.

Graybill spent this past summer in Washington, D.C., as a health care associate on the Senate Committee on Finance, which is chaired by Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.). His responsibilities included briefing Baucus and meeting with lobbyists on his behalf.

"It's really fun to be in the center of things. Health care is shaping up to be the national debate right now," notes Graybill, who also is interested in defense and military issues.

Graybill considers Kathleen Knight, senior lecturer in the Department of Political Science, an important influence both academically and professionally. "The core of my academic interests is in media, political psychology and public opinion campaigns. She really gave me a place to direct my interests and showed me where my interests fit in the larger scheme of political science," says Graybill, who has taken several of Knight's courses. "We've grown very close. I trust her political instincts."

"Raphael's natural intelligence and practical experience in politics are undergirded by a willingness to work to get things done right," says Knight. "The fact that he has practiced politics from the ground up informs his grasp of theoretical issues in political science."

One of the reasons Graybill chose the College was because of his high regard for Columbia's political science department. Location was another reason.

"I loved the idea of being able to attend school in New York City," he explains. "Coming from Montana, I didn't live in the woods, but having that contrast is a lot of fun."

During his first year in the College, Graybill became an Auxiliary Police Officer — a volunteer position — for the New York City Police Department. He was recruited on the sub-way and underwent an eight-week training program that covered law, self defense, radio usage and basic police science. During the semester, he patrols Morningside Heights and West Harlem on foot one night a week for about six hours.

"You're not a civilian but you're not a full police officer. It's interesting. It's different. You see parts of the city that you might not otherwise see as a Columbia student," says Graybill, who has not "busted any major crimes" but has routinely "stared down people who are doing things they shouldn't be doing."

Graybill, who began skiing around the time he could walk, also was captain of the Columbia Ski and Snowboard Racing Team, a club sport, during the 2008-09 academic year. The team skis competitively and recreationally every weekend from winter break through spring break. According to Graybill, who currently is on the Club Sports Governing Board as v.p. of funding, the club's membership doubled during his time as captain.

"What I am most proud of this last year is how much we grew the team," he says.

Graybill, who points out that his passion for the slopes is "a very Montana thing," is undecided about his post-College plans, but has strongly considered returning to the Treasure State to pursue a career in public service.

"Montana will always be home. I'm loyal to my state, and I've been very fortunate to be able to be involved in politics and government there. That's something I really enjoy. It's given me a lot of fulfillment," he says.

Natalie Alonso '08, from Queens, majored in American studies. She is an editorial producer and contributing writer to LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's Spanish language Web site.
CAMPUS NEWS

**MINI-CORE COURSES, BLOG:** Have you ever wanted to revisit the Core Curriculum? The Alumni Office, in cooperation with Academic Affairs and the Core Curriculum Office, is launching the next mini-Core Curriculum course series. This semester will include a section of "Contemporary Civilization" and will meet three times on a biweekly basis, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., usually in midtown. There is a fee of approximately $175 per session, and attendance will be capped at 30 per section.

"Individuality and Society" will be taught by Professor Samuel Moyn on Wednesdays beginning October 21. To follow along and continue the discussion during the semester, visit the Core Blog at www.college.columbia.edu/coreblog, where alumni, professors and CCT staff will discuss the mini-Core readings.

Registration for the spring 2010 session, which will include “Lit Hum” and “Frontiers of Science,” will begin in November.

For further information on the mini-Core courses, please contact Jennifer Freely, assistant director, alumni affairs: 212-851-7488 or jf2261@columbia.edu. You also may visit www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/minicore for more information and to register.

**FACULTY HOUSE:** A campus landmark for more than 85 years, Faculty House is scheduled to reopen its doors on September 8 following an 18-month renovation. The 38,000 square feet of meeting and function space has been retrofitted inside to support 21st-century technology while maintaining the building's McKim, Mead & White 1920s glory. In keeping with Columbia's commitment to being green, the building meets standards set by the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program. Nearly 75 percent of materials from the original structure were refurbished, repurposed, recycled or donated during the renovation project.

The Garden Level (first floor) is home to the Ivy Lounge & Coffee Bar and features a full-service bar and espresso bar. The Market Café on the Seminar Level (second floor) seats 240, with a large serving area and a brick oven. The Presidential Level (third floor), a more formal catering space, accommodates up to 260 for dinner and dancing. The Skyline Level (fourth floor) features a grand dining room with service for up to 130. Private dining and receptions on the terrace overlook Morningside Park.

Faculty House is located at 64 Morningside Drive; www.facultyhouse.com.

**TRANSITIONS**

**ARTS AND SCIENCES:** Sue Mescher has returned to Arts and Sciences as deputy vice president of strategic planning, where she will continue to work closely with the College and its staff, effective July 1. Mescher, who had been associate dean of strategic planning and administration at the College, will continue in her role as chief administrative officer of the College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development.

"Sue will bring to Arts and Sciences her extensive knowledge of Columbia College, as well as her extensive experience of working in the Arts and Sciences where she was assistant vice president for financial planning and director of budget operations from 1990-97," said Vice President for Arts and Sciences Nick Dirks in announcing the appointment. "Sue will be working with us on a range of projects; among these will be coordinating and managing our student enrollments with academic, curricular, administrative, and financial planning, and integrating the budgetary planning process for all the schools within the Arts and Sciences. "Sue’s appointment comes at a time when we are poised to welcome Michele Moody-Adams as both Dean of Columbia College as well as vice president for undergraduate education. Sue’s move to Low Library is an important part of our ongoing efforts to consolidate the new structural relationship between the College and the Arts and Sciences that Austin Quigley and I have worked so hard to build over the last few years."

**DOUBLE DISCOVERY:** Kevin C. Matthews ’80 is back for a second stint as executive director of the Double Discovery Center. Matthews, who took over on July 1, served as DDC’s assistant director from 1985-90 and executive director from 1990-98 before leaving to become a consultant to nonprofits in London. Since December 2004, he has been director of development and admissions at Kids Corp. in Newark, N.J.

Founded in 1965, the DDC serves more than 1,000 low-income and first generation college-bound New York City youth in grades 7 through 12 each year. Through its two youth education programs, Talent Search and Upward Bound, students learn about colleges and careers, improve their academic work and participate in personal development activities.

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Meet the New Dean

Michele Moody-Adams is a moral philosopher and a strong advocate for undergraduate education.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 15 YEARS, AN ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS AT COLUMBIA COLLEGE with someone other than Austin Quigley in the main office in 208 Hamilton Hall, the dean’s suite. Who is Michele Moody-Adams, the 15th Dean of the College? What is her background, and what are some of her thoughts and views as she begins this new chapter? To find out, and to introduce her to the College family, CCT editor Alex Sachare ’71 journeyed to Ithaca, N.Y., to interview Moody-Adams on June 2, roughly one month before she officially would start at Columbia.

First, the basics: Moody-Adams comes to Columbia after nine years at Cornell, where she was the Hutchinson Professor of Philosophy, director of the Ethics and Public Life program, and, for the last four years, vice provost for undergraduate education. She graduated from Wellesley, was a Marshall Scholar at Oxford, received her M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from Harvard and taught at Wellesley, Rochester and Indiana prior to Cornell. Her title at Columbia, according to the online directory, runs 24 words and two initials: Dean of Columbia College and Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor; Vice President for Undergraduate Education; Joseph Straus Professor of Political Philosophy and Legal Theory.

On this cloudy day in early June, Moody-Adams has her feet firmly planted in two worlds. As she busily completes her responsibilities at Cornell, she’s also trying to learn as much as possible about the culture at Columbia and preparing to move to New York City with her husband, James Eli Adams, who joins the Columbia faculty as a visiting professor in English and comparative literature, and her daughter, Katherine, who begins ninth grade in September.

Moody-Adams’ office on the fourth floor of Day Hall, Cornell’s main administration building, is the picture of academic clutter. Two walls are lined floor-to-ceiling with books; more books, magazines and papers cover a table and are stacked on the floor. For three hours, in her office and later during a lunch that is occasionally interrupted by well-wishers, Moody-Adams talks candidly about her influences, her devotion to undergraduate education, her allegiance to the Core Curriculum and her love of roller coasters.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009
Michele Moody-Adams had much to unpack as she settled into the Office of the Dean in Hamilton Hall.

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO
For the many Columbians who are just beginning to get to know you, how would you describe your strengths?

I THINK I'M A VERY EFFECTIVE leader. I get things done. I like to set goals that I formulate in collaboration with other people I need to work with. So I'm collaborative, but I like to set goals and I like to get a sense of what it takes to accomplish them and to make sure that everybody's time is being well used. The goal part is really important.

I have a very deep commitment to the values of a liberal arts education, and so many of the goals I'll have coming into the new position will be associated with that commitment. What do we need to do to keep the College as wonderful a place as it is? And where we might want to make changes, what changes are going to be most important and how are we going to accomplish them? But setting those goals is a collaborative thing and I think of that as a real strength, that and the willingness to do what is necessary to get things accomplished, to really follow through — those would be the main strengths I have.

I'm easy to get along with, but I have strong opinions. I know when to voice them and I know when to hold back, at least I think I do. I think I come in with some strengths that will be especially good for the College at this time. It's a time of challenge for every institution of higher education, and I'm not afraid of challenge — maybe that's a fourth strength that I have. I'm also willing to change my mind if it's clear that I don't have enough knowledge to make a judgment.

What are your pet peeves? What really annoys you?

MY PET PEEVES, OOOOH, THAT'S actually harder. People who are unwilling to accept that they might learn something from someone they don't expect to learn from, if I could put it that way. When I teach a class, for example, I assume that even the most inexperienced student in the subject — whether it's a first-year student or somebody who isn't a major or a new graduate student if it's a graduate course — is someone who I could learn something from. I worry about people who think that their expertise in some area makes it unlikely that they can learn something from somebody who isn't an expert. That unwillingness to be humble is a real pet peeve of mine, and it actually grows out of the things that drew me to philosophy in some sense, that you need to be willing to explore difficult questions along with other people in a collaborative endeavor to find out what the right thing to do is. That doesn't mean that you don't sometimes have to act without input from others, and that you might not actually be making a mistake if you didn't. My pet peeve, though, is people who, because they have expertise, assume that they can disregard the knowledge of others who might not seem to be experts.

When I give lectures on ethics and science to some of our researchers on campus in the Ethics and Public Life program, I’ve talked about the hubris of expertise — that’s a phrase that helps make sense of what really bothers me. Even if you are an expert, you might still have something to learn from those who are not, and maybe your expertise is better applied in the world if you are willing to be open to at least reflection from others. I like to try to live that in my own life, as a human being and as a scholar, and I would hope others would, too.

I suppose a second pet peeve is people who think that you can’t be an accomplished scholar or researcher and also a good teacher, that accomplishment in scholarship and research have to be incompatible with commitment to teaching. That can come from both ends. It can come from people who assume that if they take time out from their scholarship and research in order to teach, somehow they will be endangering their ability or their capacity as scholars. But I find I’m frequently enriched by the teaching I do, even when it takes time out from my scholarship. And then there are people on the outside of the academy who assume that if you are committed to your scholarship and research, you cannot also be committed to your teaching.

Your field of academic expertise is moral philosophy and ethics. What drew you to that, and do you plan to continue to teach — particularly undergraduates — at Columbia?

I GAVE THE PH.D. RECOGNITION ceremony speech here just two weeks ago, and I talked about this. At some point in my childhood, maybe I was 9 or 10 … it was a consequence of meeting somebody who had every reason to be a really bad person. He’d been through a lot in life, socially disadvantaged and all that, and he was one of the kindest, most decent people I’ve ever known.

It was in the middle school years that I began to be amazed and astonished at the human capacity for morality. Think of what it’s like to hold a baby in your arms. They’re bawling and they’re self-involved — it’s not that they’re bad, but you get the sense that they could never care about anything but their own desires of the moment. If things go right, whatever that requires, they can grow up to be people who can act against self-interest at some moments, they can learn to care about people they’ve never met and maybe never will, they can even be concerned about distant generations; they can ask about what needs to be done to take care of the environment for future generations. That’s an extraordinary thing, and I got that sense very early on.

I grew up in a neighborhood that was on the border of real urban poverty; my family was modestly comfortable, not well off, not poor, just modestly comfortable. My parents were schoolteachers. I didn’t know growing up that I lived on the border of one of the most disadvantaged neighborhoods in the country. But I would encounter people, sometimes in a social setting or in a store or in school, or students whom my parents taught in schools that were less well-off than mine, who were just the salt of the Earth. They would have every reason to be bad people, according to some of the theories of what makes people good, and yet they were good people, and what could make that possible? What are the social conditions that you need to ensure exist? What kinds of familial experiences do people need? And how is it that somebody who maybe has had a very bad life, not just socioeconomically but who’s had maybe serious health challenges or maybe they lost lots of loved ones when they were young, how do they manage not to become bitter? What is it about the human capacity to be a good person? What makes a person capable of leading a moral life? That drew me early on.

My parents were members of a Unitarian church, the First Unitarian Church in Chicago near the university, where the minister was very intellectual and had the congregation read things like Martin Buber and Soren Kierkegaard and Paul Tillich. So we had these books or excerpts from them at home and I would pick them up at 10 or 11. Then, in high school, in AP French and a few other things, you could read existentialism, and we had a world literature course and I remember reading some Plato. I started to feel that philosophy was the thing that would help me figure out
what was so mysterious about morality. For awhile, I thought it would be a career as a minister, a Unitarian minister, but it was philosophy.

So again, it was just that sense of wonder at the human capacity for morality. It really is an extraordinary thing, and I haven’t lost that sense of wonder. I was talking with several students after the speech and they said, “So, do you still feel that kind of astonishment?” I do, I do, and sometimes at my own failings. Even in your own case you have to be astonished sometimes at what you think might allow you to do the right thing, if you’re doing it. It’s a mysterious, wonderful capacity.

Columbia College is renowned for its Core Curriculum, which after 90 years is a bond for alumni of all ages. What is the place of a Core Curriculum in a liberal arts education, and how do you see Columbia’s Core evolving in the near future?

THE CORE CURRICULUM REPRE-

sents the kind of education that is crucial for anybody who values the liberal arts. You preserve the best traditions of thought that have helped to inform the best of contemporary culture; you read and think about the best of cultural production in arts and humanities and literature; and with the introduction of the Global Core, which I believe is what we’re calling Major Cultures now, you are asked to step outside Western tradition and ask what have other cultures added to the stock of knowledge that enables us to lead good lives and to create constructive social institutions.

I happen to think that even in the 21st century, the ability to grapple with these kinds of texts and these traditions of thought — to think critically about them, to ask what’s good and bad about them, where they succeed, where they might have said or done things differently — is indispensable in modern society. That’s a function of who I am and what appeals to me intellectually. It’s intrinsically valuable. It has a kind of instrumental value that as a species, particularly as a society within the species, we can’t afford to overlook. It generates critical capacities, a kind of appreciation of language, an appreciation of history and of social forms, of human experiments in how to lead a good life, that we can’t just jettison or do away with. I will do everything I can to protect the Core, the best of the Core, and much of what remains and has been handed down through the decades is the best. Obviously there will be questions asked about how we weave in non-Western cultures as respectfully as possible, given everything else we’re asking students to read.

I also think — I’ve had many discussions about this, particularly with alumni of the College in the last couple of months — that if you are an educated person in the broadest sense of the liberal arts tradition, a knowledge of the fundamental ideas that have made science develop the way it has and of the contemporary accomplishments in science is another crucial element. I understand that there are institutions of higher learning that preserve the humanistic dimensions of what we call the Core and don’t necessarily see science as being quite as central as I suggested, but I think it is. You can’t be a constructive contributor to contemporary political society unless you know at least a little bit about science. You can’t think critically about every contemporary accomplishment in science, but you at least have to know whom to go to, whom to trust as an appropriate critic and judge of whether the science is being used properly or thought about properly in social policy. That means you need to be aware of who the great thinkers in science are and who is producing the best of science now. So I think there is a place for science in the Core, and that there will be a continuing place for the Core in the education of people who want to be productive citizens in the 21st century.

I went to a liberal arts institution [Wellesley] that didn’t have a clearly constructed path through the liberal education, but I think I probably did most of what the Core asks us to do, though not in the same order. So I value it greatly and will continue to.

The College also is known for its policies of need-blind admissions and full-need financial aid. How can these be sustained in the current economic climate?

MY HOPE IS THAT WE IN THE College, and I would hope everywhere else in the undergraduate experience but especially in the College, are able to live up to the promise of need-blind admission and commitment to full finan-
cial aid as needed. Your ability to succeed at a place like Columbia shouldn’t be limited by your family’s income, insofar as we can help. The ideal of accessibility to this education for everybody who is capable and who is willing to do what they need to do to succeed is crucial. We have a duty to live up to that promise as fully as possible, and it’s not an easy one to live up to. It’s a major commitment on the part of an institution. It’s one of the hardest things we have to do in higher education, but it’s one of the most important. It requires a partnership with loyal friends of the College and the University to help us live up to that commitment as far as is feasible for them.

All the other things we value about higher education are under mined or in some way challenged if we can’t get competent and committed students into the halls of higher learning to go out into the world and make the changes or preserve the traditions that we value, whether they’re social or economic or legal. So it seems to me, we need to do what we can to remain committed to the promise. We need to be able, in the academy, to continue to articulate the value as clearly as possible. I also think that we need to be willing, insofar as we do it in a way that doesn’t distract us from performing our mission, to justify to others who want to know, are we in fact educating students as well as we say we are? Can we show that we are equipping them in the way we say we are equipping them to be constructive and productive citizens in the 21st century?

Columbia is known for its diversity and for the opportunity it has represented for several generations. Perhaps more so than any other Ivy, it has been a place for the first members of their families to go to a private college. Can you speak about the importance of maintaining that accessibility?

IT’S VERY IMPORTANT. NOW that we talk not only about socioeconomic diversity but of the diversity of ethnic and national origin, of religious affiliation, of culture and tradition, I think it’s almost obvious that the best that we can do for our students and for the intellectual community at Columbia as a whole is to ensure that we bring to campus as diverse a population of scholars who are prepared to succeed and who have the will — those two things go together.

But we have to make sure that we’ve thought carefully about what we mean by prepared to succeed, and that is something I’ve struggled with in my 25 years in the academy. Test scores tell us some of it, grades tell us some of it, but sometimes there are other facts about a person’s record in school or intangibles that might add to our ability to determine that they’re prepared. Once we’ve determined that, it’s good for the campus as well as for the scholars who are brought to campus wherever possible to value diversity. Even in the sciences, at least some really good theorizing has suggested there may be solutions to problems and even ways of articulating problems to be studied that will be lost if we don’t ensure gender diversity, diversity of ethnic and religious affiliation, socioeconomic diversity. There are ways of formulating questions, even of seeing something as a datum to be explored or investigated, that just may not appear as valuable to someone if they haven’t had a certain kind of life experience.

Now, life experience isn’t everything. People have to be prepared to succeed and they have to be willing. Those two features of a person’s characteristics are things we always have to be attentive to in our admissions criteria. I’m not against the SAT, I have no problem with it, but I happen to think that if you’re only looking at test scores and GPA, there may be things you will miss about a person’s qualifications to succeed at Columbia.

At Cornell, one of your roles was vice provost for undergraduate education. What were the responsibilities of that position? What achievements in that role are you most proud of?

I LIKE TO DIVIDE THE MAIN responsibilities of the role at Cornell into five broad categories. The first is that I was charged to help in the development and preservation of a number of living-learning initiatives on campus that encourage faculty and students to extend the reach of the academic experience into the residence halls. These are meant to bridge the gap between the classroom and laboratory on one hand and the residence hall on the other. We have separate living-learning initiatives for freshmen, who all live in one part of campus, we have some for upperclassmen, we have some for fraternities and we have some for students who live off-campus.

A second set of initiatives involved a series of academic support services, some of which were aimed solely at underrepresented and socioeconomically disadvantaged students, but not all of them. We have a number of academic support services that are meant to help students, say, from first-generational homes or certain kinds of socioeconomic disadvantages. There might be supplementary instruction that’s given to them. But some of these are aimed at students generally.

A third set of initiatives was aimed principally at the first-year experience. These involved attempts to enhance the academic experience at Cornell from the very moment students get here. One is a book project that involves giving incoming students a book to read over the summer; that’s been one of the major parts of this role that I absolutely love. In a way it’s a very small-scale Core Curriculum, and I mean very small-scale.

A fourth set of initiatives is focused on upper-class students. I helped oversee several programs that enhanced opportunities for undergraduate research on campus and for civic engagement in and out of the classroom, as well as various other field learning experiences.

A fifth set of responsibilities involved working to ensure the integrity and continuity of the undergraduate experience on a very complex campus. We have seven independent and autonomous undergraduate colleges, some of which are very applied in nature, basically preparing students for a particular career, and then we have Arts and Science, which is more like the College. Some students want to take programs that require them to cross college boundaries, and we have been slower as a campus than we might have been in finding pathways to ensure that students are able to do that. I’ve worked with all the undergraduate deans on initiatives that have helped to do that. And then I’ve worked with that same group on a number of initiatives involving policy changes, policy revisions that were meant to ensure that students had to the fullest extent possible a uniform experience on campus — standardizing practices across the colleges, things like advising, even when it comes to students in distress. We are responsible for 13,000 undergraduate students, so we worked through ways to rethink the way in which Cornell applied its interpretation of the FERPA [Family Educational Rights and Privacies Act] policies so advisers could notify families when it seemed crucial to protect the student. And it really worked. It’s one of the more important things that I think we accomplished.

Individually, one of the things I accomplished was to help start a new center for teaching excellence that comes out of some older programs that reported to the vice president for student services. We revised, revamped and rethought a series of functions that focus on teaching for faculty as well as TAs, brought them all into
one center and helped it to grow in ways that are really are going to do great things for Cornell. Maybe it isn’t the most important accomplishment, but it’s one of the ones I’m proudest of.

I’ve worked with ROTC — they report to me — and we helped them solve a number of problems that had prevented some of their staff from having full access to Cornell benefits and so forth. I think they’re happier than they’ve been in a long time. I got along very well with the ROTC folks at the same time as I had students from other groups, such as our LGBT students, who would come to me and say, “How could you do this?” We have a mandate as a land-grant institution to continue to welcome the presence of ROTC here. We don’t require students to join and complete the program as we once did in the 1940s and ’50s, but they’re here and we should make them feel comfortable as part of our community. One of my favorite stories, in fact, is that one of the young cadets whom I got to know in my first year here has a sister who I think will be a senior at Columbia College. He said, “I’ll be sure to have my sister look you up.” I feel fully proud that I helped to make that group of people feel that they were welcome on campus. They may not be welcome on every campus, and I understand that.

*It may not be fair to ask you this before you even start at Columbia, but since we spoke about ROTC, I will: Should Columbia have ROTC?*

**I BELIEVE DEEPLY IN FACULTY** governance. I respect the will of the faculty that for this moment in history they’ve spoken what they believe to be is best for Columbia, and I will abide by that. That doesn’t mean that I can’t imagine a time when it might be appropriate for Columbia to welcome the ROTC on its campus, but I’m going to respect the will of the faculty. I understand the grounds of their decision and I will respect that, despite the fact that I have family members who went to college because of ROTC. I have my own personal opinion about “don’t ask, don’t tell,” which I’m not ready to discuss right now. I personally wish we could have a military that would welcome everybody who could do right by their country, but we’re not there yet, I’ll just put it that way.

*At Columbia, in addition to being Dean of Columbia College, you also will serve in the newly created position of vice president for undergraduate education. What is your charge in this role?*

**I WANT TO BE CAUTIOUS HERE**, because my sense is that it is still evolving. There’s a new education policy and planning committee, and my understanding is that this role that I am assuming has responsibilities that are still evolving, in part because the former dean helped to set up the new role. I know that some of the responsibilities are going to flow out of what he already was doing. Some of them are going to build out of collaborations that already have begun between Austin Quigley and Nick Dirks, who worked very hard to create a kind of newly constructive relationship between the College and Arts and Sciences. But I’m still learning the history, too. I’ve been working my way through *Stand, Columbia*, and I actually did what you would never let students do: I started with 1968 because I wanted to understand the recent history and I wanted to understand the autonomy of the schools. You know, this Cornell is a very decentralized place, and I get the sense that in some different ways Columbia is equally decentralized — budgetarily, in the sense of authority over curriculum and hiring and so forth. There’s a lot to learn, and I don’t want to claim knowledge that I don’t have. But some of that knowledge will be necessary to understand what is demanded of the person in this new role, and I’m working on it. I’m talking constantly with College administrators, with administrators in Arts and Sciences and Engineering and General Studies.

*The relationships between the College and the other schools that grant undergraduate degrees seem to be evolving. Where do you see that going, or if it’s too soon to say, is exploring where that may go part of what makes this opportunity attractive to you?*

**ABSOLUTELY. I GET THE SENSE** that there is a kind of energy on the campus for a renewed commitment to really making undergraduate education the centerpiece of Columbia. Columbia has marvelous, extraordinary graduate programs in Arts and Sciences, all of the professional schools are extremely strong, highly ranked and well thought of, and it has a wonderful set of opportunities that it offers to undergraduates. But given all the ways in which a place like Columbia could leverage the strengths of the varied undergraduate programs, I’m not clear that it has gotten to that place yet. There could be synergies developed between Engineering and the College, between General Studies and the College, between Barnard and the College. That will be a challenge. You’re in new territory, but in a way coming in as a new person, with several other new leaders in key positions, there may also be a receptiveness to change in a way there might not have been.

Walking over here, I was thinking about all the varied institutions I’ve been at, starting as an undergraduate at Wellesley. I say that because I taught at my alma mater as well as being an undergraduate there. I’ve had the liberal arts experience at a small undergraduate college. I was at Oxford, so I’ve had international experience. I did my graduate work at Harvard and also was a TA there, so I did learn a little bit about the undergraduate experience there as well as the graduate experience. And then I’ve taught at four very different kinds of institutions — Wellesley; Rochester; Indiana, a big, public school; and then Cornell, an Ivy with a public mission. So I’ve seen a lot of different ways of organizing the undergraduate experience and offering quality programs to undergraduates who want to go out in the world and do good things. And I’ve had administrative experience at more than one level. So I’m hoping that that experience, as well as specifically what I’ve done as vice provost, will put me in good stead.

*Cornell has roughly 13,500 undergraduates in a student population of about 21,000, which is a pretty significant percentage. Columbia College has about 4,200 undergraduates, growing to about 4,400, in a student body of about 25,000, a very different proportion. How do you ensure that the priorities of this relatively small College and the needs of the undergraduate students don’t get lost in the vastness of the University?*

**THAT’S A VERY GOOD QUESTION.** I don’t yet know as much about the functioning of Columbia as I need to know to give you a final answer on that. I am going to tell you that it has to be uppermost in my mind constantly. That’s the sense I get of the importance of that title, vice president for undergraduate education. I don’t know about the extent to which I will have any voice outside of Arts and Sciences in discussions about the place and the value of the College and undergraduate education at Columbia, but I hope that’s what that title means.
— there will be some opportunity for me to be a voice for undergraduate education. That’s my understanding of why it’s no longer associate vice president, but rather vice president. I’m a very outspoken person, and I will keep the values and importance of the College out front.

Part of what will be crucial will be encouraging the graduate and professional schools, as much as is feasible, in enriching the life of the College, whatever that might mean. It may not mean teaching students, as not every professional school at Columbia can be part of that, but how have we figured out how many of them can be, and to what extent? How might interactions between the graduate schools and the undergraduate units enrich what they’re doing? That’s something we were just beginning to discuss here on this [Cornell] campus.

Although you grew up in Chicago, the schools you’ve taught and worked at have been in smaller cities. Please talk for a moment about coming to New York, and the role you see the city playing in the life of the College and the lives of College students.

**PART OF THE REASON MANY** students come to Columbia is because they have an opportunity to have a classroom that’s as big as New York if they need it. I understand that when they do the Music Humanities and Art Humanities courses, there is a clear commitment to making sure that the richness of the city enriches the curriculum. That’s important. I didn’t grow up in New York, but I grew up in Chicago and took the city bus to high school every day. My field trips were to the Art Institute of Chicago, the Field Museum of natural history, all the richness of the cultural life of the city. So I know what it’s like and I know why it’s important to be willing to encourage students [to avail themselves of the city’s resources], to the extent that you also encourage them to be mindful of the fact that it is a big city and they’ve got to have city smarts and street smarts, and those I’ve got a whole lot of. I grew up right around the University of Chicago, so that’s another way in which I understand the sense of an institution within the city. I think that’s part of the appeal of a place like Columbia, in addition to a great education being provided by the University itself.

To be honest with you, I marvel at the fact that I spent 18 years of my professional life not in the city, and I loved them — “not in the city” is the wrong phrase, make that in smaller cities. I went to Wellesley because in a 45-minute bus ride you could be in Boston, and I spent a whole lot of time in Boston and Cambridge. One of the attractions of Oxford is that you’re an hour by train from London, so there’s theater, there’s music, there’s cultural life. That’s a major attraction for me.

You know, the kind of quasi-cloistered life of the scholar still appeals to me. You asked me earlier if I wanted to teach. Obviously I do, although I don’t expect I’ll be able to teach in the first year. I am set to give a couple of big lectures, including one for the sophomore class in Contemporary Civilization in October. Of course I want to teach, and I actually would want to teach first of all in the Core and in the CC curriculum in particular. It wouldn’t be an insurmountable challenge for me to get up to speed on that; I could do that in a relatively reasonable amount of time. But I don’t intend to do that in the first year, I think that would be short-changing everybody. I also hope to keep my scholarly life if not fully active then somewhat active. But it’s hard to do all three — the administration, the teaching and the scholarship. I also want to try to enjoy life just a little bit (laughs).

**What role should alumni play in the life of the College?**

**IN ONE SENSE, THEY ARE THE** embodiment for our students of what can be possible with a Columbia College degree. That’s a very important role they play. If there are mentoring programs that exist, or are not yet in existence, I would hope to encourage that. That’s something I’m extremely interested in developing and supporting. Of course, the loyalty of Columbia alumni in supporting us with gifts where that’s appropriate, or with time, such as the volunteers who are active in the recruitment of students, I think that’s crucial.

I also would like to find new ways to get the faculty as involved as possible. I talked with Geoff Colvin ‘74, ’77L, the president of the alumni association, who was part of the dean search committee, about interactions he’s had with faculty that he thought were good but were limited in some ways. At dinner one night, he said he never had as many heartfelt conversations with faculty as he had had as part of that search committee. There must be things we can think of, new kinds of interaction between faculty and students and faculty and alumni. I’d like to be part of a system, with faculty who are willing, to develop innovative ways to help alumni to feel connected with the College in ways that go beyond, “Did you give money to the College Fund?” Interact with faculty, listen to a talk about their research, spend a couple of days attending a short class of some kind. There are many interesting ways to get alumni involved with faculty, and I look forward to doing that.

**What is one thing about you that our readers would be surprised to learn?**

**LET ME THINK A MINUTE ... ONE** thing I hope to do before I get very old is learn how to fly a plane. But more than that, I want to jump out of a plane with a parachute. I’ve been begging for this for the last few birthdays. Now, don’t tell my insurance company that. At some point, I also want to drive a race car, on a closed track, of course.

I love roller coasters; I think it’s the same experience. Even at this advanced age, when we go to amusement parks, my daughter and I are the most liberated fans of the tallest roller-coasters, the fastest, the ones that whip you up and down. I find my neck back don’t take it as well anymore, I can only do so many, but I absolutely love the feeling of sort of falling free. That is something that does surprise a lot of people I work with. People who see me mostly in a work setting sometimes see me as quiet and serious and associate that with a different kind of personality, and they’re wrong. I absolutely love roller coasters. I don’t know what it is, if there’s something physiological about it. Otherwise I’m a pretty bland, grounded person.

I’m also going back to an interest in photography that I had when I was young. My father was an advocate of photography; we had a darkroom in our basement when I was growing up. Now I’m more into digital; for Mother’s Day I got a digital SLR. Now that you don’t have to develop pictures in a darkroom but you can see them right away on your computer, it really is much easier to pursue that hobby. Of course, there’s nothing like the old fashioned way, and if I get time I will get back to it. The subtle changes you can make with developing and printing, you can do some of that with the photo software, but there’s an artificial connection to it. There’s not that tangible feel that you get when you develop and print something.
Finally, projecting five or 10 years ahead, how would you evaluate your success or failure as Dean of the College?

I THINK IT WOULD HAVE TO DO with the Core — the health of the Core Curriculum and the extent to which, in the process of trying to make revisions where they seem necessary, we’ve managed to preserve the essence of the Core and all that has been good about it in the time it has been in existence. It needs to adapt, perhaps, to what modern social, political and economic life require us to understand about the world. But there is some constant that the Core also provides to our understanding of human experience, the traditions of human achievement. That would be a major one, seeing that the Core is in good shape and genuinely preparing people to be productive citizens in contemporary life in the way I think it should continue to do.

A second way is that given the demanding nature of the Core Curriculum and then the major requirements, is there sufficient room in the undergraduate experience at Columbia for the right kind of international experience? If we manage to give due attention to the importance of giving our students an international perspective, without demanding too much of them academically so that they can’t finish in a reasonable amount of time or sacrificing other academic and intellectual values that we know matter, that would be a second measure of success. Are we sufficiently international in outlook without sacrificing these other values that we need to maintain?

A third one is going to be, did I help ensure that the College is able to survive in good shape in a time of challenge and come out stronger? That’s obviously not the responsibility of the dean alone, others will be involved, but I’ll be part of that. We need to rethink and reshape and sort of revise the way we do some things, but also continue to do everything that we do well. This was part of what I was talking about when I addressed the Ph.D.s here a few days ago. They were sitting in this hall with their beautiful red gowns, about to pick up the highest degree the university gives, at a time of great challenge. I think we have to rethink and reshape and sort of revise the way we do some things, at my institution maybe there was too much building — and maybe you need to rededicate yourself to the core of the mission of higher education. There may be some institutions, small liberal arts institutions for instance, that perhaps will not survive. But we as a nation have a system of higher education that we hope will remain the envy of the world. Will we be able to preserve these forms of academic experience, even if not in all 3,000 institutions that exist now, but somewhere in the academy? I think Columbia offers a great opportunity, great

professional and graduate programs but also an honored and highly valued undergraduate program. Will we have preserved that in the way we should for generations to come? That will be another important goal to start with, and a measure of success down the road.

Occasionally I worry about that. I have a couple of friends who became deans last year, and it’s a difficult time to be in any kind of leadership position in higher education. There was a long time of expansion when you could count on resources going up, your endowment going up. The world has changed, but you can’t stop doing the really important things in higher education that you know you need to do. Educating talented people to go out and do good things in the world — that’s never going to stop being important. Will I have left the College in sufficiently good position to continue to do that well? That will be a measure in these challenging times. It’s a challenge for everyone.

A fourth part of it is, can I be personally, and in my role as dean, sufficiently inspirational for people who want to do something good through getting an education at a place like Columbia? Can I be an inspiration for what is possible? That’s not about just can I be an inspiration to people who look like me, but to people who think there still is a role for going to college and learning and getting a degree and asking “what does the world need me to do and how can I make the best use of my talents?” In that way I hope I can continue to be an inspiration, because that is an important thing to ask.

When I talked to the Ph.D. students at this event, I was telling them it’s fine to say there are not a lot of jobs, but if you come out with a good degree, even with all the changes, you need to give it a good try. If you’re called to something and you’re well-trained to do it and you are willing to make sacrifices, you should be willing to take the risk. Now I did say in my remarks, even with a great degree from a great school, if you don’t feel you’ve got the calling, you need to re-think whether it’s the right life for you. I like to say, whenever I’m trying to be inspirational, make sure you feel the things you are inspired to do are really the things you couldn’t live without, particularly if they’re challenging, because it’s not going to be easy.

These are challenging times. But we’re going to come out of it. The world will not look exactly the way it did in 2007, and maybe that’s not a bad thing. You hope that people who are in distress economically will get out of it, you want that to happen. But I don’t know that you need the kind of excess that as a culture we encouraged people to seek or to value just for the sake of it. If there’s a slight reordering of people’s priorities and values, that wouldn’t be a bad thing for us culturally.
PHOTO DRIVEN

Damon Winter ’97 wins Pulitzer Prize for photos of Barack Obama ’83’s Presidential campaign

By David McKay Wilson

Photos and Captions by Damon Winter ’97

It was a seemingly innocuous request: Columbia sophomore Damon Winter ’97 asked his mother for a point-and-shoot camera for Christmas to take snapshots to remember his College days.

Instead, she gave him a Canon EOS Elan, complete with a through-the-lens light meter and a zoom lens you could focus by hand.

Winter, who won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for feature photography for documenting the 2008 Presidential campaign, fell in love with the way film captured images. He found an introductory course at Teachers College and began shooting for Spectator. He was so enamored with the way the world looked through the lens that he would occasionally shoot without film when he couldn’t afford to buy a roll.

“Everything we see in the world is a function of how light reflects off it,” says Winter one morning in May, when his picture of First Lady Michelle Obama ran on the front page of The New York Times, where he has worked since 2007. “And the camera is a way to see beyond what the eye can see.”

Winter’s 2008 campaign portfolio, www.pulitzer.org/works/2009-Feature-Photography, provides a glimpse at how he viewed the 2008 campaign, during which he was mostly assigned to cover Democrat Barack Obama ‘83. Shooting his first Presidential campaign, Winter embarked with instructions that his photos should be 35 percent Obama and 65 percent the enthusiastic crowds that gathered at his speeches.

“The level of excitement was unprecedented,” Winter says in his Upper West Side apartment, where he shows a visitor a slideshow of campaign photos on his television screen. “The crowds were as much of the story as what Obama did. You could see Obama in their faces.”

The portfolio captures the essence of the historic campaign: black people crying with joy in Chicago when Obama’s victory was certain; a woman rapt, listening to Obama, holding an American flag; Obama in shirtsleeves, laughing, at a Florida rally; and the candidate, drenched in rain, his jacket collar pointing up, in Pennsylvania. Several of the pictures are silhouettes, revealing a body’s form — or Obama’s profile — from light emanating from behind the subject. Others were taken from unusual angles — a picture from overhead of Secret Service men tugging at the arms of an Obama supporter as she hugged him, or one at stage-level of Obama and his daughters running to greet Michelle Obama.

“Damon is consistently surprising,” says Michele McNally, The New York Times’ assistant managing editor, photography. “He is technically amazing, aesthetically flawless and his images have impact. He is very keyed into how light affects mood and tone and how light helps tell a story.”

The photographs that won the Pulitzer were taken under the deadline pressure of a daily newspaper while on the campaign trail during workdays that could stretch up to 20 hours. Typical days would begin at 5 a.m. so Winter could get his gear through security and head out to as many as five events, with two to four flights a day. He had two deadlines to meet. The first was for nytimes.com, with images that would appear not long after the picture was taken in the intense competition for breaking news. Then he’d (Continued on page 24)

(Facing) in the closing days of the campaign leading up to election day, the crowds kept getting bigger and bigger. This rally in front of Denver’s capital building was the largest of the campaign at that point. I loved the capital dome in the distance and Obama’s outstretched arm, waving in thanks to the people in the proverbial cheap seats, seemingly reaching toward the finish line.
According to American and Pakistani officials, there has been a significant increase in air strikes by the Central Intelligence Agency on targets in Pakistan.

By MARK MAZZETTI and ERIC SCHMITT

WASHINGTON — The White House has backed away from using American ground troops for further ground raids into Pakistan after a series of complaints about the country's use of drone strikes.

Meanwhile, officials say there has not been a significant increase in such raids on Sept. 3, in which the United States successfully captured a high-profile target.

The operation was a Special Operations mission inside Pakistan.

Despite criticism from Congress and mounting frustration over Pakistan's failure to cooperate, the administration and raising taxes. His message he has embraced over the past months.

But Mr. McCain and his running mate, Sarah Palin, are planning to spend most of their time in Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Missouri, and Indiana, all states that Republicans had entered the race as a likely president, thinking they could bank on.

Mr. McCain will stick with the message he presented last week in the New Hampshire, which he described as a summertime speech for his campaign in Canton, Ohio, reprinted in the newspapers.

He first presented in February 2007, when he began his campaign for the presidency.

From here on out, Mr. Obama’s advisers say, Mr. McCain will be joined by an emphasis on the most part.

Mr. McCain has settled on Pennsylvania as the one state where he has a decent chance of winning, a view not shared by Mr. Obama’s advisers.

Senator John McCain and Sen-
ator Barack Obama are heading into the final week of the presidential campaign planning to spend nearly all their time in states that President Bush won last time, territory rich in an increasingly dire position of Mr. McCain and his party as Election Day approaches.

In Denver on Sunday, Senator Barack Obama appeared at a rally at Civic Center Park that drew tens of thousands of people.

In Denver on Sunday, Senator Barack Obama appeared at a rally at Civic Center Park that drew tens of thousands of people.
On election night in Chicago, CNN declared Obama the projected winner and the crowd of millions went wild. This man broke out in tears of joy and disbelief. Many photographers were immediately drawn to him. His tears told the story so well of the what this election meant for so many black Americans.

I probably spent half of this rally in Pueblo, Colo., trying to make this shot, as this lone cloud drifted in the distant sky. It doesn’t always work out but it is always a joy when you can take a routine assignment, in bad light, and make a photo that goes beyond the obvious. Obama is not a man of big gestures, so it took quite a while to catch him in the right moment to help complete the visual metaphor.
Even though he is just a tiny fraction of the picture, you immediately know where he is and that it is Obama. His posture at this rally in Wilmington, Del., that little lean, the dressing on the stage, Obama surrounded on all sides by supporters ... this is what I imagined a rally might look like during the time of Kennedy.

I always loved photographing the way people reacted to seeing Obama out on the campaign trail. This was one of my favorites. As the motorcade pulled up to a campaign rally at a high school in Duncanville, Texas, and Obama stepped out of his bus, I chose not to point my camera at him but rather at this scene of elated high school students running, towards us, their forms silhouetted by the setting sun over a dusty field. We feel his presence so strongly in this photo even though we never see his face.
have his feature shots for the next morning’s paper.

“There was pressure to compete with the wire services for timeliness, and then to do something completely different, which was to tell the far-reaching story with interesting and thoughtful images,” says Winter, a native of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. “It was a pretty daunting task.”

In late May, Winter returned to Columbia to accept the Pulitzer at the annual luncheon held in Low Rotunda. Returning to Morningside Heights reminded him of those early days with his Canon and his courses in black-and-white and color photography. He shoots mostly in color for the Times, though his June cover photo in The New York Times Magazine, for a story on fathers and sons, was shot in black-and-white (www.nytimes.com indexes/2009/06/28/magazine).

“Shooting in black-and-white is a treat,” says Winter. “It makes you think differently. You focus more on form and composition, and you don’t have the color to muddy it up.”

By the time he graduated with a degree in environmental science, Winter was Spectator’s photo editor, and science had taken a back seat to photography in his post-Columbia plans.

“I saw all the kids doing lab research in the summers, and it never made any sense to me,” Winter says. “I did a couple internships at the American Museum of Natural History in 1994 and 1995, and when I asked my boss there for a recommendation, he told me I knew I wasn’t really into science. But he wrote me a recommendation and assured me I’d be good at whatever I wanted to pursue.”

Getting a foothold in the highly competitive field of photojournalism wasn’t easy. After graduation, Winter applied for internships at 35 daily newspapers — and was turned down by every one. He did land an internship four days a week at Newsweek, doing photo editing and research. The other three days he freelanced for the Associated Press. That led to internships at the Ventura County Star and The Indianapolis Star, but he still did not have a permanent job.

After taking an eight-month trip around the world with his camera and many rolls of film, Winter landed another internship at The Dallas Morning News, which finally led to a full-time job. After five years in Dallas, he moved to The Los Angeles Times. Winter was a Pulitzer finalist in 2005 for his photographs of victims of sexual abuse by a priest in a tiny village in western Alaska. His success in Los Angeles brought him back East in 2007, when he joined The New York Times.

His Pulitzer in hand, Winter continues his work at a time of consolidation and cutbacks in the newspaper industry. Like other Times employees, he took a 5 percent pay cut this year. But he moves forward, optimistic that stories will continue to be told, and he wants to illustrate them.

In late June, Winter was just back from a four-day shoot in Brazil’s Amazon basin to chronicle life on the edge of the rainforest, where ranchers want to clear the rainforest to provide more land for grazing. He was there with a reporter writing a story about a project that would pay ranchers to refrain from cutting down the trees. Winter’s trip was the kind of investment in news that the Times continues, despite its attempts to save money.

“It feels like a really scary time, and everybody is scrambling to keep doing the work we’ve been doing,” he says. “You’ve got to keep your fingers crossed and hold on as long as possible.”

David McKay Wilson is a New York-based freelance journalist who writes for college and university magazines around the country. He wrote CCT’s January/February cover story about New York State Governor David A. Paterson ’77.
almost wasn’t made, as both New York Times photographers covering the event that day missed the campaign motorcade, got lost in traffic and almost missed the event.

Next pages: A political rally can sometimes feel like the most cold and impersonal of events. At this rally in Jacksonville, Fla., Obama took the stage and shared a moment with a crowd of tens of thousands that made us all feel like we were just sharing a laugh with an old friend.
Change we need
Last year, a book of mine appeared, entitled *The Age of Reagan*, covering American politics since the Watergate scandal. I wanted not simply to analyze the politics of the 1970s and 1980s but to take the story through the 1990s and the first eight years of the new century. Although I believe that Ronald Reagan was the outstanding national political figure of the last 40 years, I also wanted to show that the era that Reagan dominated began long before he entered the White House in 1981, and that Reagan’s influence remained powerful long after his departure eight years later. I also had it in mind that the age of Reagan was rapidly coming to a close. Historians predict at their peril. Still, when I was putting the last touches on the book at the end of January 2008, there were at least strong signs that the conservatism that Reagan epitomized had become exhausted. The public had clearly turned against President George W. Bush and the Republican Party. The Democratic victories in the mid-term elections of 2006 suggested that the electorate had recovered from the traumas of September 11, 2001, and that the radicalized Reaganism of the Bush administration had discredited conservative politics. It seemed to me that even if the self-declared maverick Republican nominee, Senator John McCain of Arizona, succeeded in winning, something new and different would be in the offing, given McCain’s well-known moderate proclivities and given what were almost certain to be enlarged Democratic majorities in Congress.

Now that the 2008 elections are over and the results are known, the future remains indeterminate. Nonetheless, McCain’s defeat, and the other major political events since early 2008, have reinforced my conviction that the age of Reagan is over.

On the evening of November 4, 2008, untold thousands of jubilant Chicagoleans gathered in Grant Park to celebrate Barack Obama’s victory. It was, by any measure, a momentous occasion, marking the first election of an African-American man to the Presidency. Yet it was historic in other ways as well. Just barely more than 40 years earlier, in August 1968, very different crowds gathered in Grant Park, to protest the Vietnam War amid the Democratic National Convention. Those scenes of sometimes violent discord affirmed a deep division inside the Democratic Party that had become practically unbridgeable after Senator Robert F. Kennedy’s murder the previous June. Those divisions would help the Republican Richard Nixon eke out his...
President Ronald Reagan smiles as first lady Nancy Reagan waves to guests at the Ball for Young Americans at the D.C. Armory in Washington, D.C., on January 21, 1985. President Reagan re-enacted his oath of office earlier in the day in the rotunda of the Capitol.

PHOTO: AP PHOTO/IRA SCHWARZ
victory over Hubert Humphrey that autumn; and, thereafter, they would help usher in an era of conservative domination in American politics. But all seemed to have changed utterly in Grant Park in 2008. The election of Senator Obama capped one of the most extraordinary ascents in American political history, not the least extraordinary because of its swiftness. To millions of Americans — including many Republicans who had voted for John McCain — the outcome seemed to prove that the dreams and sacrifices of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights pioneers had not been in vain. Yet Democrats also had more conventional political victories. The Obama-Biden ticket won a majority of the popular vote — the first Democratic ticket to do so since Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale in 1976, and by the widest margin in more than 40 years, since Lyndon B. Johnson’s landslide victory in 1964. Since the Civil War, only one other Democrat besides Johnson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, had matched Obama’s victory. The Democrats also carried several states they had previously ceded to the Republicans, including Virginia and North Carolina, and picked up 21 seats in the House to enlarge significantly the majority they had won in 2006. In the Senate elections, as of January (when one close race still remained to be decided), the Democrats had won at least 58 seats, a pickup of nine that brought them within a whisker of gaining a filibuster-proof majority of 60 seats.

The scale of the victory persuaded some commentators — prematurely, I think — that the Democrats had forged a new commanding national majority. Much less, though, was said about the dismals state of the Republican Party. The televised scenes of the forlorn gathering in Phoenix on Election Night that heard John McCain deliver a gracious concession speech — before a crowd consisting chiefly of older, affluent white voters — was a strong visual indication that the Republicans had become an exhausted coalition, out of touch with the diverse, energized American majority of 2008. But the signs of decay had been evident for many months, beginning with the Democrats’ triumphs in the 2006 midterm elections, and all the more so at another event at the very start of the 2008 Presidential contest.

On May 3, 2007, 10 aspirants to the Republican Presidential nomination kicked off the long primary campaign with a debate at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, Calif. The candidates disagreed about the issues and their respective qualifications — but each claimed Reagan’s mantle. “I think it’s important to remember,” said Mike Huckabee, the former governor of Arkansas, “that what Ronald Reagan did was to give us a vision for this country, a morning in America, a city on a hill.” John McCain talked about Reagan’s fiscal austerity: “Ronald Reagan used to say we spend money like a drunken sailor.” Tommy Thompson, the ex-governor of Wisconsin, threw in a stilted but apposite observation: “We forgot to be coming up with new ideas, big ideas like Ronald Reagan.”

Given the venue — and with Nancy Reagan in the front row — the candidates were being polite, although they were also being sincere. Chiefly, they wanted to gain legitimacy with Republican factions that believed their politics were unsound. Tellingly, the candidates only once mentioned George W. Bush, who, until his popularity collapsed during his second term, had been touted within the party as a born-again Reagan. Instead, all of the candidates looked backward, beckoning to the restoration of a conservatism that had somehow lost its way.

What some experts envisaged, only two years earlier, as a permanent Republican majority now began to look like a mirage. Certainly, the Republicans could no longer count on reassembling, yet again, some version of the Reagan national coalition that had won their party the White House in six of the previous nine elections. “It’s gone,” Ed Rollins, Reagan’s White House political director, later conceded about the Reagan coalition. “It doesn’t mean a whole lot to people anymore.”

The electoral taffy a year later bore out Rollins’ evaluation and affirmed the impression that the nation had reached the end of an extraordinary era in its political history. After Barry Goldwater’s crushing defeat in 1964, the conventional wisdom held that a liberal consensus thoroughly controlled American politics. That consensus began to unravel in the late ‘60s, but it was by no means obvious that the right wing of the Republican Party would replace it. Even after Reagan won the Presidency, many commentators regarded him as a fluke. David Broder of The Washington Post wrote of Reaganism early in 1983 as a “one-year phenomenon” and declared that the Reagan administration had reached its “phase-out.”

Yet, by 2008, the surge of conservative politics that Reagan personified had survived brief interruption and temporary reversal and, like it or not, defined an entire political era — an era longer than that of either Thomas Jefferson or Andrew Jackson, longer than the Gilded Age or the Progressive Era and nearly as long as the period of liberal reform that stretched from the rise of the New Deal to the demise of the Great Society.

Any periodization of history is, of course, arbitrary and debatable. And, to be sure, the age of Reagan — the most sustained conservative political era in American history — does not, at a glance, seem as significant as other major periods. Reagan fell far short of eradicating either Franklin Roosevelt’s revolution in government or the reforms of the 1960s. Contrary to the heroic portrait painted by his admirers (and, more recently, by some liberals with second thoughts), his Presidency either caused or indulged enormous damage, ranging from the savings and loan catastrophe to the Iran-Contra affair. His success at times owed as much to the divisions and disarray among the Democrats as it did to his own strength.

Still, like Jackson and Franklin Roosevelt, Reagan took over a political order in crisis, powerfully pronounced the principles of a new order and, on some crucial issues, bent the nation to his will. He took ideas that had once been relegated to the ideological margins and carried them into the very core of American politics. By hastening the end of the Cold War and altering some of the basic instruments of liberal reform (above all the federal courts and progressive taxation), the Reagan era changed the sum and substance of government at home and abroad. Given the era’s longevity, the question is when and why it ran out of steam.

All history is shaped by the unexpected — yet, to an unusual degree, contingency has altered American politics since 1960. If not for the assassination in Dallas, a liberal age of Kennedy might have dawned. Without Vietnam, Lyndon Johnson could well have emerged as the overshadowing figure of the ‘60s. Had the crimes of Watergate been left unexposed, the ’70s and after might belong to the age of Nixon. Instead, out of crises that upended both parties, Ronald Reagan and the right came to power.

The Democrats never fully recovered from their divisions over Vietnam. Likewise, the Republican establishment never fully recovered from Watergate, another unexpected consequence of Vietnam. Overwhelming Democratic victories in the midterm elections of 1974, followed by Jimmy Carter’s election two years ago...
Iran-Contra affair. Yet Reagan was also able to look beyond the caused a bloodbath in Central America, ran aground in Lebanon Soviet invaders in Afghanistan (while arming Islamist radicals), triumphs in places like Grenada, ran aground in Lebanon and finally led to a severe constitutional confrontation with the Iran-Contra affair. Yet Reagan was also able to look beyond the right-wing vision, reject the advice of most hard-line conserva-
tives, recognize Gorbachev as a genuine reformer and launch the reversal of U.S.-Soviet tensions that ended the Cold War. It was Reagan's greatest accomplishment and arguably the greatest of any President of the United States since 1945.

Reagan's performance in other areas was, at best, mixed. Although he left the economy in far better shape than he found it, the draconian anti-inflation policies of his Federal Reserve chair-
man, Paul Volcker, as well as declining oil prices in the mid-'80s, deserve most of the credit. On the social and cultural issues dear to the religious right — from abortion to prayer in public schools — the administration delivered mainly lip service. The pro-busi-
ness Reagan revolution hardened the decline of organized labor (and contributed to declines in real hourly wages), but it failed to reduce the size of the federal gov-
ernment, and its signal successes in deregulation and indifference to oversight contributed to various scandals (among them the loot-
ing of the Department of Housing and Urban Development). Aside from taxation and foreign policy, Reagan's most substantial legacies were stacking the courts with like-
minded young conservatives and turning old right-wing nostrums like trickle-down economics into something approaching the con-
ventional wisdom, at least within the Republican Party.

The chief political problem for the Reagan Republicans in advanc-
ing Reagan's policies after 1988 lay in choosing his successor. Lacking another popular conservative of Reagan's stature, the party turned to Reagan's loyal Vice President, George H.W. Bush, the old estab-
lishment favorite, who had moved rightward on issues ranging from taxes to gun control. If the Democrats had found a convincing way to cohere as more than a collection of interest groups, it is possible the Republican ascen-
dancy might have ended in 1988. But, after long experience as a congressional party — where distinct interests became entrenched — the Democrats nominated a colorless liberal, Michael Dukakis. After enjoying a large lead in the polls after his convention, Duka-
kis insisted on stressing his "competence" but declined to combat ferocious attacks. Most importantly, Reagan's rising popularity, wrought after Iran-Contra and during his partnership with Gor-
bachev, helped lift his Vice President into the White House. The age of Reagan would continue. Yet its unraveling had begun.

Both of Reagan's successors tried, from different sides of the political spectrum, to foster renewed modera-
tion. Both were hampered by the costs of Reagan's stewardship as well as by the political furies from the left and the right, still galvanized by the crises from the 1960s and '70s.

George H.W. Bush faced the task of bringing the Cold War to a close in a detached, realist fashion very different from Reagan's
— yet he completed what Reagan had started. His major foreign policy triumphs — helping to achieve the reunification of Germany and assembling an international coalition to reverse Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait — could not have succeeded without the personal working relationship he carefully built with Gorbachev. Public reaction to the Gulf War victory pushed Bush’s approval figures to historic new heights.

But, on domestic matters, Bush found himself pilloried from the right. He might have foreseen the attacks as early as his nomination acceptance speech, when, alongside a tough-guy pledge not to raise taxes, he promised to offer a “kinder and gentler” America. (“Kinder and gentler than who?” Nancy Reagan is reported to have asked.) The Reagan years left behind not only a growing debt but additional costs from the savings and loan crisis that Reagan’s zealous deregulation policies had precipitated. Faced with an intransigent Democratic Congress, Bush bowed to reality and raised taxes, immediately and forever persuading some Reaganites that he was a secret liberal. Bush’s attempts to placate the right — by nominating Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court and by allowing Pat Buchanan to deliver a hair-raising culture wars opening-night speech at his re-nomination convention — alienated independents without fully winning over the right.

The bizarre third-party candidacy of Texas billionaire Ross Perot in 1992 showed how Bush had lost the popular confidence many had placed in Reagan. Perot, who got his political start supporting Nixon, was also a product of the age of Reagan — presenting himself as a no-nonsense businessman pitted against Washington insiders, playing up a twangy Texas populism that Bush imitated unconvincingly.

Political analysts disagree about whether Perot’s candidacy did more harm to Bush or to the Democrat who defeated him, Bill Clinton. But the fact that Perot won 19 percent of the popular vote exposed the volatility of the electorate and an abiding alienation from politics — alienation that had first helped elect Jimmy Carter but by now had gone haywire. The fractured vote augured poorly for a recreation of the political center.

Clinton offered the Democrats hope of reuniting the party’s left wing and its traditional working- and middle-class base, at odds since the late 1960s. But, before Clinton’s inauguration, news that the Bush budget deficits — the lingering ills of Reaganomics — would be even larger than predicted helped persuade him that he would have to shelve the middle-class tax cut he had promised in favor of deficit reduction. Clinton’s shift dismayed some liberals, which portended a renewal of old intramural fights among the Democrats. Only in time did it become clear that Clinton’s policies were the foundation of the ’90s boom, which lowered poverty rates and raised earnings in all income groups and across racial lines.

Clinton continually contended with the left wing of his own party as well as right-wing Republicans — and with his own personal demons. The failure of his health care initiative in 1994 capped nearly 18 months of missteps. Compounding Clinton’s woes, left-wing Democrats and labor unions, already disturbed by his conversion to deficit reduction, rebelled at his support of the North American Free Trade Agreement. The recapture of the House by the Republicans in 1994 forced Clinton to adjust and adopt more measured and sometimes defensive tactics.

Clinton recouped by occupying the political ground between the right-wing hotspots and the doctrinaire left. He seized Republican rhetoric about family values and filled it with his own liberal politics — a co-optation that the left would misunderstand and disparage as cynical “triangulation.” Even worse, in liberals’ eyes, Clinton signed a welfare-reform bill that he himself thought too punitive in some respects (and that he would later help ameliorate), believing it would be his only opportunity to overhaul what had become a degrading, divisive, and self-defeating welfare system.

On his right, Clinton faced a Republican Congress so dominated by its ideologues that even Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, one of the surviving traditional Republicans, grudgingly went along with the right-wing agenda. Yet Clinton outfoxed Republicans in battles over the budget that led to government shutdowns. Instead of the Republicans forcing Clinton to capitulate to their demand to slash Medicare and cut taxes, the President held steady, and the public blamed Congress. And, when right-wing terrorists bombed the federal building in Oklahoma City, Clinton regained the initiative by effectively denouncing the anti-government mood being stoked by the Republican right.

Clinton’s comeback and his reelection seemed, at last, to establish a shaky political center — but his second term, and the election of his successor, saw that center collapse. This collapse insured that, despite Clinton’s successes, his Presidency would belong to the age of Reagan. First, right-wing Republicans refused to accept the legitimacy of his reelection — House Majority Leader Dick Armey, for one, referred to Clinton as “your President” — and stepped up their efforts to destroy him. The discovery by right-wing operatives that Clinton had had a series of trysts with a young White House worker gave them the opportunity to set in motion the events that would lead to Clinton’s impeachment. In Washington, and in the formally liberal metropolitan press, mounting fury at Clinton fed the impression that the right was in the saddle once again. Yet the partisan impeachment fight was profoundly unpopular with the public, and it brought back to Clinton even left-wing Democrats (including in the intelligentsia) who had regarded him as a betrayer of liberal principles.

With Clinton’s popularity soaring, it looked as if 2000 would bring a solid Democratic victory. But nothing went right for the Democrats. Al Gore, who believed that scandal had made Clinton a liability, distanced himself from the very administration he had served so well. Bush, a cipher to most, ran as a “compassionate conservative” who would uphold Reaganite principles but in the kinder, gentler mode of his father. The press gave credence to a string of bogus scandals and cast Gore as a privileged, self-regarding dissembler. The left retreated into its discontent with Clinton’s politics of feint and maneuver and rallied to the protest candidacy of Ralph Nader. Like Dukakis, Gore failed to defend himself from the relentless Republican attacks. Thanks to Nader, and to the intervention of four Reagan-era appointees on the Supreme Court and the man Reagan named chief justice, George W. Bush became President. Clinton’s precarious center had not held.

Contrary to what his campaign seemed to promise in 2000, Bush governed as a radical, taking Reaganite ideas to their logical conclusion and beyond. Except for the shocking attacks of September 11, 2001, Bush might not have garnered the patriotic backing that earned him public approval that, in the short run, exceeded what his father enjoyed after the Gulf War and later remained just high enough to win him a second term. During the painful years thereafter, his manifest failures led him to suffer through the longest run of public disapproval yet recorded for any President.

Repeatedly, the Bush administration exposed the exhaustion of Reaganism. The debacle in Iraq through 2006 challenged conservatives’ claims to superior wisdom in foreign and military affairs, which for decades has been their prime claim to competence. The
The chief political problem for the Reagan Republicans in advancing Reagan's policies lay in choosing his successor.

George H.W. Bush served as Reagan's Vice President and succeeded him in the Presidency in 1989.

PHOTO: RON EDMONDS, © BETTMANN/CORBIS

The onset of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression augured an economic slump far more devastating than the entire post-1980 presidential succession that could hold together the disparate elements of the old Reagan coalition. The Republicans were left with a clutch of Presidential contenders each standing for a fragment of a coalition in disarray.

From the 2006 midterms on, 2008 loomed every larger as a Democratic year. But what followed was anything but smooth and predictable. Hillary Rodham Clinton, supposedly the Democrats' destined nominee, found herself locked in an unexpected tight battle with an untested newcomer, Barack Obama. Obama's handlers successfully positioned him to the left of Clinton, notably on the war in Iraq. The Obama campaign, with the aid of its supporters in the political press, made it seem as if he were the anti-war candidate and Clinton the pro-war candidate — a rerun, of sorts, of 1968, but with the anti-war forces now in the ascendency. Lingering mistrust of Clinton as part of what her critics called the unprincipled "triangulating" administration of her husband, internal discord among her staffers and the first hints that she was making subtle racial appeals would be seized upon by her adversaries — all of this put her on the defensive. By tapping into an energized core of college students and affluent liberals, the Obama campaign won a surprising victory in the Iowa caucuses; then, after Clinton comebacks in New Hampshire and Nevada, the Obama campaign focused on South Carolina where, its national campaign co-chair Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. noted, a large proportion of the Democratic primary vote would come from African-Americans. Jackson insinuated that Clinton, who had wept on the campaign trail in New Hampshire, had shed no tears over the victims of Hurricane Katrina — a blatant slur that showed how rough the campaign was becoming.

The hard-fought and at times bitter battle between Clinton and Obama continued into the late spring. After Obama's long string of victories in state caucuses in January and early February, the political tide began to turn as Clinton won important primaries, including those in the crucial battleground states of Pennsylvania and Ohio. The contest lasted until the primaries ended at the beginning of June, when Obama, enjoying a slender lead in the pledged delegate count, began picking up enough support from the party's super-delegates to secure the nomination. On June 7, Clinton suspended her campaign and endorsed Obama.

The presumptive nominee spent much of the summer in the spectre-driven electioneering mode that had dominated his campaign during the fight for the nomination. At the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Obama's strategists arranged for him to deliver his acceptance speech in a professional football stadium filled with adoring supporters as well as convention delegates. Yet the speech was more subdued than Obama's earlier campaign orations and conveyed command as well as conviction. The political highpoints of the convention, essential for the Democrats and Obama, came when Hillary and Bill Clinton separately addressed the delegates to back the candidate, thereby helping to heal the persisting breaches in the party's ranks. Obama's choice for Vice Presidential running mate of Joe Biden, a longtime senator from Delaware with strong foreign-policy credentials as chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, disappointed some who had hoped that Obama would select Hillary Clinton, but Biden added experience and authority to the ticket.

The Republicans, meanwhile, faced a quandary having chosen McCain, a figure distrusted by many of the party's core supporters, especially social conservatives and the Christian evangelical right. McCain reportedly wanted a running mate whose politics were much like his own — not an orthodox party man but a non-conformist such as the renegade Democratic Senator Joe Lieberman of Connecticut, who had been supporting McCain for the entire campaign and would attack Obama's patriotism. But Lieberman was unacceptable to the Right. At the last minute, McCain opted for Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska, a newcomer who had favorably impressed influential neo-conservatives and social conservative — and the first female to run on a national Republican ticket. Palin's down-to-earth, unflinchingly conservative acceptance speech thrilled the delegates and gave Republicans hope that the underdog McCain might pull off a victory in November.

Immediately after the Republican convention, Obama's lead disappeared and McCain-Palin pulled ahead. Suddenly, though, in mid-September, the Lehman Brothers investment bank, one of the most prestigious old firms on Wall Street, announced that it was on the brink of bankruptcy — a grave new turn in the sub-prime mortgage and credit crisis that had been evident since 2007. (The crisis had worsened significantly over the summer, when liquidity crises forced two giant government-sponsored mortgage lenders, familiarly known as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, to be placed under public conservatorships.) Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy on September 15, stock market prices tumbled and soon after, the Merrill Lynch investment house and the huge AIG insurance firm announced that they, too, were about to go under. On September 17, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, Ben Bernanke, advised Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson that a large amount of public money was required to stabilize the collapsing financial system.

The onset of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression augured an economic slump far more devastating than the entire po-
The political fallout was unprecedented, for never before had the political class of both parties foresaw when the Presidential campaign began. The scale of the victory persuaded some commentators that the Democrats had forged a new commanding national majority. Obama certainly held on to the core constituencies that had propelled him to the nomination. His candidacy galvanized African-Americans to turn out in record numbers and give him 95 percent of their votes. Young voters and first-time voters backed Obama over McCain by margins of two to one. So far, President Obama has shown a readiness to undo swiftly some of the conservative policies of the Bush years, on issues ranging from the handling of suspected terrorists and the staffing of the National Labor Relations Board to the future of stem-cell research. His economic stimulus proposal, and the rancor from Republicans amid the debate over the stimulus, flew in the face of the President's early appointments — indicating both the depth of Democratic talent available to be tapped for leading roles in the administration, and Obama's determination to lay aside the kinds of fractious intramural differences that had plagued the party since 1968.

What kind of political era will arise over the years to come, of course, remains unknown and unknowable. Still, as the transition to a new administration began, there was an almost palpable sense that a great change was at hand. Obama enjoyed closer relations with the Democrats on Capitol Hill than either Carter or Clinton had when they took office. The almost rapturous response of the news media and political press to Obama's candidacy and then his election — which caused some writers to liken him to Abraham Lincoln, even before he had been sworn in — seemed to offer the new President welcome political cover, at least during the early stages of his Presidency. Above all, Obama's early appointments — including his choices of Hillary Clinton as secretary of state, Steven Chu as secretary of energy and Peter Orszag as budget director — indicated both the depth of Democratic talent available to be tapped for leading roles in the administration, and Obama's determination to lay aside the kinds of fractious intramural differences that had plagued the party since 1968.

Still, the inability of the Republicans to articulate any sort of coherent alternative on any of these issues — let alone since the days of Ronald Reagan. And on the truly pressing financial crisis, including the banking fiascos, the administration has been more vocal in attacking reprehensible behavior by the malefactors of great wealth than in laying out a strategy for the middle-term or even the immediate future.

SEPTMBER/OCTOBER 2009

The Complete Lyrics of Oscar Hammerstein II edited by Amy Asch '89; lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II '16. Asch has compiled the lyrics written by Hammerstein throughout his career (Knopf, $65).

At the Edge of Dreamland: The Modern Fables of Tsvi Eisenman translated by Barnett Zumoff '45. This collection of short, often anthropomorphic tales is filled with allegorical lessons (Ktav Publishing House, $24.95).

Brothers: 26 Stories of Love and Rivalry edited by Andrei Blumner; with contributions from Herbert Gold '46, Jay Neugeboren '59, Phillip Lopate '64 and David Kaczynski '70. A series of essays on the theme of relationships between brothers (Jossey-Bass, $24.95).

The Whole Nine Yards: Longer Poems by Daniel Hoffman '47. A former poet laureate, Hoffman writes about both the happiest and the most tragic of human experiences in this new poetry collection (Louisiana State University Press, $17.95).


A Sixty-Year Spiritual Voyage on the Ocean of Dharma translated by Maxwell E. Siegel '54 et al. This translation makes the teachings of Venerable Master Yinshun, a modern Chinese Buddhist philosopher, accessible to English-speaking readers (Noble Path, $10).

Reich's Care of the Elderly: Clinical Aspects of Aging, Sixth Edition edited by Dr. William Reich '58 et al. This text offers practical advice to doctors and family members faced with the challenges of caring for the elderly (Cambridge University Press, $95).

Confronting the Bomb: A Short History of the World Nuclear Disarmament Movement by Lawrence S. Wittner '62. Wittner explains how citizen activism has helped curb the arms race and prevent the outbreak of nuclear war (Stanford University Press, $21.95).


Notes on Sontag by Phillip Lopate '64. In this essay collection, the first in Princeton's "Writers on Writers" series, Lopate discusses the merits as well as the failings of Susan Sontag and her work (Princeton University Press, $19.95).


The Earth Moves: Galileo and the Roman Inquisition by Dr. Hofstadter '56. Hofstadter chronicles the 17th-century trial of Galileo Galilei, during which the scientist was forced to defend, and ultimately to abandon, his Copernican teachings (W.W. Norton & Co., $23.95).

Colonial Crucible: Empire in the Making of the Modern American State edited by Alfred W. McCoy '68 and Francesco A. Sannino. The authors examine the impact of 19th-century American imperialism on the United States and its territories (University of Wisconsin Press, $29.95).

Watching Walter Cronkite: Reflections on Growing Up in the 1950s and 1960s by Dr. Austin Kutscher '73. This memoir, written for the author's daughter, recounts Kutscher's experiences growing up in the era of the Vietnam War, the civil rights struggle and the first moon landing (Gordian Knot Books, $24.95).

Adam Mickiewicz: The Life of a Romantic by Roman Koropeckyj '76. An account of the travels, love affairs and literary progress of Poland's national poet (Cornell University Press, $45).

Latin American and Caribbean Trade Agreements: Keys to a Prosperous Community of the Americas by T.A. O'Keefe '82. O'Keefe proposes a plan for improving the economic situation in Latin America and the Caribbean through changes in U.S. foreign policy (Brill Academic, $150).

Outcasts United: A Refugee Team, an American Town by Warren St. John '91. In 1995, Clarkston, Ga.—population 7,200—was designated as a home for refugees from war zones around the world. St. John explores the issues of immigration and integration that have arisen in this small town by profiling the members of a local youth soccer team (Spiegel & Grau, $27).

The Existential Imperative: On the Material Production of Authenticity by Charles Watson '94. Watson defines the concept of authenticity and explains the environmental and intellectual conditions necessary for its existence (VDM Verlag, $79).

Perfect Fifths: A Novel by Megan McCafferty '95. The fifth and final installment of McCafferty's popular teen series, which follows the life and romantic intrigues of fictional protagonist — and Columbia graduate — Jessica Darling (Crown Publishers, $21.95).


The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane: A Novel by Katherine Howe '99. Howe's protagonist is a Harvard graduate student whose discovery of a key in her grandmother's study leads her to uncover a mystery surrounding the Salem Witch Trials (Voice, $25.95).
The Sociology of the Pampered Pooch

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

When journalist Michael Schaffer ’95 and his wife were driving to pick up their new dog, Murphy, from an animal shelter in New Jersey, they talked about how they weren’t going to become “those people” — the ones who shell out for the spa days and agility training and homeopathic medicine for their animals,” Schaffer writes in One Nation Under Dog: Adventures in the New World of Prozac-Popping Puppies, Dog-Park Politics, and Organic Pet Food (Henry Holt, $24).

That day, all they got at PetSmart for their Saint Bernard was “basic, ordinary stuff:” collars, a leash, chew toys and a doggie bed. Four years later, Murphy had gone through a series of different beds, collars, leashes and chew toys. He was microchipped, ate “superpremium” foods and had Halloween costumes and a photo with Santa. He had a professional trainer and dog walker — and was taking prescription antidepressants.

“We looked around at our neighbors and friends and did what they were doing,” Schaffer says. “The definition of what was the normal way to have pets had changed pretty dramatically. As a historian, I knew any time the definition of normal changes quickly, something interesting is happening.”

Schaffer, who was working at the Philadelphia Inquirer covering City Hall, quit his job to research a book about the phenomenon of pampered pets. Published in April, One Nation Under Dog now is in its second printing.

“I was trying to do journalistic sociology. I didn’t come at it as ‘I love doggies,’ ” Schaffer says. “The stuff I had the most fun with is looking at how the changes in the pet world reflect the really interesting changes in our society.”

For example, the debate over whether dogs should be trained with “pack leader” techniques, as promoted by “Dog Whisperer” Cesar Millan, or with a “positive reinforcement” method relying on lots of treats, Schaffer says is “a microcosm of culture wars on lots of topics. Schaffer says is “a microcosm of culture wars and politics. It’s a polarized country. Even how you teach your dog not to bark at the mailman has become culturally politicized.”

Publishers Weekly wrote about Schaffer’s efforts in a starred review: “The total effect is reminiscent of Tom Wolfe’s New Journalism essays on the sociology of pop culture.”

Schaffer grew up in Washington, D.C., and was a history major and Fulbright Scholar. “I thought I would get a Ph.D. and become like all of my beloved history professors,” he says. Instead, Schaffer says he was drawn to the immediacy and creativity of journalism, and that the Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences, Ken Jackson’s “History of the City of New York” class prepared him to cover a big city, first Washington, D.C., and then Philadelphia. Schaffer also has done stints of foreign correspondence in Iraq.

Schaffer hadn’t had pets before but has been wanting to write a book. Getting Murphy and learning about the new style of having pets gave Schaffer the topic for One Nation Under Dog, which he says is about people rather than pets. He wanted to explore how changes in American culture during the past 20–30 years, with time-crunched, dual-career households and increasing social isolation, have led to the rise of an estimated $45 billion pet services industry that includes professional trainers, walkers and groomers, doggy day care facilities and premium kennels. Since the book was published, Pet Airways — the world’s first pet-only airline — was launched.

Schaffer traveled the country talking to leash-law political activists, chew toy designers, raw food advocates, professional trainers, high-end veterinarians and pet social networkers to chronicle not how pets have changed, because they haven’t, but how pet owners have changed. “A relatively simple thing, like letting the dog out for a pee — people couldn’t do it themselves anymore,” Schaffer says. People who hire dog walkers at $20 a visit are not, he says, “crazy, rich, obsessed dog people,” but normal folk who work long hours and are finding a way to own a dog even when nobody is home all day to care for him or her.

Many pet owners, especially empty nesters and couples without children, also have elevated the status of their animals to members of the family. Gone are the outdoor dog houses for pups named Rover and Fido. More popular now are “fur babies” with trendy human names like Bella and Max who often sleep in their owners’ beds. Pets can now receive cancer treatments and other procedures at state-of-the-art animal hospitals, and a growing pet health insurance industry helps owners pay for it.

When a beloved pet dies, owners might go to bereavement counseling. Epitaphs have gone from the likes of “A faithful and loving companion” and “My dear old pal,” Schaffer reports, to the more anthropomorphic references to “Our baby girl” and “Mommy misses you.”

Critics of these cultural changes lament a misallocation of resources. Schaffer, who has added a daughter to his family and claims Murphy is not overindulged, responds by calling spending on pets a consumer choice. Pet expenditures are more likely to compete in a household budget with other consumer luxuries, like electronics, he says, rather than to edge out charitable giving.

He also acknowledges the reality that not all pets in America are indulged, but says, “The trend is toward the pampered pet style. That’s where things are going.”

In addition to promoting One Nation Under Dog, Schaffer is a freelance journalist and is working on a proposal for a second book.


The Eve of Spain: Myths of Origins in the History of Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Conflict by Patricia Grieve, the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professor of the Humanities. Grieve details the historical effects that various retellings of Spain’s founding myth have had on Spanish ideas about religious tolerance, political allegiance and gender relations (The Johns Hopkins University Press, $60).

Fixing My Gaze: A Scientist’s Journey into Seeing in Three Dimensions by Susan R. Barry, foreworded by Oliver Sacks, professor of neurology, psychiatry and the arts. Barry, a professor of neurobiology, explains how she learned to perceive depth for the first time as an adult and how this newfound ability changed her life (Basics Books, $26).

Grace Laidlaw ’11
Obituaries

1933

Paul F. Bubendey, retired business executive, Vero Beach, Fla., on February 19, 2009. A member of Alpha Delta Phi, Bubendey played freshman football at the College. Bubendey, formerly of Lawrence, N.Y., was an s.v.p. of Chemical Bank and a captain in the Naval Reserves. He is survived by his son, Paul Jr.; and daughters, Clara Baur and Madeleine Geoghegan.

John, and his wife, Joceline Lemaire, and Kathryn Riddle and her husband, David; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, PO Box 60427, Nashville, TN 37206.

Jerome S. Schaul, retired plastics engineer, amateur cellist, Maplewood, N.J., on November 30, 2008. Schaul earned a doctorate in chemical engineering in 1957 from Stevens Institute of Technology. He began his career with General Cigar in Hartford, and after several moves settled in Essex County, N.J. Following WWII, Schaul became involved with plastics and produced the first experimental length of polyethylene-covered telephone cable for Western Electric. He subsequently developed and manufactured early examples of glass-reinforced products and, later, fluorocarbon extrusions, before concentrating on PVC pipe. Schaul was a pioneer in creating PET bottles, for which he received his second patent. He retired in 1980 from Celanese Corp. For more than 20 years, Schaul was an instructor for the Center for Professional Advancement, teaching in New Jersey and Amsterdam. He was first chair cellist in the Montclair State University Orchestra and the Livingston Symphony. Schaul is survived by his wife of 69 years, Ruth; sister, Betty Lefferts; and sons Dan, and Michael ’65, and his wife Miriam, and their son, Nissim ’00. Schaul’s father, also Jerome S., was a member of the Class of 1909.

1935

William F. Lozier Sr., attorney, Atlanta, on February 12, 2009. Lozier attended Tech High School and a captain in the Naval Reserves. He is survived by his son, Paul Jr.; and daughters, Clara Baur and Madeleine Geoghegan.

He taught business at Georgia Tech and Georgia State before serving as a major in the Army during WWII. Returning to Atlanta, he practiced law, often pro bono, and was active in civic and neighborhood affairs. Lozier taught the Friendship Class at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church for 50 years and was co-founder and longtime president of the Daisy Davies Scholarship Fund. He was a member of Delta Sigma Pi and the Optimist Club. Lozier was an avid woodworker and gardener. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Kathryn (Kay) Tabor Lozier; children, William Jr., Linda Gutherie, Murray T. Bloom ’37

Murray T. Bloom, magazine journalist and author, North Branchford, Conn., on February 10, 2009. Bloom was born on May 19, 1916, in New York City. He earned a degree in 1938 from the Journalism School and was a magazine journalist and author who brought journalistic style to serious and complicated issues such as insider stock trading and counterfeiting. Bloom wrote for The New York Times, The New Republic and Harpers, among others. He authored The Trouble With Lawyers; Rogues to Riches: The Trouble With Wall Street; The Men Who Stole Portugal; The Brotherhood of Money; The Secret World of Bank Note Printers; and The 13th Man. Bloom was one of the founding members and a past president of what is now the American Society of Journalists and Authors. He was his class’ CCT Class Notes correspondent from February 2000-May 2007. Bloom and his wife since 1944, Sydelle, lived in Great Neck, N.Y., from 1950-2005 and were active in local politics and the Great Neck Public Library. He is survived by his daughters, Amy Beth and Ellen Susan; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1938

Robert E. Friou ’38

Robert E. Friou, attorney, Tarrytown, N.Y., on February 26, 2009. Friou was born in 1917 in Brooklyn, N.Y. He earned a degree in 1940 from the Law School and was an attorney for the U.S. Tax Court in Washington, D.C., until the war, when he volunteered for the Army. Friou graduated from the Command and General Staff School in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and became an Air Force captain. Later, he worked for Chadbourn, Parke, Whiteside and Wolf; for Bethlehem Steel; and for Herbert Hoover and his vacuum company. He was a military intelligence officer, mostly in bankruptcy, in New York City and Westchester County. For about 15 years after retirement, he did pro bono work helping poor tenants of the Tarrytowns. Friou was awarded the New York State Bar Association 1991 President’s Pro Bono Service Award for the 9th and 10th Judicial Districts of the State of New York. He is survived by his second wife, Elizabeth Bell Friou; daughters, Jane Clemens and Elizabeth Mote and their husbands; three grandchildren; three stepsons, Stephen, Richard and Paul; and three siblings, Kenneth ’41, Lillian and Charles. He was predeceased by a brother, George. Memorial contributions may be made to Parkinson’s Disease Foundation, 1359 Broadway, Ste 1509, New York, NY 10018.

1939

Lawrence Klingbeil, retired postal clerk and musician, Fanwood, N.J., on February 17, 2009. Born in Elizabeth, N.J., Klingbeil lived there before moving to Fanwood 52 years ago. He served in the Army during WWII and later was an accounting clerk with the U.S. Post Office in Westfield, N.J., until 1986. Simultaneously, Klingbeil was a semelf-employed musician with the Riverside Harmonies, retiring in 1990. A childhood prodigy, Klingbeil played piano on the radio at 7, which was documented in the Elizabeth Daily Journal on February 10, 1927. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn (née Lifschitz); and 11 nieces and nephews.

1941

Edward A. DeLeon, retired teacher, Rye, N.H., on February 3, 2009. DeLeon was born in 1913. After college, he married Sara Hart and lived and worked in the Hartford, Conn., area for many years. Prior to becoming a teacher in the 1960s, DeLeon was an insurance executive. Then, until his retirement in 1975, he taught in the East Granby, Conn., public schools. DeLeon is survived by his children, Pamela Stamm, Judith Devin, Edward Jr., Paul, Michael, Sara Tracy Collins and Anne; siblings, Jane Smith, Michael, Rodney and Robert; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

1950

Israel Oliver Snyder, retired consultant, Somers, N.Y., on February 2, 2009. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Snyder moved to Englewood, N.J., before starting school. After the death of his mother when he was 15, Snyder lived with relatives in Manhattan and then Bridgeport, Conn., where he graduated from high school. Back in NYC in 1937, Snyder was a stock clerk in Macy’s and attended the New School. In February 1942, he entered the Army. Captured in Sicily in July 1943, he spent 19 months as a POW. He escaped through Poland and the Soviet Union and reached the United States in April 1945. Sny-

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Please include the deceased’s full name, date of death with year, class year, profession, and city and state of residence at time of death. Biographical information, survivors’ names, address(es) for charitable donations and high-quality photos (print, or 300 dpi jpg) also may be included. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at editors’ discretion. Send materials to cct@columbia.edu or to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.

Guidelines

Send materials to cct@columbia.edu or to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.
other deaths reported

Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.


1937 Philip D. Wiedel, surgeon, Redding, Conn., on July 26, 2009. Wiedel earned a degree in 1941 from P&ES and later worked and taught there.


Kerrin Easton, retired CPA and firm partner, Redding, Conn., on June 29, 2009. Easton earned a degree in 1940 from the Business School.

Bernard Kaback, retired NYC principal, Riverdale, N.Y., on June 17, 2009.

W. Graham Knox Jr., surgeon, Greenwich, Conn., on June 26, 2009. Knox earned a degree in 1942 from P&ES.

Frederick R. Long Jr., physician, Richmond, Va., on March 17, 2009.


1949 Stuart S. Goldblatt, retired teacher and department chair, East Northport, N.Y., on July 7, 2009. Goldblatt earned a degree in 1950 from GSAS.


Andrew J. “Jack” Paton, floorcovering consultant, Aventura, Fla., on February 20, 2009. Paton was born on July 17, 1928, in Worcester, Mass. He graduated from Milford High School in Milford, N.H., where he was a stellar three-sport athlete. At Columbia, Paton was a member of Sigma Nu, the Blue Key Society and the senior Society of Nacons. He served in the Army and was honorably discharged as a first lieutenant in 1962. Paton’s floorcovering career began at Masters and Merrill in Everett, Mass., and included stints as president of E.T. Barrick Industries, Eagle Carpet Mills, Lotus Carpet, and, finally, as founder and CEO of Paton Industries. He was active in the Carpet Trade Golf Association. Paton is survived by his wife, Jeanne; brother, Leo; daughter, Melissa; sons, John, Jeff and Craig, nine grandchildren; two nephews; and one niece. Memorial contributions may be made to the A.J. “Jack” Paton Memorial Fund and sent to The Floor Covering Industry Foundation, 2211 E. Howell Ave., Anaheim, CA 92806-6009.

Ira Mason, physician, New York City, on December 28, 2008. Mason was a highly regarded physician, affiliated with New-YorkPresbyterian/Weill Cornell Hospital. He received his M.D. from Weill Medical College of Cornell University and did his residency at Bellevue. Mason practiced internal medicine in New York City. He is survived by his wife, Gail; daughter, Cori Berger; son, Jonathan; four grandchildren; and sister, Marilyn Bernstein.

Jeremy G. Epstein, attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., and Hudson, N.Y., on July 22, 2009. Epstein graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the College, where he majored in Greek and Latin. He was awarded a Kellett Fellowship to Cambridge, where he read classics at Jesus College and was awarded a B.A. and M.A. Epstein graduated from Yale Law in 1972 and was law clerk to the Hon. Arnold Bauman, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York, from 1972-74. He then was the assistant U.S. attorney, Southern District of New York, from 1974-78. Epstein joined the New York law firm Shearnman & Sterling in 1978 and became a partner in 1982 in its litigation group. From 1995-2000, he headed the litigation Department. Epstein was involved in numerous law-related organizations and was listed in The Best Lawyers in America. He wrote articles that were published in newspapers and legal publications. Epstein was an involved alumnum who was a member of the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors from 2003 until his death. He is survived by his wife of more than 40 years, Amy; son, Josh; daughter, Abby; son-in-law, David Schumer; and sister, Deborah Nord. Memorial contributions may be made to the Columbia College Fund or the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation, PKD Foundation 9221, Ward Pky, Ste 400, Kansas City, MO 64114-3367.

Mario DiNatale, attorney, Riverside, Conn., on March 26, 2009. DiNatale grew up in the Bronx. He was a graduate of Regis H.S. in New York City and in 1979 of NYU’s School of Law. DiNatale tried more than 40 cases to verdict as an A.D.A. in New York County, and served for five years as a special attorney with the Organized Crime Strike Force of the U.S. Justice Department in Brooklyn. After four years in private practice with Curtis Mallet in New York, he joined Silver Golub & Teitell in Stamford in 1993. Named a partner in 1997, he was president of the Fairfield County Bar Association at the time of his death. DiNatale was on the board of Greenwich Water Polo, president of The Riverside Association, coached youth sports and played in several softball leagues. He is survived by his wife, Joan; and children, Laura and Matthew. He was predeceased by a brother, Dino. Memorial contributions may be made to the Neurological Institute of Columbia University, Brain Tumor Center, 710 W. 168th St., Rm 204, New York, NY 10032; to The Richard L. Rosenthal Hospice Residence, 100 Shelburne Rd., Stamford, CT 06902; or in DiNatale’s name to the donor’s favorite charity.

Lisa Palladino

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

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Malcolm S. Mason '30, '34L has posted a paper, *Civil Liability at Common Law for Wrongful Death: A Footnote to the Dictum of Lord Denman in O'Connell v. The Queen*, about an issue incorrectly believed not to exist. Those interested can download the paper without charge from SSRN. Those interested can download the paper without charge from SSRN. Those interested can download the paper without charge from SSRN.

Jim Shanley was a fearless company commander and a peerless leader of men. During one vicious firefight, he entered to draw fire to help a beleaguered lieutenant. The latter was killed, and Jim died in my arms. Posthumously, he was awarded the Navy Cross.

Seth Neugroschl 1349 Lexington Ave. New York, NY 10028 sn23@columbia.edu

Victor Streit writes: "The news in *CCT* that a war memorial plaque has been placed on the Columbia campus moved me deeply. It is most fitting that the tablet include the names of the three Columbia Marines whose death in combat I shall now describe. First, the circumstances surrounding the death of Capt. Jack Joseph on Guadalcanal on October 22, 1942. I understand that his name already appears on the Roll of Honor..."

Robert Zucker 29 The Birches Roslyn, NY 11576 rzucker@optonline.net

We were saddened to learn of the death of Fannie de Bary, for 68 years the wonderful and beautiful wife of Ted de Bary. Fan was a cherished classmate and always a welcome presence on the campus. Her death is a great personal loss to us all and a great loss for Columbia. (My apologies for the error in the previous notice of her death which appeared in the newsletter of the class of 1941, January 2009.)

Melvin Hershkowitz 3 Regency Plaza Apt. 1001-E Providence, RI 02903 DRME123@cox.net

After notifying classmates about the July/August electronic-only issue of *CCT*, I was pleased to hear from some old friends with news and greetings.

Nick Cicchetti checked in; he continues his interest in Columbia alumni affairs and enjoys reading *CCT*. Nick and I enjoyed several nice lunches at the Columbia Club and Faculty House a few years ago with our former class correspondent, the late Dr. Herb Mark. We thank Nick for his loyalty and devotion to our class and to Columbia.

Our ever-faithful classmate Art Graham confirmed receipt of our electronic Class Notes. Art continues his activities as a leader in our Westchester group of College and Campus News.

The pianist was Miroslava Panayotova, a beautiful and talented pianist who is on the faculty of the University of South Florida in Tampa. It was directed by Alistair Willis, a congenial and brilliant young conductor. The pianist was Miroslava Panayotova, a beautiful and talented pianist who is on the faculty of the University of South Florida in Tampa. It was directed by Alistair Willis, a congenial and brilliant young conductor.

"My career in public education ended in 1985, but not in education per se. My wife, Mary ‘40 GSAS, and I, in 1976, accepted an assignment as Methodist missionaries to Grenada in the West Indies. Specifically, we were charged with establishing and administering an institution to be called Wesley College. It was a challenging, frustrating, gratifying experience. I could not have done it without the skill and moral support of my wife."

"We are enormously proud of our five kids, the oldest of whom, just a year and a half of me of my son, is now retired. In our 67 years together, my wife and I have visited 120 countries. But I won’t go into that. It’s time to end this sprawling ramble."

"And this brings us to the second part of my story. After practice, I would return to campus to see if I had any assignments at Spectator. I learned that the paper had invited Madeleine Carroll to celebrate her selection by the senior class as the girl they would like to be 'stranded with on a desert island.' I didn’t know I was going to be stranded on a desert island?" was the succinct statement, "An obstetrician."

"With what?" I asked. "Am I going to be stranded on a desert island?"

"Generally and best wishes to all."

Arnold Beichman ’34, ’67 GSAS, ’73 GSAS writes: "I recently celebrated my 96th birthday with my wife, Mary '40 GSAS, and I, in 1976, accepted an assignment as Methodist missionaries to Grenada in the West Indies. Specifically, we were charged with establishing and administering an institution to be called Wesley College. It was a challenging, frustrating, gratifying experience. I could not have done it without the skill and moral support of my wife."

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to a unit that intercepted and broke German coded radio messages.

Bill had bought a former textile mill in Pittsfield, Mass., and joined its advertising department as an account manager. He was named advertising manager for its Silicone Products Department in 1953. Bill's sons, William and David, were born in Pittsfield in 1948 and 1950. William became an architect, and David became an architect, contractor and designer.

In 1955, Bill resigned from GE and formed his own advertising and sales promotion company, Winard Advertising, in Pittsfield. He began as a one-man business in his basement for the first three years and by his 10th anniversary he had 22 employees and all of the ad business for GE Plastics. By 1960, Bill had bought a former textile mill in Pittsfield, with plenty of space for his expanding businesses, which now included a public relations section. Winard News Service. His firm won several awards for its advertisements, direct mail programs and trade show exhibits, which they designed and produced for clients.

In 1964, Bill was divorced from his first wife, and in 1971 married Deborah Clark Sanders, embarking on what he calls "a wonderful marriage of 37 years." Their daughter, Tiffany, was born in 1978. Bill and Debby live in an 1860 converted carriage house in Lenox, Mass. Tiffany graduated from Cornell and then got her M.A. in sports psychology and breeding patterns, emphasized the Belmont Trifecta of Summer Bird, Dunkirk and Mine That Bird at a big payoff. Your correspondent, an active member of the CDHC and longtime student of racing history and breeding patterns, emphasized that Bill did even better, hitting the Belmont Trifecta of Summer Bird, Dunkirk and Mine That Bird at a big payoff. Your correspondent, an active member of the CDHC and longtime student of racing history and breeding patterns, emphasized that Bill did even better, hitting the Belmont Trifecta of Summer Bird, Dunkirk and Mine That Bird at a big payoff. 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As I write this, Phil remains active in his movie distribution business in both New York City and at his summer place in East Hampton, N.Y., where he occasionally sees Dr. Gerald Klingon. Our sincere condolences to Tanya, to Lou's sons and daughter, and to his stepchildren on their sad loss.

In this issue of CTT arrives in your mailbox, our football team will have finished preparations for our opening game versus Fordham on September 19. Best wishes to coach Norries Wilson and our valiant Lions for a great season and a step toward an Ivy League championship for Columbia.

Kind regards to all classmates. I welcome your letters, phone calls and e-mail messages.

Connie Maniatty
Citi
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Henry Rolf Hecht
11 Evergreen Pl.
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hrhl5@columbia.edu

A small but significant remnant of our small but significant class managed to get together for our 65th reunion in June. We were the oldest class recognized as part of the festivities and drew what outwardly at least seemed like respect and admiration from those who looked at the year on our nametags. Of course, we suspect many of the youngsters thought of us (in the apt phrase of that Harvard man, Oliver Wendell Holmes) as "the last leaf upon the tree," and we rather felt that way ourselves — but, then, that's a proud achievement, and it was a grand occasion.

Reflecting on his varied and satisfying careers, Long Island-based Marshaettt Fihilo Dick Farber relates that first stop out of the Army, he was as an "electronics engineer deeply involved in early color TV development." Later he ran a profes-
Our dear classmate Harry Coleman was warmly remembered by guest speaker Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, ’76L. Holder recalled “Dean Harry Coleman (as) a great and generous man” who was particularly helpful in his gaining admission to Columbia’s Law School. He cited no one else. It is wonderful for Harry to have received public acknowledgment from our country’s attorney general.

Recently, I served as a juror with two prominent professional photographers to judge Scholastic Magazine’s 84th annual National Photography Competition for high school students. Scholastic somehow discovered that I was a winner in part through former students, now leading political scientists in Japan, who touch base with him when they come to Washington.

I met up with Malvin Ruderman. Mal, one of the world’s leading theoretical physicists, is the Centennial Professor of Physics and professor of applied physics at Columbia. In recent years, Mal’s main research interests have been the structure of neutron stars and how these objects convert so much of the spin-energy that they have when they are formed into beams of high energy radiation. The class survey (reported in May/June) has 43 percent in medicine and related fields. It prompted my looking up the Pre-Med Society article in the 1945 Columbian. At one time, the overall U.S.-Japan relation-

of the contest in 1942. We viewed 1,117 submissions from all over the United States, and they were impressive from some truly outstanding talents. There were many more entries using black and white film than I anticipated, considering the main thrust of photography then.

Although he modestly disclaims his expertise, Burton Sapin, former dean of the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University, is an authority on U.S.-Japan relations. Reacting to America’s focus on China and less attention being paid to Japan, Burt writes: “Let there be no trade deficit with Japan, but you never hear it mentioned. In Washington, the notable decline of interest in Japan is reflected in the scarcity of Japan-related events, lectures, seminars, etc. Ten or 15 years ago, there were usually at least several major events each month. Now, I can hardly remember anything of the kind over the past year. At the same time, the overall U.S.-Japan relationship remains solid. While quite cautious about overseas military involvement (legislation constrains it), the Japanese consider themselves close allies of the United States, with the U.S. continuing to provide basic security protection for them.”

Burt observes: “The Japanese face increasingly serious difficulties with their rapidly aging and diminishing population, and a political system that is painfully slow in its ability to deal with serious economic and other problems.” Burt stays current of its events, Dean Nicholas Mc

Knight warned pre-med students to “take heed lest they were not suited to go into medicine.” Clearly Dean Mc Knight did not discourage our classmates from entering the profession and enjoying successful careers in medicine. But the society’s officers, all men of CC ’46, were Preston Munter, president; Lawrence Ross, v.p.; Herbert Hendin, secretary; and Marvin Sinkoff, treasurer, who was replaced by Leonard Moss when he entered the Navy.


Malvin Ruderman ’46, one of the world’s leading theoretical physicists, is the Centennial Professor of Physics and a professor of applied physics at Columbia.

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Hoffman has published a dozen books of poems, including Brotherly Love, a finalist for the National Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award. The best-known of his half-dozen critical studies is Poe Poe Poe Poe Poe Poe Poe, also a National Book Award finalist. Dan is the holder of the Pogge Pedler of English Emeritus at Penn. He lives in Swarthmore, Pa., and on Cape Rosier in Maine.

The poems and editorial career of Dan's late wife, Elizabeth McFarland, were featured in an exhibition in April (National Poetry Month) at the Rosenbach Museum & Library in Philadelphia. Liz was poetry editor of Ladies' Home Journal from 1948-61 and published poems by such major poets as Marianne Moore, W.H. Auden, Mark Van Doren, Richard Wilbur, Donald Rh one, Reed and Walter de la Mare, and by many young poets soon to become famous including Maxine Kumin, Adrienne Rich, Sylvia Plath, Donald Hall ’55 and John Updike. L.H.J. gave those poets their largest readership (more than six million) and most generous payments. Liz got the rates increased from $1 to $10 per line and helped raise the taste of the reading public. Her own poems are in her book Over the Summer Water.

Dan was a very pleasant, very focused freshman 69 years ago, and I remember him with affection. In 1940, South Field encompassed a running track, the straight paths the length plus some of Butler Library, the eastern curving end going past the college residence Library, the eastern curving end. This insult was compounded by a harpist ‘The Stone Agers’ and seated in a place 50 or more years ago were segregated into a group labeled ‘The Stone Agers’ and seated in a windowless dining room. This resulted in a harpist playing, ostensibly, celestial music, during dinner. I doubt any ‘Stone Ager’ would ever be impressed by this at best premature gesture.”

Dr. Joseph Rumsage, I daresay our only classmate who is an eye surgeon and physician, wrote from Gretna, La., just east and across the river from uptown New Orleans, of his happy years at Columbia. I was pleased he remembered me and embarrassed I did not remember him.

He wrote, “As for Columbia, I learned more in two years at Morningside of knowledge, understanding, tolerance than any other period in any other place. We were 50 curious teenagers (I was 16 in 1944) sandwiched between the Navy V-12s in Livingston, going to physics lectures at Pupin while the Cyclotron was splitting atoms four floors below. I was a crosswain on the varsity crew and danced at the Varsity Show! Best wishes. PS. I hope to drop by 116th Street in July 2010.”

And then he added his happy memory of Columbia beating the Army team headed by the great “Doc” Blanchard at Baker Field. The score was 21-20. It was the only Army loss between 1943 and 1946.

Durham Caldwell
15 Ashland Ave.
Springfield, MA 01119
durham@att.net
We caught up with retired thoracic surgeon Walter Henry of Port Jefferson, Long Island, just a few hours before he, his wife, Nancy, and his 16-year-old granddaug ther, Jordan Previtt, were about to board an airplane for a vacation flight to France. The Henrys have done much travel since Walter’s retirement 15 years ago, but this time they were looking forward to Jordan — “a whiz at French” in Walter’s words — being with them as their personal translator. We hope to have a report on their trip in our next issue.

Walter, up till fairly recently, also spent a good deal of time at the helm of a 37-foot sailboat, plying waters from Chesapeake Bay to New England. Now he does his sailing vicariously. His son, Wally, is “very good at it” and has taken part in four America’s Cup events.

Another Long Island doctor, former Nassau University Medical Center pathologist John Duffy, retired to Orwell, VT. His chief pastime: “Taking it easy.” He also includes in vegetable gardening. Prior to that, he included in vegetables, peas, eggplant and broccoli.

Richard Fallon landed at Florida State University in 1956. The Tallahassee resident describes himself as retired and “hanging on.” He hung on long enough to become a well-known ob/gyn in Forest Hills, state Medical Center and became a well-known ob/gyn in Forest Hills, N.Y. He was a decorated WWII Air Force bombardier. (For more information, see Obituaries.)

I was saddened by news of Durham Caldwell in late June and found him asleep. Ed has not been well, and his full-time nurse reported the heat in South Carolina is difficult for Ed to tolerate. He is unable to walk well enough to leave the house and thereby finds himself isolated.

Ed lives in a large house with his daughter, Emily, and her two children. Bill says, “I know Ed would be ecstatic to receive mail or even a short telephone call from any class members to help break his isolation. The address is 2385 Darts Clove Way, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 and his telephone number is 843-216-0800. His nurse’s cell is 464-270-6744.”

Ed expected to visit New York in late July and hopes to attend the Law School monthly luncheon for 1949 Law School graduates. Many of us ’47 Columbians remember the thrilling “Hallelujah Chorus Sings” with orchestra (Bill Kahn, first violin) that Ed Costikyan conducted at Christmas. I was there several years. It is with real affection we wish him well.

Quite a few College 1947 classmates are 1949 Law School graduates. Bill’s report of the reunion that they experienced follows: “Classes whose graduation took place more than 50 years ago were segregated into a group labeled ‘The Stone Agers’ and seated in a windowless dining room. This insult was compounded by a harpist playing, ostensibly, celestial music, during dinner. I doubt any ‘Stone Ager’ would ever be impressed by this at best premature gesture.”

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He wrote, “As for Columbia, I learned more in two years at Morningside of knowledge, understanding, tolerance than any other period in any other place. We were 50 curious teenagers (I was 16 in 1944) sandwiched between the Navy V-12s in Livingston, going to physics lectures at Pupin while the Cyclotron was splitting atoms four floors below. I was a crosswain on the varsity crew and danced at the Varsity Show! Best wishes. PS. I hope to drop by 116th Street in July 2010.”

And then he added his happy memory of Columbia beating the Army team headed by the great “Doc” Blanchard at Baker Field. The score was 21-20. It was the only Army loss between 1943 and 1946.

Durham Caldwell
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We caught up with retired thoracic surgeon Walter Henry of Port Jefferson, Long Island, just a few hours before he, his wife, Nancy, and his 16-year-old granddaughter, Jordan Previtt, were about to board an airplane for a vacation flight to France. The Henrys have done much travel since Walter’s retirement 15 years ago, but this time they were looking forward to Jordan — “a whiz at French” in Walter’s words — being with them as their personal translator. We hope to have a report on their trip in our next issue.

Walter, up till fairly recently, also spent a great deal of time at the helm of a 37-foot sailboat, plying waters from Chesapeake Bay to New England. Now he does his sailing vicariously. His son, Wally, is “very good at it” and has taken part in four America’s Cup events.

Another Long Island doctor, former Nassau University Medical Center pathologist John Duffy, retired to Orwell, VT. His chief pastime: “Taking it easy.” He also includes in vegetable gardening. Prior to that, he included in vegetables, peas, eggplant and broccoli.

Richard Fallon landed at Florida State University in 1956. The Tallahassee resident describes himself as retired and “hanging on.” He hung on long enough to become a well-known ob/gyn in Forest Hills, state Medical Center and became a well-known ob/gyn in Forest Hills, N.Y. He was a decorated WWII Air Force bombardier. (For more information, see Obituaries.)

I was saddened by news of Durham Caldwell in late June and found him asleep. Ed has not been well, and his full-time nurse reported the heat in South Carolina is difficult for Ed to tolerate. He is unable to walk well enough to leave the house and thereby finds himself isolated.

Ed lives in a large house with his daughter, Emily, and her two children. Bill says, “I know Ed would be ecstatic to receive mail or even a short telephone call from any class members to help break his isolation. The address is 2385 Darts Clove Way, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466 and his telephone number is 843-216-0800. His nurse’s cell is 464-270-6744.”

Ed expected to visit New York in late July and hopes to attend the Law School monthly luncheon for 1949 Law School graduates. Many of us ’47 Columbians remember the thrilling “Hallelujah Chorus Sings” with orchestra (Bill Kahn, first violin) that Ed Costikyan conducted at Christmas. I was there several years. It is with real affection we wish him well.

Quite a few College 1947 classmates are 1949 Law School graduates. Bill’s report of the reunion that they experienced follows: “Classes whose graduation took place more than 50 years ago were segregated into a group labeled ‘The Stone Agers’ and seated in a windowless dining room. This insult was compounded by a harpist playing, ostensibly, celestial music, during dinner. I doubt any ‘Stone Ager’ would ever be impressed by this at best premature gesture.”

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And then he added his happy memory of Columbia beating the Army team headed by the great “Doc” Blanchard at Baker Field. The score was 21-20. It was the only Army loss between 1943 and 1946.
In the previous issue of Class Notes, we made brief mention of our 60-year reunion next June. We have since advanced to the formation of a group of classmates who have volunteered to serve as the Class of 1980 Reunion Committee. Phil Bergovoy, Bud Kassell, Len Kliegman, George Spitz and your correspondent have been attending classes at the local community college. And before I go further, don’t forget that the Columbia College Today is available by mail to Class Notes subscribers or by mail to OMine Edition, to quote the fund leaders of the OMine Edition.

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George Koplinka
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Happily, now by you are aware of the challenges to budgetary constraints, the July/August 2009 issue of Columbia College Today did not appear in a printed edition. Instead, the full magazine, including coverage of Class Day and Commencement, Alumni Reunion Weekend and 25 years of coeducation at the College, has been posted at www.college.columbia.edu or by mail to Online Edition, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.

Thank you, Class of 1951, for being donors to the Columbia College Fund. As reported in July, your generosity and dedication to supporting Columbia College helped to raise more than $14 million, making this the most successful year in the history of the Columbia College Fund.

For the November/December issue. Whatever happened to the traditional Dean’s Day, which inspired a large turnout of ’51 alumni, held annually on the Morningside campus in March or April? Well, this year, Dean’s Day was combined with Alumni Reunion Weekend in early June. CC ’51 was represented by Lowell Ackiron, David Berman, Willard Block, Carroll Brown, Edward Hardy, Warren Nadel and Eliot Wales. This year’s class was the largest group in comparison to previous years, but somewhat higher than some of the other ’50s classes, some of which were not represented at all. Your Class Notes correspondent interviewed several of the attendees and their spouses. It was agreed that the highlight of the event was the farewell speech of Dean Austin Quigley and a decent luncheon in Low Library. Otherwise, Dean’s Day 2009 was not memorable.

What was missing? According to the interview answers, the lecture offerings were few in number, were not timely or inspiring and were held in somewhat crowded facilities. There was a feeling that without seeing students on the campus in their everyday activities, without seeing the sign that reads “Columbia College at work,” so to speak, a certain collegiate vibrancy was missing. Most of all, Dean’s Day has always been a focal point for us to be together in the kind of extended family that is our special Columbia gift. Dr. Robert Butler held our attention with a stimulating lecture, and our presentation of his gift, the extraordinary portrait by Burt Silverman, was the highlight of the evening.

Reading this, you are back in the summer, and this advanced writing has shown more clouds than sun. But there’s always tomorrow and, repeating myself, Homecoming is Saturday, October 17!

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Attendees at our 60th reunion included Fred Berman, Howie Belock, Bob Rosencrans, Al Koska, Mark Lipman, Burt Silverman, Fred DeVries, Claire Storrsides, Jane Leive, Joe Russell, Robert Dietsche, Dick Kandel, Bob Butler, Art Feder, Bill Lubic, Don Mehus, George Spitz and your correspondent. If I have forgotten anyone, feel free to smack me, but only if you show up at Homecoming!

Let us once again rejoice as we bask in the warmth of the feeling that permeated the entire weekend of our 60th reunion. From the Friday evening cocktail reception on, the genuine sense of brotherhood and sisterhood was palpable! And before I go further, don’t forget our next chance to be together in the fall, Homecoming, Saturday, October 17.

The surprise of our Friday evening was the appearance of former Dean Austin Quigley. He really “gets it.” Quigley’s sense of being a Columbia is as “spot on” as it could be, and it was felt by all of us present. The presentation by Athletics Director M. Diane Murphy was terrific, and it was fun viewing the video of Gene’s induction to the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Saturday’s Dean’s Day lectures were, as expected, stimulating and provocative. Lunch featured a terrific presentation by Amy Asch ’89, whose book, on the lyrics of Oscar Hammerstein is absolutely fascinating [see “Bookshelf”]. Saturday’s dinner at the new Columbia Alumni Center was an occasion

of his mother in 1986. A copy of the published diary, The Wartime Diary of Dr. C. Italie: The Hague, Barnwart, Westerhork, Terherne, The Hague 1940–1945, was presented to Ralph at the dedication ceremony, at which he was guest speaker.

Alex Macdonell, retired from the ministry for 15 years. In this new role, is being considered a soldier with solving Sudoku puzzles and decided to take on a new challenge. He has been appointed chaplain to the retired clergy of the Episcopal Diocese of Newark (N.J.) and their spouses, widows and widowers. In this job, Alex is responsible mainly for acting as the contact person for 200 or so beneficiaries of the Church Pension Fund and also for organizing the group’s social programs.

Sadly we report two deaths: Joe Scher, ’51, and his partner, John Neville of Northville, Mich., on May 2, and Donald E. Ross of Washington Township, NJ, on February 20, 2008. [Editor’s note: Obituaries will be published in a future issue.]

This was by no means all that was missing. Most of all, Dean’s Day has always been a focal point...
for the old grads and an opportuni-
ty to renew the friendships of many years. Notably missing was the late afternoon reception that provided the game-winning touchdown, sending the cheering Lions happy on the way home. Not only was the timing for Dean’s Day poor this year, when most are getting ready to go away for the summer, but the entire concept of combining alumni events needs further study by Columbia College’s Alumni Office. [Editor’s note: Combining Dean’s Day with Alumni Reunion Weekend resulted in significant cost savings during a difficult budgetary year. The Alumni Office thanks Mr. Koplinka for his feedback and would appreciate hearing from other attendees.]

Although a promised column of news about what kind of com-
munity good each grad has accomplished since graduating has not yet appeared, we will get to it in the coming months. Please send me information about your affiliation with service clubs, charitable institutions, church missions and whatever else has given you a good feeling about improving the lives of others.

Hope you enjoyed a great summer. Keep in touch!

52

Sidney Prager
20 Como Ct.
Manchester, NJ 08759
sidmax9@aol.com

Well, gentlemen, it’s September already. The long warm, lazy days of summer have faded into memory. Trees and leaves are excited with anticipation. This will be their time for their time. Nota-

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"Richard H. Brown '52 has retired from the Department of Housing and Urban Development after 41 years of federal service."
and passion into helping educate students to their highest potential. In short, thank you very much.

The past semesters would not have been the same without the support of the scholarship. For me, this past semester was quite enjoyable and definitely opened my eyes to the opportunities that Columbia University can offer. Besides taking the sophomore Core classes, my intermediate Punjabi class was certainly my favorite class because it allowed me to connect to my culture in a way that I have never done before and allowed me to meet people my age with similar interests. Besides that, the content of my ‘Mind, Brain and Behavior’ class was so interesting that I actually changed my intended major to the burgeoning study of neuroscience and behavior, and I plan to apply for summer research opportunities. However, I must say that the highlights of this past semester were my extracurricular activities, which included Club Zamana (Columbia’s and Barnard’s South Asian student organization), CU Bhangra (an Indian dance team), the Columbia Sikh Students Association, because they allowed me to reconnect with my Indian culture, meet others like myself on campus, keep in shape and give back to the community through volunteering and performing. I plan to work hard and enjoy myself even more to make my Columbia College experience well worthwhile and unforgettable.

Once again, I appreciate all that I have been given and hope to continue receiving help along the way to reaching my goals.

With best regards,
"Rajkaran S. Sachedar’11"

The writer is one of four recipients of the Class of 1952 scholarships that were funded by our classmates primarily from fundraising efforts in conjunction with our 35th, 40th, 45th and 50th reunions. Our deceased classmate, Stan Garrett, was instrumental in all of our prior fund-raising efforts, ably assisted by Jack Ripperger.

Richard H. Broun has retired from the Department of Housing and Urban Development after 41 years of federal service. He was director of HUD’s Office of Environment and Energy and was the environmental clearance officer for the department with oversight for reviews conducted throughout the country. He represented HUD on numerous interagency and professional committees and the United States at several bilateral and multilateral organizations. Richard received a Presidential Meritorious Service Award and recently was recognized by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. After three years at the College, he took the fourth year in the professional option program at the School of Architecture, completed further architecture and planning studies at the Illinois Institute of Technology and worked in local government for 11 years before joining HUD. Richard is a life member of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners. He can be reached at rrb51@columbia.edu.

Peter Notaro retired from his endodontic practice in Manhattan and his teaching of post-graduate endodontics at Columbia’s College of Dental Medicine. He divides his time between Boynton Beach, Fla., and his summer home of long standing in Fine Island, N.Y., where he reunites with his two children and two grandchildren. Peter and Ellen their first three grandchildren, all within the past two years. When he moved to Florida from Manhasset, N.Y., Peter found himself serendipitously just several minutes away from Sid Prager, whose son Art Ingerman, were the only two classmates with whom he shared Columbia College and the College of Dental Medicine. “There could not have been two finer choices,” wrote Peter.

It is with sadness that we mention the passing of Arnold Schusheim, from Great Neck, N.Y., on December 5, 2008. The Class of ’52 sends condolences to the Schusheim family.

Gentlemen: Your classmates are interested in you. Don’t wait for a telephone call. Send an update about yourself via e-mail or call me at 732-408-0206. Thank you.

Lew Robins
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In June, the World Federation of Scientists chose Nick Samios to receive the 2009 Gian Carlo Wick Medal Award for his outstanding contributions to particle physics. Nick was given the award in recognition of his “visionary role in the design and successful construction of the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider and for his intellectual leadership in a series of remarkable experimental discoveries that established the existence of Quark Gluon Plasma, a new phase of strongly interacting nuclear matter.” Through the years, Nick has received many honors and awards, including the 1980 E.O. Lawrence Memorial Award at the 1980 New York Academy of Sciences Award in Physical and Mathematical Sciences, the 1993 W.K.H. Panofsky Prize in Experimental Particle Physics and the 2001 Bruno Pontecorvo Prize of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in Dubna, Russia. In 1982, he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences, and he is a fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Akademia Athenon.

All of our classmates join in congratulating Nick for his brilliant, original discoveries! Keep up the great work!

Dan Greenberg and his wife, Vivian, live in Washington, D.C., where Dan writes about science policy and politics. His latest book, *Science for Sale: The Perils, Rewards, and Delusions of Campus Capitalism*, published by the University of Chicago Press in 2007, analyzes the electoral and practical problems universities encounter when they attempt to commercialize patents the university has received as a result of basic research in their laboratories. In May, Dan gave a talk at a conference at Bielefeld University in Germany and was honored by the European Science Foundation. His subject was “The Politicization of Science Under the Bush Administration.”

During the trip, Dan and Wanda visited old friends in Paris and took a boat ride down the Rhine. Talking on the phone, I learned that Dan’s has five grandchildren and that his father is 101 years old. Dan is very much interested in you. Don’t wait for a telephone call. Send an update about yourself via e-mail or call me at 732-408-0206. Thank you.

Steven Reich and his wife, Shyla, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Orlando, Fla., where they have been living since their wedding.

Steve writes that Howie Hansen ’52 and Bob Reiss ’52 came from South Florida to orchestrate a golf competition between the “gray boards” and the “flat bellies” (all under 50). Needless to say, with a great handicap, the gray boards easily defeated the flat bellies. After the party, Steve and Shyla took a three-week trip around the world on a private jet. To their enormous, pleasant surprise, when they boarded the jet, they found Dick Lempert and his wife, Marylou, on board. Congratulations, Steve and Shyla. Here’s to another 50 years!

After teaching applied linguistics for many years as an associate professor at Teachers College, Frank Horowitz is semi-retired and teaches one course at TC. He and his wife enjoy life in Hudson Heights over the George Washington Bridge. Here’s hoping Frank will continue teaching for many, many more years!

Talking to Gerald Weiss by phone, I learned that he has been living in Boca Raton, Fla, after retiring a few years ago from Florida Atlantic University as a professor of anthropology. An article he wrote, “A Scientific Concept of Culture,” appeared in *American Anthropology*. In addition, Gerald has written a monograph that was published by the American Museum of Natural History. Gerald’s description of life among certain tribes in Eastern Peru was fascinating. He and his son recently returned from a quick visit to the tribal areas. Gerald explained that his son was anxious to actually see the tribes his father had been studying and writing about for almost 50 years.

I’m sad to report that Frank Barabas, our Phi Beta Kappa classmate and the photographer of my Columbia football star Al Barabas ’36, passed away on May 21. Uncle Al scored the winning touchdown in the 1934 Rose Bowl. Frank and his wife, Ann, lived in Corona, N.Y., for more than 30 years. Talking through his own breadth of knowledge, it seems that both she and Frank had worked at the United Nations and met on her first day on the job. It seems Ann was talking to a good friend on the phone when Frank walked into the room. “I’ve just seen the man I’m going to marry,” Ann blurted to her friend, and sure enough, they were married in 1969. Frank began his career as an intern at the U.N. and until he retired in 1993, he was a press officer and the editor of the *United Nations Yearbook*. Classmates will remember Frank as a kind, modest, beloved figure on the Columbia campus. Surely, he’ll be greatly missed.

Howard Falberg
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In June, I made my way back to Morningside Heights for our 55th reunion. I wasn’t quite certain of what to expect, but with the help of our class president, Bernd Brecher; our capable Reunion Committee; and members of Columbia’s staff, most ’54 attendees will remember a couple of days on campus with nostalgia and warm feelings about alma mater.

The first night began with a lovely dinner in Low Library. The food was great and the opportunity to renew old friendships was grand. A number of our classmates (including myself) stayed in the dorms, and I have to say that the improvement of dorm facilities compared to what those of us who lived in the dorms remember was extraordinary.
The next day consisted of Dean's Day gatherings with outstanding speakers. Our class met for lunch in Casa Italiana. That evening, we had our final class dinner in a private room in Butler Library. The weather was beautiful that entire day, and the campus looked great. That evening, there was music and entertainment with large white tents and beautiful weather and happy alumni.

I sincerely hope that many of us will be able to attend our 60th reunion. If we are blessed with good health, I am convinced that a grand time will be had by all.

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Jennifer Freely jf2261@columbia.edu 212-851-7438 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2247@columbia.edu 212-851-7494

Gerald Sherwin 181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A New York, NY 10021 gs481@juno.com

Everything is finally in place with regard to key positions at the school on Morningside Heights. In addition to a new dean of Columbia College, a new university president began on August 25, and the new dean of SEAS started during the summer. Judging from each person's background, it looks like President Lee C. Bollinger has established a strong administrative team. Do you want to get away from it all? There's still time to sign up for the "Expedition to Antarctica" aboard the patralial M.S. Le Diamant in early 2010; the "Exploration of North Africa" from Casablanca to Algeria to Trippoli to Alexandria in late 2009; or to go to the Berkshires to watch the Glimmerglass Festival. I was signed up and paid. I had missed in decades, even though I really fun occasions, and I recommend it. Do not deprive yourselves of having a wonderful time. Who knows? I am repeating a few items from the last C.C. since it did not come out in print and was strictly Internet. Did anyone read it? Recently, I had a fun dinner with Roz and Buz Paaswell, as well as Joshua Holland, Roger Stem, a transplanted New Yorker who is involved in real estate, and Buzz reminded me he sent me some news for C.C. I actually remembered this and love getting news to pass on. I wish you guys would send me more. Another honor — of many — for our transportation expert who is often mentioned in the papers. He received the Annual Leadership in Transportation Award from the NYU Rudin Center for Transportation Policy & Management. We are proud of Buz. On May 19, Steve Easton and I went to Class Day, and we carried the class banner. Our new attorney general, Eric H. Holder Jr., '73, '76L, gave an excellent speech to our Columbia College graduates. On May 20, I went to Commencement and heard President Lee C. Bollinger give a very good speech for all the University graduates. These are really fun occasions, and I recommend them. The weather was good this time, with no indication of the terrible June weather to come, with rain almost every day.

We had a good class turnout for Dean's Day, the last for Austin Quigley as dean, and the first I have missed in decades, even though I was signed up and paid. I had to go to the Berkshires to watch the Glimmerglass Festival. I was signed up and paid. I had missed in decades, even though I really fun occasions, and I recommend it. The weather was good this time, with no indication of the terrible June weather to come, with rain almost every day.

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Amazon jungle. Dean's Day, for the first time, coincided with Alumni Reunion Weekend. The reviews I have from classmates are mixed. Our class attendees were Steve Eaton; Bob Siroty; Alan Broadwin; Peter Klein; Jerry Fine and his wife, Barbara; Lenny Wolfe and his wife, Ruth; John Censor; Ralph Kaslick; Don Horowitz visiting us from Seattle; Al Franco '56E; and Stan Soren and his wife, Ruth.

The constant rain caused us to miss our monthly class events in the warm weather, including tennis as well as lunch planned at Dan's country club in Westchester. In early July, we gathered for the same at Maurice Klein's new club in Long Island. Hopefully we will do a makeup at Dan's in late July. I am happy to report that with Steve Eaton's help, we have raised more than $100,000 for the Columbia College Fund to enable us to fund our 10 annual class scholarships, which we started at our phenomenal 50th reunion. No. 55 is coming up in two years, so get ready for the next Dan's plan on it. Thanks to the many who contributed in these bad economic times. I hope next year will be better economically and more of you will join us in this worthy activity. Our great reunion DVD goes out to all in June in a limited edition.

Unfortunately, another deceased classmate: Roy Berkeley, on April 24. Roy lived in Shaftsbury, Vt., a great location, and was a teacher, folksinger, photographer and writer.

So guys and dolls, here is wishing us all health with longevity, happiness, maybe a recovering stock market, and certainly caring children and extraordinary grandchildren. I am now off to Maine to see all of mine. Love to all.

Bob Flescher, from West Hartford; Sal Franchino; Marty Fisher; George Lutz; and Pete Anker.

"I sat with Martin Brothers, Bob Klipstein, Carlos Muñoz and George Lutz. Carlos talked about his 35-year career at Citibank, including stints in the Caribbean and San Francisco. In 1995, he joined Dime of N.Y. as a senior executive officer. He is very proud of his Harvard (College and Law School)-educated daughter, who lives in London and is sending the older of her two sons to Eton. His son and two American grandchildren reside in California. "Carlos told me that he had been recognized to speak from the floor at the recent Citi stockholders’ meeting. He gave them an earful! "I know that he and his wife are top bridge players who like to travel to tournaments all over the country. "Carlos is an excellent speaker for our class in the councils of Columbia.

"Although I did not get a chance to engage with Pete Anker, among the many alumni who attended, Sal Franchino, it was very good to see them and to break bread with them.

"Ed hosted a second table with Art Meyerson, Paul Zola, Joe Feldschuh and Bob Flescher. Ed was the only non-doctor at the table. "I had a good time, and I believe a good time was had by all.

Rabbi Alvin Kass '57 received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor for 2009 from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations Foundation.

"We have some very accomplished classmates who are very interesting to chat with. "This is an indescribable experience before the summer. Martin Brothers has some interesting ideas for a slight improvement to the format of our luncheons: a symposium led by a classmate or a professor on a focused topic of interest during and after lunch. This added value would require a new venue.

"[Editor’s note: CCT profiled Kass in May/June 2006: www.college.columbia.edu/cct/past_issues.]

"Sandra and I flew out from San Francisco for Sandra’s 50th reunion at Barnard. While in New York, we dined with Edie and Art Bernstein and with Sandra and Ed Weinstein, and spent time at the reunion with Judith and Stan Barnett and with Don Clarke. The reunion was fabulous and served to underscore the extraordinary educational relationships that has continued to exist between the institutions."

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"We hope that this idea can be implemented in the fall. Watch this space for more info."

Robert L. Schlitt, television writer, Los Angeles, died on November 25, 2008. His full obituary appeared in the July / August issue (online only). C. Jack Bark, retired physician, San Diego, died on May 23. A full obituary is scheduled for the November / December issue.

"Joe Tassaux, inspired by the long-standing and honored tradition of the '57 class luncheons held periodically by our New York-area classmates, we decided to see if we could get similar traction started for those sought by our ancestors and current immigrants. Those selected have worked to improve inter-group relations in our country and in general strengthened the bonds of our society. Alvin was selected principally for having served as an NYPD chaplain for more than 40 years and now is chief chaplain.

"This latest book from another ’58 doctor, Bob Levine, is Shock Therapy for the American Health Care System: Why Comprehensive Reform Is Needed. Bob is a neurologist practicing in Norwalk, Conn. Yet another prolific ’58 medical man, now retired from practice but far from idle, has gone high tech. Joel Levine’s newsletter, As We Like It, has become a blog (http://aswelikeit.vox.com). Joel’s recent gourmet adventures have taken him from his Northern California home territory (The French Laundry in the Napa Valley, Los Angeles and San Francisco) to Las Vegas, New York City and Chicago.

Harvey Feuerstein’s son, Mark, had the lead role in a USA cable network summer series, Royal Patis, playing a concierge doctor in the

Congratulations to Bob Waldbaum on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from North Shore University Hospital for contributions to his patients, his fellow physicians and the hospital community. Even more impressively, the North Shore-LIJ Health System-Hofstra University has endowed a chair in his name: the Robert Waldbaum Professorship in Urology. Bob was the founding chairman of the Department of Urology at North Shore University Hospital. During his 40 years in the practice of urological surgery, he has been chairman of the Medical Board; a trustee of the North Shore-LIJ Health Systems; chairman of the Urology Section of the Academy of Medicine of New York; president of the New York Section of the American Urological Association; and a director of the National American Urological Association, as well as its national historian. He is chair of the Kidney and Urology Foundation of America. Bob and his wife, Ruth, have three children and four grandchildren.

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Dick Cohen: “[Sandra and I] flew out from San Francisco for Sandra’s 50th reunion at Barnard. While in New York, we dined with Edie and Art Bernstein and with Sandra and Ed Weinstein, and spent time at the reunion with Judith and Stan Barnett and with Don Clarke. The reunion was fabulous and served to underscore the extraordinary educational relationships that has continued to exist between the institutions."

Marty Fisher: "The following classmates came to lunch on a fine spring day in NYC: Carlos Muñoz; Neil McLellan; Paul Zola; Ed Weinstein; Martin Brothers; Al Antoon, joining us from Kentucky; Bob Klipstein; Art Meyerson; Joe Feldschuh; Neil McLellan; Paul Zola; Ed Weinstein; Martin Brothers; Al Anton, joining us from Kentucky; Bob Klipstein; Art Meyerson; Joe Feldschuh"
Hamptons who was described by one reviewer as "a cross between McGyver and McDreamy" (if you don’t understand the reference, ask your grandchildren). Mark has a lengthy acting resume, both in movies such as In Her Shoes and What Women Want, and on TV in series such as The West Wing, Sex and the City and the New York City actor’s standby, Law & Order.

George Jochnowitz also is now blogging (www.jochnowitz.net). His latest piece connects his Humanities essay that concluded Plato had described totalitarian society long before it came into existence (C+). The instructor said he shouldn’t judge Plato by today’s standards. With his experiences teaching in China, observing a totalitarian society in operation, it is his turn.

The Columbia Club Fundraising Dinner 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@rdinRefreshing.com.

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It was a dark and stormy night as the fearless members of the Class of ’59, many with companions, crossed Amsterdam Avenue to go boldly where many had never gone before. We entered the SIPA building and were transported to the 15th floor, where we encountered our classmates, some of whom we had not seen for two generations. Some had changed a lot, but many looked like their picture: the atmosphere in the Kellogg Lounge and the Dag Hammarskjold Lounge was bright and warm as old acquaintances were resumed and new ones formed.

It is my firm opinion that our reunion was a great success. The credit must first go to the members of the class who organized and planned it. Next we must thank and express our appreciation to those who organized and participated on the panels. Finally we owe ourselves a vote of thanks to all those who attended and made all the work that went into reunion worthwhile.

To summarize the formal reunion program, the meals were good and the panels uniformly interesting and stimulating. I left the events one by one, but I see no reason to do so. If I did, I would be giving special recognition to individual members of the class.

Their contributions were important to the success of the reunion, yet what made the reunion so special for me was the happiness of coming together as a class, the Class of ’59, that seemed to pervade everything that we did during the weekend. In the last 50 years, we have led different lives, with our own sense of the satisfaction that those years provided. We came to the reunion after having once shared an experience, 50 years ago, and that experience seemed to have created a bond among us that was more important than the position we have moved after graduation, and probably more important than we realized.

With those we knew and remembered, we reminisced about old adventures, and we shared notes on our days at Columbia and since. We also enjoyed new friends who met with those we had never met. In the panel discussions, we listened to each other with respect, and responded with our views. It brought back for many fond memories of classes we took many years before.

I think that the next five years will be as successful as this one and that even more of our classmates will be there.

For news from our classmates, I will include reflections on the reunion from our classmates in the next issue of CCT.

From Robin Motz, I still think that Columbia has the most intelligent students of all the Ivies, which is why we place so many in academic positions. I came to CC with 33 of my Bronx Science classmates. Many of us went into physics (including Bob Eisenstein, Norm Gelfand, Don Landman and Mike Tannenbaum). I might have been unique in that my father, Lloyd, was Rabi’s Ph.D. student, and his classical stat mech lectures were underscored from the beginning. My father told me that when he was a graduate student, there was a Jewish quota for physicists. Since Rabi was a physicist, my father, after a few years of being an instructor in physics at night at CCNY, became an assistant professor of astronomy in the School of General Studies, where he did research in stellar atmospheres. I had the privilege of being his assistant in elementary astronomy, and then agreed with him that physics was always teachable by the Socratic Method.

"Of course, learned the most from my classmates, including the vagaries of the bowling alleys underneath Riverside Church (where I ran the elevators two nights a week and Sunday mornings). I was lucky to know and have the patience and the elevator with automatic leveling.

"I was fortunate to be allowed to retake my CC courses in the Heyman Center for the Humanities, with Danto, Shenton, et al., and I know we will never forget the weekend trips Professor Shenton took us on to Civil War battlefields. At Gettysburg, I could swear they were still with us, and the trips left me with a deep feeling that all Americans should see Gettysburg at least once to help them understand America. If I am not mistaken, this is the first Civil War after which brothers become brothers again, instead of years and years of sniping over boundaries.

Alvin Thaler sends us the following: There I can do 30 years in a few paragraphs.

"Upon graduation, I married, moved to Baltimore for graduate school in mathematics and fathered two sons. After teaching and research at the University of Maryland, I became an Associate Director of the USDA (a bureau) and spent the major portion of my professional life as a program/grants officer in a variety of programs and positions at the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C. NSF was and continues to be an organization in which I take pride, and my work and career there were more rewarding. (During part of that time, our class correspondents was a colleague at NSF, in an adjacent discipline.) In 2001, I tried retiring from NSF at issue of CCT. It turned out to be a two-year position, but a major side effect was that I was able to achieve a long-term dream: the purchase of a place of my own in Manhattan. And after a sequence of fortunately timed real estate transactions, I would up with a super place in Murray Hill, with a spectacular view (which I hope to be able to share with some of our classmates, perhaps at reunion time).

"The biggest news is that I got married, recently, and this time I finally got it right! She's wonderful; we enjoy each other and love the city. Professionally I still occasionally consult for NSF, do some educational consulting and teaching at CUNY.

"I'd love to see and hear from those of you whom I remember so well. I'm easy to reach (in the phone book, if you still use such, but all@alvineye.com is best)."

Eric Jakobsson writes, "I am planning an active retirement, as of the end of the spring semester ’09 at Illinois. I formally became professor emeritus at Illinois on August 1. No plans to stop working, or even to slow down (although of course every body does with time), but I like the idea that my obligations with be those of my own, and to satisfy rather than to any one institution, even one that has been as good to me, and for which I feel so much affection, as the University of Illinois.

"I have three active research grants, am still scrambling for more, including heading up a big team applying for a grant to apply physics and computation to study cancer metastasis. My goal in retirement is to become a truly interdisciplinary scientist, which I think is the wave of the future in science, or at least one of the biggest waves.

"I am healthy. I weigh about the same as undergraduate time, but am not nearly as limber. I had an episode of confusion a couple of months ago, but all biochemical, structural and ischemic tests turned up no potential cause, so I am chalk ing it up to stress as I was working hard against a couple of deadlines at the time. I am working on stress reduction techniques. I did enjoy the detailed pictures of my brain from MRI. The radiologist said that my brain looked a bit eccentric, but not damaged. I was startled by the degree of asymmetry from left to right. I also have a little vacancy at the top of my head, where my skull bulges but my brain has a slight indentation. Nobody who wants to call me ‘empty-headed’ has a bit of truth on his side.

"My wife, Naomi, has a rebirth in the state legislature, with the old governor gone.

"My granddaughter, Farrah, was admitted to the Illinois Math and Science Academy (Illinois’ answer to Bronx Science), so I am bursting with pride. Her goal is either neurology or neuroscience. Farrah came with me to the 40th reunion 10 years ago, when she was 5. If anybody remembers a little girl who came to the dance and sort of got everybody to stop what they were doing and watch her perform on the dance floor, that was Farrah.

"(Downside: Got held up at (implied, but not shown) gunpoint recently on the street, my first time with an experience like that. Am physically unscathed, but sense a hardening of certain attitudes, not sure if that is temporary or not. I guess the test of compassion is how well I survive such events.)

Clive Chajet wants us to know that, “The good news — and it really is good news — is that everything is pretty much the same for me as when I last wrote some Class Notes several years ago. "I am happily married to the same wife after 41 years. My two daughters and two grandchildren are divine. My mouth continues to be in motion, as I still go to the office almost every day. I continue to create corporate and brand names, logos and brand identities, and consult for NSF, do some education, teaching, and career there were most rewarding. I am regularly a featured speaker at conferences where I share with some of my classmates, perhaps at reunion time.)

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To date, I have received comments about the reunion from Gene Appel, Mike Berlin, Clive Chajet, Ben Janowski, Harvey Leifer, Luigi Lucaccioni, George Mann, Allen Rosenshine, Stephen Joel Trachtenberg and Mike Tannenbaum, and I hope, by the time you read this, from others. I will include them in Class Notes as quickly as I can. I encourage anyone who has not yet submitted the views about the reunion to do so as soon as possible while the events are still fresh in your mind.

I am sorry to report the death of Ira Freidinger just before the reunion.

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June in New York is rapidly slipping away as I write this. Tomorrow, July 1, the deadline for class correspondents to file these notes, is fast approaching. While the deadline, time seems to have been toyed with the laws of physics, moving not only at an accelerated pace but with a touch more vengeance. Spring battered us with an incessant, unrelenting assault of rain; often with uncommon ferocity. Mother Nature seemed intent on washing us away. Angry victims gathered by the scores yesterday at the federal courthouse in Manhattan to stand witness and to revile Bernie Madoff as he was sentenced. Counsel for the defense urged that a 12-year prison term would more than satisfy the demands of justice. Federal District Judge Denny Chin threw the book with all the thrust and conviction of Mariano Rivera facing the final batter standing between him and another save. He put Madoff away for 150 years. Life is seldom a day at the beach for advocates of the homeless or the environment. Yet we now face a new threat — the court ruling on the constitutionality of the 20-year-old Clean Water Act. As a field engineer for the Metropolitan Water Protection Agency in Philadelphia, I have had the opportunity to work on environmental protection projects throughout the United States. One project that stands out is the Marano River Pagano. As the project engineer for project management systems, I was responsible for the coordination of the project activities. This project included the construction of a new bridge, the renovation of existing structures, and the improvement of the water quality in the river. The project was completed on time and within budget, and it was a great satisfaction to see the positive impact on the environment.

I received contributions from William Frye, James A. Goldstein and Stephen Joel Trachtenberg. I will include them in the next issue.
Morrow Wilson ’61 Finds a Home in the Arts

BY NANCY CHRISTIE

Although born in New York City in 1940 when his parents “were just passing through,” as he put it, it was 17 years before Morrow Wilson ’61 returned to the city that would become his home. During the intervening years, Wilson, along with his two younger brothers, Jim and Joe, was “in transit” — accompanying his parents to locations ranging from Putney, Vt., to Fayetteville, Ark., as well as numerous points in between.

“I don’t think we stayed any place longer than three years. Two years was the average,” Wilson recalls, explaining that the frequent moves were due as much to his father’s career as a freelance writer as to his parents’ inability to settle themselves happily in any one area.

As challenging as it was, Wilson’s peripatetic upbringing was responsible for two positive outcomes. It strengthened the bond among the Wilson boys and helped prepare him for the isolating aspect of his chosen career as a writer and performer.

“All of the arts, even acting, which I think is the most social of all, isolates you,” he says. “But facing the blank screen or blank sheet of paper — it’s the toughest.”

As an adolescent, Wilson attended the expensive and exclusive Putney School, which he describes as “a farm at the top of a windswept mountain in Vermont. You would have to get up at 6 a.m. and shovel cow manure if you had Morning Barn!” he recalls. Although the school environment was eccentric, it led him to enter the College in 1957, through the influence of an older Putney student, Steve Scheiber ’60, with whom Wilson was close. “He had enrolled in Columbia and told me it was a really good school,” Wilson says.

The choice proved an important and fortuitous one. Not only did Columbia introduce Wilson to the theatrical world via Barnard, where he participated in productions put on by the Gilbert & Sullivan Society and the Minor Latham Playhouse, but also the English department (Wilson’s major) had what Wilson calls an “all-star” cast of educators.

“I had the benefit of the most marvelous English literature, American literature and humanities education that anyone could have. But more than anything else, Columbia was the right place for me to be,” he emphasizes, adding, “and it was New York City — the center of American culture.”

After graduation, Wilson opted to forgo graduate school, instead pursuing a career first in television and then advertising as part of his novel-writing plan.

“My notion always was that I was going to write serious novels about America’s real worlds, [but] I didn’t want to be a summer intern who goes to work for an advertising agency, say, and after three months as a receptionist, writes a scathing book about how terrible it is. I really wanted to be in the brains of it and know and be a part of the decisions that had to be made. And I was able to do those things and write those books.” However, due to the vagaries of the publishing industry, only M.I.M., a novel about the publishing industry that came out in 1974, has been published thus far.

For years, Wilson held a variety of high-level corporate positions before making the transition to full-time independent actor, singer and writer. “Then I began to take the kind of day jobs you associate with actors, like receptionist or switchboard operator or office manager, and be an actor at night. My acting really began to blossom, and I did 60 plays in a six-year period — Off-Broadway and off-Off-Broadway productions that ranged from Shakespeare, Chekhov and O’Neill to plays by new playwrights.

Since then, Wilson has played a multitude of ‘roles’ in the creative world, from novelist and playwright to actor, singer and entertainer. His most recent performances were in Measure for Measure in May and As You Like It in July, both at The Players in New York City. He also has worked with his wife, noted actress Rue McClanahan, on several projects, including Noël Coward 101, which she directed at NYC’s famed Algonquin Hotel in May and June 2008. Currently, Wilson is hard at work on his next novel as well as “polishing up” his Noël Coward 101 for future performances.

Wilson is an active member in the Screen Actors Guild, Actors’ Equity Association, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, the Authors League of America, the Dramatists Guild, The Actors’ Fund of America, The Players and the Columbia College Resource Council for the Arts.

His main concerns now “are the work I do as a performer and writer. I’ve got it down to these five things that I really love: singing in supper clubs, acting in Shakespeare and light comedy, and writing novels, which tend to be serious, and plays, which tend to be comedies.”

As for how he defines success, Wilson says, “It’s the doing of it” that’s most important. “Because what else is there? For all its heartbreak and hardship and kicks in the ego for all that and for all the dogs who knock over the lanterns that burn our manuscripts just when they’re finished, for all that, it’s a privileged life.”

Nancy Christie is a freelance writer and author of The Gifts of Change (Beyond Words/Atria, 2004). A member of the American Society of Journalists and Authors, she lives in Ohio.
a career teaching world cultures and history in the middle schools of New York City. In 1993, Bob entered a new phase. He began to paint, having studied with such fine artists as Furman Finck, William Scharf and Michele Licalsi.

On his Web site, http://web.mne.com/robertm/PaintingsByBob/Home.html, which also showcases his work, Bob writes: “As I began to free eye and hand and to experiment with materials and styles, I became aware of many limitations in my own perceptions. With a new-found respect for many artists and traditions, both realist and abstract, I aspire to create images within a style that would consistently project the ever-expanding power of human perceptions.

“Now I experiment. A major theme is AnimaMundellions, attempts to present feelings that arise from the ‘mysteries’ of life. For me, art can excite the imagination and inspire openings in the intuitive-holistic ‘right-side’ of our brain. We can explore the depths of ourselves and unconscious assumptions, frozen in dogma, to liberate and enrich mind, emotions and our very life.

“Especially since 9/11, I think we must see ourselves globally, as a single species, citizens of one world. If there is a common humanity to us all, art and science must open our senses and minds to it. Perhaps, if we have time enough, we will unfold our own mythic foundation as one people.”

Bob’s work has been shown at the Ward-Nasse Gallery on Prince Street in Manhattan. He was scheduled to be shown at the gallery in July.

Word arrived that Stan Horowitz died in Cambridge, Mass., on February 16. Stan, Junior Phi Beta Kappa and recipient of the Kerne Humanities Prize, was one of the shining intellectual lights of ’60. The class sends its condolences to Stan’s family. If you were in contact with Stan after graduation, or have a recollection that you would share with the class, please write. [Editor’s note: An obituary is scheduled for November/December.]

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Harold Berliner reports with pride the birth on March 9 of his fifth grandchild, Grayson, Class of 2030! He will make the third generation of Berliners to graduate from Columbia if she follows in the footsteps of her grandfather and father (Kenneth Berliner ’88E).

After graduating from SEAS in 1962 and receiving his commission in the Navy, Harold served four years as engineer officer on the USN Independence and operations officer on the USS Compass Island. After completing a long and world-traveling career as a CPA-management consultant with KPMG Peat Marwick, Harold and his wife, Harriet, have retired to West Palm Beach, Fla., spending just enough time there to recuperate from their many trips to visit children and grandchildren in New York and Houston.

Harold spends his time on the boards of several civic and not-for-profit organizations and continues his struggle to improve his golf game. He welcomes contact from classmates to renew old acquaintances.

Dr. Ethan “Sam” Rofman recently won the 2009 National Alliance on Mental Illness Exemplary Psychiatrist Award.

The awards are presented to psychiatrists who are noteworthy for going the extra mile and who have made substantial contributions to local or state NAMI activities. Sam, a former Air Force officer, was nominated by the NAMI Veterans Council. He is a fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and is board-certified in general psychiatry.

Sam has written about separation reactions in Air Force personnel, psychiatric emergencies, the prediction of dangerousness and programs for the chronic patient. Most recently, he was an author with others of the Massachusetts Guidelines for the Treatment of Schizophrenia. In 1989, Sam received the Pride in Medicine Award, sponsored jointly by the Massachusetts Medical Society, the Massachusetts Hospital Association and the Massachusetts Organization of Nurse Executives.

Don Bialos reports that he has made an almost complete recovery from his attack of ventricular fibrillation (see January/February). He is back at his psychiatric work on an appropriately reduced level for an almost 69-year-old (and is running, though at a reduced distance and speed from previous levels). He is able to engage with family and friends in satisfying ways. Don’s wife, Sandy, has been a wonderful caregiver and companion throughout this re-entry into his world of work and play.

Don writes that it took about six months to get his mind back to working in a reasonably competent way. He still has some difficulty keeping up in a situation where there is more than one person talking (group conversations), but he is adapting to that situation. In all, he feels very fortunate to be living a satisfying, full life and is grateful to all who communicated encouraging thoughts to him during the past year.

Maureen and Phil Cottone were the recipients of a surprise 50th wedding anniversary party by their children. Gerry Levy and Bill Chorros attended. The Cottones live in Philadelphia and San Diego.

Tom Lippman reports that the Independent Book Publishers Association has given its Benjamin Franklin Award for best biography of 2008 to his book Arabian Knight: Colonel Bill Eddy USMC and the Rise of American Power in the Middle East.

The association includes independent companies, university presses, institutional presses such as the Smithsonian and National Geographic, and just about everyone who publishes books except the big New York conglomerates.

Isabel and David Schwartz have been half-time for the last three years on a retirement plan. Given the state of the California budget though, the plan may go south — like so much else these days — and he will then rather abruptly be fully retired.

Anthony Mountain has been teaching for almost 40 years at Sonoma State University in the Hutchins School of Liberal Studies (a four-year interdisciplinary program on campus) and has been teaching half-time for the last three years on a retirement plan. Given the state of the California budget though, the plan may go south — like so much else these days — and he will then rather abruptly be fully retired.

Anthony has been in contact with Michael Bourdrez. Michael has a New York apartment and he and his wife moved from Washington, D.C., to New Mexico.

Bob Pollack was named as the recipient of the Dancing in the Dark: A Cultural History of the Great Depression, will be published by W.W. Norton in September. Morris also is the proud grandfather of Anya Marina Eskin, born June 8.

David Konstan was elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Massachusetts Historical Society has named Anthony Mountain as the recipient of the Libra Prize for 2010. The award recognizes a distinguished scholar for an outstanding scholarly achievement that has an impact on the intellectual community and contributes to a discourse that is valuable for the greater community.

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a sage in the book _Jewish Sages of Today: Profiles of Extraordinary People_. The authors hope that the book, which provides profiles of extraordinary, contemporary Jewish leaders, will motivate and inspire its readers. The book addresses: Who are our heroes? Who inspires us, makes us think, gives us hope? Who is making a difference in the Jewish world? _Jewish Sages of Today_ includes profiles of 27 people, from a range of professions, all dedicated to improving our world.

Judge Sam Ervin Jr. was featured in a June 22 article in _The New York Times_, “Judge’s Mentor: Part Guide, Part Foil,” which discusses Joe’s role as career adviser, mentor and later as opposing judge on the same court that in many ways shaped the career that led Judge So¬nia Sotomayor to her nomination to the Supreme Court. The article can be found on the _Times_ Web site.

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It seems spring has distracted all of you, dear classmates. As a result of your daydreaming, there is now a news to share. Please write soon or this tradition will be anemic. And who wants that?

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I am sad to report the death of another classmate. Eli A. Segal, media historian, author and retired professor, died in Kalamazoo, Mich., on April 5. The Alumni Office sent you the details to send to me, so I followed my usual ritual, first looking at the 1963 _Columbia_ and then doing a Google search. I found that Eli had taught at Governors State University, south of Chicago, for 20 years as a professor of media communica¬tion, retiring in 2007. He had written, produced or directed more than 4,500 programs and won the George F. Peabody Broadcasting Award for his work at WMUK, the public radio station at Western Michigan University, where he had taught previously. If any of you have any more information or would like to share your memories of Eli, please let me know.

This has been the season for most of us to celebrate our 50th high school reunion. I traveled to Andover, Mass., for mine, and met David Epstein there. He reminded me that we both had attended PS 6, Andover and then Columbia, but
denies that he was following me. David is practicing law in Laguna Beach, Calif., and supporting a family that includes two children still in high school. (How many of you have the joy of still looking forward to sending your children through college? Let me know.) I enjoy David’s rants on his blog, www.globaleotopus.blogspot.com, where he describes himself as a “grumpy old man.”

Keep it up, David.

Frank Partel
spent his reunion at Me¬cum’s Phoenix, where he hoped to see Len Weinman, whom he described as he “drove down to Lowes, Del., in June for lunch and the rest of the day with Paul Gorrin. We had a great time together — our first since graduation — and look forward to picking up where we left off on the next reunion, although I’m not sure that another 46 years will allow it if we don’t pick up the pace.

“Also, I seemed to breathe through my stress test at UPenn Med’s new Perelman Center. [As I write this, I am awaiting the results of this examination when I see my cardiologist. Then, it is off to Chappaquiddick for the summer.” Frank followed up to report that all was A-OK. Glad to hear that you and Melon are doing well.

Frank missed our June lunch, as did Doug Anderson, who had to cancel, as he was stuck in bed with a bad back (welcome to the club). But this didn’t stop us from having a record-setting 11 classmates show up. First-timer Chuck Miller joined Ben Tua and Joe Applebaum, who made the pilgrimage from Wash¬ington, D.C., and locals Steve Bar¬can, Henry Black, Doron Gopstein, Bob Heller, Paul Neshamkin, Larry Neuman, Tom O’Connor and Jeff Thompson. We arrived at the Columbia/Princeton Club to find that the new Grill Room has finally opened (all very woody and cli¬bby — and very Princeton). You can see our pictures with the new room in the background at the class Web site, www.cc63ers.com.

Lee Lowenfish now has his own Web site, www.leelowenfish.com. Here, you can follow the continuing success of his book, _Branch Rickey: Baseball’s Ferricous Gentleman_, see where he will be pitching it next and see some neat pictures of Lee.

Hank Davis writes, “I’m really pleased to report that my book, _Caveman Logic_, has just been published. The subtitle, _The Persistence of Primitive Thinking in a Modern World_, describes it pretty well. The book can live comfortably on the same shelf as the Dawkins and Chris¬topher Hitchens, although its scope goes well beyond religion. One way or another, I’ve been working on the project for more than 30 years. Initial critical response has been very gratifying, and I’ve learned that promoting a book and giving radio and print interviews can be a full-time job. Nevertheless, finding it prominently displayed in a Barnes & Noble store in the “Thought Provokers’ section was a lovely experience.”

And yet another author chimes in. Michael Bumagin writes from Fort Worth, Texas, “I’m proud to announce the recent publication of two paperbacks containing short stories by me. They are available on Amazon from the publisher (www.23HOUSE.com) and should be in all the best bookstores. With the current interest in vampires, the stories contained in the _Nights of Blood: Legends of the Vampire_ books will amuse, entertain and scare...for all ages.” So the C&F63 lunches are still going strong in the new Grill at the Columbia Club on West 43rd Street, so plan to visit NYC to join us. The next gatherings are September 10 (the first of the fall) and October 8. Check the Web site, www.cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

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By all accounts the June reunion was a success: There was an excellent turnout, and the class-sponsored programs were enthusiastic¬ly received and well-attended. It was a great occasion to see many of you again, and to meet classmates I did not know very well. Even the Alumni Office was happy with the level of financial giving.

A detailed description of the reunion weekend can be found at www.college.columbia.edu/ alumni/reunioninfo?CollegeAlumniClassYear=1964. Enormous thanks go to the Reunion Committee: Jim Akers, Adam Bender, Steve Case, Larry Goldschmidt, Marty Isserlis, Howard Jacobson, Gil Kain, Fred Kantor, Ed Leavy, Clay Maitland, Gene Meyer, Dan Press, Ira Ro¬xland, Nick Rudd, Steve Solomon, Irvin Spitzberg and Allen Tobias. According to the Alumni Office, the following classmates registered (please let know me if I have left out your name; I will include it next time): Joel Abramson, Jim Akers, Adam Bender, Ezra Bialik, Dave Blumenthal, Steve Case, Tony David, Kevin DeMarrais, Phil Eisenberg, Henry Epstein, Lionel Etra, Harvey Fischer, Gerry Freedman, John Friedman, Bob Friedman, Larry Goldschmidt,
Alan Gelenberg '65 is clinical professor of psychiatry at Wisconsin and professor emeritus at Arizona.

Dean Gamanos writes, "I’m still running my boutique ad agency, the Retele Company (since 1986), but the recession has taken its toll, and I’ve moved it closer to home in Connecticut. I’m also still involved with wine-related activities … GrapeGetaways.com, which offers wine tours to tri-state area vineyards, is now in its sixth year. Last year, the Greenwich Wine Society got off the ground. We hold local wine tastings, winemaker dinners and the like. It’s a lot of fun and occasionally turns a profit. It’s amazing how much wine has expanded in recent decades (nobody seems to be interested in hearing about my advertising projects, but they always have time to talk about wine!). Oh yes, I’m also teaching a course or two at FIT each semester as an adjunct professor (marketing and entrepreneurship). Even though the years are getting on, teaching college students is definitely a way of keeping track of the younger generation. Does anybody recall the quote in John Jay lobby, ‘Hold fast to the spirit of youth — let years come to do what they may’? — I hope it’s still there. I’ll check it out at our 45th reunion when I’m looking forward to seeing many of you.”

Alan Gelenberg is clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of Wisconsin and professor emeritus at the University of Arizona. Alan also is president and CEO of Healthcare Technology Systems in Madison, Wis. He writes, “My wife and I have four kids — two married, one grandchild, and two grandchildren. A year-and-a-half ago, I left the University of Arizona and moved to Madison, where we live happily on Lake Mendota. The only classes I’m teaching this year through the years is Steve Shama, although we haven’t spoken in a year or so.” As class correspondent, I invite Alan and Steve to meet in person next June at our 45th reunion!

Rodney Gott wrote, “I retired after 32 years with Morgan Stanley and am thoroughly enjoying the freedom. I have started a ‘victory garden’ and harvested my first crop of rather remarkable vegetables. At least I am doing my small part to go green.”

I could not resist asking Rod what those remarkable vegetables consisted of, and he responded, “Leonard, I was hoping you’d ask. We have corn, green pepper, elantro, parsley, lettuce, basil, chives and mint at the moment.”
litigator with great foresight on the battlefield.”

Finally, Columbia has received the sad news of the death on May 7 of Kim T. Ziegel, professor emeritus, Covington, Ohio.

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Well, it looks as though our entire class took the summer off, or suchlike. Unfortunately, we have nothing to report this time around, other than the fact that Emily Hamilton, daughter of Neill Brownstein, will be a member of the Class of 2013. Our congratulations to father and daughter. And the way, Paul Kasin asked me to mention that his e-mail address appeared incorrectly in the May issue. Paul’s address is servicemark@aol.com. I hope I got it right this time, Paul …

Don’t forget, in the same way that you undoubtedly enjoy catching up on classmates’ news—families, careers, travels, ruminations, etc.—they also want to hear about what you are doing to justify the piece of real estate you take up on the planet. Send your brilliant epistles to the carrier pigeon or, alas, e-mail, to your correspondent in Rio de Janeiro.

Former CCT class correspondent Ken Haydock writes, “Last October, I bought a modest condo in Madison, Wis., where I’ll soon celebrate the second anniversary of moving in from my second career in commercial law. Old friends here from my law school days have helped me settle in, and the inadvertent discovery that my backyard is—with no effort on my part— one huge aviary makes the place interesting. I’ve spotted more than 40 species, most I’d never seen, some I’d never heard of.

“My last contact with a classmate was my ritual, semiannual exchange card. Richard Jupa, consisting of good wishes and promises to get in touch interesting. I persist in writing a quarterly newsletter for the fun of it. It began in 1990 as a monthly that encourages a few friends to help me find work (they did), but evolved into an odd melange of humor, essays and political commentary, now with 60 readers. Otherwise, I’m slowly devouring the imposing stack of books I acquired and always meant to read but didn’t. Plans include traveling to a few corners of northern Europe I’ve yet to see and doing what I can to bring about Jim Shenton’s ’49’s dream: the imminent demise of the Republican Party.”

“I hear anything from Kent Hall, I’ll alert you. I think he’s in the Inner Hebrides, Outer Mongolia on witness protection; his last note was almost impossible to interpret.”

I had the pleasure of a visit in Santa Barbara from Sin-ming Shaw, who lives in Buenos Aires and Bangkok. We had not seen each other in 39 years, since he was spending the summer in Isla Vista studying for his orals. Neither of us has changed …

Congratulations to Roger Lehecka and George Leonard, whose daughter and son, respectively, will be members of the Class of 2013.

It’s been 42 years since we graduated. You need to write and share your adventures.

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This July 4, I was in Miami Beach and thus delayed in writing the column, but I had a grand weekend there. My girlfriend and I enjoyed the beaches, the beautiful Delano and the fireworks and getting away from the cold, rainy city. We were in Saratoga for the jazz festival the prior weekend. I have news from many of you and hope to get it all in this column. (By the way, do any of you live in Miami Beach or South Florida?)

Greg Winn wrote: “You all have asked what I am up to, and what might be a good charity to support, and I believe I have found one. The Han Schneider International Children’s Home in Cambodia is a deeply developed by, Josie Moore and my business colleague, Greg Fields. The needs are great. The mortality rate in the orphanages in North Korea exceeds 30 percent annually. The trials and tribulations in Cambodia (supporting street orphans) and Tanzania are self-evident and enormous.

“My last day of federal employment was July 31. Now I’m on to travel and some fun projects.”

Bob Carlson sent me a wonderful picture of an eagle from Sitka, Alaska. His photography from there is truly amazing. Mas Taketomo went to Dean’s Day and enjoyed Professor David Rosand ’59’s history of Art Hum class. Mas added that it seems Buzz Zucker also attended, but Mas didn’t run into him, though Mas did say hello to Greg Wyatt ’71, and his wife took a picture of his sons and him with Greg in front of Greg’s impressive lion sculpture near Havemeyer.

John Tait and his girls were in NYC as I wrote this — his oldest for her final Vera Wang dress fitting for her wedding in Portland, Ore. She recently finished her doctorate at Oxford and has a job in London and is marrying another Oxford doctoral, a Brit. They decided to do the event in Portland, where she went to Reed College. Everyone is flying out west instead of to England. John’s younger daughter works at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., doing art stuff and just pops up to NYC like she was a local. It is a long way from growing up in Lewiston, Idaho. John, congratulations on the wedding and have your daughter call when she is in the city.

I have reported that Dan Lorber is doing great work: He received the American Diabetes Association’s prestigious Outstanding Physician Clinician Award at the 69th Scientific Session.

Bob Brandt “ran into a Tommy Simpson on the day I write this at our local Stop & Shop. We paused for a moment to reminisce about some of our classmates who lived on the ninth floor of New Hall. Your name came up.

What does that mean, Bob? I just returned from marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day, and I want to share with our class what a wonderful experience it is. Just being on campus is exciting, especially on an occasion like this one. There were only two of us from 1968, but I made connections with acquaintances and a relative in other classes and met some interesting alumni. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, 74L, spoke beautifully, and I got to hear Austin Quigley’s last lecture. He recently reviewed Jay Neugeboren’s ’58 novel, 1940, based on the true story of Hitler’s Jewish doctor, Eduard Bloch. Jay was Peter’s freshman English teacher in 1964. Peter also will have a piece, “Gifts of a Spiritual Ancestor,” published in an upcoming issue of the journal Midstream. “Gifts” is about Peter’s search for the story of the life and rescue in 1944 France of his great-uncle, Dr. Israel Schaechter (1876-1949). And another good note, I received information about three classmates whose kids will be off to the College in the Class of 2013. They are Maryam Aziz (dad is Anwar Aziz), Zachary Kagan (dad is Norm Kagan) and Flora McDavid (dad is Bill McDavid). So congratulations to them and their families.

There are lots of great schools. This one, as we all know, is a great one for sure.

I continue to have a regular lunch with Paul de Baiy and to see Seth Weinstein. They are doing well and keeping busy. Paul, I think, is planning a trip to Turkey, so hopefully we will get a report from him. I continue to do public finance and have been traveling a good deal recently to Utah. What a beautiful state.

I hope all of you enjoyed the summer, and I expect more updates for the next edition, or I am sending the update-news people to seek you out. And Greg, good luck with your new activities.

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

CLASS NOTES

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY
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This column reports on two great and newsworthy events. Class Day (May 19): In addition to speakers and other recognition of the Class of 2009, Class Day once again featured the Alumni Parade of Classes, with members of some 50 classes symbolizing the Columbia community by carrying their class banners in the academic procession — marching in after the graduates and before the faculty. Seven of us carried and/or marched graduates and before the faculty. As one class graduates, another two other classmates also were as they saw our banner approach. It was a memorable event: We received thunderous applause from the graduates as they saw our banner approach. Our class in the foreground of the contemporary U.S. history that they studied. Eric had extra cause for celebration: His son, Joshua, was a member of the graduating class. Two other classmates also were celebrating their graduating seniors: Vincent D. Alfieri, Jr., and Eric Witkin (daughter Sarah ‘09). As one class graduates, another begins, and our legacies continue to enter the College. Arnold Rady ’69E’s son, Michael, is in the College Class of 2013.

Reunion: Alumni Reunion Weekend (June 4–7) was our seventh quinquennial reunion, marking the 40th anniversary of our graduation. It may well have been the best of our reunions. Most important, we had an impressive turnout: not quite the number we saw for the 25th but pretty close to it. Here is the list of classmates who came to at least one of the reunion events: Lawrence Aaron, Dominick Agostin, Jim Allay, Robert Appel, Jerry Avorn, George Baker, Lloyd Bader, Jory Berkwits, John Bernson, Harvey Bernstein, Chuck Bethill, Bill Bonvillian, Eric Brandman, Michael Braudy, Robert Brooks, Eapen Chacko, Ira Cohen, Steve Ditlea, Thomas Divine, Mark Drucker, Thomas Early, Roy Feldman, Neal Flomenbaum, John Fogarty, Miles Freedman, Robert Friedman, Robert Gabel, Nick Garaffis, Gregg Geller, William Giusti, Jerry Gliklich, Sam Goldman, John Herbst, Ed Hyman, Jeffrey Klein, Mark Hews, Howard Lemberg, John Lewis, George Lindsay, John Lombardo, John Marwell, Joe Materna, Dick Menaker, Jerry Nadler, Fred Neufeld, me, Joseph Okon, Emanuel Organek, Fred Pack, Khalil Parker, David Parshall, Richard Rapaport, Marc Rauch, Hank Reichman, Alan Rommazuk, Gary Rosenberg, Mike Rosenblatt, Jonathan Rosenfeld, Michael Roithred, Irving Ruderman, Mark Saltzman, Jim Savage, Jack Schachner, Mike Schell, Jonathan Schiller, Sepp Seitz, David Silverstone, David Sokal, David Turner, Steve Valenstein, Robert Waldman, Mark Webber, Dan Weingrad, Jim Weitzman, Lew Wise, David Witkin, Ray Wyatt and Joel Ziff. You can view this class photo (which includes our SEAS classmates who shared the reunion with us) and read classmates’ news and reflections in our Class Book at www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/classof69w/CollegeAlum

I can sum up the reunion in these few words: “really good conversations and respectful remembrances.” The goal of our planning committee was to create opportunities for classmates to spend quality time with each other, and we met our goal. In fact, for the 30 or so members of the planning committee, the many conference calls were really the start of the reunion. For the rest, we began, as we have for years, with a pre-reception cocktail reception graciously hosted by Kathy and Mike Schell at their Upper West Side apartment. We had a strong turnout, and we had several hours to see friends and to meet classmates whom we did not know all that well in college. The opening receptions are critical to a successful reunion, for they set the tone, establish the relationships and release that familiar sense of camaraderie that is quick to surface at our reunions. Austin Quigley, finishing his 14th year as associate dean, joined us, and spoke both of today’s College and the College’s acceptance of the “individual minds” that our class exhibited.

On Friday night, we had our second reception in SIPA’s Kellogg Conference Center. This, typically, was the least attended of our class events, but we still had some 50 classmates who gathered and connected to reconnect. There were also on-campus events on Friday for all of the reunion classes, and we heard high praise for several of the speakers. We were welcomed on Friday by Nick Dirks, v.p. of Arts and Sciences and dean of the faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Saturday was a day of events. After the well-received Dean’s Day morning program, our class got together (literally and figuratively) for lunch and discussion at the Kellogg center — a program of close to 4 hours. The lunch program was the subject of singular attention during the planning, and credit Rich Wyatt for suggesting and then running the main event: an open microphone session called “40 years in three minutes.” After a few scheduled volunteers kicked off the discussion, a majority of attendees shared their thoughts and exposed their feelings about the reunion, the College years and that long time in between. What struck me was the cohesiveness of the class, which comprises individuals who had seen the world in different ways in college and who have traveled varying paths since. And yet, we were a group that felt like connected classmates. As joyous as our exchanges were, hanging over the proceedings was the realization that far too many of our classmates had not lived to come to this milestone event. But we wanted them to be part of the reunion, and we ended our afternoon session with a memorial, including a reading of the names of those who have passed away recently. A very moving memorial prayer chant by Irving Ruderman. We remembered then, and we remember now, these classmates: Armand E. Balloftet Jr., Vincent D. Alfieri, Thomas E. Baxter, Peter R. Belauskas, William J. Bazell, John L. Beaudry, Charton A. Baker, Martin G. Carlsta, Christopher M. Cole, Paul D. Cete, Joseph C. DeRuggeris, Thomas Hartley Dorris, Stephen M. Ehrenberg, John P.S. Gardner, William F. Gleason, Raymond S. Gomkoto, George J. Grotheer Jr., George A. Hacker, Richard L. Halpern, James L. Harlow, Lowell L. Hart, Gregory K. Hiestand, Chris K. Iijima, Naythania Jones, Daniel S. Kaplowitz, Jonathan J. King, Allen B. Lurie, Barry F. Luzzi, David MacKenzie, Stanley A. Marcel, Jonathan J. Meiksii Jr., Robert A. Martin Jr., David J. McCarthy, Jonathan F. Miller, William III, Robert S. Norman, Emery V. Otovs, Michael L. Pappis, William J. Perez, Peter P. Prodis, Douglas O. Roberts, David I. Robinson, Ricardo A. Souza, Jonathan Souweine, Frank D. Stimpie, George F. Thomas, William B. Turkel, Peter E. Turner, Andrew S. Van Nels, William D. Waite, Christian S. Ward, Paul M. Werner, Stark C. Whiteley and C. Bald A. Wawdzakas.

Saturday night, the Class of 1969 was invited to “occupy” the Faculty Room of Low Library for the College and SEAS class dinner. We had another reception concept the dinner, and once more, there was the opportunity for all of us to visit. Including guests, our class totalled about 120. It would be immodest for me to comment on my welcoming remarks, others than to report that many classmates had to be treated for convulsive laughter. I had the privilege of announcing that as of June 5, our class contributed $175, 373 to the Columbia College Fund for restricted financial aid, and overall contributed $445,374 to the College (including to athletic teams, student groups and specialized scholarships), with almost 33 percent of the class participating. Our own U.S. congressman, Jerry Nadler, delivered a rousing keynote speech, an unapologetic liberal’s assessment of citizens’ rights under siege.

Reunion weekend always concludes with the all-class Sunday brunch, and it is never a well-attended event. Only six of our classmates came to the brunch, but fortunately we saw each other and sat together. In some ways, this was for the sake of spirit of the point and also a capsule of the reunion: time to talk and time to get to know some classmates better. I was very impressed by the level of discussion — from moments that replicated the intensity of the Core Curriculum to moments of reflection, to moments of jokes and teasing, and — again — to moments of remembrance.

I asked some classmates to comment on the reunion. Here are some additional takes on what occurred. From Jeffrey Cooper, a virgin, I’m happy to report a highly satisfying experience at our 40th. Reconnecting with old friends was an expected pleasure. Unexpected was how much pleasure I felt connecting with classmates I’d never really known well while in college. Repeatedly, I was struck not just by the intelligence of our classmates (that’s a given), but also by how much work for the public good each had done in his chosen field. On the plane ride in, I’d read our yearbook cover to cover, forty years, with a nasty mildew smell as proof. It’s a striking, iconiclastic volume. How many yearbooks sport a funny audio/video script from a class dropout announcing he’s a sellout? Post-strike interviews with several professors and with Provost Truman are at once insightful, nackedly confused and poignant. At the reunion, before I could congratulate Roy Feldman, our yearbook editor, on how well he and the Columbia staff had captured that historical moment, Roy said he’d re-read the volume the night before and was swamped with second thoughts about what he should have done differently. This tendency to consider and reconsider showed up in many reunion conversations. Could it be that the true core of our curriculum? At the parting Sunday brunch, a half dozen classmates talked together about Obama’s young presidency.
how impressed we were with its promise and how each of us particularly feared it might fall short. The casual discussion was heartfelt and mindful. As we broke up to head home, we noticed how blessed we’d be by our undergraduate training. Finally, many thanks to Michael Oberman for keeping the Class of ’69 alive in CCT for more than 30 years.”

From Eric Wittkin: “I thought our reunion was a great success because so many of the people that I know and admire showed up, at Michael Oberman’s terrific cocktail party on Thursday, at the cocktail party at SIPA the next evening, and at both lunch and dinner on Saturday. Jerry Nadler gave a very interesting talk on a highly controversial issue at Saturday’s dinner. Many of us had fascinating accounts of their Columbia and post-Columbia lives after lunch on Saturday, and even the weather cooperated with a sunny day and a beautiful evening after dinner on Low Plaza. I didn’t make it to any lectures or classes or cocktail lectures, but for me, reunions are about people, and many splendid people in our class made it a great success.”

From Rod Reed ’69E: “This was my most memorable reunion to date. It made me realize how formal and informal, to talk to Engineering and College classmates. I was able to meet, talk to and listen to interesting life events from people I had not seen in many years. Although Dean Glenn Hubbard’s economics lecture was interesting, it is fast fading from memory. This is not true for the interactions with the members of our class. I am glad we adopted Rich Wyatt’s idea for the Saturday afternoon event, and I will remember the value of our time talking and spending time together when we plan the next reunion.”

And from Jim Weitzman: “Reunion was good to me. I enjoyed it immensely, reflecting on my past and sharing a few intimate things with classmates with whom I really didn’t have much to do when I was a student. I found especially touching the luncheon comments of Jory Berkswits, sitting at my table, who stood to ask for forgiveness that he had essentially gone through most of his four years without interfacing with the rest of the class. My visit to WKCR knocked me off my feet. I walked into a studio only to lay eyes on four guys, most of whom I hadn’t seen in 40 years, arrayed around a table, recording recollections of the past and sharing a few intimate things with classmates. I was able to meet, talk to and listen to interesting life events from people I had not seen in many years. Although Dean Glenn Hubbard’s economics lecture was interesting, it is fast fading from memory. This is not true for the interactions with the members of our class. I am glad we adopted Rich Wyatt’s idea for the Saturday afternoon event, and I will remember the value of our time talking and spending time together when we plan the next reunion.”

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Ph.D. in 1979 and taught for a year at Columbia as an assistant professor, and then at Boston College. While a graduate student and after I got my Ph.D., I taught Contemporary Civilization in the College for four years and, to date, that still counts as perhaps the most enjoyable and fruitful teaching experience I’ve had.

“The same year I got my Ph.D., I married Nancy Scott, an art historian, who got her Ph.D. at NYU and, at the time of our wedding, was a newly appointed assistant professor at Brandeis. Nancy and I are still married, and she still teaches art history at Brandeis. We still live in the Boston area. After a year of teaching at BC, given the paucity of academic jobs at that time (and especially the lack of jobs that would have allowed Nancy and me to be in the same city), I decided to change course and went to Yale Law School, getting my J.D. in 1984. I went to work at Ropes & Gray (then just a Boston law firm), where I became a partner in the litigation department, one of the firm’s ethicists in residence and chair of the pro bono committee. I decided in 2004 that it was time for a change and left the firm to become general counsel of the New England Legal Foundation, a public interest law firm that advocates for a balanced approach to the free market and regulation (we have our work cut out for us these days!). I became president of NELF in 2006, which is my current position. Given what has happened to my (and everyone else’s) nest egg, I do not expect to retire any time soon (although reading the emails from those who have retired makes me slightly envious). I also am an adjunct professor at Suffolk Law School in Boston, where I teach an evening course in professional responsibility, and I am in my fifth year as the ‘facilitator’ of a literature and medicine seminar at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington, Mass.

“Nancy and I have three children, all with fiercely independent spirits. Our oldest, Katie, went to NYU and then got into the Teaching Fellows, a New York Board of Education program somewhat like Teach for America. She was asked to teach special education, and NYC helped foot the bill for her to get a master’s in the subject. After teaching in Brooklyn for three years, she moved to the San Francisco area, where she teaches at a junior high school in Lorenzo County. Her experiences have opened my eyes to how little special education but also about how important such programs are to the kids with whom she works so patiently. Not that I didn’t always think such programs were essential, it’s just that I understand so much more thanks to Katie. Our son, Sam, our middle child, graduated from Oberlin in May 2008 and has a job on the Brooklyn Eagle newspaper. Last, but definitely not least, our younger daughter, Rebecca, is a freshman at College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, where she has surprised us by loving astronomy as much as English literature. Perhaps if Nancy and I ever have grandchildren, I can convince one or two of them to try to go to my alma mater. I am therefore content to see as many of you as you can make it to our 40th reunion, where I am sure we will have no dearth of things to talk about.”

From Gerry Britan: “After graduating, I married my college sweetheart, Ronnie Goldstein. She had just graduated from NYU and was the main reason I transferred to Columbia (from the University of Chicago) in the first place. We spent the summer of 1970 bumming around Europe (a typical summer for ‘60s kids) and then returned to graduate school — both in anthropology — me at Columbia and Ronnie at NYU. I lived on a little island off the coast of Newfoundland for a year (doing my doctoral fieldwork) and finished my Ph.D. in 1978. I moved to Washington, D.C., in the early ’80s to set up a new program evaluation office at the USDA while Ronnie worked at the Department of Education and then at DoD.

“I found the Reagan years ‘challenging’ and returned to academia as dean of research at Southern Illinois. But the small-town Midwest was too big for my (hometown) so after a couple of years, we returned to D.C., where I joined the U.S. International for International Development as its in-house evaluation methodologist. Worked my way up, and for most of the past 10 years, I’ve directed the central evaluation and knowledge management office. Along the way, we had two kids, Edward (27), a lawyer (via NYU) doing public policy with a D.C. firm, and Clark (22), studying to be a rocket scientist (aeronautical engineering) at Georgia Tech. Unfortunately, Ronnie was diagnosed with breast cancer and succumbed in 2000 after a long battle. Raising two teenagers alone was a little scary, but I seem to have gotten through it. And in 2007, I married a wonderful, brilliant and beautiful woman, Patricia Moser, who spent most of her life working on international development overseas. Lots of other bric-a-brac... Learning to ski at 40 and becoming a ski instructor! SCUBA diving around the world! Rediscovering dating! Teaching at GH and Johns Hopkins on the side? Finding true love twice! And now, we’re both teaching and writing and studying, and working full-time on looking to a future a little more slowed down and retired. We’ll see.”

That’s all for now — so say my editors. But stay tuned, I still have a rich reservoir of wonderful ‘mini-bios’ to share over the next several issues as well as the latest escapades of my Beta brethren. And, of course, Go Lions!”

Jim Shaw
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Philadelphia, PA 19103
jes200@columbia.edu

Congratulations to these children (and parent ’71 classmates) who are beginning Columbia College as members of the Class of 2013: Eli and Rebecca, twins, and me at the latest escapades of my Beta brethren. And, of course, Go Lions!”

Jill Margulis (David Margulis)
Hillen Karp
“I land my wife, Arlene, are pleased to announce the graduation of our son, Aaron ’06, from Harvard Law School. He joins his brother, Joshua ’04, in the profession. I am happy to report that our daughter, Rachel ’10, majors in drama and theater arts, so I guess two lawyers are enough.”

My daughter, Amy Shaw ’08, starts medical school at UC San Francisco in September.

Greg Wyatt’s 40-year career, will be featured September 5-November 24 in a retrospective exhibition, “Two Rivers,” within the historic renaissance space of La Sala d’Arme di Palazzo Vecchio in Florence, Italy. Overflowing with memories of years, we returned to D.C., in the early ’80s to set up a new program evaluation office at the USDA while Ronnie worked at the Department of Education and then at DoD.

“I found the Reagan years ‘challenging’ and returned to academia as dean of research at Southern Illinois. But the small-town Midwest was too big for my (hometown) so after a couple of years, we returned to D.C., where I joined the U.S. International for International Development as its in-house evaluation methodologist. Worked my way up, and for most of the past 10 years, I’ve directed the central evaluation and knowledge management office. Along the way, we had two kids, Edward (27), a lawyer (via NYU) doing public policy with a D.C. firm, and Clark (22), studying to be a rocket scientist (aeronautical engineering) at Georgia Tech. Unfortunately, Ronnie was diagnosed with breast cancer and succumbed in 2000 after a long battle. Raising two teenagers alone was a little scary, but I seem to have gotten through it. And in 2007, I married a wonderful, brilliant and beautiful woman, Patricia Moser, who spent most of her life working on international development overseas. Lots of other bric-a-brac... Learning to ski at 40 and becoming a ski instructor! SCUBA diving around the world! Rediscovering dating! Teaching at GH and Johns Hopkins on the side? Finding true love twice! And now, we’re both teaching and writing and studying, and working full-time on looking to a future a little more slowed down and retired. We’ll see.”

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among other things, the election of our new President and fellow alumnus.

Sadly, Walter Topolnicki died on June 23, shortly before submission of this column. CCT will include an obituary in an upcoming issue. David Bruce Wallace: “Walter’s room was a perennial gathering place; no one was ever unwelcome. He managed to study (medieval English) with every imaginable distraction going on. (That’s what the sixth floor of John Jay was like in those days.) Walter, we will miss you.”

Howard Stoffer: “Walter was a dear friend of more than 40 years from College days in John Jay. Through the many years that I was overseas, he and I would connect on my trips back to New York. Since my family and I returned to New York in 1997, we were able to see Walter, often together with other long-standing friends from Columbia, to celebrate many family milestones. He always had a cheerful outlook and a fascinating perspective on the politics of the day or world events. He will be greatly missed. I hope he has found peace and solace in a better place. I extend to his family my most sincere sympathies and condolences.” As does the Class of ’71.

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Paul S. Appelbaum
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President Lee C. Bollinger has declared his ambition for Columbia to be a world university. But long before Prezbo (as Spectator affectionately refers to him) had the idea, ’72ers already were making their mark on the larger world. Consider, for example, Apostolos Doxiadis, based in Athens, who is the co-author of a comic book with an unexpected hero: Bertrand Russell, the philosopher, logician, mathematician, winner of the Nobel Prize for literature and author of the seminal work on mathematical logic, Principia Mathematica. First published in Greece last year, where it has become an unexpected bestseller, Logician: An Epic Search for Truth, is set to emerge this autumn in the United States and United Kingdom from Blooombury Publishing. Apostolos also is the author of four novels in Greek, one of which, Uncle Petros Goldbach’s Conjecture, has been published in 30 languages, including English.

And then there’s Glenn Switkes, who spent his time between the megalopolis of São Paulo, Brazil, and the rushing rivers of the Amazon, working with International Rivers to help protect the watercourses of rainforests. “The work is intense, but vital, as the Brazilian government pushes to dam the rivers of the Amazon, and as river bank dwellers, indigenous people and environmentalists try to stem the tide and promote a more balanced approach to development and conservation. I recently took part in an event with the Columbia Club here in Brazil, where Dean John Coatsworth of SIPA shared his insights on the evolution of the Obama administration’s Latin America policy.”

Or consider Gerard Aquilina, who reports, “As vice chairman at Barclays Wealth in London, I recently gave a two-hour class at SIPA on investor behavior among ultra-high net worth families around the world. Last time I was in the building, Neil Young had written a song about Kent State that none of the students attending this class recognized, and I was late for a lecture by Zbigniew Brzezinski because of the demonstrations against the Cambodia invasion. From law in California and London to investment banking to wealth management in London, Brazil, New York and back to London, I find myself 37 years later recalling the excellent CC program we had. I am rereading the syllabus and hope one of my kids gets into the College. I am posting a panel discussion on global investment themes for the Columbia M.B.A. alumni in September in London.”

Another globe-trotting alumnus is Foad Katirai, who writes, “Having spent more than 20 years in industry as a financial economist, doing what I had trained for at Columbia and Oxford, I discovered I had reached the end of the line and retired in 2000. With time on my hands, I wanted to follow the similarities others, such as Paul Samuelson and Lord May, had seen between not just the methodologies but theoretical frameworks of economics and medicine — and perhaps as the pre-Cartesians — used to think scholarship in general. Discovering an aptitude for medicine at a homeopathic college in Toronto, Canada, I have supplemented it with a full time M.B.B.S. course in modern medicine and surgery at one of the top medical schools in China and Asia, the Tongji Medical College in Wuhan. True to the broad base that Columbia instilled in me at a young age, I have gone on to expand not just the geographical frontiers of scholarship by studying in England and now in China, but its academic ones from the Core courses, to economics, banking and now medicine.”

Eugene Ross has had a different kind of overseas experience. In 2003, in response to 9-11, Gene joined the Army Medical Corps as a lieutenant colonel, serving as chief of otolaryngology at West Point for four years. During that period, he served as the combat theater commander for head and neck surgery in Balad, Iraq, for six months from 2005-06, during the height of the insurgency, performing 400 surgical procedures and being awarded a Bronze Star. He left active duty in 2007 but remained in the Reserves (“though I am now 59”) and was promoted to colonel in 2008. For the past 26 months, Gene has been in private practice as an ear, nose and throat surgeon in the Westchester Medical Group in White Plains and Rye, N.Y. “My three sons are well,” he says. “The oldest, 24, graduated as a computer scientist from the University of Michigan Engineering School and has been a highly successful consultant for Deloitte Touche and IBM for the past four years. The next is a fourth-year student at the University of Illinois, though he also works as a chef and plans to pursue a career in culinary arts. Finally, the last is a second-year student at Purdue, and intends to become a sports journalist.”

Closer to home, John Miller shares the good news that “On March 24, my son and daughter-in-law blessed me and my wife, Sharon, with our first grandchild! His name is Sawyer, and he already is sleeping with the same football pillow my son, Adam, slept with. I’m thinking Columbia Lions football for sure. On the more serious side, I work with clients as a registered investment adviser focusing on retirement income planning, and I am seeing a lot of pain as people have to make difficult choices. Issues include spending less or going back to work for retirees and saving more or delaying retirement for the boomers who thought retirement was just around the corner. I remain positive for the future, but all of us have hard choices to make.”

We close this column with some musings and recollections, first from Bruce Heiden. “Like others in the Class of ’72, I went to the College when its student body was restricted to members of one gender, as Barnard’s still is. At the time, I considered the arrangement an inconvenience, but as I look back — after 25 years as a professor at the always-coed Ohio State — I feel personally lucky to have had the Columbia experience I did. Along with other features of the Columbia landscape, such as the symbolically imposing campus architecture and unyieldingly anti-vocational freshman curriculum, the unnatural restriction to one gender contributed to an atmosphere that felt alien, and a certain self-imposed barefootness of spirit. I have hard choices to make.”

In our next column, we take the Columbia experience a half century ago as a launching pad for musings on retirement, whether political, corporate or personal. We may not be rich (or neutral). Somebody at Columbia ought to study it. I wouldn’t prejudge the results by suggesting that Columbia or any school ought to ‘go back’ (as if that
were even possible), but in figuring of President Barack Obama '83.

no tradition without innovation.

innovation without tradition and people don’t associate with the learn from what’s been tried before.”

out how to go forward, it

'Oceans and time zones didn’t stop Patrick Dowd ’74 and Brian Phillips ’74 from getting together in Thailand to celebrate the inauguration of President Barack Obama ’83.

Barry Etra
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Just in case we’ve stopped feeling old, our 40th high school reunion approaches (or, by the time this is published, reapproaches). Never ends, does it? Au contraire — a relatively recent headline of The onion read, “Despite Scientist’s Best Efforts, Death Rate Still at 100 Percent.” First one to prove that one wrong wins ...

Eugene Drucker’s novel, The Senior, was published in 2007, came out in paperback last year and recently was translated into Chinese. His day gig is with the Emerson String Quartet, with whom he recently released a CD of Bach fugues, and another of the two quartets of Janacek. They play about 100 concerts a year and are currently making their debut tour of South America. Eugene is in 2007 to the department’s senior review board that selects candidates for the Presidential Awards on behalf of the Secretary of State. Well done, Frank!

That’s my stories, and we’re stickin’ to ‘em. We can be unstuck if we get more feedback, so unleash that of Blue and White Noise, please!

Fred Bremer
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New York, NY 10025 fbremer@pclient.ml.com

Our 35th reunion was held on campus and around New York City during the first week in June. Starting with a Thursday evening cocktail party with Barnard and Engineering at the Fifth Avenue apartment of Cheryl Fishbein ’74 Barnard and culminating with the Saturday night class dinner on campus, our classmates gathered to share past memories and current exploits under mostly sunny skies.

The Friday night cocktail party at The University Club (an elegant, turn-of-the-century clubhouse also on Fifth Avenue), Saturday mid-day barbecue on Low Plaza and numerous Dean’s Day lectures, campus tours, Broadway plays and even a Chelsea art gallery tour allawaived a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet in a variety of settings.

What was unique to this reunion was that everyone’s professional and family demands led to each event being attended by a different group of classmates. Sure, classmates traveling from afar (such as Christian Hansen in from London, Philip Fantasia down from Massachusetts and Andrew Wang out from Los Angeles) were seen at most of the main events. But others were found mainly at one or two. For example, Erwin Mermelstein and Asher Miller were only seen at the Thursday cocktail party. The Saturday barbecue was the only chance to see Dan Dolgin and Richard Briffault. I think I saw Frank Bruno, Richard Chen, Ed Kornreich and Mike Silverman only at the Saturday night dinner. (My apologies to the classmates left off of each of these lists — the crowds were robust, and my memory fades as the weeks since the reunion have passed!)

E-mails poured in from classmates regretting not being able to attend the reunion, sometimes missing their first reunion out of the seven. The cited obstacles tended to come from three sources: being abroad, family affairs and work obligations. This column’s space limitations will force many of the e-mails into the next column, but the following sample of vignettes should paint the bigger picture of how the convolution of work and family demands creates so much stress for all of us at this phase of our life. Hopefully, some of this pressure will be alleviated by the time of our 40th reunion, and we will be able to gather in greater tranquility. More likely, it will be more of the same!

David Melnick (head of research of drug firm AstraZeneca) had said he was planning to come, but then came the following terse e-mail: “Unfortunately, I will be in India on business.” (To which I replied, “Dr. Reddy, Dr. Melnick?”) Let me add that David’s son recently graduated from Duke and has started working at Morgan Stanley. A combo abroad/family note came in from Thomas (T.J.) Dowling; I am out of AEO (US embassy in Russia on a Fulbright Fellowship, so I will not be able to attend. But give my regards to Old Broadway, and tell ‘em I will soon be there!”

Early June is the time of high school graduations and weddings, and sometimes the demands of family so often have to supercede getting together with college chums. Both Kevin Ward and Warren Stern said they wanted to attend, but the reunion conflicted with a weekend of celebrations of their kids’ high school graduations. Peter Zegarelli told us, “I have a wedding that weekend, so I will probably miss the reunion for the first time. Think I’ve made them all.” He added that his son, James, recently graduated from Colgate and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Marines. “Very proud of him,” writes Peter.

Bill Meehan sent in his regrets from Palo Alto: “Alas, we have a wedding, so we can’t make our 35th. I am having a beer that Monday with Bill Campbell ’62 (N.B., Bill is the chair of the University Board of Trustees as well as CEO of Intuit), so that will have to suffice.” Bill (Meehan) notes that he retired last year from McKinsey (the management consulting firm) after 30 years, and now teaches full time at the Stanford Business School. He still is teaching nonprofit strategy, and recently launched a new required course

Eugene Drucker ’73 is with the Emerson String Quartet, with whom he recently released a CD of Bach fugues, and another of the two quartets of Janacek.

Heliker’s and Goldin’s work; they were artists with national reputations, and it’s probably fair to say that Columbia never fully appreciated what they had to give. After Heliker died — at 91 in 2000 — I became involved with the Heliker-LaHotan Foundation, begun by Heliker and his partner, Robert LaHotan, which runs a residency program for artists on the beautiful property they owned on Cranberry Isle, Maine. Goldin — who also spent summers on the coast of Maine, on Deer Isle — died earlier this year at 86, and I’ve been thinking about what a remarkable man he was. I will never forget the quiet intensity with which he spoke about the work of Matisse, an artist he loved above all others. He showed me how wonderfully Matisse’s paintings were knit somehow, how one form would subtly echo another, how a space could be simultaneously fluid and contained. These conversations, which took place during studio art classes, were as important to me as also on the faculty at SUNY-Stony Brook and has begun an affiliation with Bard College. Frank Cambridge ’74, J.D. from Fordham in 1978 and used his fluency in Spanish, Portuguese and French to further his career as an investment banker with BoFA International, heading up capital markets and corporate finance. He went on to Bankers Trust and BSI London before settling at Julius Baer, joining in 1995. Frank moved up there, becoming CEO of Julius Baer International until 2004; Julius Baer concentrated on private client acquisition and investment management. Frank now is a private banker under an independent contract with SG Hambros. He also is a visiting professor at the University of Buckingham and recently taught a series of workshops on wealth management for the British Bankers’ Association. He served at the U.S. Department of State on selection boards that promote within the senior ranks of the Foreign Service and was appointed in 2007 to the department’s senior review board that selects candidates for the Presidential Awards on behalf of the Secretary of State.

Well done, Frank!

That’s my stories, and we’re stickin’ to ‘em. We can be unstuck if we get more feedback, so unleash that of Blue and White Noise, please!
Jonathan was featured in the innovative themes he had come in a “Senior Profile” that described banner with three classmates. My proudly holding the Class of ’74 reception for legacies (i.e., children College graduation activities. At a time, but we still expect to see him at the 40th!) new Science Education Advisory Division of Endocrinology. Even acquisition activities) and soon retiring from the Quintiles Corp. (a health firm) last year, the good doc¬

It is gratifying to hear, every once in a while, that people actually read these submissions. When even bet¬ter is when a classmate writes and tells stories about other classmates mentioned in a current edition. Some of those stories are absolute riots to read, but unfortunately not suitable for publication for fear of hurt feelings. But most claims (at worst!) It would be an interesting reunion event (see more comments about reunion at end) to get these classmates together and hear them tell stories about each other. On second thought, probably not such a good idea, but still fun to think about. St. Francis Winery in Santa Rosa, Calif., was the site of the spring wedding of Jennifer Kaye and Paul Anthony Argenti. Jennifer is a health and lifestyle counselor to individuals and corporations. She graduated from Dartmouth and holds a certificate in health counseling from Columbia. Paul is a professor of corporate com¬

Composer Richard Einhorn has written opera, orchestral and chamber music, song cycles, film music and dance scores. Earlier this year, his opera/oratorio, The Origin, based on the work of Charles Darwin, was performed to packed houses and received standing ovations. Richard is one of the few composers with works “on the charts” — Voices of Light was a bestseller on the Billboard classical list and has attracted attention in a number of other media and in performances around the world. 

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David Goldberg is director of the Appraisal Group, a member of the Certified Appraisal Guild of America and the International Society of Appraisers — an expert in appraisal of fine art, antiques and all movable estates, divorces and insurance. He would welcome hearing from CC attorneys who need help and advice in these areas. David will travel anywhere, and he has testified in courts in Connecticut, New York, Texas and Louisiana. His son, Ethan, is a freshman at Occidental College in California, in a six-year program that will conclude at Columbia Law. His daughter, Adaria, graduated from the University of Georgia last spring, and now attends nursing school at the University of Maryland. During Katrina, David went to Florida for three months and taught at Santa Fe College there. When he returned home to New Orleans, he had lots of appraisal work to do!

In true journalistic fashion, Phelps Hawkins sent this update from lovely Blagoevgrad. (Phelps, forgive my editing!) In his Columbia colors and her Northwestern purple (“Ivy and Eggplant”), Phelps and his wife, Sandra, stood out as they marched across Georgi Izmirliev Square in a sea of black regalia during commencement at the American University of Bulgaria. Now in their third year there, they are the process of teaching elite students from some 30 former Soviet and communist countries fascinating and rewarding. A large part of their teaching
Alumni Sons and Daughters

Fifty-five members of the College Class of 2013 and three members of the SEAS Class of 2013 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent's last name.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STUDENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kwasi Adi-Dako</td>
<td>Nich Adi-Dako '79</td>
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<td>Accra, Ghana • Tema International School</td>
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<td>Maryam Aziz</td>
<td>Anwar Aziz '68</td>
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<td>Camden, N.J. • Haddon Heights H.S.</td>
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<td>August Baer</td>
<td>Myles Baer '74</td>
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<td>Teaneck, N.J. • The Frisch School</td>
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<td>Janine Balekdjian</td>
<td>Richard Balekdjian '80</td>
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<td>Saddle River, N.J. • Academy for the Advancement of Science and Technology</td>
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<td>Jared Baum</td>
<td>Seth Baum '81</td>
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<td>Boca Raton, Fla. • Pine Crest School</td>
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<td>Emily Hamilton</td>
<td>Neill Brownstein '66</td>
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<td>Palo Alto, Calif. • Palo Alto Senior H.S.</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Bryk</td>
<td>Eli Bryk '78</td>
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<td>Suzanne Byowitz</td>
<td>Michael Byowitz '73</td>
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<td>William Campbell '62</td>
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<td>Raanan Cohen</td>
<td>Larry Cohen '83</td>
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<td>Teaneck, N.J. • SAR H.S.</td>
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<td>Erin Connell</td>
<td>John Connell '76</td>
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<td>Haddonfield, N.J. • Haddonfield Memorial H.S.</td>
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<td>Hannah Dresesiewicz</td>
<td>Robert Dresesiewicz '79</td>
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<td>Boston • The New Jewish H.S. of Greater Boston</td>
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<td>Samuel Edwards</td>
<td>Bruce Edwards '80</td>
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<td>Dix Hills, N.Y. • Half Hollow Hills H.S. East</td>
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<td>Eliana Eitches</td>
<td>Edward Eitches '71</td>
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<td>McLean, Va. • Randolph-Macon Academy</td>
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<td>Steven Evans '81</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Fine '77</td>
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<td>Talia Fisher</td>
<td>Frederick Fisher '84</td>
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<td>Sam Gelb</td>
<td>Alan Gelb '59</td>
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<td>Tawni Goodman</td>
<td>Marc Goodman '76</td>
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<td>Nico Gurian</td>
<td>Craig Gurian '79</td>
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<td>Brooklyn, N.Y. • Saint Ann's School</td>
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<td>Spencer Gyory</td>
<td>Bruce Gyory '76</td>
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<td>Albany, N.Y. • Bethlehem Central H.S.</td>
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<td>Asher Hecht-Bernstein</td>
<td>Harvey Hecht '64</td>
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<td>New York City • Trinity School</td>
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<td>Katherine Howitt</td>
<td>Kenneth Howitt '76</td>
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<td>Hoboken, N.J. • High Technology H.S.</td>
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<td>Zachary Kagan</td>
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<td>Saint Paul, Minn. • Central H.S.</td>
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<td>Michael Kaufman</td>
<td>James Kaufman '81</td>
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<td>Cleveland • University School</td>
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<td>Samuel Kohn</td>
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<td>Eric Kutscher</td>
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<td>Golden Bridge, N.Y. • John Jay H.S.</td>
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<td>Michael Larancette</td>
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<td>New Haven, Conn. • Notre Dame H.S.</td>
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<td>Harper Leahy</td>
<td>David Leahy '80</td>
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<td>Washington, D.C. • Bullis School</td>
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<td>Vivian Coney</td>
<td>Roger Lehecka '67</td>
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<td>New York City • Hunter College H.S.</td>
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<td>Jennifer Lee</td>
<td>Kai-Fu Lee '83</td>
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<td>Beijing • International School of Beijing-Shanghi</td>
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<td>Andrew Leonard</td>
<td>George Leonard '67</td>
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<td>Redwood City, Calif. • Crystal Springs Uplands School</td>
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<td>Jeremy Liss</td>
<td>Kevin Liss '84</td>
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<td>Silver Spring, Md. • Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School</td>
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<td>Cristian Lopez-Balboa</td>
<td>Frank Lopez-Balboa '82</td>
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<td>Adrian Luk</td>
<td>Simon Luk '77</td>
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<td>Hong Kong • Canadian International School of Hong Kong</td>
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<td>Ilan Marans</td>
<td>Noam Marans '81</td>
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<td>Teaneck, N.J. • Ramaz Upper School</td>
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<td>David Margulies '71</td>
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<td>Bethesda, Md. • Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School</td>
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<td>Flora McDavid</td>
<td>William McDavid '68</td>
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<td>Rye, N.Y. • Rye Country Day Upper School</td>
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<td>Henry Meiningers</td>
<td>Chris Meiningers '82</td>
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<td>Cincinnati • Summit Country Day School</td>
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<td>Lindsey Mitriani</td>
<td>Raul Mitriani '82</td>
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<td>Bay Harbor Islands, Fla. • Samuel Schechter Hillel Community Day School</td>
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<td>Jonathan Moed</td>
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<td>Engletwood, N.J. • The Frisch School</td>
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<td>Julia Monk</td>
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<td>Dominic Petito '77</td>
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<td>Chappaqua, N.Y. • Horace Greeley H.S.</td>
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<td>Joseph Piscina '82</td>
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<td>New Haven, Conn. • Choate Rosemary Hall</td>
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<td>Tzipora Quint</td>
<td>Rachel Helman Quint '90</td>
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<td>Bronx, N.Y. • The Frisch School</td>
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<td>Nicole Rumore</td>
<td>Gregory Rumore '76</td>
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<td>Claire Sabel</td>
<td>David Sabel '72</td>
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<td>London • St. Paul's Girls' School</td>
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<td>Rana Sahar</td>
<td>David Sahar '75</td>
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<td>Tenafly, N.J. • Tenafly H.S.</td>
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<td>Olivia Santoro</td>
<td>Charles Santoro '82</td>
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<td>Greenwich, Conn. • Greenwich Academy</td>
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<td>Cosima Travis</td>
<td>John Travis '84</td>
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<td>London • American School in London</td>
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<td>Alexandra Van Amson</td>
<td>George Van Amson '74</td>
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<td>Elpidio Villarreal '82</td>
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<td>Eva Vinegar</td>
<td>Harold Vinegar '70</td>
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<td>Houston • H.S. for the Performing and Visual Arts</td>
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<td>Rebeca Winter</td>
<td>Jonathan Winter '80</td>
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<td>Camden, N.J. • Cherry Hill H.S. East</td>
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<td>Zachary Wolner</td>
<td>Ron Wolner '77</td>
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<td>Albany, N.Y. • Shaker Senior H.S.</td>
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* Member of the SEAS Class of 2013

Two incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.

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<th>STUDENT</th>
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<td>Lena Bell</td>
<td>Alan Bell '73</td>
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<td>David Paszko</td>
<td>Henry Paszko '83</td>
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challenge is to mix liberal arts, some sense of American idealism and their students’ basic quest for a job that will keep them out of bread lines they remember from their not-so-distant youth. Further, journalism and mass communications are not a major repository of upbeat messages these days. So, Phelps assigns The Race Beat: The Press, the Civil Rights Struggle, and the Awakening of a Nation and requires a paper describing how the book informs and enhances their understanding of their country’s recent turmoil. Terry’s course comes to a close. If the question remains: How to teach good journalism in an environment where it is pay-to-play, and rather than leading the way, U.S. journalism seems mired in an only-slightly-more-sophisticated version of the same? Yes. Then these hopeful signs — an Albanian quasi-60 Minutes, a plethora of interest groups like the South East Europe Network for the Professionalization of Media, various media development centers slowly unburdening themselves of knowledge to tell some of the story, plenty of newspapers and some interesting Web-based news such as the Balkan Investigative Reporting Network — but these are more than offset by the sweeping popularity of Big Brother invasion, “reality” shows local- style, infomercials and overdubs of the least America has to offer (no sign of The Wire yet).

Phelps also serves on the Columbia ARC and had one acceptance among his four candidates. Paul Kulig tries to make the Columbia-Dartmouth football game when it is in Hanover, but wishes the Lions were more successful so his brother would stop ribbing him about another Big Columbia-Dartmouth football yet!)

sign of style, infomercials and overdubs of the least America has to offer (no sign of The Wire yet). However, he quickly added, “But those Red Sox fans can be so obnoxious.” (Note to Red Sox fans: Just this one time, allow Mario to have the last word on this subject.)

After I asked members to appreciate the skill of all athletes and pleaded with them to tone down the criticism of their rivals, Mario sent me an e-mail saying that I was right. However, he quickly added, “But those Red Sox fans can be so obnoxious.” (Note to Red Sox fans: Just this one time, allow Mario to have the last word on this subject.)

The wedding took place at the Ruffini family home in Johannesburg, South Africa. Barrett is looking forward to retiring next year after 30 years as a lawyer at the FCC and relocate to South Africa just in time for the World Cup.

Joseph Greenaway, a catcher on Columbia’s 1976 Ivy League championship baseball team, was nominated by President Barack Obama ‘83 to a seat on a federal appeals court. Joe, a former federal prosecutor and ex-corporate lawyer, has been a federal judge in Newark since 1996. The President nominated him to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia, saying he had distinguished himself as a “first-rate jurist with unflagging integrity and even-handedness.” Joe, 51, was recommended for the post by Democratic U.S. Senators Frank Lautenberg ’49 and Robert Menendez. The Third Circuit Court of Appeals currently comprises 12 judges who hear cases stemming from federal courts in New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and the Virgin Islands. Joe is filling one of two vacant seats. If confirmed by the Senate, he will replace Samuel A. Alito, who in 2006 was elevated to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Many children of the Class of ‘76 now are members of the Class of 13, including Ali Berg (son of Howard Berg), Erin Connell (daughter of John Connell), Rana Sahar (daughter of Gregory Rumore), cer Gyory (son of Bruce Gyoty), Erin Connell (daughter of Arthur Berg), and Janet (nee Steiner) Wallace (daughter of Tenafly H.S. (N.J.), has been admitted to the Class of 2013. His older sister, Hana, is studying at NYU. Proud father David Sahar received his medical degrees from Columbia and maintains another private practice in New York. New York Times associate clinical professor in the Division of Cardiology at the Columbia University Medical Center.

Michael Simon lives in Japan and stays caught up with alumni affairs through Columbia’s publications and his membership in the Columbia Club there. Meg Schneider, daughter of Bob Schneider and Regina Mullahy, was salutatorian of her graduating class at Sacred Heart Academy (Hempstead, N.Y.). After considering and rejecting many offers of admission, including from Columbia, Meg is headed to Penn. The class continued its tradition of periodic class breakfasts. In June, Jason Turner addressed the topic “Crowding Out Private Health Insurance with Government-Issue Explanations: Are we all destined to become health wards of the State?”

Steve Asherman, Harold Aspli, Bruce Erhman, Bob Katz, Ira Malin, David Sahar, Bob Schneider and Steve Jackson attended and contributed to the lively debate that followed.

And finally, a group of committed classmates are hard at work planning our 35th reunion, to be held Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. We could still use additional help in the general area of fundraising programs and communications. In the last year, we’re contacted well over 500 of you personally by phone or e-mail, and we’ll be reaching out to you again this year. So, please, if one of us contacts you to ask for news, help or a contribution to our Class Gift, please be generous with your time and resources.

Mario DiNatale died on March 26. Mario was a state and federal prosecutor before becoming a successful private injury attorney. At his death, he was the president of the Fairfield County Bar Association.

Mario’s colleague on the Regis Bar Association (RBA), tells us: “In addition to being a very good trial attorney, Mario was an exceptional- ly fine human being. As a member of both my Regis and Columbia classes, Mario and I knew each other for almost 40 years. I vividly recall the extraordinary enthusiasm he displayed while cheerleading the Regis basketball teams. Mario was relentless in his support of New York sports teams. Soon after I lost my uncle Peter to cancer, I remember Mario vowed to quiet an increasingly hostile exchange of e-mails on our listserv between Yankee and Red Sox fans. After I asked members to appreciate the skill of all athletes and pleaded with them to tone down the criticism of their rivals, Mario sent me an e-mail saying that I was right. However, he quickly added, ‘But those Red Sox fans can be so obnoxious.’ (Note to Red Sox fans: Just this one time, allow Mario to have the last word on this subject.)

“After decades of silence,” David Raab says, “I suppose I can check in.” After graduation, David went to Harvard Business School, then spent 10 years in the publishing and direct marketing industries and has been a consultant ever since, largely helping companies to select marketing technology vendors. “You know all that junk mail and, now, junk e-mail you get — I’m partly to blame. Sorry.” David still does a great deal of writing, mostly for trade publications, and recently published a book, The Marketing Management Measure- ment Toolkit. He’s been living in Chappaqua, N.Y., for 10 years, having spent the previous 15 near Philadelphia. His son, Joshua ‘12, entered the College last fall, caving in to decades of subtle parental pressuring. “If he’s not reasonably happy, and I am pleased to have someone to gossip with about Plato and Montaigne. But it does seem that the College bureaucracy is as unresponsible as ever. I tell him it’s part of his education.”

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

CLASS NOTES
Congratulations to Howard Gutman, recently nominated as U.S. ambassador to Belgium. Howie—seems odd to call him that now—is ambassador to Belgium. Howie—but some paperwork requirements from Harvard Law, clerking for and an editor of Spectator Bona, who reported that he was a workers’ compensation attorney like me.

“My wife, Marjie ’77 Penn, and I recently celebrated with our daughter, Julia, her bat mitzvah. Jacob, my older son, recently turned 16 and finished his sophomore year at Edward R. Murrow H.S. in Brooklyn, where my wife teaches. He did well on his PSATs and got a bucketful of mail this winter from a lot of good colleges, though not from alma mater. Both kids have a lot of artistic talent, which I attribute to their mothers did this take? Nothing too exciting, but it brings those memories rushing back? Is it the classic movie channel? Yes, yes, we know. We understand. I’m still a callow youth of 49—and not just with our normal architectural practices. They execute him from naming names, he assures us that, among his clients, he numbers quite a few CC alumni and even some of our classmates. You also might have recently heard from him directly, as he has been manning the seasonal phanums and follow-up solicitations on behalf of the Columbia College Fund. (Hint, hint.)

I was really happy to hear from my Spectator comrade Damien Bona, who reported that he was research consultant for the 2009 Academy Awards. “Lewie Goldschmidt,” he reports, is executive producer of which was Bill Condon ‘76.” Damien adds, “It was quite startling to walk down the red carpet, glance at my right, and see Sophia Loren standing next to me!”

It is again the year of the memory. Tom plans to return to his alma mater and refresh his memories of the Virginia contingent and have been the top interviewers of applicants from Virginia for the past several years. Nothing too exciting, but it pays the bills. Regards.

Tom, can data conversion work turn a rabbi into a priest? You may have to talk to David. Life is good in the Kligerman household, reports Tom Kligerman. “[As I write this,] we are about to leave for our summer break, and everyone is healthy. Work is busy, and not just with our normal architectural and interior projects. Next spring, The Monocle Press will be releasing a book on the work of my architectural practice — our first, and with luck, not our last book. I am sorry I missed the reunion in June. I had to go out of the country... next time I will be there!

By the way — thank you for taking on the Class Agent task! I am Class Agent for my architecture class at Yale... it’s a fair amount of work. All the best.”

Tom, if I knew I was going to be a Class Agent, I would have been the Man from UNCLE. Do any of you even remember that show?

Andrew Coulter feels that making the trip back to CU after 30 years for the reunion was thoroughly worthwhile. Kudos to the Reunion Committee for its efforts — the layouts of our campus, new or ten years from the German Consulate, dinners at The Union League Club and Butler Library and the Starlight Reception all were wonderful. I enjoyed speaking to all my classmates whom I did not really know the ’70s. So David, you’re a lawyer and you’re sending regards to two doctors and a rabbi; how many Jewish mothers did this take? I still have my own law firm in Manhattan, surviving the Columbia legacy lives on: Kvasi Adi-Dako, child of Nich Adi-Dako, will enter the College this fall as a member of the Class of 2013. Congratulations to you both!

Robert Klapper: My thoughts for this month’s column are regarding what I would like to call my “Columbia trigger.” What is your Columbia trigger? What subject brings those memories rushing back? Is it the classic movie channel showing All the President’s Men, which won the Academy Award while we were in school? Is it Fleetwood Mac or Bruce Springsteen on the radio with what was then their classic channel? Is it Fleetwood Mac or Bruce Springsteen on the radio with what was then their classic channel?

For me, it’s that every time I walk past the gift shop at my hospital and see Hershey’s chocolate bars, because I cannot pronounce it He-r-s-h-e-y’s. I pronounce it Ho-ish-hey’s, as we all remember that...
mental mistake-making? Renting out Madison Square Garden to run full-court basketball with nine friends is a nice start by Erik Jacobs, but where's the trail of broken bones and wrecked marriages?

Exhibit A: Rich Pelz writes: "Jeff Pundt asked us to tell what we have been up to 'these past too many years.' Too many is just the right euphemism for almost 50! Some of you have passed that mark; I hope to do it in a month. By the time you read this, my last college roommate, Maurice Simon, will already have rounded out his odometer. Maurice has been a government contractor here in Virginia, and we finally made contact again about seven years. I continue with my current church organ gig (for nearly six years now) here in my hometown. The Lutheran congregation I serve isQuite receptive to my own arrangements from non-keyboard classics. Although unmarried, I have a cat, Birdie, to keep me in line." Rich, how hard can it be to shock the Lutheran service one Sunday with a little Clash on the organ?

It should be no surprise to any of us that Michael Schattman is a big shot in the world's largest pain organization in the Seattle area, where he is active with writing, editing and consulting. Michael recently took a position as research director of the not-for-profit Pain and Addiction Study Foundation in Bellevue. Frighteningly, he was also recently elected ethics chairperson of the American Pain Society, the largest pain organization in the world.

The following have children entering Columbia in the fall: Seth Baum, Steven Evans, James Kaufman, Daniel Monk and Noam Morell.

And, finally, John Luisi writes in from Staten Island (who knew they had e-mail way out there?): "Well, gents, four short years ago, on my quixotic quest to bring some semblance of sanity to my quirky local government, I won 42 percent of the vote, an impressive (though not victorious) showing. Due to the unpopular extension of NYC term limits, we're seeking a rematch on November 3. A governor graduated a year ahead of us, and a President two years behind. Surely we can squeeze a Staten Island Borough President in there somehow. Visit my Web site www.johnluisi.com, make a donation (6-to-1 matching funds for NYC residents), friend me on Facebook and Twitter, and you'll be looking for one heck of a victory party."

The year is not over yet. It's not too late to make that major misstep in the name of turning 50. Send police reports to jundyk@yahoo.com.

Andrew Weisman
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Westfield, NJ 07090
weisman@comcast.net

Gentlemen, I hope you all had an excellent summer. As I put pen to paper (more precisely digital to keyboard) the July 4th weekend is thankfully coming to a conclusion. Yours truly spent the weekend in mortal passive-aggressive combat with the in-laws but all's well that ends ... Some good did come of it, as I had the opportunity to chat with a renowned real estate mogul (who shall remain nameless so no one gets the idea that I'm putting on airs, although I also met Hillary Swank this weekend, which is too cool not to brag about) who informs me that the average four-bedroom Manhattan apartment is down 42 percent year on year, to an average price of just over $4,500,000. Amazingly, time to reconstitute Furnald. I have some great news to report concerning seven of our classmates whose progeny have breached the virtually impenetrable walls of the College Admissions Office. In a recent speech to the Society of Columbia Graduates, retiring Columbia University Provost Alan Brinkley noted that Columbia College is not statistically the largest and most selective college in the nation. Wowzers! Sure glad I arrived when I did. Those gaining admission this year (classmate listed first) are Frank Lopez-Balboa, Cristiano Lopez-Balboa, Chris Meiningher, Henry Meiningher, Thomas Nevitt, Lauren Nevitt, Joseph Piscina, Thomas Piscina, Charles Santoro, Olivia Santoro, Elpidio Villareal, Elena Villareal; and Raul Mitran, Lindsey Mitran.

Congratulations! I'm proud that all of our exceptional young people are who destined for a suitably exceptional education.

Checking in this week was renowned litigator (and friend of a friend via Mike "Kent Clark" McCarthy '83 and his charming wife, Jennifer (née Hyman) '84 Barnard) Daniel Horowitz. Daniel wrote, "My law practice at Dickstein Shapiro in New York keeps me pretty busy. I practice white collar and regulatory defense for companies and executives, and I've been pretty lucky to have been involved with fascinating cases. A few years ago, I defended a banking executive in the first of the criminal Enron trials, and more recently I've been representing Bernard Madoff in his criminal and SEC cases. That's kept me pretty busy this year. I'm most proud, though, of a pro bono case I handled in which we helped free two wrongly convicted men from 13 years of jail. The case involved the 1990 shooting of a bouncer at the old Palladium night club. Two men were convicted in 1992 of the murder but questions immediately arose about their culpability. After years of fighting, we were able to convince the prosecutors to let one man free, after 13 years in jail, and won the acquittal of the other at a retrial. A fascinating and incredibly rewarding experience! My wife, Shari '88, and I have two kids, Rebecca (9) and Ari (6), and we live in DUMBO in Brooklyn."

Very cool! It's impressive to see a classmate taking the time and effort to pursue such a noble end. There are few things more valuable and enduring than a good example.

Daniel, Shari and yours truly (along with my wife of 23 years, Jody (née Abramowitz) '84 Barnard) all had the pleasure of dining together at the 25th reunion. Despite my behavior, Daniel kindly agreed to send in an update. Let that be a warning to the rest of you; send in an update or I'll come to your homes for dinner.

Finally, it seems only fitting on the Fourth of July that our patriotic classmate Karl Olson should check in. For those of you who haven't kept in contact with Karl, he is a foreign Service officer in Iraq. Karl is embedded with the military at Multi-National Force-Iraq headquarters at Al-Faw Palace at Camp Victory, Baghdad. I did a little checking and discovered that Karl works seven days a week, almost 14 hours a day (granted, he gets Sunday morning off) at his current post. Nonetheless, he feels greatly invigorated by the rewarding work he's doing. Keep those e-mails coming.

Roy Pomerantz
Babykicking
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Jamaica, NY 11412
bkroy@msn.com

On June 2, 2008, Crain's New York Business reported: "Last month, Mr. Dan Loeb sold a seven-foot-wide egg by artist Jeff Koons for $5.5 million, nearly double the amount he paid in 2004 but well below the $6 million to $8 million that Sotheby's had predicted."

The Globe reports, "Conrad Black wasn't the only one feeling lucky Monday morning after the U.S. Supreme Court issued a rare ruling agreeing to review his fraud conviction. Miguel Estrada, the latest in a battalion of lawyers enlisted to represent Lord Black, confided he was 'elated' that the nation's highest court would hear the case, given that they only grant petitions on about 1 in 150 requests. 'They take so few of them that every time that happens to me I feel like the East German judge just gave me a perfect 10,' he told a legal trade publication. Mr. Estrada, 48, is being a bit modest. In fact, some lawyers familiar with the case believe his reputation was one of the factors behind the Supreme Court's decision to examine Lord Black's conviction. It wasn't that long ago that Mr. Estrada was being touted as a candidate to become the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice... He came to the United States from Honduras at 17, speaking little English, but went on to obtain a bachelor's degree from Columbia College and then a law degree from Harvard, where he was editor of the Harvard Latino Review. He was an assistant U.S. attorney in New York, and an assistant to the U.S. Solicitor-General, before becoming a partner at the Washington office of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, and serving on the team that successfully argued for President Bush in his legal battle with rival Al Gore over the 2000 court cases he has now been involved in."
son Rouge and thoroughly enjoyed. They Might Be Giants’ re-carnation of the band’s fourth album, *Apollo 18*, played in order from beginning to end, including the 21-songs-in-one *Fingertips*. Memorable for the wrong reasons was the Memudo *concept* I witnessed (yes, I stayed for all four songs) following the first indoor WNBA game, between the New York Liberty and the Indiana Fever, at Arthur Ashe Stadium in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in July. On the road, in Montreal in early August, it was a thrill to play at a jazz club, seeing a (very) young saxophonist named Mike Ruby and his group, fellow jazz cats barely out of their teens, notably brothers with the unforgettable names Pascal and Remy LeBoeuf...

"As usual, I would like to thank Steve Holtsje for sharing advice and musical opinions over the course of the year, as well as the helpful staff at Sound Fix Records in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Finally, thanks to Melissa for her encouragement, patience, understanding and support..."

"...Kai-Fu Lee’s daughter, Jennifer, was admitted early decision to the Class of 2013. Larry Cohen’s son, Raanan, also will attend Columbia, at SEAS. The *Las Vegas Review* reports, "Wayne Lynn Root was the Las Vegas oddsmaker who was the Libertarian Party’s 2008 vice presidential candidate, has his own conservative talk radio show. W.A.R.: The Wayne Allyn Root Show; began earlier this month. According to Root, it can be heard in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago on the Salem Broadcasting Network. Root’s first show featured libertarian hero and former 2008 Republican presidential candidate Ron Paul, as well as Andrew Napolitano, the former judge, who I know is a great stuff..."


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**Dennis Kleinberg**

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What an amazing 25th reunion! In the words of that great sofa, Borat: "Good times."

Amongst those with us in spirit (and on BlackBerry) throughout were Adam's finest friends, Michael Ackerman and Ron Thompson, all of whom sent well wishes and appreciation for the pictures I sent to the class on Thursday and Sunday.

Juanita and I joined in the Class of '87 Day festivities by marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes. Juanita and I carried the Class of '87 banner, which I am v.p. of global marketing for Rapiscan Systems, sponsored by the New York City Bar Chorus, a community-outreach group of legal professionals sponsored by the New York City Bar Association with which he has sung for many years (and where he met his wife, Kathy), held a concert this summer with its Scottish counterpart, the Faculty of Advocates Choir in Edinburgh. For more information about the Chorus, go to www.nycbar.org/chorus/index.htm.

Amongst those with us in spirit (and on BlackBerry) throughout were Adam's finest friends, Michael Ackerman and Ron Thompson, all of whom sent well wishes and appreciation for the pictures I sent to the class on Thursday and Sunday.

John Maggs, a staff correspondent for National Journal, married Sarah Alexander Benafro on the Saturday night of our class dinner. Kenny Bernstein was doing the hori with Evan Kingsley at Kenny's daughter's bat mitzvah. Bruce Skyer "projected" from stage left at his daughter's middle school play in Connecticut. Bill Reggio's daughter needed some more medical attention that weekend (but is improving, thankfully), and Bill looks forward to attending Homecoming on Saturday, October 17.

And that, but not least, from our Senior Class President, Larry Kane: "Sorry I missed it. I will be there next time. Clair Flood Kane was born on June 8. Mom and baby are doing well."

To those who did not attend, the year is not over! It's still our 25th, so try to make your way to Homecoming in October!

Roar, Lion, Roar!

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Mark Rothman reports, "I'm in my third year as executive director of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust. My responsibilities include supervising the construction of a new home for the museum. To reference Tom Lehrer ('Lobachevsky'), "This, I know, from nothing." I've discovered the power of the dumb question. The construction is proceeding schedule of schedule, and the museum is in the rather lucky position of securing its core financing before the fall. We're still not at our $20 million capital campaign goal, so fundraising continues as well. "My family is doing well, though my wife, Vicki, is preparing for a possible forced vacation early next year if, due to California's budget crisis, her community college doesn't receive the funding it needs to hold winter session. Saul was the star pitcher as a sophomore on his high school team, and he was soberly weighing which A's to carry in his junior year. Etan recently returned from his eighth-grade class trip to Israel, a meaningful experience for him. And Noah was looking forward to a young hardware student and playing in his Little League interleague tournament of champions, as his team recently wrapped up the local championship — a real growth experience for him as he was the youngest on the team and sometimes one of the most frustrated."

Both Mark and Leslie Dreyfus have agreed to join our 25th Reunion Committee. Leslie wondered if one could help out even if you are not in New York; the answer is a resounding "yes." We have lots of calls that need to be made, so feel free to join in from wherever you are. By my next column, reunion planning will be in full swing...

Dennis Hirsch, professor of law at Capital University, received a Fulbright Senior Professorship Grant for researching and teaching in The Netherlands. Dennis also recently was named the Geraldine W. Howell Professor of Law at Capital. This endowed professorship recognizes and rewards Dennis for his outstanding teaching, scholarship and service.

The New Jersey Association of School Business Officials recently recognized West Milford Public School District business administrator, Jack Lyack, N.J., resident Steve Cea with a Distinguished Service Award for his long-term, continual exemplary service. Steve is one of three NJASBO members to receive the Distinguished Service Award and will have the opportunity to provide a graduating high school senior at the school of his choice with a $1,000 NJASBO scholarship. "I am humbled by this recognition," Steve said. "There are many outstanding business administrators in New Jersey who work cooperatively to improve student achievement. Any distinction also belongs to those who took the time to share their knowledge and insights."

In recognizing Steve at the recent NJASBO awards ceremony, Mark Ritter, also a business administrator, Hackettstown, described his colleague as "leaner and greener." Said Ritter, "Steve is a tireless professional who makes the areas under his responsibility better and more efficient. He has explored and implemented alternatives that are more efficient as well as environmentally responsible."

A 16-year veteran in the field of school business administration, Steve has served the West Milford Board of Education for 13 years. Before joining the West Milford Public School District, he served the Ho-Ho-Kus Public School District. He is the chair and trustee of the New Jersey Pooled Insurance Program — Workers' Compensation Pool and has been involved in the Passaic County Association of School Business Officials, the Education Council of Passaic County, the Bergen County Association of School Business Officials and the Bergen County Joint Insurance Fund.

Samuel Moed's son, Jonathan, enrolls this fall in the College (after deferring his admission for a year).

On the afternoon of June 29, U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter — in one of his last official duties on the high court — swore in Julius Genachowski as FCC chairman. Julius, who clerked for Souter, is a member of the firm Bryan Cave LLP and will have the chance to complete the four years remaining in the term of outgoing FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein. Julius was confirmed by the United States Senate on June 25.

At 87, Paul Getzels and The City Bar Chorus, a community-outreach group of legal professionals sponsored by the New York City Bar Association with which he has sung for many years (and where he met his wife, Kathy), held a concert this summer with its Scottish counterpart, the Faculty of Advocates Choir of Edinburgh. For more information about the Chorus, go to www.nybar.org/chorus/index.htm.

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I spotted an essay on city dogs by David Rakoff in the June 2009 issue of O Magazine. David is a humorist and author, most recently of Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities and Author, most recently of Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities and Author, most recently of Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities and Author, most recently of Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities and Author, most recently of Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities and Author, most recently of Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities

I appeared with the Class of 1987 and members of the Class of '87 in the Alumni Parade of Classes. Juanita and I carried the Class of '87 banner, which I am v.p. of global marketing for Rapiscan Systems, sponsored by the New York City Bar Chorus, a community-outreach group of legal professionals sponsored by the New York City Bar Association with which he has sung for many years (and where he met his wife, Kathy), held a concert this summer with its Scottish counterpart, the Faculty of Advocates Choir of Edinburgh. For more information about the Chorus, go to www.nybar.org/chorus/index.htm.

It may not be a reunion year, but many members of the Class of '87 have been spotted at all sorts of Columbia activities in the last few months.

At the 10-25 annual cocktail party in May, Gerrit Gold, Dave Barry, Kyra Tirana Barry, Chris Crovatto, Ellen Crovatto, Lee Ilan, Judy Kim, Lynne Lada-Azer, Juania Pumwaney, George Stone, Marina Schreiber and Howard Endelman had the chance to sip drinks and catch up with old friends, and even make some new ones, amidst the Picassos and Miro's in a Chelsea art gallery.

Less than two weeks later, Kyra, Juania and I joined in the Class Day festivities by marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes. Juania and I carried the Class of '87 banner while Kyra followed right behind us, helping out the Class of '88, which was short a person. For anyone who has never done this before, you must join us next year! The energy is intoxicating — you might think you were graduating all over again! And then, especially in this year celebrating the 25th anniversary of coeducation, imagine the cheers we got from the women in the Class of 2009 when, after a sea of male graduates, Juania and I appeared with the Class of 1987 banner. Talk about laughing and crying for joy at the same time.

Never mind the fact that we were treated to a champagne buffet breakfast in John Jay (really!?) and
To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Columbia women’s athletics, former members of the Columbia swim and dive teams and their daughters gathered in New York City in January for a weekend of sightseeing, dinners and, of course, cheering Light Blue at the renovated Uris pool. Attending were (left to right) Tina Fischer ’88, Emily Azer, Erin Azer, Sophie Mitchell, Kelli Swanson, Lynne Lada Azer ’87, Kim Mock Swanson, Susan Beamis Rempe ’87 and Kyra Tirana Barry ’87.

PHOTO: LAURA LENT ’87

提供支持到 younger 倫員 by creating opportunities for them to interact with members of the steering committee. More events are in the works.

And don’t forget: we have our own Class of ’87 Facebook group. If you are on Facebook and not a member of the group, please e-mail me, and I will sign you up. And if you are not already on Facebook, sign up so you can join the Class of ’87 group and get the latest updates on class events, especially the fun, social ones!

Norton and Al Core. It’s an impressive run of national service, and I assume that things are looking up for Gloria now that the Democrats are in charge again — her firm was working for the Obama campaign, so you know the Columbia connection is strong!

I also heard from old friend John Oswald, who friended me on Facebook. He writes: “Ah, the power of Facebook! For some of us, some things don’t change much. It feels like I’ve never quite left my days as managing editor of Specinfor. I am news editor of the New York Daily News in Manhattan, single. The paper is still going strong in this horrid climate for the Fourth Estate: We have a healthy, fast-growing Web site and will have a full color newspaper every page — by year’s end. I work with several former Spec editors and Columbia College grads at the News (some reporters, some editors) and am in touch (not often enough) with the Class of ’88 gang that ran Spec when we were there: editor-in-chief Sara Just, news editor Katherine Bouma, features editor Stan Sagner and publisher Alison (Craiglow) Hockenberry ’89 Barnard. In June, I was elated to see Katherine, a reporter at the Birmingham News in Alabama, when she stopped in NYC to see her husband, Bob Swanson, and two sons on their way north to Maine. We did a whirlwind quickie tour: We met at Belvedere Castle in Central Park and then had dinner with Alison, her husband, John Hockenberry, and their two sets of twins (three girls, one boy). After dinner, I went with Kath and boys to Columbus so they could see it for the first time. Then it was off to Bloomberg Beach — the pedestrian island in Times Square, where we got to stroll the now traffic-free portion of Broadway. They even get to lounge in beach chairs! Then, sadly, it was goodbye. The last time Stan, Katherine, Alison, Sara and I were together in one room was three years ago at a surprise 40th birthday party for Sara (an ABC News senior producer and mother of two sons) that her husband, Ray Treacy, pulled together. Sara and I are supposed to do lunch on her next visit to New York. I’m holding her to it.

 Sounds like John is the perfect NYC tour guide — I’m booking him for my next trip.

Phil Monahan wrote, in a tribute to Shin Na, “When Shin Na passed away from breast cancer on January 27, she was surrounded by friends, but there was also a community of hundreds around the world who had been sadly awaiting the news. Many of them had never met Shin but had been following the progression of her disease through her blog (shinscancerblog.blogspot.com). She also had become somewhat of a celebrity in Singapore as the result of a couple of television documentaries about how she and her husband, Tony, were preparing their children, Josie (6) and Toby (3), for their inevitable loss and about her decision to donate her body to science — an act of generosity still rare in Asian society. "When she was diagnosed in 2005, Shin approached the problem as a trained journalist — researching the disease, its symptoms and potential treatments — and she decided to share that information, as well as her personal struggle, with others who might benefit from her insights. The blog became much more than a repository for information, however. It led to extended and philosophical discussions about life and death, parenting, the power and limits of love, and the strength of will that made Shin such a compelling subject. Shin’s intelligence, inquisitiveness and fierce commitment to honesty are evident in every entry — as are the bluntness and inability to suffer fools gladly that sometimes drove her friends nuts.

In April 2008, Marge (Traub) Aguirre and I traveled to Singapore to spend a week with her family and their wide circle of expatriate friends. We had a great time reminiscing about the old days. Looking at the pictures from our trip, full of laughter and smiles, it’s hard to believe we were there to see our friend for the last time. In her last couple years, Shin had also been in contact with many of her friends from Columbia, including Pete Altman ’88E, Ted Morley, Willy Woo, Larry Sopala, Jamie Nichols, Gus Lien, Mark Young, and Chris Troy ’87.

“Shin’s Cancer Blog, which is still online, offers a full measure of a remarkable woman and is a worthy legacy for those who loved her, as well as for those who were simply moved, educated and comforted by her words. I encourage those who knew Shin to check it out.”

Thanks to all who contacted me. Be in touch!

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Just a few years ago, our 20th reunion seemed so remote that it is astonishing to me that it has come and gone. To say that my husband, Dave Terry ’90, and I had a great time at Alumni Reunion Weekend would be an understatement for us both. Perhaps it’s because we
spend most of our non-professional moments cheering from the side lines at the kids' soccer games or cleaning up the dishes from Hamburger à la Supreme, but I think that would be oversimplifying things. How could spending time with interesting, dynamic and friendly people you haven't been in years not be fabulous? And it was.

I'm not saying that each moment was comfortable. I felt every bit the country mouse coming to the big city as I hunted for the first reunion event on Thursday night that Frank Seminara orchestrated at Bobby Van's steakhouse. Already two hours later after hitting traffic driving down from Boston, I went to the wrong Bobby Van's. When I finally found the right spot, the first person I ran into was my Carman 11 hallmate, Erik Price, who considers the trip from his home in northern California, where he works for the NCAA and enjoys life with his wife, Paula, and two kids. For those of you who haven't known Erik for 20-plus years, he has a sidesplitting sense of humor. During the trip he reminded that time has only improved his storytelling abilities, as he sent me into a laughing fit over how inept we Californians were at handling life in a cold climate and one particular morning when he stumbled into a store and forgot his socks, minus one toenail because he had flailed down some steps in the snow and ice.

Duchesne Drew, managing editor for operations at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, also enjoyed the cocktail party in Midtown that evening and summed up the entire weekend well: "I'm still reflecting on that weekend on a daily basis. The reunion was a blast. I got to see a wonderful cross-section of the friends I made at Columbia. I got to dance on the same floor I lived on as a freshman. I got to see my wife, I got a cheeseburger special and Broadway shake at Tom's. And I came away with a great sense of what the University is doing to make going to Columbia even better than when we were there."

That night, I visited with Bo Hansen, Bob Giannini, Matt Assiff, Robert Rooney, Claudia Lapoco, John Alex, Bonnie Host, Anne-Marie Wright, Matt Engels, John MacPhee and Danielle Maged. Danielle, who flew in from San Francisco, said, "I have been talking with Claudia Lapoco regarding how special and seamless it all seemed. There were a lot of people I had not seen in 20 years — it was incredible how people looked the same and one could pick you right out of a crowd. They had the foresight and stamina to bring a picture album to the party so we could pore over old photos and try to match the impossible fresh faces to those we wear today. So there were Andy Landers, who recently moved to Columbus with his wife and two kids and works for Chase Equipment Finance; and Liz Zimels, a veterinarian, and her husband, Tom Nero, an interventional cardiologist and an assistant professor at Columbia. They reside in Connecticut with their 2-year-old son. People's thoughts get a little wacky in anticipation of a big class reunion — facing those who knew us when our hair was big, bodies firmer and our professional aspirations were nascent, and can bring on a lot of anxiety — and I'm no exception. Plus it doesn't help that we have some star power from our class, such as Danny Futterman, whom I caught up with at the barbecue. Danny wrote the Academy Award-nominated screenplay for Capote and recently played Daniel Pearl in the film, A Mighty Heart, with Angelina Jolie. He is working on a new project for HBO. [Editor's note: CCT profiled Futterman in January/February 2008: www.columbia.cct/past_is-present]. Also at the barbecue was Patrick Nolan, who lives in New York and works for Penguin Putnam Publishers; Laura Dower, the author of more than 40 children's books, Wanda Holland Greene, who is helping her daughter switch from the Bay Area, where she is head of The Hamlin School; and Renny Smith, who runs his family's monument company in Kentucky, where he lives with his wife and three kids. Many of our classmates were there with their children, including Julie Margolies and Alex Margolies, whose beautiful toddler was perched on Alex's arm; and Jeff Udell, who is a partner at Olshan Law Firm in New York. I applaud the people who made sure that this year's reunion was a success."

After the Thursday night cocktail party, I enjoyed lunch with President Lee C. Bollinger and Jim McMenamin, former head of admissions, who has special status with my family, as he is the man who coaxed my husband, Dave, into attending Columbia. Also from the Alumni Office was my dear friend Rachel Towers, who did so much to match the impossibly fresh faces to the forefathers of our alma mater. During dinner Saturday night, Dave and I learned that Frank Seminara and his wife, Mariah, were married at the same small church in Laguna Beach, Calif., that Dave and I were. Dave and I now share a birthday in the same hospital. During the entire event, I enjoyed the whole day, particularly the class dinner, where I could catch up with old friends who I hadn't seen in years without the distraction of the little people I brought with me. I also enjoyed touring the (relatively) new Spectator office with fellow Spectator alum Duchesne Drew. They don't know how lucky they are to be right across the street from "Tom's."

Christina Benedetto and her husband, Rob LaPlaca, were also there Saturday evening. They live in Weston, Conn., with their two kids. Rob works in Westport as an attorney at Levin, Blad, and Blad, a prominent personal injury lawyer who has been staying at home with his kids. I admire the spouses who attend reunions without any Columbia connection and patiently follow the varied threads of conversation and bring kids along so that the college friends can ooh and aah over them. Ben Seybold, who is s.v.p. of brokerage services at CBRE in Southern California, brought his entire family — wife, Kim, four kids and their nanny — booking a suite at the "Carman Hotel." According to Ben, Carman's bathrooms could use a renovation (or at least a good scrubbing) and his wife was struck mute and mad for the first four hours after their arrival. Only after throwing his hands in the air, finding a blast romancing the halls and lawns did Kim begin to appreciate Carman's unique cinder block-inspired charm. Patty Ryan Long and Terry McLaughlin Connor had a better...
idea of what they were getting into when they decided at the last minute to make a road trip for reunion. Leaving their husbands and children home in the Boston area, they camped out at their freshman residence and appreciated the proximity to Saturday night’s festivities and Koronet. Also there on Saturday night was Mike Reel, a primary care physician at Yale; Roger Rubin, a sports writer for the Daily News and author of The Great New York Sports Debate: Two New the entertainment business in Los Angeles; Lisa Landata, who was a managing director and co-head of equity capital markets Americas for Merrill Lynch in New York; Tajiel Levis, a Varsity Show alumna, now a well-known writer and lyricist in New York; and Chris Della Pietra, a partner at the Potier & Della Pietra law firm in New Jersey.

The highlight for many of us who attended our class dinner at the SIPA building on campus was Terry Brown’s speech. Fiercely and moving, Terry’s speech captured the feeling so many of us shared about Columbia — that initial sense of being an outsider and then coming to terms with belonging by describing how, for most of us, no matter how estranged we might have felt as freshman, Columbia has become inextricably woven into our lives 20 years after graduation. Terry is an assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Florida, and he and his wife were married at Columbia’s chapel. Michael Behringer and his wife, Nisha, agreed that his speech was superb, as Michael wrote later, “Saturday night was the ultimate finale, capped by an out-of-the-park speech by Terry. Even my Harvard-loving, crimson-loving wife was moved to tears (I kid you not).” The class dinner was followed by dancing on the steps of Low Library in near-perfect weather. Our last stop that weekend was the bar formerly known as Cannon’s with Dan Looffin, Mark Zielinski and Sean Fuller. As we were closing up, Jon Sturt wandered in trying to find Roger Rubin’s apartment “somewhere on 110th Street,” he muttered. We were of little help. I’m hoping he found his way back to Azerbaijan safely.

Please write me and tell me your reunion experiences and help me fill in the blanks, as there was so much more going on.

You can now find me on Facebook, too.

**REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6**

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Justin Abelow has rejoined Houlihan Lokey, an international investment bank, as managing director of the Financial Sponsors Coverage Group. You can find Justin in NYC.

Who made it to the 20th reunion planning meeting, hosted by Rachelle Selmon? I bet it’s not too late to get involved. Come on, it’ll be fun. OK, I understand. You are very busy. Who isn’t? Let’s make a deal, then. If you can’t help plan reunion, at least commit to attending our reunion, Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. And if you can’t commit to that right this instant, the least you could do is send me a super-quick e-mail with some updates. People, I’m hurting here. ‘Nuff said.

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**Margie Kim**

c/o CCT

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Hello from triple-digit-heat Texas! As I wilt from the heat, I am hoping that the rest of you are enjoying the summer. I heard from a few more people this round...
to Minneapolis after college and went to the University of Minnesota Law School. Julie has been a child support magistrate, a judicial officer with jurisdiction over child support and related issues, in the Twin Cities for seven years. She and her husband, Dave, have three boys, ages 8, 10, and 12, who keep her busy with their academics, sports and music. Dave is a prosecutor and deputy attorney general for the Minnesota Attorney General. They are both busy in their careers but love working in the public sector. They are especially enjoying their family time now that they have completed building their lakeside cabin. Julie and Dave looked forward to boating and fishing with the kids this summer.

In 2006, Warren St. John wrote an article, “Refugees Find Hospitality and Hope on Social Media,” for New York Times. It was a compelling account of a group of youth soccer players in a small southern town who came from some of the most war-ravaged places on earth. That article became the basis for his newest book, Outcasts United: Refugee Team, which was published by Random House this spring. Kudos to you, Warren!

Cynthia Young shares: “In August 2008, I had a baby, Jaiden Paul Morgan Young. In April 2008, my partner, Zach Morgan, and I married. For years, I had not married in a small ceremony at our house in Boston. We both teach at Boston College, where I am an associate professor in English and for the past four years have been directing the Program in African and African Diaspora Studies. During that time, I’ve hired new faculty, revamped the curriculum and sponsored two successful lecture series. With my term as director ending, I’ll be taking a year-long fellowship at Harvard’s Warren Center for American History in 2009–10 where I’ll be writing a book, Afterburn: Race and Culture After 9/11.”

Barry Bunin sent in this update: “I received my Ph.D. in chemistry at UC Berkeley, working with an adviser (Professor Jonathan Ellman) recommended to me by Virginia Cornish (now a professor at Columbia). Another connection to an alumna in my career was working with Christine Herron at Omidyar Network, which funded Collaborative Drug Discovery, a drug discovery software company that I co-founded. CDD is helping researchers securely handle their data through the Internet — a Facebook for drug discovery, if you will. The most exciting news is that we’ve won a $1.5 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support worldwide tuberculosis drug discovery research. The latest on CDD can be found on our blog: http://collaborativedrug.com/blog/. This is the second company I founded, and I have two scientific texts that I somehow found time to publish. I live in Belmont, Calif. My wife, Debbie, is a biologist and also received her Ph.D. from Berkeley. Our son, Evan (3), seems like he may be a zoookeeper some day, since he loves animals — either that or a rock star, since he goes to sleep to The Clash and Modest Mouse.”

Jim Coppola is a director in the equity derivatives unit at the European Bank (Societe Generale). He and his wife, Randi, live in White Plains with their kids, Aj (6), Kelly (4) and Barbara Jo (2).

Justin Kerber shared this exciting news: “I am the rabbi of Temple Emanuel in St. Louis as of July 1. My wife, Hope, our son, Eli (4), and I are excited about the move. Please check out this news story for all the details you could want: www.stljudishlight.com/topstories/30127727376788.php. And also, I send this not to brag but to let people know that the history in general has been hit by economic downturn and how grateful I am to have found the right employment: www.nytimes.com/2009/05/16/us/16religion.html?partner. You can friend me on Facebook, follow me on Twitter, and watch my videos on YouTube on www.thefaithlab.com.”

Congratulations, Justin! Last but not least, I want to congratulate Tara Kreidman Steinberg for completing an Olympic distance (90 mile swim, 25 mile bike, 6.2 mile run) triathlon in Memphis with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Team in Training this spring. She raised just under $10,000 and was the second highest fundraiser for that event. This was something Tara had had on her “to do list” for a long time and she had an amazing experience. We are so proud of you! Thanks to everyone who wrote in! Until next time … Cheers!

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Hi everyone! I’m back with more news for you.

One of my surprise correspondents this time was not from our class. Jason Carter ’89, who shared the 13th floor of John Hay Hall in 1988–89 with a number of our classmates (including me) wrote, wanting to know how his former floormates (and their friends) were doing. Jason is serving as the Department of Justice attaché at the American Embassy in London. Responding to my call in my last column for news on certain lost classmates, he said he ran into the (apparently elusive) Arjuna Costa in London about two years ago, but then promptly lost touch with him. I did hear about the accomplishments of one of Jason and my other floormates from 13 Jay. Emily Rockstrom, I learned, was named v.p., corporate development, for Ascent Media Group. According to the announcement, Emily will lead AMG’s corporate M&A initiatives, partnerships and strategy development, and will collaborate with business units across regional and functional areas. She comes to AMG from Credit Suisse, where she was a managing director in its investment banking division, working on various financing and strategic transactions for media and entertainment clients. She also recently completed her MBA in the Twin Cities program and its impact on patients. The press release announcing Emily’s appointment explained that the fellows will be engaged in group site visits focused on key policy issues and special briefings with leading health policy experts and practitioners to increase their understanding of current health policy issues while working on in-depth reporting projects on a variety of policy-related topics. The fellows will also receive training in multimedia reporting techniques.

Well done, Anita! During Memorial Day weekend, my wife, Elizabeth, and I were pleased to take part in a mini-reunion of sorts to celebrate Aaron Lebovitz’s birthday. Aaron and his wife, Donna Myers, flew into New York City with new daughter Ava. There, we gathered in a hotel room with Michael Fisher, David Huntman ’91, Doug Feinberg ’95 and others to play hours of poker, reminisce, eat and, of course, share Columbia memories. Finally, and sticking with a little music, the album that is currently at No. 1 (the album is currently at No. 4). The album is a reggae re-imagining of Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band and features guest vocals from Steel Pulse, Matisyahu, Michael Rose (Black Uhuru), Luciano, U Roy, Bunny Rubs (Third World), Ranking Roger (English Beat), Sugar Minott, Frankie Paul, Max Romeo and The Mighty Diamonds. Michael’s songs have been featured in television shows on ABC, CBS, FOX, E! and in movies, including Failure To Launch (2006), starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey.

Woody Allen’s Cassandra’s Dream
(2008), and the independent films Humboldt County (2008) and Ramin Bahrani ’96’s Goodbye Solo (2009). If any of you watched the Tony Awards in June, you probably saw that Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt ’96 received 11 nominations for their play, Next to Normal, for which Brian wrote the book and lyrics and Tom wrote the music. Brian and Tom received the 2009 Tony Award for best original score. Next to Normal opened on Broadway in April. Speaking of Tom and the month of April, Tom’s wife, Rita Bahrani ’96’s (Joel’s dad). Plus, there were Diane Batista, Suzette (Holder) Batista, Rachel Levine ’92 Barnard). The list included Jon Cortell and his wife, Linda, who chatted with during the reception — so I apologize if I fail to mention classmates who volunteered to organize our reunion events, in addition to the folks mentioned above, other classmates who registered for reunion were John Alfone, Leticia Bustillos, Barbara Caraballo, Rebecca Castillo, Mark Coady, Steven Cohen, Kamba Dunham, Miriam Gohara, Alison Hong, Aaron Katzel, Hetal Kociksky, Amy Lee, Jacqueline Martin, Josh Moosikasuwan, David Myers, Amanda Nelson, Shanelle Olowokere, Matthew Ripperger, Iris Rodriguez, Russell Sacks, Cilindro, Adam Taylor, Steven, Phillip Winiecki. For those of you who were too busy living your lives to join us — or who didn’t come, well, you know how much fun it was. I mean, there was Imara Jones standing at a microphone announcing that Stacey Jacobini had started tendering baby after dinner — in Butler Library, less. Almost as good as an Earl Hall dance party, no? But I’m getting ahead of myself. I had the pleasure of spending that Saturday afternoon with Danny Franklin. First stop: an all-class reunion of Spectator alums in Lerner Hall (am I the only one who didn’t realize they had renewed and rebuilt the old FBH?) where we ran into Shawn Landres and Janet (Frankston) Lorin ’93, who had her adorable baby boy in tow. Then it was on to the “new” Spec offices, which were astonishingly dilapidated as our old space on Amsterdam Avenue, and where a kind and indulgent current Speccie patiently listened to us reminisce as we read through the archived editions of the paper, searching for our first bylines and features. Then it was on to the aforementioned French bistro for some catching up, cocktails and courage before our class dinner. And on to dinner. (Here I must give shout-outs to my husband, Patrick Trochill, and Danny’s wife, Ruth (Halikman) Franklin ’95, for being terribly good sports about all of this.)

Though our CC ’94 numbers were few, it was still quite a delight to catch up with folks not seen in a decade-and-a-half. A quick disclaimer: I’m working from memory here — and it’s a memory that is admittedly fuzzy from the bistro plus non-reunion related news, John F. Klosek is the e.v.p., Minneapolis, MN 55405. SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2009

Before dinner, we were briefly huddled out to the steps in front of Butler for our class picture, for which there was much sucking in of guts, as well as various revelations about returning to campus, and for some, New York City. Shawn Landres and Shelley Schneiderman-Ducker discussed the merits of Century 21. Shawn, his wife, Zuzana, and their daughter came to the reunion from their home in Los Angeles, where Shawn is the CEO and research director of Jumpstart, a nonprofit focused on building sustainable, innovative Jewish initiatives. Shelley and her husband, Adam Duck ’93, came in from the Washington, D.C., area, where Shelley works in corporate communications in the biotech industry. Imara Jones described his new venture, Caffeine TV, to Karen Bender and me. TV for the new millennium, aimed at young professionals. Karen and I were relieved to learn that even 15 years out of college, we still fit that “young professional” demographic. Imara and Karen, who is the director of alumni relations at the Law School, both live in New York, as does Ty Buckelew, who is a program manager at the nonprofit New York Cares, which helps link various organizations and public schools with needed volunteers.

During the dinner, I said hello to Mason Kirby and Amanda Kahan-Kirby ’95, who came in from San Francisco, as well as Stephen Fischer, a preventive medicine resident at The Johns Hopkins University. I didn’t know Stephen while at Columbia — just go figure that reunions aren’t just good for catching up with the folks you did know, but for getting to know the ones you didn’t.

So thank you, thank you, to our classmates who volunteered to organize our reunion events, in addition to the folks mentioned above, other classmates who registered for reunion were John Alfone, Leticia Bustillos, Barbara Caraballo, Rebecca Castillo, Mark Coady, Steven Cohen, Kamba Dunham, Miriam Gohara, Alison Hong, Aaron Katzel, Hetal Kociksky, Amy Lee, Jacqueline Martin, Josh Moosikasuwan, David Myers, Amanda Nelson, Shanelle Olowokere, Matthew Ripperger, Iris Rodriguez, Russell Sacks, Cilindro, Adam Taylor, Steven, Phillip Winiecki. And for those of you who were too busy living your lives to join us at the reunion, we understand. In fact, in non-reunion related news, John F. Klosek is the e.v.p., Houston operations, for OTC Global Holdings. Before establish-

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Well, I suppose it needs to be said. The Class of 1994 did not represent particularly well at Alumni Reunion Weekend in June. Was it the global economic crisis that kept you away? (Understandable.) Was it flat-out fear of revisiting the ghosts of college days past? (Nothing a few cocktails at the French bistro down the street couldn’t cure. Trust me.) Was it the peculiar year — 15 — that just didn’t seem so special? (Then we’ll have to aim for better turnout at our 20th. That’s a nice round number.)

OK, enough with the scolding. For those of you who didn’t come, you were missed. For those of you who did come, well, you know how much fun it was. I mean, there was Imara Jones standing at a microphone announcing that Stacey Jacobini had started tendering baby after dinner — in Butler Library, no less. Almost as good as an Earl Hall dance party, no?

Kevin Connolly ’93 married Laura Nappi last year in the Caribbean before hosting a reception in August 2008 for friends and classmates at The Surf Club in the Hamptons. In attendance were (bottom row, left to right) the bride and groom; and (second row, left to right) Kara McLaughlin-D’Angelo ’93 Barnard, Joel Cramer ’93, Michael Kanner ’90, Hillel Shrager ‘62, ‘63E, Gerry Fine ’56, Neil Turitz ’93, Steve Cootey ’93E, Marcy Levy-Maguire ’93 Barnard and Neil Turitz ’93; and (back row, left to right) Alan Freeman Volpe ’01, Patti Lee ’93, Betsy Gomperz ’93, AM Towle ’93, Julie Davidson Hassan ’93 and George Hassan ’93.

PHOTO: ANDREA GIARRAPUTO
ing OTC Global Holdings with Enrique Javier Lourdin '99. John was the president of CHOICE! Power and CHOICE! Natural Gas and was a limited partner in Choice Energy Group.

And here's one I love. Molly Hollshouser took two hula hoop classes last spring and soared to victory in May as one of five finalists in Baltimore's annual Hula-Hoop-a-Thon, finishing just behind a 10-year-old boy named Eli. Surely you all have something just as wonderful to share.

**REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6**

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**Megan McCafferty** completed Perfect Fifths: A Novel, the final book in her Jessica Darling series. The novels, beginning with Sloppy Firsts, follows the adventures of a Jersey girl who eventually goes to Columbia and New York after college. Perfect Fifths was Megan's third novel to hit The New York Times' hardcover bestseller list.

Megan already is working on her next project. Balzer & Bray / HarperCollins Children's Books acquired world English rights to her novel in a two-book deal. "Bumped is a sharply funny and provocative dystopian novel set in a world where only teens are able to have babies and are contracted by adults to carry them to term," according to the press release that announced the project.

I caught up with Megan in Princeton recently, where she lives with her husband and son. Read more about her here: www.meganmccafferty.com. [Editor's note: And here, in the September/October issue: www.college.columbia.edu/ctt/past_issues.]

**Sandra P. Angelo Chen**

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Once again our Class Notes column is dedicated to those of us who are expanding families, either by marriage or by birth.

**Andy Topkins** and his wife, Keri, welcomed their second child, Noah Marc, on February 12. He joins sister Ella. From all the word of mouth, he is quite the cutie.

Congratulations also are in order for an upcoming double-Columbia wedding. Caseyd Cotter and Fortune Glasse are engaged to be married in their hometown of Las Vegas on October 10. According to Cassidy, we reconnected last year via e-mail on the Columbia Alumni system and Google! Fortune is a general counsel for Cassidy's company, Infemo Sports Marketing, one of several businesses Cass runs or owns. To read about their whirlwind romance and for more information about their wedding, visit www.mywedding.com/cassidyyfortune.

Lastly, an unsolicited shout-out to Jeremy Blacklow, who is a managing editor at Access Hollywood.

**Elizabeth Roblotti**

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Congratulations, CC '99, on a fantastic 10th reunion! For those of you who did not make it back to Morningside Heights in June, you should know that our class set a record for attendance at our 10-year reunion. If you got to reunion early on Saturday you may have noticed work crews breaking down tables under a vacant tent with a bellowing "1999" banner on Fumald lawn and thought to yourself, did I miss it? Do I have the wrong day? Which is what I thought coming off a month of working the night shift. You can imagine how pleased I was to discover that our class turnout was so large that our class dinner had to be relocated to a larger tent.

There were many familiar faces at reunion. Here's a selection of what people are up to: Nilam Sanghvi lives in Philadelphia, where she is a litigation attorney. Alex Williamson has settled in Washington, D.C., and works for its public school system.

Becky Phillips Wilkinson and her husband, Dan, recently welcomed a son, Abraham. Meredith Fages is "still dancing," as she put it, and traveling the world with her husband, Michael. Abby Adams and her partner, Matt, are in New York. Abby works for the ACLU. Claudia DeSimio and her husband, Alex Gil, have decamped to Brooklyn. Also in Brooklyn, Sahil Godiwala and his wife, Jordan, have returned from San Francisco. Allan Ng is holding down the fort on the west coast, where he continues to compete in triathlons and raise money for worthy causes (in between working for Yahoo!). Ami Shah and her husband, Kunal Mehra '99E, recently had a baby. Ami is finishing her fellowship in allergy and immunology at Montefiore Medical Center. Mercedes Vargas runs her own catering company. Anna Remet is a county attorney in Ulster, N.Y.

Thanks to the Reunion Committee for organizing a terrific weekend: Adrienne Carter, CristinaGil, Sahil Godiwala, Gregg Hansbury, David Karp, Natasha Johnson Lashley, Charlie Leykum, Stacy Rotner, Dominique Sasson, Sameer Shamsi, Mercedes Vargas...
Marc Dunkelman, Molly Thompson, Sara Batterton, Lisa Jerles (nee Dean-Kluger) ’01 Barnard, Kim Bosse (nee Harris), Shanna Hoek- ing (nee Ackerman) ’03 GS, Carrie Baum (nee Firestone) ’99 and Jessica Jones ’00.

Sara Batterton filled me in on her fellowship. The Broad Residency in Urban Education. She lives in Brooklyn.

Finally, it’s been a time of transition for me as well. As my daughter celebrates her first birthday (I can’t believe it’s been a year already). Jamie and I have launched a new business selling fashionable nursing shirts for breastfeeding mothers. You can find information about our products and the stores where you can find us across the country, at www.milkstars.com. Thanks to all the Columbia and Barnard friends (you know who you are) for your continuing support as Milkstars gets off the ground.

Regards to all, and please keep in touch!

SONIA DANDONA

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I reminisced a lot about Columbia in the past week because two of my best friends from Columbia, Lindsay Jurist Rosner and Michael Canino ’02E, visited me in Sri Lanka.

In America, summer has come and gone, but it seemed love was in the air. Noa Yemini married John Paul Arias in Westhampton Beach, N.Y., on June 27. In August, Noa began working for L’Oreal as an assistant marketing manager. Saurabh Jain ’02E married Seema Dattani in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, on June 20. Max Schwartz, Tarigh Yussuf, Jesse Golomb, Grant Tucker, Brian Chu, Omar Khan ’03, Robert Ryang and Molly Abrams were present to witness the beautiful wedding. Max and Brian gave wonderful toasts to the bride and groom. Nathan Kiehlba, a lawyer with the SEC, is engaged to Julia Karwoski, a lawyer in Washington, D.C.

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and her husband, Jason, welcomed their first child, Chloe Elizabeth, into the world on March 5 in New York.

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started the second year of my pediatrics residency at Marfan Stanley Children’s Hospital of New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center at the end of June. In the summer, I used some elective time to begin a research project in pediatric emergency medicine education. I am also happy to note that Robbie Majzner has joined our program as a first-year resident.”

Janica Upshaw is starting her second year of internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Moving on to law, Eric Tyrone graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Law. During his third year, he was the Midwest Regional Chair of the National Black Law Students Association. Eric has moved to the D.C./Maryland area to start his own firm. Jenica Slutsky ’03 Barnard, Adrienne Sloan ’03 Barnard, Rajib Guha, Kate Klock ’05 and Stephen Capadona ’03 GSAS. Jennifer in Schwartz was married.

I’m a film and television editor in Los Angeles. When I first moved here, I apprenticed under Paul Hirsch ’66, father of Eric Hirsch. My next project is Modern Family, a sitcom that will air on ABC in September. I will be working on the second season of New Girl, which is starting his second year at the Business School, also spent the summer in Los Angeles, where he held a summer position with Twentieth Century Fox. Anna Sloan is finishing the first year of her program at the Institute of Visual Arts at the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom. With funding from the British government, she is studying Hollywood’s portrayals of American tourists in Europe. Jessica Kornberg writes, “I’m traveling around the world for my graduate program.”

Billy Pratt writes, “After leaving the German adult film industry in 2005, I settled in Georgia to be with my family. I met a Georgia Peach who is now my wife and mother of our children Marley (3) and Torsten (1). Life in Georgia is quite different than NYC, but I have been reminded of good times in NYC when visiting my sister and children’s godfather, Parker Meeks. I’ve had a great time on campus recently at the 25th anniversary of the Nu-Nu Chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, partying with Jason Romeo ’04, Robbie Gibson ’04 and Parker Meeks ’03. The current undergrads have upheld the tradition of 523 W.113th St. still being the house where all the action is.”

Mimi Nartley (formerly Osei-Agyemang) writes, “Since graduating, life has been really busy — full of positive transitions. I played for Ghana in the FIFA World Cup in 2003 before returning to graduate school at Columbia. I finished my M.A. in climate and society in 2005, then I moved to Los Angeles. Now I am doing my Ph.D. in public health at UCLA. I am a teaching fellow, and I teach an undergraduate seminar on climate and health in sub-Saharan Africa. I married a Berkeley grad, Kofi, on New Year’s Eve in 2006, and we had our first girl, Liya Simone, a little more than four months ago. Her grandfather (82E) already has big plans for her to attend Columbia in the Class of 2027.”

Eleanor Couflos is director of the Young Alumnae Fund. Classmates who are interested in getting involved with Columbia College should feel free to contact Eleanor at elc19@columbia.edu. In the fall, Eleanor will begin her executive M.B.A. at the Business School.

Reina Hardy is in Sacramento, working on the premiere of her play, Erratica, at Capital Stage (www.capstage.org, opened July 17). You might remember Erratica as the winner of the Brick Memorial Prize, and as a hit student production starring Laura Kolb. Reina, who’s done playwriting studies with the wonderful people from Capital Stage, is now moving to New York to Muncie, Ind., in the middle of earning an M.F.A. from Ohio University. She would mostly like to buy you a ticket.

Fiona Sze-Lorrain is an editor, together with Karen Rigby and Sally McKinney, of the literary magazine Cerise Press (www.cerisepress.com), a journal of literature, arts and culture, based in France and the States, with a strong focus on poetry, essays, translations and photography. Cerise Press launched on July 1.

Miklos C. Varsharley 118 E. 62nd St. New York, NY 10021 mcv37@columbia.edu

CC ’04, congratulations: Our class set a record for reunion attendance, with more than 300 attendees during the course of the weekend. This was an amazing feat and a tribute to the strength of our class. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our fifth reunion such a success! Raw numbers alone cannot convey how wonderful it felt to be reunited with so many classmates, many of whom I had not seen in five years. In particular, it was great to see so many of our classmates came from all over the country, and even overseas, to attend the weekend of events. As everyone who attended Saturday night’s dinner on campus will do not doubt remember, Mike Lee and Jay Meng ’04E took the cake with their white and blue cowboy outfits. Mike currently lives in Los Angeles, but will start graduate school in Sweden in the fall.

Among the many members of our class who came to town for reunion weekend, the one person who is at Johns Hopkins pursuing a Ph.D. in history; Katrina Rouse, who recently completed a triathlon and will clerk in Washington D.C.; and Kelly Swanson, who will return to her native Baltimore to clerk for a judge.

While all floors from Carman and John Jay were well represented, there was a particularly strong showing from Carman 120E consisting of Amanda Brel, Pia Ambrador ’04E, Matt Blasco, Andrew Sohn, Brian Ballant ’04E, Justin Sasch, ’04E, Katrina Rouse and Scott Linhorst ’04E.

Mike Ren shares, “I moved back to my hometown of Shanghai, China, and joined a private equity firm focusing on investments between China and Latin America in the commodities and natural resources sector. I recently helped organize a local alumni happy hour, with special guest Donna Herlinsky MacPhee ’89, v.p. of alumni relations.”

Sharon Bartel lives in Manhattan, and Jenica Slutsky ’03E writes, “I graduated from Columbia with a Ph.D. in statistics and am off to Stanford next. I will be joining as a member of the faculty at the School of Medicine doing biostatistics.”

Edward Yung graduated from Princeton University. He holds a Ph.D. in biochemistry and molecular biology. Jeff Tsai ’04E recently took his seventh actuarial exam.

Linda Ng and Misha Robyn graduated from Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine with doctorates in veterinary medicine. Linda, Jeff and Michael Novielli ’03 attended Ed Yung’s graduation ceremony.

In wedding news, congratulations to Voula Alexopoulos ’09L, who recently married Adam Liroff ’09L. In New York. In fact, the wedding ceremony was held on campus in St. Paul’s. After they both graduated from the Law School, Voula and Adam now live in Miami, where Voula works at the law firm Morgan Lewis.

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Hope you had an excellent summer! Let’s jump right in and start with the weddings:

Katharine Millet married R.J. Hoar in August 2008. In attendance were Adele Burns ’03, Jeremiah Evarts ’04, Nick Rose ’04E, Joe Was ’70 Arts.

Becca Israel and David Sendor were married in late May in Boston. Adam Baldwin ’06 GS officiated part of the ceremony, and in attendance were Rachel Hut, Ariella
Jennifer Korecky '05 and Greg Madden '05 were married in April in Westfield, N.J., surrounded by enough Columbia alumni to fill a lecture hall. In attendance were (from top left) James Catrambone '05, Peter Korbel '04, Emily Williams '05, Travis Rettke '05, Dave Buffa '05, Sean Connor '05, Brendan Quinn '05, Carly Sullivan '07, Kathryn Ebner '05, Rick Coltrera, Scott Gillin '75 PH, Verena von Pfetten '05, Maggie Carey '05, John Grando '07, John Zaro '05, Natalie Leggio, Harry Undercoffler '88 Business, Nick Rudd '05, Poppy Harlow '05, Amy Galbraith '05, the groom, the bride, Winney Booker '05E, Gwyn Lederman '05 Barnard, Jacques Tohme '05 ESE and Mike Grady '05.

PHOTO: MICHAEL DEMPSEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Kurshan '06, Rachel Rosenbaum '04, Rachel Fleisher '07, Dalit Ballen '05 CS, Daniel Horn, Ilana Wexman '05 Barnard, Paul Margulies '04 CS, Michal Shinar '06 Barnard, Talya Bock '05 Barnard, Debbie Silberman '07 Barnard and Becca's brothers, Naffi Israel '07 and Sam Israel '11.

Congrats to all the newlyweds!

In other news: LaToya A. Tavernier, a doctoral candidate at CUNY, moved to Atlanta to conduct her dissertation research on Afro-Caribbean migration to Atlanta. Cristina Carpio started her general surgery internship at NewYork-Presbyterian and is “having a great time.” Anna Lee, who is pursuing her M.B.A. at UC Berkeley, spent the summer working at Rhapsody doing product management. And in May, Caryn (Watson) Gehlke graduated with a doctor of physical therapy degree from Columbia.

David Bomstein writes: “Though I should have graduated in the Class of ‘04, the conflagration of my degree was delayed by a year (swim test, my bad), so I have been listed under your class instead. After graduating from the College with a degree in philosophy, I joined the art history department to pursue a two-year M.A. in the critical study of modern art. This May I graduated from the Law School and will join the Manhattan District Attorney’s office in September as a criminal prosecutor.”

Ben Supple writes: “I recently finished my first year at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, where I study public policy and international affairs. This summer, I interned with the London Organizing Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, where I worked on the inclusion strategy for the 2012 summer games to ensure that the workforce, volunteers, business partners and so forth are representative of the demographics of greater London.”

Brendon-Jerimi Jobs writes: “Philly has been good to me! I live with my boyfriend, Bob McKee, in West Philly. I’m loving my time teaching at Girls’ High and don’t plan to leave anytime soon. It’s the best decision I have made in my life without question (aside from applying to Columbia and moving to Philly). The education industry suits my talents and personality. In April, I won some ‘teacher awards’ I’m proud of: James Madison Fellowship ($24,000) for part-time graduate study toward a master’s; Candler Lehman Summer Seminar (at Columbia); National History Summer Day Institute; and National Constitution Center (Philadelphia). Also, I just found out that I’ve been accepted to Penn GSE. I start working toward my master’s in teaching, learning and curriculum this fall.”

Michelle Oh
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Andrew Liebowitz spent the past year shifting his career path toward public sector work after a successful two-year stint at a large investment management company as a financial analyst. In late June, he started an M.P.A. program at The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse, where he was awarded a Dean’s Professional Scholarship and a graduate assistantship. Andrew intends to study public finance and urban economic development. He can be reached at alliebowitz@gmail.com and would love to connect/reconnect with classmates pursuing careers in public service.

Emily Tang recently threw a surprise birthday party for Brian Tung ’03 at Dino BBQ. In attendance were Scott Koomin ’02, Dany Berghoff ’03, Ian Cofre ’03, Adam Libove ’03 and Jimmy Mark. Emily also recently caught up with Jamie Chan, Charles Curran and Matt Del Guzzo.

Miahc Springut completed a master’s in Asian studies at Harvard, where he studied Chinese politics, and studied at the University of Geneva. His current research interests include the evolution of the International Criminal Court and the legal consequences of advisory opinions of the International Court and the legal consequences of advisory opinions of the International Court of Justice for senior United Nations officials. He can be reached at mias1218@gmail.com.

Stephanie Simon left New York this summer and headed to Ann Arbor, where she will begin a graduate program in urban planning at the University of Michigan. Lindsay Warren is moving from Philly to Seattle and is hoping to connect with Columbia alumni there! You can reach her at lindsaykaye.warren@gmail.com. J.J. Stranko will be packing up and heading to Mexico City to complete a Fulbright Fellowship. He’ll be the public relations consultant for the social entrepreneurship NGO Ashoka and will greet any and all visitors with mezcal and tacos al pastor (and perhaps even a face mask).

Alexa Hawrysz writes, “I moved to Berkeley, Calif., to begin business school at Haas in August. I am looking for help converting from life in New York to the healthy California lifestyle (exercise! wheatgrass!) if anyone can help.”

Kevin Catlett wed Evin Rosenberg in Old Forge, N.Y., in June. There to witness Kevin’s nuptials were Jed Bradley, Alexa Koritz, Paul Catlett ’08 and Sarah Meyers-C Copland ’99. Kevin is leaving his position as a paralegal at Simpson, Thacher to attend the S.J. Quinney College of Law (University of Utah) this fall.

Alexia Koritz recently left Credit Suisse, where she worked for three years as an analyst for one of the bank’s private equity funds. She is giving up her beloved New York for the dubious charms of New Haven, where she will attend Yale Law in the fall.

07

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I hope that everyone had a great summer! Members of Class of 2007 have some wonderful updates …

Max Talbot-Minkin is moving to Chicago to study industrial design and business at the Institute of Design at IIT. In addition, he is due to be featured in the August issue of Out Magazine for his work in amateur boxing. Olivia Roszkowski is enrolled in the chef training program at The Natural Gourmet Institute for Health and Culinary Arts.

Caitlin Shure, shares, “Caitlin recently joined the elite society, ‘Americans on Unemployment.’ She is grateful for her Columbia education and knows that she could never have come this far without the Core. To put the ‘recess’ in recession, Shure planned a road trip for the month of August.”

David Greenhouse and Emily Jordan ’09 recently were engaged. Congratulations!

Maria Barbu writes, “I’ve finished my first year of law school at Washington University in St. Louis. I’m working at Legal Services NYC for the summer, helping low-income clients who are dealing with foreclosure actions.”

David Berlin will teach math at Excellence Charter School in Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn. This fall.

Keith Hernandez, shares, “I am leaving New York and Columbia to go to graduate school at the University of Chicago. I will be pursuing a Ph.D. in Mexican history. Here is hoping I will end up back in New York.”

As a part of our summer travels theme, check out where members of our class have been this summer!

Laura Taranto and Thomas Lightcap traveled to a variety of places, visiting parts of Florida (Key West, Sarasota and Tampa), Savannah, Ga., Atlantic City, Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic and Chicago in August.

Riddhi Dasgupta shares, “I did a little bit of Washington, D.C., and NYC, then returned to Cambridge, England, for summer teaching. Fitmmy, cricket and punjabi seem to be in store. Very little studying indeed. I left mid-summer for Spain (to feed, literally and figuratively,
Jesse Imbriano ’07 Raises an Extended Family of 50

By Laura Butchy ’04 Arts

While Jesse Imbriano ’07 felt drawn to nonprofit work during his time at the College, he could not have anticipated such work taking him to the outskirts of Tijuana, Mexico, where he has been CFO of the orphanage Hogar Infantil La Gloria for more than a year.

"The kids have taught me a lot, and they are brutally honest," says Imbriano. "But when they say they are happy to see you, they really are."

Though the location may have been unexpected, Imbriano's work with marginalized communities is not. This path began at the College, which he chose for a classical liberal arts education and a like-minded community. "I wanted to attend a college where the students cared about making change in the world and were creative and bold in doing so," he says.

As a political science major, Imbriano focused on political theory and completed a concentration in Latin-American studies. This interest led him to spend a semester in Merida, Mexico, where he completed courses in Mexican language, history and politics, creating what he refers to as a "make-shift specialty in Mexico."

Imbriano was supported in this pursuit by Helene de Aguliar, a professor in the Spanish and Portuguese department, whom Imbriano calls, "a true student of the humanities and scholarship." He also was influenced by the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus, Provost Emeritus and Special Service Professor in East Asian Language and Culture Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41, whose seminar, "Nobility and Civility," helped convince Imbriano to commit to a life of service work. He began that work as a student with the Catholic Campus Ministry, where he volunteered each week at a soup kitchen in Harlem and eventually became chair of the organization's social service work.

Following his graduation in December 2006, Imbriano accepted a position at a Manhattan immigration consulting firm. He spent eight months there, but the job was temporary for him. "From the beginning, I knew that I would not stay in the for-profit world for very long," Imbriano explains. "I knew that I had to get back to working with marginalized communities."

After considering various organizations, Imbriano decided to apply for the Augustinian Volunteer Program, aiming to help Latin Americans needing immigration assistance. He applied for a position in Chicago, but instead was offered a position in San Diego and Tijuana.

A Long Island native, Imbriano packed his bags and moved out of the New York area for the first time in August 2007. Along with another volunteer, Dan Roderick, Imbriano spent the next 10 months splitting his time between the orphanage and a refugee center in San Diego.

"The work that Jesse and Dan have done at Hogar Infantil La Gloria is truly remarkable," says Guillermo MacFarland, the orphanage's co-founder. "They are wonderful role models for the children who come from very tragic situations."

Founded more than 30 years ago, Hogar Infantil La Gloria (https://www.hogar-infantil.org/) supports about 50 children (from infants to age 12) at a time with food, shelter and education. During his volunteer term, Imbriano took on increasing responsibilities for the children and daily operations of the orphanage. He approached the administration about staying full-time to help build and expand the orphanage's programming and operations. He has been CFO since May 2008.

"I don't want to sound overly dramatic, but I sincerely believe that if it weren't for Jesse and Dan, we would have had to close the orphanage. At the time, the donations to sustain the orphanage had dwindled, and we had been going into our reserves to keep the place open," says MacFarland. "They have spent an enormous amount of time and energy in all aspects of fundraising, and I am pleased to say that through their efforts, the orphanage has enough funds to keep operating."

Because the orphanage is not funded by the Mexican government, all financial and in-kind support for its operation is generated through Hogar Infantil, a U.S. nonprofit created to provide financial and administrative support for the orphanage. In addition to being one of the orphanage's top administrators, Imbriano is on the Hogar Infantil board of directors.

Day to day, however, he focuses on raising dozens of kids. While older children are in school, Imbriano spends time with the babies and toddlers, manages administrative tasks and runs errands for what has become his extended family. In the afternoons, he prepares returning children for lunch and helps them with their homework. After free time to play outside, Imbriano sees that the children have dinner, bathe and get to bed.

Weekend schedules often include volunteer groups visiting the orphanage to play games with the children. Otherwise, Imbriano organizes activities, such as baking cookies or visiting a local park. He is assisted by a staff of daytime and nighttime caregivers, cooks, tutors, administrative workers as well as part-time volunteers.

The strength of this team will become even more important to Imbriano as he begins law school this fall. While studying in the public interest program at Villanova, Imbriano will continue in his administrative roles and work at the orphanage regularly. "I will be working with the other administrators weekly via conference calls and e-mail, and will be on-site every four to six weeks. I also will be on-site during all school breaks," he says.

"It is painfully apparent to me how starved most of these children are for love and attention and a parent figure when they arrive," Imbriano says. "The fact that I give them some little piece of what they are so desperately lacking makes me want to keep coming and makes me know I will never really leave this place."

Laura Butchy ’04 Arts is a freelance writer, teaching artist and dramaturg in New York City.
A sunny summer day at Rockaway Beach in Queens provided a perfect opportunity for several members of the Class of 2009 to show how they use geometry in their everyday lives. Pictured (from bottom right) are Andrew Lyubarsky '09, Nick Kelly '09, Benny Shaffer '09, Glover Wright '09, Shira Burton '09, Morgan Whitcomb '09E, Katie Reddy '09 and Priya Murthy '09.

After graduation, Rachel Belt began work in the Doctors Without Borders (MSF) communications department, where she interned the last two years of college. After planning three major events (including one with Columbia), she headed to Uganda with the Medical Research Council for three months, where she wrote the history of MRC's work on HIV the last 20 years. She is back in New York now, working with the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative, and she remains active at MSF as its regional association coordinator for New York. "Overall, a busy and amazing year!" she said.

Michael Dreyfuss has been living in Toulouse, France, studying linguistics and the revival of a dying language, Occitan, on a Fulbright. "This mostly means hanging out with very old people in rural villages, but I also lived in elementary schools, but I’ve also gotten to experience the Erasmus life you might know from ‘T’Auberge espagnole.’ I’ve had a great time exploring my region and Europe, and running into Columbians everywhere from Barcelona to the Sinai desert."

Carmen Jo Ponce completed her job as a summer associate at the Fraser Stryker law firm in Omaha, Neb. Now, she is off to Geneva for a month-long study abroad program. After training for five months, Neda Navab ran the San Diego Rock ’n Roll Marathon. As a member of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Team in Training, she had a dual mission of running 26.2 miles and raising more than $4,000 to help stop blood cancers from taking more lives. "Cancer research is a cause near and dear to my heart. Raising this money and crossing the finish line was the most rewarding experience of my life. I can’t wait to do it again!" Neda said. 

Our first summer out of college is complete. As we head into the fall, members of our class will be starting their first jobs, continuing their education or reminiscing on their exploits this past summer.

Ryan Johns will certainly remember this past summer for years to come. Starting in May, he began a six-month odyssey running across Europe as a collegiate runner. He has the tenacity and determination to pursue this grand undertaking. In these six months, he is traveling through the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy and Greece (in that order). His itinerary includes more than 130 cities. To learn more, visit www.ryanlukejohns.com/runseurope. Also, if you happen to be a Columbia alum in Italy or Greece, Ryan would certainly appreciate any hospitality you could provide him as he continues his epic journey.

Another member of our class who spent time in Europe this summer is Mike Gerson. In six weeks, he traveled through England, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain. These memories will last with him as he begins his consulting career with Accenture. Also, thanks to Mike, the Class of 2009 has an excellent resource on GoogleDocs. In the spring, Mike started an online spreadsheet for members of our class to list their after-college plans and contact information. With more than 200 students on the spreadsheet, it is a great way to stay in touch. Please contact me if you would like to gain access to this document.

Closer to home, several members of our class enjoyed a wonderful day trip to Rockaway Beach in Queens. Together, Shira Burton, Andrew Lyubarsky, Nick Kelly, Benny Shaffer, Glover Wright, Katie Reddy, Priya Murthy and Morgan Whitcomb '09E built an excellent human pyramid. "Columbia past and degrades the uplifting tactile sensation of flipping through the magazine. Also, I always leave the most recent copy on my coffee table or in my waiting room as a proud affirmation of my Columbia affiliation and so others may peruse Columbia College Today.

Marc Rip '80, '83L, Short Hills, N.J.

Letters

(Continued from page 3)

definitely cheapens the experience of reconnecting with our rich Columbia past and degrades the uplifting tactile sensation of flipping through the magazine. Also, I always leave the most recent copy on my coffee table or in my waiting room as a proud affirmation of my Columbia affiliation and so others may peruse Columbia College Today.

Marc Rip '80, '83L, Short Hills, N.J.

I am glad to see you are still publishing a print edition. I get quite weary of all I have to read online and were CCT to come that way I would not bother to read it.

Robert Meerson '66, Atwater, Minn.

Please give us an option to opt out of the hard copy and receive the 'zine online only — save trees, postage and landfill space.

Adrian Roscher '81, Los Angeles

The online issue looks great. However, I’m also a believer in print and hope the magazine continues in that format also.

Jeffrey Harrison '80, Dover, Mass.
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Deadline for November/December issue: Tuesday, September 30, 2009
Bernard Nussbaum ’58 was presented with the President’s Cup on June 6 at the Dean’s Breakfast during Alumni Reunion Weekend 2009. The Cup is presented annually to an alumnus/a for contributions to his or her class’ reunion the previous year; Nussbaum was a leader of the Class of 1958’s reunion committee that organized its 50th reunion. Following are his remarks upon receiving the Cup.

Let me tell you all why this presentation means so much to me.

I grew up in Manhattan on the Lower East Side. It was a tough and poor neighborhood then. In many respects, it is still a tough and poor neighborhood, although in recent years it has become somewhat gentrified. It now has a fancy name — the East Village.

In the early 1950s it was not so fancy, but like many of you, I was born lucky.

I was blessed with wonderful parents, who were immigrants. And I was able to go to a superb New York City high school, Stuyvesant. That is where I first heard of Columbia, where I first heard of the Ivy League. My Lower East Side was a long way from the Ivy League, but I wanted to take a crack at making it to what I considered the big time.

And with the absolutely crucial help of a $350 Columbia scholarship and another $350 from the State of New York — tuition at Columbia was then $700 — I was able to come here.

Tiny as they may seem to you today, without those scholarships I would not be standing here today.

For the first few years, I lived at home. And then, with the help of additional financial aid and a prize room — the Class of 1924 Prize Room — I was able to live on campus.

Columbia was a great adventure for me. It was an adventure because of the quality of the people who surrounded me from the outset, particularly my classmates. Many became my friends in 1954 — that was 55 years ago, when I first stepped onto this campus — and many are still my friends.

Columbia was also an adventure to me because of the faculty — remarkable people who pushed you, made you read, made you write, made you think and made you question your own assumptions.

Some say college is not the real world. I say nonsense.

Because learning to think, to analyze, to work, to separate the sensible from the foolish, are all necessary to survive in the so-called real world. Indeed, those skills are necessary to triumph in that world.

Columbia, finally, was a great adventure because of the activities it offered, the opportunities it provided. For me it was the Columbia Daily Spectator, the college newspaper.

On Spectator, I ultimately became the editor-in-chief. In that position I became a pain in the neck to the University administration. For example, we ran a series of stories exposing slum housing in the Morningside area — and we exposed the fact that some of it was owned by Columbia University. The University administration was not very happy about those stories.

Shortly after I stepped down as editor of Spectator, I ran into the president of the University, Grayson Kirk, at a gathering in the faculty club. I mentioned to him that I was applying to law school. I told him I was applying to Columbia Law School and to Harvard Law School.

He looked at me and advised me to go to Harvard Law School. He said he thought it would broaden me.

Well, I certainly did need broadening.

That remains one of my favorite memories as a student — having the president of the University suggest that I pursue my graduate education elsewhere.

Which I did.

But that was the wonder of this place. That you did not have to stay silent, that you could speak out, and you could flourish and grow. That is still the wonder of this place.

Whatever I have achieved since Columbia, I owe in no small part to my days here. That is why I try to give back.

That is why I accept this Cup with gratitude. Thank you.

Bernard W. Nussbaum ’58

is a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. He served as White House Counsel under President Clinton and was a senior member of the staff of the House Judiciary Committee investigating the Watergate scandal.
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New York City's famed Empire State Building was lit in blue and white on May 20 to mark the University's Commencement ceremonies. The special lighting was in response to an application that was submitted by the Columbia College Student Council at the suggestion of Jenni O'Reilly-Jones '09.

PHOTO: EMPIRE STATE BUILDING CORP.
Holder Stresses the Rule of Law

Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L looks to strengthen the integrity of the U.S. Justice Department
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Christia Mercer talks about her upcoming Mini-Core Course for alumni.

Holder on Justice

Homecoming 2009
The tent, the crowds, the carnival, the game — see it all in a slideshow.

Unsilent Night
Watch hundreds of people perform Phil Kline ’75’s Unsilent Night on the streets of New York City.

Styling Alumnae
View a slideshow of a recent Columbia College Women fashion event.
Letters to the Editor

You're Welcome

I received my hard copy of the latest CCT two days ago — and hope to continue to be able to receive it in that format — but wanted to say that this [September/October] issue is among the best in years. I've yet to get through it all. Nice job!

Ken Haydock '67, '72 Business
Madison, Wis.

Thank you for the magazine. What a quality publication! Like everything that Columbia does, it is the best.

John T. Griffin ’75, ’79 Business
New York City

A great issue [September/October] of the magazine — that I hope you continue to publish in hard copy. Those marvelous photos of the Obama campaign could not have been as well conveyed online.

Peter Ehrenhaft ’54, ’57 SIPA, ’57L
Washington, D.C.

Received Ideas

Excuse me, but I felt my Columbia-honed intelligence insulted by the September/October issue of CCT, what with its eight pages of kitschy campaign iconography, topped by seven more of poli-sci-fi “narrative” wherein the author provides closure on an “era” in some History Channel Beltway saga we’ve been watching. Serious people know better than to bathe in received ideas; the sparkly tingle doesn’t mean anything’s clean.

Bruce Heiden ’72
Columbus, Ohio

Conservatism Exhausted

I enjoyed “Conservatism Exhausted” [Columbia Forum, September/October] by Sean Wilentz ’72 and its analysis of the end of the Reagan Era. However, I believe that the ruinous state of conservatism in the Republican Party is not a failure of politics, but simply a reflection of the corrupting and insidious influence upon our populace borne from the pursuit of the social, financial and cultural entitlements that are now an everyday fact of life in America.

Reagan represented for many the last of the rugged individualists who rose to prominence on ability only, and not through dint of wealth or education or family or powerful connections. As such, he personified the ideal, in theory if not in practice, that the best form of government is a small and unobtrusive one whose sole function simply is to provide each individual the opportunity to live life freely and happily.

Today our political system is quaking beneath bloated and increasingly unmanageable obligations, most of which it helped to inspire and create over decades of enablement. It’s no surprise then that people no longer are satisfied with merely the opportunity to live life successfully, but instead feel entitled to that outcome and so demand (and receive) it from their government. Given the tremendous stress this largesse has had on our financial system alone, I agree with Mr. Wilentz when he writes, “What kind of political era will arise over the years to come, of course, remains unknown and unknowable.” I think it’s fair to say that our future as a Republic lies in the balance.

John P. Vota ’82, ’85L
Cincinnati

Photo Driven

Damon Winter ’97’s commentary on his portfolio in the September/October CCT seemed as much sad and disturbing as it was poignant and appreciative of its subject.

Regarding his shot of the rally in Wilmington, Del., Winters said that “this is what I imagined a rally might look like during the time of Kennedy.” He has a good imagination. It does indeed resemble a John F. Kennedy rally from nearly 50 years ago. Too bad he doesn’t think through his observation to its logical conclusions. Kennedy’s soaring words and promise of change might have generated a renewed sense of possibilities in 1960s America, leading to the moon landing and significant civil rights legislation. But they also gave us the Bay

You know, that was not a bad thing at all. That was the whole point.
A year ago, as the stock market was bottoming and the economic outlook was at its bleakest, we at CCT were asked to reduce our spending in Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010. After considering several options, we chose to publish our July/August 2009 issue online only and save approximately $80,000 in design, printing and postage costs, thus meeting our two-year savings goal.

As a lifelong print person who has resisted buying a Kindle, still gets home delivery of two newspapers and myriad magazines and values the sight and feel of the printed page, I was not happy about going online-only, even if just for one issue. To me, a printed magazine has a shelf life; it sits on your coffee table, beside your favorite lounge chair, on an end table by your bed. A printed magazine is passed from one reader to another, extending its reach beyond the initial contact. A printed magazine has a different impact from pixels on a computer monitor; the photos of President Barack Obama’s ‘09 Pulitzer Prize-winning portfolio, featured in our September/October issue, are far more powerful on paper than on screen.

But that’s just my opinion. To find out how you feel, in late July — about two weeks after the online-only issue was posted and a blast e-mail was sent announcing its availability — we sent an online survey to alumni and parents for whom we had valid e-mail addresses. We received 1,218 completed responses from July 29—September 16, with more than two-thirds of those coming in during the first two days after the survey was sent. We kept the survey brief to encourage responses, but we included a place for comments so those of you who wanted to be more expansive could express yourselves.

The results of the survey, as well as letters we received in response to a request for feedback in the most recent printed edition of CCT, reaffirmed my belief in the importance of the print edition. Asked how frequently you read the print version of CCT, a whopping 74.3 percent of respondents said “every issue” and 16.9 percent said “frequently,” for a combined 91.2 percent. Only 1.9 percent responded “never,” with 6.9 percent saying “occasionally.”

Asked if you read the online-only July/August issue, only 25.4 percent said “yes” — even though the survey was conducted online. So whereas 91.2 percent of respondents read CCT frequently or every issue, nearly three-quarters did not read the online-only issue. After a question about preferences for various sections of CCT (more on this later), we sought to verify the previous response by asking how often you visit CCT’s Web site (www.college.columbia.edu/ct). While 74.7 percent said “never,” only 1.4 percent said “every issue,” with 3.4 percent responding “once a month” and 20.4 percent responding “every few months.” These responses were consistent: Roughly three-quarters of respondents never visit the Web site and (despite the blast e-mail and print announcements) a similar percentage didn’t see the online-only issue.

Given four options for future delivery of CCT and five responses ranging from “like a lot” to “dislike a lot,” the “bimonthly print and online” option was by far the most popular, with 63.8 percent responding “like a lot” and an additional 14.9 percent marking “like a little,” with only a combined 7.7 percent in the two negative response categories. “Bimonthly online issues only” was least popular, with 52.2 percent responding “dislike a lot” and an additional 17.2 percent “dislike a little,” and only a combined 17.9 percent marking the two positive categories. Two other delivery options, “quarterly print and online issues” and “bimonthly online issues with opt-in for print,” both scored in the middle.

These results are consistent with those obtained by schools using a survey developed by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. When more than 24,000 survey respondents were asked how they would prefer to read their alma mater’s magazine, 65 percent chose “print,” 14 percent chose “online” and 21 percent chose both. That means 86 percent want to continue receiving a print edition.

Although our survey focused on delivery, we did include one question asking for impressions of each section of CCT. Affirming the response to a similar question in an alumni survey conducted two years ago, Class Notes proved most popular, with 76.4 percent responding “like a lot” and another 15.3 percent “like a little.” The next most popular sections, ranging from 51 to 43 percent responding “like a lot,” were alumni profiles, cover story, obituaries and features/Forum.

Thank you all for your responses. We hear you. Your responses will help shape our decisions on publication schedules, content and methods of distribution, which we will report on in future columns.

Charles Saydah ‘67
NANUE, N.Y.
Obama Wins Nobel Peace Prize

President Barack Obama ’83 has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his “extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples,” joining Theodore Roosevelt (1906) and Woodrow Wilson (1919) as the only sitting U.S. Presidents to receive the honor. Jimmy Carter was awarded it in 2002.

At an October 9 news conference in the Rose Garden, Obama said he was “surprised and deeply humbled” by the honor, which he described as an “affirmation of American leadership on behalf of aspirations held by people in all nations.”

“To be honest,” Obama said, “I do not feel that I deserve to be in the company of so many of the transformative figures who have been honored by this prize, men and women who’ve inspired me and inspired the entire world through their courageous pursuit of peace. I will accept this award as a call to action, a call for courage to pursue peace. I will accept it in the name of so many of the transformative figures of the 20th century.”

Obama is one of 78 Columbians ever to win a Nobel Prize; Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931. Last year, Martin Chalfie, the William R. Kenan Jr. Professor and chair of biological sciences, was one of three winners of the Nobel Prize in chemistry.

Thorbjorn Jagland, chair of the five-member Nobel Committee, said Obama was selected because he “has created a new climate in international politics.” The committee “in particular looked at Obama’s vision and work toward a world without atomic weapons.” Acknowledging criticism that it was early in Obama’s career for such an honor, Jagland said, “Some people say, and I understand it, ‘Isn’t it premature? Too early?’ Well, I’d say then that it could be too late to respond three years from now. It is now that we have the opportunity to respond — all of us.”

The prize was created by Swedish industrialist Alfred Nobel in his will and first awarded in 1901. It carries a prize of $1.4 million (10 million kronor). Past awardees include Martin Luther King Jr., Desmond Tutu and Mother Teresa.

Obama learned of his selection from his press secretary, Robert Gibbs, who delivered the news just after 6 a.m. on October 9. The prize will be presented in Oslo on December 10.

The President said that shortly after he learned of the prize, his daughter Malia “walked in and said, ‘Daddy, you won the Nobel Peace Prize, and it is Bo’s birthday,’ referring to the family’s dog. Then he said his other daughter Sasha added, ‘Plus, we have a three-day weekend coming up.’ So it’s good to have kids to keep things in perspective.”

Alex Sachare ’71

New Science Building To Open in Fall 2010

When the Class of 2014 comes to Morningside Heights next fall, students will have a new science building and a new entry onto the main campus.

The Northwest Corner science building, on which construction began in 2007, is scheduled to be completed by September 2010. Rising 200 feet above Broadway, the powerful aluminum and glass structure, designed by Spanish architect José Rafael Moneo, will provide 188,000 square feet of space for state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories for nanotechnology, structural biology and biophysics, among other interdisciplinary fields.

“As much as I was pleased that Columbia relied on me to do a building like this, I was also aware of the challenges,” Moneo said. He explained that he designed the modern structure to “float” above the Dodge Physical Fitness Center and interact logically with the majestic McKim, Mead, & White campus design.

Moneo and Mark Wigley, dean of the Architecture School, led a guided tour of the building in late September during an international engineering and architecture conference on campus.

An escalator will bring people from the corner of West 120th Street and Broadway (the northwest corner of the rectangular core of the Morningside campus) up through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified building and onto campus. There will be a glass-enclosed library on the first floor where people outside Columbia will be able to look in while people on campus will have a clear view to the street.

“To address our critical need for more science research space, we have forged ahead with an ambitious plan to construct an innovative and dramatic interdisciplinary building on the northwest corner of the Morningside campus — the last major new building possible on this campus,” said V.P. for Arts and Sciences Nicholas B. Dirks.

“It will be the focal point for science-interested undergraduate and graduate students alike, as it will house some of our most innovative science faculty in the Arts and Sciences and in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.”

Ethan Rouen ’04J
Members of the Class of 2013 began a weeklong New Student Orientation Program on August 31 with Convocation, the official ceremony that welcomes the new class and their families to Columbia. President Lee C. Bollinger; the new dean of Columbia College, Michele Moody-Adams; and the new dean of SEAS, Feniosky Peña-Mora, presided over the ceremony.

Moody-Adams was treated to a round of “Happy Birthday” (her birthday was the same day as Convocation) by students as she took the podium to address her fellow “first-years” and their parents.

“We are embarking on a remarkable journey,” she told the audience of 5,000, who enjoyed a perfect late summer day under tents on South Lawn. She described Columbia as “a community in which it is possible for even our newest members to accomplish some pretty remarkable things.”

Kevin Shollenberger, dean of student affairs, also addressed the first-years, saying, “You are part of our family now, the Columbia family. We have a lot to be proud of here at Columbia, but our entering students are clearly at the top of that list.”

The Class of 2013 numbers 1,099 students, an increase of approximately 50 compared with a year ago. A record total of 21,273 applications were received, and 1,897 students were accepted, an admit rate of 8.92 percent. There were 2,441 early decision applicants and 486 were accepted, accounting for 45 percent of the class. The class is 52 percent female, and 15 percent of its members are the first in their families to attend college. The class includes representatives of 47 states and 46 countries; 50 percent are students of color and 14 percent are international students.

The top states represented in the Class of 2013 are New York, California, New Jersey, Florida, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Texas, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Illinois, while the top countries (aside from the United States) are South Korea, Canada, China, India, United Kingdom, Mexico, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey and Ghana.

“Use every day to learn about new and different things,” Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74, ’77L, ’78 Business, president of the Columbia College Alumni Association, advised the class at Convocation. “Your Columbia experience will be terrific.”

Several of the flag-bearers prepare for the Convocation processional.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

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- **Africa by Private Jet**
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- **Antiquities of the Nile Valley and Red Sea**
  March 3–13, 2010

- **Galapagos and Ecuador**
  With Professor Mark Cane
  March 5–13, 2010

- **Hidden Corners Around the World by Private Jet**
  March 21–May 3, 2010

- **Desert Crossroads and the Himalayas**
  March 21–April 3

- **Sacred Places of Asia**
  April 5–19

- **The Ancient Silk Road**
  April 20–May 3

- **Tropical Rivers and Rain Forests**
  April 18–May 2, 2010

- **Waterways of Holland and Belgium**
  April 25–May 1, 2010

- **Venice and the Medieval World**
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Christia Mercer is the Gustave M. Berne Professor of Philosophy. She is the general editor of the ambitious forthcoming international series, Oxford Philosophical Concepts, which aims to capture "the major events in the life of a concept." The recipient of a 2008 Great Teacher Award, Mercer has taught a course in the Core almost every semester since she began working at Columbia in 1991. She received her Ph.D. from Princeton.

Where did you grow up?
Fort Worth, Texas.

What did you want to be when you grew up?
I had no idea what I wanted to be. I think it's good not to know. You take chances and explore lots of possibilities. There was a time when my heart was set on raising horses. I grew up riding, and spent two years being Annie Oakley — pigtails, trick riding, the whole bit.

How did you become interested in the history of philosophy?
I came to philosophy in a very roundabout way. I was always interested in visual things. When I got to college, I was struck by the history of art and really liked thinking about the relation between architecture and paintings or mosaics. I went to Florence for a few months. It was studying in Florence that changed my life. It was such a perfect site of philosophical, art historical and cultural combinations. I realized at that point that if I read a lot and looked a lot, I could get a hold on some very exciting ideas. What I didn’t know at the time was that what I was mostly interested in was the history of philosophy.

How did you come to Columbia?
I had a job in the California system, and I took a slight cut in pay to come to Columbia, which some friends thought was insane. I liked the idea of being in New York and being closer to Europe because I do a lot of research in Europe in the summers. I also really liked the idea of teaching the Core Curriculum. Given my background, this kind of interdisciplinary interest I have, I thought many of my intellectual needs could be met by the Core Curriculum.

What are you working on?
I have three book projects, which is ridiculous. I kind of move from one to the other to the other. One is almost done, the others are almost done, and the reason they’re not completed is because of the book series that I’m editing. Each volume in the series is going to be a collection of scholarly analyses of a major concept in the history of philosophy — evil, pride, virtue, space — and its transformations. They’re a lot of work. One of the things that happened, solely because of my work in the Core, is that those books will be interdisciplinary. They are going to have what we call “Side Notes,” written by non-philosophers on topics from art history to literature, that impact philosophical ideas in ways that we hope will be interesting to both philosophers and non-philosophers.

What are you teaching this semester?
Lit Hum and a graduate course on “funky causation.”

What is something your students would never guess about you?
They might be surprised at what the books I work on look like. I work on these 17th-century texts. In class, I try to make history of philosophy lively. I want it to speak to them. If they saw these dense, Latin texts, they’d be taken aback.

What on your resume are you most proud of?
I was very moved to get a Great Teacher Award last year. I’m proudest of that.

What’s the last great book you read for fun?
I read Toni Morrison’s new book, A Mercy. I didn’t read it with this in mind, but I decided that when I teach the second half of Lit Hum, I’ll end with it.

What’s your favorite food?
The densest possible chocolate cake.

What’s your favorite spot in New York City?
The reservoir, though I really love to go to the Metropolitan Museum and wander around those back rooms. There’s something really calming and inspiring about doing that kind of thing.

If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be?
I’d love to be in Rome again. I’d love to be with my son in his first week of college to talk about what he’s doing, although I’m sure he wouldn’t want me there. I love leaving a classroom when I think I’ve done a half-decent job. That’s one of my favorite moments. Just being in that moment right now would be a great pleasure.

Do you have children?
I have two boys, 18 and 15. They both went to public schools in the city.

How do you recharge?
I go bike riding and jogging in Central Park. Also, my sons have been very involved in politics, especially in the Obama campaign — we went to Texas and New Hampshire during the primary season. What we like to do is sit around and talk about what’s happening politically. They know a lot more about what’s going on than I do, and it’s fun to listen to them.

Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen ’04J
Show your school pride!

COLUMBIA BOOKSTORE

www.columbiabookstore.com
After winning this year’s Leadership Award at the Energy New York Awards ceremony, Columbia is well on its way to achieving the markers set by Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s PlaNYC to reduce carbon footprint levels 30 percent by 2017. On April 28, E.V.P. of Columbia University Facilities Joseph A. Ienuso accepted the award, which was presented to organization and/or individuals who demonstrated exceptional qualities in each of three categories: Vision, Innovation and Leadership.

Columbia’s green roof initiative is attracting special attention, first from The New York Times and now from the National Science Foundation, which recently awarded Columbia a $476,000 grant to continue work in developing green roof technologies. A Times editorial on June 6 (www.nytimes.com/2009/06/07/opinion/07sun4.html?_r=1) made special note of Columbia’s expanding network of green roofs, now totaling seven. Stuart Gaffin, associate research scientist at Columbia’s Center for Climate Systems Research, called the sedum plants used on rooftops “nature’s geniuses at staying cool,” with potential benefits that include better insulation, the ability to trap airborne particulates and carbon dioxide and an overall reduction of the “urban heat island” effect.

In addition to green roofs, Columbia is considering how campus buildings are renovated by seeking Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. For example, the new Columbia Alumni Center features zoned heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems that constantly pipe outside air into the building. Its lighting system is designed to save 35 percent in energy consumption by using occupancy sensors. And daylight harvesting adjusts interior lights according to the amount of natural light coming in. A water filtration system eliminates the use of bottled water, and there are dual-flush, water-conserving toilets in each restroom.

Also, during this past year’s renovation of Faculty House, workers refurbished, repurposed, recycled or donated nearly 75 percent of the materials removed from the structure. Efforts such as these are succeeding in creating what the Times called a “green-minded Columbia.”

Julie Poole '12 GS
Class Agents Share Ideas, Meet Dean

More than 150 Columbia College Fund/Parents Fund Class Agents came out to swap fund-raising tips and hear Dean Michele Moody-Adams speak during the seventh annual Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference, held at Low Library and Hamilton Hall on October 3.

“It was everyone working together last year that made this happen,” said Mark Amsterdam ’66, chair of the College Fund, announcing to the crowd that the fund had exceeded its Fiscal Year 2008-09 $14 million goal by raising $14.6 million.

Amsterdam gave his introduction over breakfast, which was followed by tips on social networking from Sreenath Sreenivasan, professor of professional practice and dean of student affairs at the Journalism School.

Class Agents, who volunteer to solicit classmates and other College parents for donations, then headed to Hamilton Hall for breakout sessions on “The Basics of Volunteering,” “The Heart of the Annual Fund: Reunion Giving,” “Successful Fundraising Strategies in a Challenging Economic Climate” and “Dollars vs. Donors: Why Participation Matters.”

The day ended with a speech and question-and-answer session during lunch with Moody-Adams, who discussed topics ranging from the Core Curriculum to her plans to meet students at events such as Dean’s Teas and movie nights.

“It was a day for volunteers to see the importance of their work, that we are here to support them and that there is a large and diverse community doing this together,” said Susan Birnbaum, executive director of the College Fund. “We received some really good ideas, and that made it successful. The volunteers felt ready and excited to go out and do their work.”

Ethan Rouen ’04

Dean Michele Moody-Adams addresses more than 150 Columbia College Fund/Parents Fund Class Agents at the annual Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference.

PHOTO: ETHAN ROUEN ’04J

Keianna Dixon ’11 (third from left, next to President Barack Obama ’83), spent this past summer as one of just more than 100 participants in the White House Internship Program. Dixon, who was chosen from more than 6,000 applicants, served in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, which oversees the selection process for Presidential appointments. She was part of a team of interns that won a book drive by collecting and delivering 14,216 books to various organizations in the United States and abroad.

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Rebecca Davies ’10 Brings Green Thumb to the College

BY NATHALIE ALONSO ’08

Blue and white may be Columbia’s school colors, but ever since Rebecca Davies ’10 transferred to the College as a sophomore in 2007, she has been working to make the campus, and the rest of Morningside Heights, a little greener.

During her second semester in the College, Davies revived the Columbia University Food Sustainability Project, a student group that had been dormant for several years. As its president, she initiated the Columbia Community Garden with funding from Earth Coalition and other eco-friendly student groups. The garden occupies approximately 1,600 sq. ft. on three plots near Uris and Pupin Halls and is maintained by students. Davies oversaw the creation of the proposal for Facilities and was heavily involved in cultivating the garden, which yields a variety of fruits and vegetables, including tomatoes, eggplants and greens. The student volunteers who take care of the garden divide the produce among themselves.

“I was carving soil and buying plants and storing a ton of soil in my apartment,” recalls Davies, a Portland, Ore., native who majors in urban studies. “It’s a very physical project. That’s one of the things I like about it.”

After agreeing to endorse the Columbia Community garden, Sudhir Venkatesh, the William B. Ransford Professor of Sociology and director of Columbia’s Center for Urban Research & Policy, offered Davies a summer position at the center so that she could stay in New York and work on her most ambitious endeavor to date: developing a community garden and food education program at the General Ulysses S. Grant Houses, a public housing project near the Morningside Heights campus. Davies spent the last two summers working at the center, which also provided her with $1,500 in startup funding for the project.

“Bringing the influences of the rural areas such as the agricultural aspect can be a force to mitigate the harsher side of urban environments.”

In fall 2008, Davies and Megan McNally ’10 Barnard also started the Morningside Heights Community Supported Agriculture with Norwich Meadows Farm in upstate New York. A CSA is a food distribution system that consists of shareholders who pay a farmer in advance for produce that is delivered to them in installments throughout all or part of the growing season. The arrangement helps the farm avoid debt while members share the risk with the farmer. Davies and McNally sold approximately 54 shares last year, mostly to fellow students.

“The CSA provides a reliable market and eliminates the middleman so the money is going directly to the farmer,” explains Davies, who tries to consume organic products as much as possible. “It’s a dependable and efficient way to increase a small farm’s market.”

Davies began to explore her interest in food issues during the hiatus she took after completing the first two semesters of her undergraduate career at Williams College in Massachusetts. Having already decided to transfer, she took a year off during which she interned in the Los Angeles office of chef, author and restaurateur Alice Waters, a proponent of locally grown and fresh ingredients. She also volunteered for Urban Gleaners, an organization in Portland that redistributes food from farmers markets, restaurants and grocery stores to local agencies that feed the hungry.

When it came time to resume her college career, Davies sought an institution where she could build on her real-world experiences while pursuing her degree.

“I wanted to go somewhere where I could be a student and not feel like a student sometimes, somewhere where I could really access life outside the university,” says Davies. “That was certainly possible in New York and at Columbia.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, majored in American studies. She is an editorial producer of and contributing writer to LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s Spanish language Web site.
HAMILTON: Conrad H. Lung ’72 will be honored on Thursday, November 19, at a black-tie dinner at which he will be presented with this year’s Alexander Hamilton Medal. The medal, given at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner in Low Rotunda, is the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College community. It is awarded annually by the Columbia College Alumni Association to an alumnus/a or faculty member for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

For more information on the dinner, contact Meghan Eschmann, associate director, alumni affairs: 212-851-7399 or me2363@columbia.edu.

WORLD LEADERS: The seventh World Leaders Forum, a year-round series of on-campus events aimed at furthering global discussion and featuring political, cultural and intellectual leaders from around the world, kicked off in Low Library on September 15 with a panel discussion between New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and London Mayor Boris Johnson.

Subsequent visitors included President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner of Argentina; former president of Finland and Nobel laureate Martti Ahtisaari; Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva of Thailand; President Boris Tabic of Serbia; former UN Secretary-General, Nobel laureate and current Columbia Global Fellow Kofi Annan; Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal of the Republic of Nepal; and President Bharat Jagdeo of the Republic of Guyana. There also was a presentation by installation artist, architect and filmmaker Alfredo Jaar followed by a dialogue with Carol Becker, dean of the School of the Arts. Further events for the academic year are in the works. For more information and updates, visit www.worldleaders.columbia.edu.

ENDOWMENT: Due to the financial downturn, Columbia’s endowment fell 16.1 percent in Fiscal Year 2008-09 but still outpaced endowment returns at many peer institutions. The estimated value of the endowment on June 30, 2009, was $5.7 billion.

“Columbia’s endowment, like most investment portfolios, has declined, although we believe that we have fared reasonably well under extremely difficult market conditions,” President Lee C. Bollinger wrote earlier this year in a letter to the Columbia community. The University as a whole counts on the endowment for only 13 percent of its operating budget, so as a result, Columbia has suffered less during the crisis than many other universities.

For comparison, Harvard and Yale reported endowment decreases of 27.3 percent and 24.6 percent, respectively, for the most recent fiscal year. Despite those losses, however, their endowments continue to far outpace Columbia’s, Harvard at $26.0 billion and Yale at $16.3 billion.


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**ALUMNI IN THE NEWS**

As Sonia Sotomayor begins her tenure on the U.S. Supreme Court, one College alumnus (in addition to President Barack Obama ’83, who nominated her) is watching with particular interest. A front-page story in *The New York Times* examined Sotomayor’s 30-year relationship “that in many ways shaped the career that led Judge Sotomayor to her own nomination to the Supreme Court” with one of her most influential mentors, Judge Jose Cabranes ’61. The two met during Sotomayor’s 30-year tenure on the U.S. Supreme Court.

**IN LUMINE TUO**

**LÉGION D'HONNEUR:**
Edmund S. Phelps, the McVickar Professor of Political Economy, director of Columbia’s Center on Capitalism and Society and a 2006 Nobel Prize winner in economics, was awarded the order of Chevalier of the French Légion d’Honneur. The award, France’s highest distinction, was presented to Phelps in a June 29 ceremony in Paris. The award recognizes his “remarkable economic work” and “distinguished achievements in promoting French-American cooperation and friendship,” according to an official letter from the French Embassy.

Phelps first became known for his research on the sources of economic growth at Yale’s Cowles Foundation in the early 1960s. His most influential work was a rudimentary theory of a “natural” rate of unemployment: its existence, its size and how market forces may drive actual unemployment from it. The Légion d’Honneur was established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802 to commend citizens and soldiers. It is unusual for an American to receive the award.

**McMILLAN:**
Abhay Pasupathy, assistant professor of physics, received the 2009 McMillan Award, given in honor of the late William L. McMillan, a physicist professor at the University of Illinois. The award, presented on June 18, is given for outstanding achievement by a young researcher in the field of condensed matter physics.

**TRANSITIONS**

**Susan Chang-Kim ’05 TC** has been appointed associate dean of planning and administration for the College. In her new role, Chang-Kim, who has worked at Columbia since 1999, will work closely with Dean Michele Moody-Adams and College senior leadership to provide strategic planning and policy development. She also is responsible for leading College-wide financial administration, human resources, information technology and operations management.

Prior to this appointment, Chang-Kim was director of finance and planning for the College. She also has been a solutions architect in IC Information Technology and associate dean of administration and planning at the Center for Career Education.

**Merideth Kerby ’04 GS** has been promoted to the newly created position of director of planning and administration for the Alumni Office. Kerby oversees all financial and administrative activities for the office and works closely with the office’s chief administrative officer on strategic planning for all units, which comprise Alumni Affairs, Communications, Development, Stewardship and Operations. Kerby joined the Alumni Office in July 2008 as associate director of administration.
ROAR LION ROAR

EN GARDE: Kurt Getz '10 upset the world’s third-ranked fencer, Richard Kruse of Great Britain, and reached the round of eight in men’s foil at the 2009 World Championships in Antalya, Turkey, before being ousted by Zhu Fei of China on October 3. Meanwhile, Darja Schneider ’10, competing in her first Worlds, reached the round of 16 in women’s saber before bowing to the eventual champion, Mariel Zagunis.

IN MEMORIAM

George K. Fraenkel Ph.D., a professor and administrator at Columbia from 1949–91, died on June 10, 2009, in Manhattan. He was 87.

Fraenkel was born in Deal, N.J., on May 30, 1912. He received his B.S. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1933, his M.A. from Columbia University in 1935, and his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 1942. During World War II, he was a staff member of the National Bureau of Standards. After the war, he joined the chemistry department at Columbia University in 1948. Fraenkel was appointed to the faculty of The College in 1949 and served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1952–61. He retired from his position as Dean Emeritus in 1983.

Fraenkel received many honors and prizes for his work, including the American Chemical Society’s W. N. Haworth Award and the American Chemical Society’s Award in Physical Chemistry. He served as the first chair of the American Physical Society’s Division of Chemical Physics and was an editor of the Journal of Physical Chemistry. He was also a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Fraenkel was married to the former Marilyn Schmitt, and they had two children, David and Maryanne. He is survived by his wife of 19 years, Eva Gilleran, and his children.

Annual Report Goes Green

The Columbia College Fund Annual Report, which recognizes and thanks all donors to Columbia College, is going green. This year’s report, which highlights Fiscal Year 2008–09, will be available early 2010 in its new, online-only version. Doing the report online-only is in keeping with the College’s goals of being more environmentally and fiscally responsible.

All College alumni, parents and friends with an active e-mail address in our database will be sent an e-mail that includes a link and password to access the report, which will have an easy navigation tool. Articles can be printed for your convenience.

To ensure you get the e-mail notification, please take a moment to update your e-mail address with the Alumni Office, if necessary, by sending a note to ccfund@columbia.edu.

Save the Date

Alumni Reunion Weekend

Columbia College

Make plans now to return to New York City and the Columbia campus for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010. This weekend will feature:

- class-specific panels, cocktail receptions and dinners planned by each class’ reunion committee,
- “Back on Campus” sessions featuring Core Curriculum lectures, Engineering lectures and more as part of Saturday’s Dean’s Day,
- Affinity Receptions for on-campus groups including Glee Club, a cappella groups and other student organizations,
- New York City entertainment options including a Chelsea Art Gallery Crawl, Broadway shows and other cultural activities,
- the all-class Wine Tasting and Starlight Reception with dancing on Low Plaza and
- Camp Columbia for little Columbians, ages 3–12.

Make sure you don’t miss out on reunion details by updating your contact information at http://reunion.columbia.edu/alumniupdate.

Thursday, June 3 – Sunday, June 6, 2010
On Eric H. Holder Jr.'73, '76L's first day as the 82nd attorney general of the United States, he bypassed the elevator and took the broad, granite stairs to his fifth-floor office, with its vaulted ceiling and portraits of his predecessors peering intently from the walls to remind him of the U.S. Justice Department's storied past.

As Holder walked the halls and climbed the stairs, career employees poured from their offices to applaud an old friend and welcome home the nation's
“Set your sights beyond the career that will offer the greatest financial reward to the one that will reward your soul,” Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, ’76L told members of the Class of 2009 as the keynote speaker at Class Day.

Photo: Eileen Barroso
first African-American to hold the post. Holder was no stranger at the Robert F. Kennedy Department of Justice Building, known as “Main Justice,” where he had served as deputy attorney general under Janet Reno during the Clinton administration. Now as the U.S. Justice Department’s top gun, he returned to the sprawling Constitution Avenue complex after eight years in the private sector, pledging to restore integrity to an agency tarnished by scandals over politically motivated personnel actions and questions about its backing of harsh interrogation techniques in the war on terror.

The homecoming brought Holder back into public service, where he had risen to become one of the nation’s most respected lawyers. That dedication to working for the common good was rooted in his upbringing in New York City and at Columbia, where, as children of the 1960s, young people like him felt that anything was possible, that they could, in fact, change the world.

Holder’s public service career comprises 21 years in the Justice Department, including four years as Washington, D.C.’s first African-American federal prosecutor and five years as a judge in the District of Columbia’s Superior Court.

“The idealistic part of me is a function of my times,” Holder says one day in April in an interview in the conference room of his office. “I came of age when John F. Kennedy was President for that brief period of time. There was the ferment of the ’60s, Martin Luther King, even Lyndon Johnson. You had the notion there were things an individual could do to make the world better, that government could be a positive force.”

Holder, a senior legal adviser and co-chairman of Barack Obama ‘83’s Presidential campaign, has emerged as one of the most high-profile Cabinet members in the administration’s first year, making headlines with comments on race relations and then on the Bush administration’s policies regarding harsh interrogation techniques that he called torture.

As the year progressed, Holder remained a central figure in the debate over whether the administration would investigate Bush-era security programs in the war on terror. He ordered the closure of the Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility in Cuba and traveled the globe to find nations that would accept the detainees who would be released. The department stepped up efforts to combat Mexican drug cartels, prosecuted mortgage fraud and won a guilty plea from financier Bernard Madoff in one of the nation’s biggest financial fraud schemes.

In June, Holder was before the U.S. Congress, seeking support for an expanded hate crimes bill that would allow federal prosecution for crimes of violence based on disability, gender or sexual orientation. The bill has languished in Congress since it was introduced in 1998.

Columbia Law Professor Daniel Richman says Holder arrived with a mandate to show that the office was operating independently from the White House political operation. Among Holder’s first major actions was to dismiss the indictment of former U.S. Senator Ted Stevens, a Republican from Alaska who had been found guilty of lying about gifts and home renovations. Holder cited prosecutorial misconduct by lawyers in the Justice Department’s Office of Public Integrity, the bureau that hired him in 1976 as one of its attorneys when he graduated from the Law School.

Holder’s intervention in the Stevens case, says Richman, signaled that the Justice Department was changing.

“He’s the former head of Public Integrity. It’s almost a standard trope that those who come out of the office are among the harshest judges, the most careful scrutinizers,” says Richman.

“Walking away from the case was really intended by Holder and his advisers to get headlines for how things needed to be different. This made it a pure signal.”

By July, pressure was building on Holder to investigate officials in the Bush administration over their national security programs. Despite pressure from the C.I.A. and the stated desire of the White House not to dwell on the past, Holder announced in August the appointment of a prosecutor to investigate detainee abuses at Guantanamo Bay and possible violations of the law.

“We examine the evidence, we apply the law and that dictates our course of action,” Holder says. “No one is above the law, and no one gets a pass because of a particular position they hold or have held. It’s hard to say where it ultimately ends. It’s a dynamic process as information comes out from a variety of sources every day.”

Holder, a tall, trim man with short-cropped, gray hair and a mustache, wears a dark blue, pin-striped suit, a red tie highlighted with gold triangles and a crisp white shirt to work this April morning. When delivering speeches, he does so in a steady, measured cadence, without bombast. Soft-spoken and affable, he seemed to enjoy posing for dozens of pictures with Army cadets and dignitaries this spring following a speech he gave at West Point.

Twenty years ago, Holder met Dr. Sharon Malone ’88 P&S at a reception of Concerned Black Men and 100 Black Women. They were married in 1990 and live in Washington, D.C., with their children, Maya (16), Brooke (14) and Buddy (11). Malone, an obstetrician, is in private practice in Washington.

At 58, Holder has slowed a step or two from his basketball-playing days in high school and at Columbia during his freshman year, when he played in 10 games, scoring 3 points and pulling down 12 rebounds. Holder says a bad back has kept him from joining pick-up basketball games with President Obama at the Department of the Interior gymnasium. But Holder and Obama still trade jibes like a couple of boys playing hoops at the city playground.

“I told him once that he couldn’t handle my New York game,”
recalls Holder with a grin. "He hasn't let me forget it. He kids me about it all the time. He says, 'Holder, don't you keep talking trash to me.'"

Holder learned his basketball on the playgrounds of East Elmhurst, Queens, where his family moved from the Bronx when he was 10. His father, Eric Holder Sr., who emigrated from Barbados, was the night manager of a hotel and owned some residential rental units that he managed. His mother was a secretary. Neither attended college.

At the time, East Elmhurst was a changing neighborhood, as the largely Italian population moved out and blacks moved in. Their home was close enough to Shea Stadium that Holder played hooky to see one of the first games played there by the New York Mets.

"There was no sense that we were poor, but when I look back, we weren't solidly middle-class," he recalls. "I had a bicycle and a baseball glove. There wasn't much that I needed."

Holder showed promise as a student, and after passing an entrance exam in ninth grade, was accepted to Stuyvesant, one of the city's elite public high schools, which specialized in math and science and has four Nobel Laureates among its alumni.

For the next three years, Holder commuted by subway to Stuyvesant, then located at East 15th Street in Manhattan, becoming captain of its basketball team. His success at Stuyvesant earned him acceptance to Columbia in 1969. He came to Morningside Heights during the heyday of student activism, at a time when the black consciousness movement was on the rise, opposition to the Vietnam War was roiling the campus, women's liberation was in the air and student protests were such a part of campus life that Holder recalls final exams being called off at the end of his first year because students were on strike.

It was a time when Holder came of age and found his voice. He recalled those moments on a crisp May morning, when he donned the gown of Columbia Blue to deliver the Class Day address before the Class of 2009. It had been 36 years since he'd sat before Low Library to receive his class pin at the end of four tumultuous years on campus, and he shared his experiences with the College's latest graduates.

Holder described himself as a New York City kid who went to college figuring he couldn't be surprised by anything Columbia had to offer. He was wrong. His first roommate in room 301A Carman was a classmate who was more interesting in altering his consciousness than applying himself to his studies. He dropped out. Then arrived his second roommate — a computer whiz who lacked social skills. He also left before year's end, leaving Holder with a much-cherished Carman single as a freshman.

I t was at Columbia that Holder began his life of service, mentoring kids in a Saturday program. It was also where he majored in history and became politicized. As a member of the Student Afro-American Society, Holder was active in the campaign to establish a lounge in Hartley Hall where black students could gather. When the administration balked, he joined an occupation of Dean Henry Coleman '46's office.

Despite that action, when Holder subsequently needed a recommendation for the Law School, he asked Coleman. "This being Columbia, he agreed," Holder told the Class of 2009, drawing laughs from the seniors. "He was a great, generous man. The College allowed an impetuous, testosterone-laced youngster to express himself in ways that other institutions could have considered unacceptable. Not Columbia. This is why I love Columbia."

Holder's ties to Columbia have endured as he worked his way through the Justice Department and went on to private practice with the prestigious Washington, D.C., firm Covington & Burling. He served on Columbia's Board of Trustees from March 2007 to February 2009, resigning after his confirmation as attorney general.

While on Columbia's board, Holder served on a subcommittee that looked at the University's disaster preparedness plans following a gunman's rampage at Virginia Tech that left 32 dead.

"The board's loss was our nation's gain," says Edward DiJoseph, associate secretary of the University.

Holder's involvement in race issues also has developed since his time as a student protestor in Coleman's office. Not long after winning confirmation from the Senate in February, Holder addressed the nation's racial divide in remarks at the Department of Justice's African-American History Month program. He noted that while our nation prides itself on being an ethnic melting pot, we remain "essentially a nation of cowards" because we don't talk to each other enough about race. He urged Americans to have frank conversations about race, which includes finding ways for people of many races to socialize with each other outside the workplace.

"The whole idea of social segregation is disturbing," says Holder. "We've fought so long to remove the legal barriers, and those are now largely gone. Yet we have made a voluntary deci-
“There was an outpouring of emotion and affection I’ve never seen in my 32 years at the firm,” says Gregg Levy.

“People were in tears and they all wanted to get pictures taken with him. Now when I walk the halls, I see pictures of him as screen savers or on their desks.”

When Holder took office in February to head up an agency with more than 100,000 employees, he inherited a very different Justice Department from the one he had left eight years earlier.

The agency, which investigates, prosecutes and houses those convicted of federal crimes, became much more focused on national security and immigrant cases following the attacks of 9-11. The focus on international issues by the previous administration, however, brought less emphasis on civil rights, anti-trust issues and environmental crime. Holder says he wants to restore leadership in those areas that received less attention under the previous administration.

These increased responsibilities are carried about by the Justice Department’s staff of about 5,000 federal prosecutors — just three times the number of local prosecutors in New York City’s five boroughs.

Holder believes that the department, with the right focus, can handle national security as well as domestic issues.

“I think we can do both,” says Holder, who in April was just back from a European trip to talk with justice officials in Rome, Paris and Berlin. “We can be vigilant and aggressive as we need to be on national security and still do the traditional parts of the department. They haven’t gotten the attention and the resources they’ve needed.”

Holder’s role as a globe-trotting justice advocate brought him to his father’s birthplace in Barbados. There, he met with justice ministers from several Caribbean nations, focusing on issues involving the trafficking of drugs from the region to the United States and Europe. Then he traveled to the St. Joseph’s Parish, his father’s hometown, which remains relatively undeveloped. The parish’s municipal complex — with its post office, court, library and after-school recreation center — was renamed in Holder’s honor.

“It was very sweet because it was the parish where my father was born,” says Holder. “It was a bit of a homecoming. They had a big reception, and everyone with the last name of Holder claimed to be my cousin.”

In his suite at the Justice Department, the portraits Holder selected to hang on his office walls relate to the political environment he encountered when he took over. On one wall of his conference room hangs the portrait of former Attorney General and Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson, whose landmark opinion in the Youngstown Steel case set the limits for Presidential powers. On the facing wall looms former Attorney General Elliot Richardson, who resigned in the midst of the Watergate scandal instead of obeying President Nixon’s order to fire the special prosecutor investigating the President.

“Richardson’s story is a constant reminder that for the rule of
law to mean anything, for it to be more than a hollow refrain bel¬
lowed before the microphones but quietly subverted in the muf¬
fled corridors of power, it must be upheld by men and women
of firm character who are committed to its faithful application,”
says Holder.

During his confirmation hearings, and soon after taking office,
Holder showed his character and commitment to the rule of law
on several high-profile issues. He unequivocally told the Senate
Judiciary Committee that waterboarding — the interrogation tech¬
nique used by the C.I.A. that simulates drowning — constituted
torture and was prohibited under U.S. and international law.

At the United States Military Academy in mid-April, when he
came to the inaugural conference of the West Point Rule of Law
Center, Holder reiterated his message. He spoke at the center’s
opening dinner, held in the Thayer Hotel’s Crest Room, where
flags from the 13 original colonies hung from the walls and five
chandeliers lit the room.

He reminded the military attorneys, national security experts
and cadets that the United States was founded as a nation of laws,
not men. Holder argued against the position voiced by some in
the Bush administration that obeying certain international laws,
such as the Geneva Convention, would hinder U.S. efforts and
derange our nation’s strength.

“I reject the very premise of that argument,” said Holder that
night. “Even before the first Geneva conventions were signed, the
United States long advocated for international laws and organi¬
zations to govern the conduct of all nations, recognizing that our
strength as a country is amplified — not diminished — when we
expand the sphere of law across the globe.”

Among those sitting at Holder’s table that evening was Rule
of Law Center Director Sali Rakower, who says his appearance

At the opening conference signaled important support from the
Obama administration.

“It was heartening to have Mr. Holder stress the importance
of the rule of law,” says Rakower. “We can’t abdicate that in a
time of fear and insecurity. That’s what distinguishes us from our
enemy.”

David McKay Wilson, a New York-based freelance journalist, writes
for university magazines across the country.
Dean of American Science Writing

David Perlman ’39, ’40J, San Francisco Chronicle science editor, is still going strong at 90

By Kate Linthicum ’08 Barnard

When David Perlman ’39, ’40J was 12, he told his father, “I want to be a newspaperman.” Perlman’s career aspirations, he now concedes, were not altogether altruistic. A reporter—friend of his mother’s recently had given the family free passes to see the Ringling Brothers circus under the big top in Brooklyn, and Perlman made a connection that would set his course for life.

“I thought, ‘How glamorous,’” he says. “’If you’re a reporter, you get tickets to things.’”

Journalism has been Perlman’s ticket ever since.

It took him to Columbia, which he chose because of its well-regarded student newspaper, the Columbia Daily Spectator, and to the San Francisco Chronicle, where he began as a copy boy in 1940 and rose to become one of the most respected science writers in the country.

It took him to Antarctica, the Galapagos Islands and a remote corner of Ethiopia, where he wrote award-winning stories about the latest advancements in science.

And now, at 90, it’s what takes him to work every day. After more than 70 years in the business, Perlman still works full-time at the Chronicle as its science editor.

His health is good — he beat prostate cancer several years back — and he has no plans to quit.

“He hasn’t really changed,” says Charles Petit, a fellow science writer who worked with Perlman at the Chronicle for 25 years. “He’s a little smaller; he walks a little slower, but he’s the same old Dave. He gets up in the morning and all he wants to do is go in and be a newspaperman.”

Perlman works in a large, cluttered cubicle in one corner of the Chronicle’s newsroom in downtown San Francisco. His desk is stacked with books and scientific articles, most cloaked in a fine layer of dust.

The phone rings frequently, and he answers in a deep, cheerful tone, “This is David Perlman.” It’s been more than half a century since he left New York City, but his voice still has the ring of the Upper West Side, where he grew up.

He entered Columbia in 1935 at 16 and spent most of his four years of college huddled at Spectator’s office, which was then on the fourth floor of John Jay Hall.

Perlman graduated with a degree in government, but when you ask him what he studied, he smiles and gives the same answer many Columbia-graduated journalists do:

“I majored in the Spectator.”

He skipped many classes and rarely went to the library, he says, but luckily for Perlman, his roommate took many of the same courses. “He was a pre-law student,” Perlman recalls. “He had great handwriting and took great notes, and I would cram from them.”
When he graduated a year later, he landed a job at a newspaper in Bismarck, N.D.

He hated it.

"I found I didn't particularly care for North Dakota," Perlman says. "For a city boy, it was not a very good fit."

Perlman didn't have to stay long. A few friends from journalism school had made their way to San Francisco and were copy boys at the Chronicle. One of them asked the newspaper's editor, Paul C. Smith, if Perlman could have a job.

Soon a Western Union telegram arrived for Perlman. "It said, 'Paul says come on,'" Perlman remembers. "So I got in my 1935 Chevy coupe and went."

When he arrived, he immediately fell for San Francisco. "It was heaven. It was the promised land," he says. "The city was great, and the living was easy."

He also fell for a young woman, Anne Salz, an aspiring reporter he met at a party. "She had a flame-red dress on that I'll never forget," he says. "Oh, she was a looker."

They married in October 1941, but their honeymoon was cut short when Japanese military forces attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7.

Many worried that the Japanese would strike the West Coast of the United States, so that evening, when darkness fell, Perlman's bosses at the Chronicle sent him up to the building's clock tower to keep a lookout for enemy planes. He sat there all night with a pair of binoculars and a telephone line snaking down to the city desk.

Many would have been afraid, but not a newspaperman. "It was so exciting," he says. "What reporter wouldn't want to be covering the start of a war?"

Soon after Pearl Harbor, Perlman joined the Army Air Corps. "I wanted to be a flyboy," he says, "but I flunked the tests because I couldn't do math."

Perlman spent most of the war working in England, using his journalism background as a public relations spokesman. Although eventually he was trained for the infantry, he did not see combat. "I didn't win the war. I'll tell you that," he says, laughing.

After the war ended, Perlman waited in France to be shipped home. One day he was sitting in a cafe, reading the Paris Herald (which would become the International Herald Tribune), when he had an idea.

"I called up the editor of the paper," he says, "and got a job. They must have been pretty desperate."

Perlman's wife came to France, and she got a reporting job, too. "Those were our carefree days in Paris," he says somewhat longingly. "It was a very glamorous life. It was an ideal life."

In 1951, the couple — who by then had three children — returned to San Francisco to raise their kids stateside. Perlman returned to the Chronicle, where he's been ever since.

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Perlman cut his teeth covering the lead-up to WWII. He covered many protests, like a mock book burning that students held in 1936 after Columbia President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) announced that he would send a delegate to Nazi Germany to take part in the 550th anniversary celebration of the University of Heidelberg. He also covered "real news," like a murder at the medical school and a janitors strike at Teachers College.

"That was Columbia in the 1930s, lots of tumult," says Perlman, who edited Spectator his senior year. "The campus was kind of a ferment at the time."

He has less turbulent memories, too. He fondly recalls one Christmas when Butler gathered students and read the famous New York Sun editorial, "Yes, Virginia, There Is a Santa Claus."

One summer, Perlman got a job as a reporter at a paper in Schenectady, N.Y. He made $15 a week, which he says he supplemented with winnings from the Saratoga racetrack. The paper was understaffed, so he wrote under two bylines — he was the news writer, David Perlman, and also the fashion editor, Wanda Gray.

After finishing college, Perlman went to the Journalism School. When he graduated a year later, he landed a job at a newspaper in Bismarck, N.D.

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In 1951, the couple — who by then had three children — returned to San Francisco to raise their kids stateside. Perlman returned to the Chronicle, where he's been ever since.

He wrote about many subjects, but in 1957 he began to focus on science. He had broken his leg skiing, and while he was recovering a friend gave him a copy of Fred Hoyle's pioneering book, The Nature of the Universe. Perlman was hooked.

This was ironic, he says, as he had been a terrible science stu-
dent while at Columbia. "I didn't care about it at all," he says. "I mean, it was really a bore."

One of his classes was taught by John Dunning, the famed physicist who built the particle accelerator that was used in some of the experiments that led to the development of the atomic bomb. "I didn't realize until later what an important scientist Dunning was," Perlman says. "To me he was just another professor I had to listen to."

But as he got older, Perlman began to see science as integral to understanding life.

"Science is a part of our culture. It's vital, and we should study it just like we study Greek tragedies," he says. "What attracted me in the beginning was the fact that it was all so new; everything that I wrote about was so new and interesting."

It took considerable on-the-job learning for Perlman to become fluent in science-speak. Research became easier with the advent of computers and the Internet.

"Now, you just Google it," he says.

Perlman has covered every major science story of the last 50 years, from the introduction of computers to the AIDS crisis. He has written about earthquakes, the Apollo moon landing and DNA sequencing.

His favorite stories, he says, are "the ones where you are somewhere watching science happening."

At 87, Perlman accompanied a team of evolutionary biologists to the Ethiopian desert for a fossil dig. It was one of many places around the world to which his job has taken him.

"What a great guy he was to have along," says Tim White, a UC Berkeley paleoanthropologist who led the trip. "Where we were was a two-day drive from the capital. There are no roads out there, and no hotels. We just camp. And he was right there, ready to go every morning."

White, who is one of Perlman's frequent subjects, says Perlman's long career makes him unique in his field.

"He is persistent and attentive for the long haul because he just keeps building his knowledge of a subject in a way that you can only do if you've got a kind of stability," says White. "He has this tremendous network of contacts and knowledge to draw on."

Perlman began covering science at a time when few newspapers were dealing with the subject.

"He really deserves the title 'dean of American science writing,'" Petit says. Petit joined Perlman on the Chronicle's desk in 1972. "He was the best mentor and teacher you could ever imagine," says Petit, who now writes for the Knight Science Journalism Tracker blog, which aggregates science writing. "I had sort of a cowboy attitude to writing, and here's Dave, who said to me, 'The important thing is to be responsible and to think about the impact that your stories will have.' That stuck with me all my life."

Petit says Perlman still has an old-school approach to journalism. "I'd be stuck trying to get a phrase right and he'd say, 'Dammit it, kid, if you can't get it right, just get it written!'"

"He still has the manner of a wise guy from New York," Petit says, "but he's about the sweetest-hearted man I've ever met."

Perlman's wife passed away several years ago. He lives alone not far from the newspaper, and sees his three children and three grandchildren frequently.

His memory isn't great — but it never was.

"He's always been forgetful," Petit says. "Some days he'd just tear out of the city room saying, 'I'm late for a meeting!' And then he'd come back a little later and say, 'Oh, the meeting is tomorrow.'"

Newspapers have changed a lot since the 1930s — many people now get their news from television, and some of those who prefer reading do so on the Web. Perlman doesn't want to quit working, but he worries about the health of the Chronicle, which, like many newspapers across the country, is suffering from a plunge in readership and advertising revenues. The Hearst Corp., which owns the Chronicle, has threatened to close the paper or sell it if it does not start making a profit.

"We all wondered when Dave was going to retire from the Chronicle," Petit says, "but it's starting to look like the Chronicle's going to retire from him."

This newspaperman, it seems, might outlast his newspaper.
“Science is a part of our culture. It’s vital, and we should study it just like we study Greek tragedies.”
On a cool spring afternoon at a soccer field in northern Georgia, two teams of teenage boys were going through their pregame warm-ups when the heavens began to shake. The field had been quiet save the sounds of soccer balls thumping against forefeet and the rustling of the balls against the nylon nets that hung from the goals. But as the rumble grew louder, all motion stopped as boys from both teams looked quizzically skyward. Soon a cluster of darts appeared in the gap of sky between the pine trees on the horizon and the cottony clumps of cloud vapor overhead. It was a precision flying squadron of fighter jets, performing at an air show miles away in Atlanta. The aircraft banked in close formation in the direction of the field and came closer, so that the boys could now make out the markings on the wings and the white helmets of the pilots in the cockpits. Then with an earthshaking roar deep enough to rattle the change in your pocket, the jets split in different directions like an exploding firework, their contrails carving the sky into giant wedges.

On the field below, the two groups of boys watched the spectacle with craned necks, and from different perspectives. The players of the home team — a group of 13- and 14-year-old boys from the nearby Atlanta suburbs playing with the North Atlanta Soccer Association — gestured to the sky and wore expressions of awe.

The boys at the other end of the field were members of an all-refugee soccer team called the Fugees. Many had actually seen the machinery of war in action, and all had felt its awful consequences firsthand. There were Sudanese players on the team whose villages had been bombed by old Russian-made Antonov bombers flown by the Sudanese Air Force, and Liberians who'd lived through barrages of mortar fire that pierced the roofs of their neighbors’ homes, taking out whole families. As the jets flew by the field, several members of the Fugees flinched.

“You guys need to wake up!” a voice interrupted as the jets streaked into the distance. “Concentrate!”

The voice belonged to Luma Mufleh, the 31-year-old founder and volunteer coach of the Fugees. Her players resumed their practice shots, but they now seemed distracted. Their shots flew hopelessly over the goal.

“If you shoot like that, you’re going to lose,” Coach Luma said. She was speaking to a young Liberian forward named Chris-
Christian Jackson. Most of the Fugees had experienced suffering of some kind or another, but Christian’s was rawer than most. A month before, he had lost three siblings and a young cousin in a fire at his family’s apartment in Clarkston, east of Atlanta. Christian escaped by jumping through an open window. The smallest of the dead children was found under a charred mattress, an odd detail to investigators. But the Reverend William B.J.K. Harris, a Liberian minister in Atlanta who reached out to the family after the fire, explained that during Liberia’s 14 years of civil war, children were taught to take cover under their beds during the fighting, as a precaution against bullets and mortar shrapnel. For the typical American child, “under the bed” was the realm of ghosts and monsters. For a child from a war zone, it was supposed to be the safest place of all.

Not long before the fire, Luma had kicked Christian Jackson off the Fugees for swearing at practice. Swearing was against her rules. She had warned him once, and then when he swore again, she told him to leave and not to come back. That was how Luma ran her team. Not long after the fire, Christian showed up at the Clarkston Community Center field where the Fugees practiced, and watched quietly from behind a chain-link fence around the playing area. Under normal circumstances, Luma might have ignored him — she gave second chances, but rarely third. But Luma summoned Christian over and told him he could rejoin the team so long as he understood he was on probation. If he swore again at practice or during a game, he was gone for good. No exceptions. Christian said he understood. This was his first game back.

Luma shouted to her players to gather around her and gave them their position assignments — Christian was told to play striker, on offense — and they took the field. Forty or so parents gathered on the home team’s sideline to cheer on their boys, and they clapped as their sons walked onto the pitch. There was no one on the Fugees’ sideline. Most of the players came from single-parent families, and their mothers or fathers — usually mothers — stayed home on weekends to look after their other children, or else worked, because weekend shifts paid more. Few had cars to allow them to travel to the games anyway. Even at their home games, the Fugees rarely had anyone to cheer them on.

The referee summoned the Fugees to the line to go over their roster and to check their cleats and numbers. Luma handed him the roster, and the referee wrinkled his brow.

“IF I mispronounce your name, I apologize,” he said. He ticked through the names awkwardly but respectfully. When he got hung up on a syllable, the boys would politely announce their own names, then step forward to declare their jersey numbers.

A few minutes later, a whistle sounded and the game began.

The head coach of the North Atlanta team was a screamer. From the outset, he ran back and forth on his sideline, barking commands to his players in a hoarse bellow: “Man on! Man on!” “Drop it! Drop it!” “Turn! Turn! Turn!” His words echoed over the quiet field like a voice from a public address system. Luma paced silently on her side of the field and occasionally glanced over at the opposite sideline with a perturbed look on her face. She was all for instruction, but her method was to teach during practice and during the breaks. Once the whistle blew, she allowed her players to be themselves: to screw up, to take chances, and to create. All the shouting was wearing on her nerves.

When North Atlanta scored first, on a free kick, the team’s coach jumped up and down on the sidelines, while across the field parents leaped from their folding lawn chairs in celebration: more grating noise. Luma pursed her lips in a tiny sign of disgust and kept pacing, quietly. She made a substitution on defense but otherwise remained silent.

A few moments later, Christian Jackson shook himself free on the right side, dribbled down field, and fired a line drive into the top right corner of the net: goal. Luma betrayed no reaction other than to adjust her tattered white Smith College baseball cap and to continue pacing. The Fugees soon regained possession; they controlled the ball with crisp passes and moved into range of the goal. A Fugees forward struggled free of traffic to take a shot that flew a good 20 feet over the crossbar and into the parking lot behind the field, and soon after, let loose another that was wide by a similar margin. Luma paced. Meanwhile, with each of his team’s shots, the North Atlanta coach shouted more instructions to his players, ever more adamantly. He was getting frustrated. If his players had followed his instructions to the word, they could’ve scored on Manchester United. But as it was, they ended the first half trailing the Fugees 3-1.

A 3-1 lead at halftime would have pleased most soccer coaches. But Luma was seething. Her head down, she marched angrily to a corner of the field, the Fugees following behind sullenly. They could tell she was unhappy. They braced themselves for
t all started as casually as a pickup soccer game in somebody's backyard. In spring 2006, Warren St. John '91 was talking with one of his readers, a caseworker in the South, who mentioned a team of refugee kids who played soccer. Intrigued, St. John went to see them play the very next day. As the book excerpt here makes clear, he was moved by the team — not only by the way they played and responded to their coach, Luma Mufleh, an American-edu cated Jordanian woman, but also "by the fact that I was watching boys from more than a dozen countries play as one.

"I wanted to know how that was possible," St. John says. His curiosity kindled, St. John decided to research the team, which named itself the Fugees — and the small Southern town where they lived — for his next book. The townspeople of Clarkston, Ga., just outside of Atlanta, were finding it hard to fit the large numbers of refugees who'd arrived into their once-cohesive community. During his research, St. John (a reporter for The New York Times, currently on leave) began to write stories for the paper about the Fugees and Clarkston. Things went a little better for the underfunded team after that. "Times readers stepped up with a wave of donations," says St. John, and Nike came through with uniforms.

It was obvious that the boys' story — especially in St. John's skilled hands — was one that could move many. Not surprisingly, the movie rights were sold outright (to Universal Pictures). More remarkably, after the book's publication, teachers in colleges and high schools began to assign Outcasts United to their students. To these teachers, the book seems like "a way of discussing diversity in a way that isn't dogmatic or doctrinaire," comments St. John. As of this writing, three colleges have made the book required reading for incoming freshmen.

It's just as well that the Fugees have been receiving publicity and support, because there is still so much left to do. A visitor to the colorful Fugees Web site (www.fugeesfamily.org) will notice that the team's outreach efforts now include four club teams, an academic boot camp, college and career counseling, and, most ambitiously, the Fugees Academy. Formed as a program "for players who were desperately far behind in school but demonstrated the desire to learn and the discipline to succeed," the academy now is a full-time school with 14 refugee students. And still, refugees from Burma, Burundi and Iraq continue to arrive in Clarkston, points out St. John, who urges people to visit the Web site and consider making a contribution.

Writing the book has been an eye-opener for him, St. John admits. "I have a much better appreciation of how simple acts of giving can have a huge impact on people and communities in need," he says.

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

This was the first time I'd ever seen the Fugees play. I'd shown up knowing little about the team other than that the players were refugees and the coach a woman, and that the team was based in a town called Clarkston. In a little more than a decade, the process of refugee resettlement had transformed Clarkston from a simple southern town into one of the most diverse communities in America. And yet few in Atlanta, let alone in the world beyond, had taken notice. Mention the "refugees of Clarkston" and even many Atlantans will ask first if you're referring to those who had arrived in town from New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Next, they'll likely ask, "Where's Clarkston?"

I came away from that first game intrigued. I had just seen a group of boys from a dozen war-ravaged countries come together as a team and create improbable beauty on the soccer pitch. How? Their coach, an intense and quiet presence who hid beneath the brim of her Smith College baseball cap and emerged only to dole out ferocious bits of inspiration or wisdom, presented another mystery. There was a palpable sense of trust and camaraderie between the players and their coach, and an equally powerful sense of fragility in all the tension and long silences. In fact, things with the Fugees screaming at his players — drifted down the field to the Fugees' huddle. Luma pulled up and turned her narrowed gaze toward the source of the offending noise.

"See that coach?" Luma said, tilting her head in the direction of the screamer. "I want him to sit down and be quiet. That's when you know we've won — when he sits down and shuts up. Got it?"

"Yes, Coach," her players replied.

When the Fugees took the field for the second half, they were transformed. They quickly scored three goals — an elegant cross, chested in with highlight-reel grace by a Sudanese forward named Attak, followed by a cannon shot from Christian from 10 yards out. Moments later Christian dribbled into the box and faked to his left, a move that left the North Atlanta goalie tangled in his own limbs, before shooting right; another score. The opposing coach was still yelling — "Man on! Man on!" — so the Fugees kept shooting. Another goal. And another. When the frustrated North Atlanta players started hacking away at their shins and ankles, the Fugees brushed them off and scored yet again.

At 8-2, the North Atlanta coach, hoarse now nearly to muteness, wiped the sweat from his forehead with the back of his hand, quietly wandered over to his bench, and sat down, flaccid and defeated. The Fugees tried to stifle their smiles. If Luma felt any sense of satisfaction, it was difficult to discern. She remained perfectly stone-faced. The referee blew his whistle three times to signal the end of the game. The final score was 9-2 Fugees. Christian Jackson had scored five goals.

The teams shook hands and the Fugees quickly ran to the bench for water and oranges, which awaited them in two white plastic grocery bags. A few moments later, the referee approached. He looked to be in his late 50s, white, with a graying mustache. He asked Luma if he could address her players. Luma hesitated. She was uncomfortable handing over her team's attention to anyone, especially a stranger. A little warily, she summoned her team, who gathered in front of the referee some 10 yards from their bench.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I'd like to thank you. You played the ball the entire game, and you didn't take any cheap shots. They got frustrated and started hacking, and you didn't retaliate. So I'd like to commend you on your sportsmanship." The referee paused for a moment and swallowed hard. "And that was one of the most beautiful games of soccer I've ever seen," he said.
were more fragile than I could have realized that day. The team had no home field, owing to the myopia of local politicians who felt threatened by the presence of these newcomers. The players’ private lives were an intense daily struggle to stay afloat. They and their families had fled violence and chaos and found themselves in a society with a completely different set of values and expectations. Luma herself was struggling to hold her team — and herself — together. She had volunteered — naively, as she would admit — to help these boys on the field and off, unaware of the scope and intractability of their difficulties: post-traumatic stress, poverty, parental neglect in some cases, grief, shattered confidence, and, in more than one instance, simple anger at having to live the way they did. Luma, I would learn, had no particular background in social or human-rights work. She was just a normal woman who wanted, in her own way, to make the world a better place, and who, it turned out, was willing to go to extraordinary lengths to see that mission through. Luma had vowed to come through for her players and their families or to come apart trying, and on several occasions it seemed the latter outcome was more likely.

But more than anything that day, it was the surprising kinship of these kids from different cultures, religions, and backgrounds that drew me into the story and made me want to understand and tell it.

Perhaps no one in Clarkston was as excited to hear about the prospect of a free soccer program as 8-year-old Jeremiah Ziaty. Jeremiah loved soccer. Since arriving in the United States with his mother, Beatrice, and older brothers, Mandela and Darlington, Jeremiah had been cooped up in his family’s Clarkston apartment on strict orders from his mother. She was protective to begin with, but after she was mugged on her very first commute home from her job at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Beatrice had taken a hard line. She wanted the kids inside when they got home from school. When Jeremiah asked his mother if he could try out for the new soccer team in town, she was unyielding. "Certainly I say, Jeremiah," Beatrice told him, "you won’t play soccer every day."

But soccer was one of the few things that could tempt Jeremiah into defying his mother.

Beatrice was still at work when Jeremiah set out from the family’s apartment, a small backpack on his shoulder, ready to play. When he arrived, he joined 22 other boys on the small field out back of the community center. On the sideline, he zipped his backpack carefully, as though it contained a fragile and precious artifact, which in a way it did: a single black oversized sneaker. Jeremiah took off his flip-flops and slipped the shoe on his right foot, leaving his left foot bare, and took the field.

Before tryouts began, a sense of puzzlement seemed to settle on the boys: Where, they wondered, was the coach? Luma was right in front of them, but a woman soccer coach was a strange sight to young Africans, and especially to the young Muslim boys from Afghanistan and Iraq. During a shooting drill at an early practice, Luma was instructing the boys on how to strike the ball with the tops of their feet when she overheard a lanky Sudanese boy talking to the others.

“She’s a girl," she said. "She doesn’t know what she’s talking about."

Luma ordered him to stand in goal. She took off her shoes as the boy waited beneath the crossbar, rocking back and forth and growing more anxious by the moment. She asked for a ball, which she placed on the grass. Then, barefoot, as the team looked on, she blasted a shot directly at the boy, who dove out of the way as the ball rocketed into the net.

Luma turned toward her team. "Anybody else?" she asked.

On that first day of tryouts, Jeremiah, in particular, played with all of the joyful abandon you might expect of an 8-year-old who had been stuck inside for months in a dark two-bedroom apartment. Soon the other boys had given him a nickname — One Shoe — which Jeremiah didn’t seem to mind in the least.

At the end of the practice, he took his shoe off, carefully wiped it down, and placed it in his backpack before slipping on his flip-flops and starting the two-mile walk back home.

"See you later, Coach," he said to Luma as he left the field. "See you later, One Shoe," she said.

When Beatrice Ziaty found out her son was sneaking off to play soccer with strangers after school, all hell broke loose.

"You’re too small," Beatrice scolded him. "Don’t go out of the house!"

Jeremiah started to cry. And he cried. He begged his mother to let him play, but Beatrice held her ground. She wasn’t going to let anything bad happen to her son. And she certainly wasn’t going to be defied — after all she’d done to get the family here. Inside, though, Beatrice was torn. She knew an 8-year-old boy needed to run, to get outside. She knew she wasn’t fair to keep him confined to a small apartment all the time.

"You say you have a coach," she finally said to Jeremiah. "Why can’t you bring the coach to see me?"

"Momma," he said, "I will bring her."
The conversation took place outside, in front of the Ziatys’ apartment. Luma came in her Beetle and parked out front. Beatrice walked outside with Jeremiah and explained her concerns to Coach Luma: She wanted to know that her son would be safe and would be with an adult. She wanted to know how to get in touch with Luma if something went wrong. And she wanted to make sure Jeremiah wasn’t walking alone through Clarkston.

“She did the bulk of the talking,” Luma recalled. “She said that Jeremiah was her baby and she wanted to know where he was going.”

Luma promised to pick Jeremiah up before practice and to drop him off afterward. He wouldn’t have to walk alone. She gave Beatrice her cell number and promised to be reachable.

“I’ll treat him like he’s my own kid,” Luma told her. “He’s going to be my responsibility.”

Beatrice agreed to give the situation a try. Jeremiah climbed into Luma’s Volkswagen and sat among the soccer balls and bright orange plastic cones strewn about — she used the car as a mobile equipment locker — and together they were off to practice. One Shoe had no intention of letting his mother down.

In those early practices, Luma made a point not to ask her players about their pasts. The soccer field, she felt, should be a place where they could leave all that behind. But occasionally, as the kids became more comfortable with her, they would reveal specifics about their experiences in ways that underscored the lingering effects of those traumas. Luma learned that Jeremiah, for example, had been at home the night that his father was killed. Once, in an early practice, Luma expressed frustration that a young Liberian player seemed to suddenly zone out during play. Another Liberian who knew the boy told her she didn’t understand: the boy had been forced by soldiers to shoot a close friend. Luma wasn’t a social worker, and she had no background in dealing with profound psychological trauma. In such moments, she felt perilously in over her head.

“How do you react when someone tells you he saw his father get killed?” she said. “I didn’t know.”

Luma picked up on another problem facing her young players. Many had come from societies that had been fractured by war, and as a consequence they never had access to any kind of formal education. It wasn’t uncommon for some refugee children to be both illiterate in their native languages and innumerate — they had never learned the simplest math skills. Without this basic education in their own languages, they were playing catch-up in schools where classes were taught in a new language many of the boys could barely understand, if at all. While the public school system around Clarkston offered English-as-a-second-language programs, the schools were overwhelmed with newcomers. To move students through the system, many refugees were placed in standard classes that, while appropriate for their ages, did not take into account their lack of schooling or their deficiencies in English. The clock was ticking on these young students; if they didn’t get help and find a way to succeed in school, they would fall out or simply get too old for high school, at which point they would be on their own. Given the enthusiasm for soccer in the refugee community, Luma wondered if perhaps the game and her team could be an enticement for after-school tutoring that might give young refugees a better chance to succeed. She resolved to get help from volunteers and educators for tutoring before practices, and to require her players to attend or else lose their spots on her team.

Somewhere along the way, the team got a name: the Fugees. Luma was unsure of who exactly came up with the name, which many opposing teams assumed was a reference to the hip-hop band. But in fact it was simply short for “refugees.” The name stuck, and in time it began to take on its own meaning among the kids in Clarkston, one separate from its etymology. In Clarkston, the Fugees meant soccer.

That first season, the Fugees played in a recreational, or “rec,” league, an informal division teams were required to play in before they could be admitted to more formal competition in the “select” grouping. There wasn’t much of an equipment budget, so Luma relied on donations, which didn’t always work out. A batch of jerseys given to the Fugees turned out to be absurdly large, like nightshirts. Someone donated a box of old cleats, which Luma distributed to her players. When one of those players went to kick the ball, the sole of his shoe went flying into the air, to hysterical laughter from his teammates; the shoes were so old that the glue holding them together had rotted. Luma stoically refused to acknowledge the equipment problems, at least to her players. She didn’t want them to get discouraged by what they didn’t have. She even made a point of wearing the same clothes to practices and games — soccer shorts, a ratty green T-shirt, and her dingy Smith baseball cap — because she noticed her players almost always wore the same clothes themselves.

Luma began the work of trying to make a competitive team out of her young recruits. She had to teach them the basics of organized play — how to execute throw-ins, how to stay onside. But soon enough, a far bigger problem began to reveal itself. Luma noticed that when she would tell the boys to divide into groups for drills, they would instinctively divide themselves according to their ethnic backgrounds or common languages. In scrimmages, boys would overlook open teammates to pass to their own kind. And each group, she learned, had its own prejudices toward others.
Jeremiah’s family, but the episode stayed with her. Each night Ashton’s in a new light.

The idea that her players were going hungry cast her work at the cafe, she tossed away leftover food without a thought. Teachers learned to call Luma during crises when her players’ parents couldn’t be found or were at work. All the while, Luma began to marvel at the impact of even the simplest of gestures on her part. The families were extraordinarily grateful, which they showed by offering Luma tea and inviting her to dinners. Luma found herself both appreciated and needed, and couldn’t help but notice how much more fulfilling this kind of work was than running Ashton’s, the cafe she had started in nearby Decatur. In fact, Ashton’s was losing money — and fast. Luma faced the possibility of having to close and even of declaring bankruptcy. The stress, she said, was overwhelming.

One afternoon Luma was driving Jeremiah home when he let slip that he was hungry. Luma told him he should eat when he got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out. The family had to go hungry until another batch arrived. Luma got home, but Jeremiah said there wasn’t any food there — that it was, in his words, “that time of the month.” It was a curious phrase for a 9-year-old boy. Luma probed, and Jeremiah explained that at a certain time each month, food stamps ran out.

The incident settled Luma’s mind on the question of Ashton’s. It was time for her to admit her failure and to walk away. She closed the cafe and filed for personal bankruptcy. But while the failure of Ashton’s was a blow to Luma’s ego, it also represented an opportunity to focus her life on things that she felt were more meaningful. She wanted to start a business that could employ women like Beatrice, providing them a living wage without requiring them to commute halfway across Atlanta by bus or train. With little capital, Luma didn’t have many options. But she had an idea. She envisioned a simple cleaning business for homes and offices that would employ refugee mothers. She could drum up the clients through her local contacts, and work side by side with her players’ mothers, who could work in the daytime while their children were at school and get home to their families in the evenings.

But mostly, Luma wanted to coach the Fugees. She let her girls’ team know that she wouldn’t be coaching them anymore. She was going to focus all of her energy on her new program and on trying to better the lives of the newcomers whose struggles she felt she understood. But doing so meant taking on far more responsibility than running a cafe. Luma felt she was ready for the challenge.

“When I got to know the families and their struggles, I knew I couldn’t fail,” she said. “I couldn’t quit when things didn’t go right. I was on the hook to succeed.”

Indeed, with little idea of how it would all turn out and no inkling of the coming political storm around refugee resettlement in Clarkston, Luma was directing her life wholeheartedly toward the refugee community there. In the process, she slowly began to see the outlines of a larger purpose to her life in America, and she felt the warmth of a new family forming around her.

“I thought I would coach twice a week and on weekends — like coaching other kids,” Luma said. “It’s 40 or 60 hours a week — coaching, finding jobs, taking people to the hospital. You start off on your own, and you suddenly have a family of 120.”

The family would continue to grow, because whether Clarkston was ready or not, the refugees kept coming.
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The Legacy of Brown v. Board of Education: Reflections and Colloquy edited by Jack Greenberg ’45 and Kendall Thomas; with contributions from Eric Foner ’63, the Dewitt Clinton Professor of History, and Alan Brinkley, the Allan Nevin Professor of American History. In honor of the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, the editors have compiled commentaries on the case, its effects and its implications (Twelve Tables Press, $24.95).

An Artist in Rome by John Tagliabue ’49; with an introduction by Adam Van Doren ’84. A posthumous volume of Tagliabue’s freeform poetry (Kelly-Winterton Press, $50).

Without Saying: New Poems by Richard Howard ’51. Howard’s latest poetry collection places the author in conversation with various mythological and historical figures (Turtle Point Press, $16.95). [Editor’s note: Read more about Howard in the Alumni Profile in Class Notes.]

Shock Therapy for the American Health Care System: Why Comprehensive Reform is Needed by Dr. Robert A. Levine ’58. The author proposes a series of reforms designed to improve medical coverage in the United States without increasing taxes (Praeger, $39.95).

Dancing in the Dark: A Cultural History of the Great Depression by Morris Dickstein ’61. Dickstein describes the paradoxical mix of cultural ferment and economic depression that characterized the United States in the 1930s (W.W. Norton & Co., $29.95).

Caveman Logic: The Persistence of Primitive Thinking in a Modern World by Hank Davis ’63. Davis considers the modern prevalence of superstition and irrational belief systems from an evolutionary perspective (Prometheus Books, $19.98).

Picturing Medical Progress from Pasteur to Polio: A History of Mass Media Images and Popular Attitudes in America by Bert Hansen ’65. Hansen examines the relationship between medical advances and media portrayal of the medical profession in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (Rutgers University Press, $37.95).

The Rat That Got Away: A Bronx Memoir by Allen Jones; with an introduction by Mark Nashin ’66. A chronicle of Jones’ life, from his youth in a Bronx housing development to a career as a professional basketball player in Europe (Fordham University Press, $29.95).

A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American Songs by David Lehman ’70. Lehman celebrates the contributions of Jewish composers and lyricists to the canon of American love songs (Schocken Books, $22).

Yeshiva Boys: Poems by David Lehman ’70. Lehman addresses religion, love and politics in this collection of metered and prose poems (Scribner, $30).

The Snakehead: An Epic Tale of the Chinatown Underground and the American Dream by Patrick Radden Keefe ’99. This nonfiction account reveals one of the largest immigrant-smuggling operations in history (Double day, $36).


The Gluten-Free Almond Flour Cookbook: Breakfasts, Entrées, and More by Elana Amsterdam ’89. Amsterdam offers readers her favorite original recipes for foods that meet the dietary restrictions of patients with celiac disease (Ten Speed Press, $16.99).


The Aesthetics of Japanese Fascism by Alan Tansman ’81. The author analyzes artistic expressions of Fascist ideology in early 20th-century Japan (University of California Press, $49.95).

In My Power: Letter Writing and Communications in Early America by Konstantin Dierks ’83. Diercks examines the social and psychological role of written correspondence in the lives of 18th-century Americans (University of Pennsylvania Press, $45).

1,001 Things They Won’t Tell You: An Insider’s Guide to Spending, Saving, and Living Wisely by Jonathan D. Radden Keefe ’89. The editors of Smart Money and the editors of Smart Money provide scientific explanations for seemingly supernatural events (Johns Hopkins University Press, $24.95).

Exposed! Ouija, Firewalking, and Other Gibberish by Henri Broch; translated by Bert K. Holland ’77. Broch provides scientific explanations for the dangers of dealing with various entities from an evolutionary perspective (Prometheus Books, $19.98).

Concord, Virginia: A Southern Town in Eleven Stories by Peter Neofotis ’03. Neofotis’ first work of fiction focuses on a small Southern town, its dark history and its slow attempts at modernization (St. Martin’s Press, $19.95).

Migraine Art: The Migraine Experience from Within by Konst Dierks ’83. Dierks examines the social and psychological role of written correspondence in the lives of 18th-century Americans (University of Pennsylvania Press, $45).

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Fact-Finding and Truth-Seeking
D.D. Guttenplan ’78’s take on I.F. Stone and himself

BY EUGENE L. MEYER ’64

It all began with 295 words. D.D. Guttenplan ’78 was a general assignment reporter for New York Newsday when he was sent to cover a July 12, 1989, memorial service for I.F. Stone, the iconoclastic scourge of the establishment who, after a decade of daily newspapering, had morphed into a one-man band of investigative journalism.

For 19 years, Isadore Feinstein Stone published I.F. Stone’s Weekly, in which he reported inconvenient truths he found largely in obscure documents that other reporters did not deign to read, much less report. And 19 years after he signed a contract to write Stone’s biography, Guttenplan’s brief newspaper article has borne a book: American Radical: The Life and Times of I. F. Stone (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, $35).

Like his subject, Guttenplan also found the daily news beat stifling and has since made a career as an essayist and an author. The Stone biography is his second book. During its long gestation, Guttenplan, who divides his time between London and Vermont, in 2001 published The Holocaust on Trial, based on his coverage of the yearlong libel trial that pitted British author David Irving against American academic Deborah Lipstadt, who had accused him of being a Holocaust denier.

Ultimately, Irving lost his libel claim, and Guttenplan’s book received some criticism for noting that, while the essential truth of the Holocaust is undeniable, mythology had replaced historical fact in some of the details often cited in its retelling. “I wrote a complex book about an area people like to see in less complex terms,” Guttenplan says.

So far, however, his exhaustive and affectionate biography of Stone has won almost universal praise. “His life,” Guttenplan says, “was an opportunity to tell the story of a stream of American history that goes underground from time to time but never goes away.”

Some pundits have challenged his debunking of suggestions that Stone might once have been Soviet spy, a charge that surfaced with the release of some ambiguous Russian documents. But Guttenplan says that the proven facts simply don’t support the assertion.

A philosophy major at Columbia, Guttenplan prides himself on objectively looking at facts, but, like Stone, he thinks objectivity can obscure the truth. “For those of us who come out of a tradition of engaged journalism, it’s still a challenge to let yourself become surprised by facts, to let what’s there change your views. And Stone was always able to do that.”

Born in Virginia, Guttenplan grew up in Philadelphia and Memphis. At Columbia, he wrote for Spectator. “Unlike most of my friends who wrote for Spectator, I also went to class,” he adds.

And I took to New York like a pilgrim. Spectator asked me to write the introduction to a Columbia guide to New York City for freshmen. I thought, wow, three years ago I was a barefoot boy from Tennessee and now I’m a New Yorker. That’s really what Columbia did; it make me a New Yorker, which was the greatest thing.”

Guttenplan’s earlier residence was defined by his father’s job. The move to Memphis came when he became deputy director of that city’s Jewish Federation. “I.F. Stone’s early Jewish background wasn’t foreign to me,” Guttenplan says. Nor was his career trajectory. Stone quit a newspaper job at the Carmed (N.J.) Courier after his editors refused to send him to cover the execution of anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti in 1927. He would write again as a newspaperman and eventually for PM, a legendary left-leaning daily, but at PM, he worked more as a columnist than as a reporter, ultimately striking out on his own to publish his small-circulation, high-impact weekly.

As did Stone, Guttenplan writes for The Nation, along with the Guardian, from London. His resume also includes a stint with The Village Voice, where he honed his investigative skills. Guttenplan covered the David Dinkins administration for New York Newsday, through which he became acquainted with “Izzy” Stone after Stone’s death. After his short piece appeared, an agent asked if he’d like to write a biography. Even before the call, Guttenplan had filed a Freedom of Information request with the FBI. The file turned out to be 6,000 pages long, a good starting point for the work ahead.

“I identify with him now more than I used to. My friends joke I’m beginning to look like him, which kind of scares me,” he says. “What I came to identify with fairly early were two things: He was very, very tough-minded, and he wrote what he saw, what the facts were, rather than what he wished he saw. It’s not that common, particularly for people who write on the left.”

One difference: Stone was a Penn dropout, Guttenplan is a proud Columbia alum. “It completely changed my life,” he says of his years on Morningside. “The Columbia of intellectual gunslingers is something I really took to. Steven Marcus ’48, ’61 GSAS taught me not to be afraid of poetry. Sidney Morgenbesser taught me how to think.”

His Columbia experience, Guttenplan says, “got me out of the kind of macho posturing approach to literature. When I went to Columbia, I was very suspicious of anything that wasn’t Hemingway or Dashiell Hammett. I owe it all to Columbia. It’s a cliché but completely true.”

Eugene L. Meyer ’64 is a former Washington Post reporter and editor, an author and a freelance writer who majored in American history.

Harlem vs. Columbia University: Black Student Power in the Late 1960s by Stefano M. Bradley. Bradley explains how, during the years 1968 and 1969, the Student’s Afro-American Society, an extracurricular organization at Columbia, joined with local protesters to prevent the University from constructing a new gymnasium in Morningside Park (University of Illinois Press, $40).

Obama: The Historic Front Pages edited by David Elliot Cohen and Mark Greenberg. The editors use newspaper headlines and campaign speeches to detail Barack Obama ’83’s Presidential campaign (Sterling, $24.95).

CORRECTION: Francis J. Partel ’63’s A Wound in the Mind: The Court-Martial of Lance Corporal Cachora, USMC is about the trial of a marine and not, as reported in the September/October issue, a naval officer. CCT regrets the error.

Grace Laidlaw ’11

Grace Laidlaw ’11
Obituaries

1935

John W. Thomson Jr. ’35

John W. Thomson Jr., retired botanist, lichenologist, conservationist, and professor, Mount Horeb, Wis., on February 20, 2009. Born July 9, 1913, in Cockenzie, Scotland, Thomson furthered his education at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and, after teaching at Superior State Teachers College, in 1944 returned to Wisconsin to join the Department of Botany. He retired from Wisconsin after four decades there. Referred to as the “Dean of North American Lichens,” Thomson’s Arctic explorations, research, papers and five books led the science for more than 60 years. His last two-volume set on Arctic lichens was completed after he retired in 1984. Thomson is survived by his wife of nearly 72 years, Olive (née Sherman); sons, Dennis and his wife, Joan Schurch, Norman and his wife, Rose Jepkorir Chepyator, Roderic and his wife, Linda Heine; daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Dean Danielson; and seven grandchildren. Thomson was predeceased by a son, Douglas, and two sisters, Sheila Feustal and E. Jean. Memorial contributions may be made to an organization dedicated to wildlife or environmental protection.

1937

Edwin F. Wilson, retired surgeon, Fair Lawn, N.J., on September 6, 2008. Born and raised in New York City, Wilson resided in Greenville, Maine, before moving to Fair Lawn to be closer to his family. An Army Air Corps veteran of WWII, he served in the European theater. Wilson enjoyed the outdoors and photography and was an accomplished woodworker. Prior to retiring, Wilson was chief of surgery at Central Suffolk Hospital in Riverhead, Long Island, N.Y., for 35 years, and was an on-call physician at Madison Square Garden, attending to hockey players. Wilson was predeceased by his wife, Marjorie (Bergen) Wilson, and is survived by his sons, Edwin Jr., and William and his wife, Lorraine; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Disabled American Veterans National Service Foundation, PO Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250.

1938

Herbert J. Carlin, professor emeritus, Walnut Creek, Calif., on February 9, 2009. Carlin was born in New York City and grew up in the Bronx. He entered with the Class of 1938 but earned a B.S. and M.S., both in electrical engineering, in 1939 and 1940, respectively, from the Engineering School. Carlin earned a doctorate from The Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, where he later chaired the Department of Electrophysics. In 1966, he joined Cornell and became director of the School of Electrical Engineering from 1966–75. Carlin remained at Cornell, where he was the J. Preston Levis Professor of Electrical Engineering Emeritus, for the duration of his career. Carlin was an authority in wideband circuit design and network theory. He chaired the IEEE Professional Group on Circuit Theory and received the IEEE Centennial Medal in 1984. Carlin published numerous articles and authored Network Theory and Wideband Circuit Design. He played the piano and flute and enjoyed baseball and politics. Carlin is survived by his wife of 35 years, Mariann; her daughters, Andrea Szentirmi and Susan Oliker and her husband, Scott; sons from his first marriage to

Lou Bender ’32, ’35L, Basketball Player and Attorney

Lou “Lulu” Bender ’32, ’35L, who led Columbia to back-to-back basketball championships in 1930–31 and became a crucial force in popularizing the sport in New York City, died of cancer on September 10, 2009, in Longboat Key, Fla. He was 99. Bender was inducted into the New York City Basketball Hall of Fame on September 18, 2008.

Born on March 8, 1910, the 6-foot-1 Bender was a forward in the late 1920s for DeWitt Clinton H.S. He received his nickname “Lulu” from a game during his high school days when he sank a two-handed set shot from long range and a fan yelled, “Now that was a lulu of a basket!”

Bender’s dynamic play and leadership at Columbia often is credited with the rise of basketball in Madison Square Garden. In January 1931, a fund-raising tripleheader was staged by New York City Mayor Jimmy Walker to raise money for unemployment relief. In one of the three games, Columbia beat Fordham 26–18, and Bender led all scorers with 8 points. With a record 15,000 fans in attendance, the event raised $22,000 and was a turning point in the game’s local history and within five years the Garden was hosting frequent doubleheaders with teams from all over the United States.

Bender helped lead Columbia to the 1930 and 1931 Eastern Intercollegiate Basketball League championships, winning league scoring titles in both seasons with averages of 9.8 and 9.6 points. “I give Lou a lot of credit, because those were the days before the shot clock was invented, so 10 points a game was quite a feat,” former St. John’s coach Lou Carnesecca said in an interview with The New York Times. “In those days, if you missed a shot, you might not see the ball again for a month.”

Bender played professionally through the 1930s with the Original Celtics, the Union City (N.J.) Reds and the Boston Trojans, all of the American Basketball League. Putting down the ball in 1941 after playing for the Independent New York Whirwinds, Bender became a successful trial lawyer, serving as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York in the 1940s and later as a criminal defense attorney specializing in the defense of those accused of tax evasion.

Bender later made his home in Longboat Key, where he played tennis at the Longboat Key Club. The 2008 Doubles Championships there were held in honor of his 98th birthday. He is survived by his wife, Jean; sons, Steven and Michael; daughters, Ellyn and Golda; and 11 grandchildren.
Carl F. Hovde ’50, College Dean and Professor

Carl F. Hovde ’50, dean of Columbia College from 1968–72 and a longtime professor of English, died of cancer on September 5, 2009, in New Canaan, Conn. He was 82.

Born on October 11, 1926, in Meadville, Pa., Hovde enlisted in the Army after graduating from high school in 1944 in Pittsburgh. He served in France and Germany during WWII, and later graduated from the College with a degree in philosophy. Hovde earned a Ph.D. in American literature in 1955 from Princeton and taught at Ohio State before returning to Columbia in 1960 to be a professor of English.

Hovde was appointed Dean of Columbia College in July 1968 in an unusual manner. Traditionally, deans had been nominated by the University president and approved by the board. But in part to meet student demands for greater faculty and student participation in the University’s decision-making, Hovde, according to The New York Times, was subject to a revised selection process in which he was nominated by a committee of three faculty members and six administrators, then approved by then-President-university president Grayson L. Kirk.

Even before he was appointed dean, Hovde responded to the 1968 student protests by taking part in a three-member faculty committee to create a joint disciplinary committee to draft guidelines for disciplining student demonstrators. As dean, Hovde walked a fine line in dealing with the protest fallout and patching relations between students and administrators. “It is clear that things at Columbia need changing, and the sit-ins and the demonstrations were not without cause,” he said at the time of his appointment, according to the Times. Hovde requested that the University drop criminal trespassing charges against students and told Newsweek that it was “a difference between me and the administration and the trustees.” He also said the protesters “were not acting without cause, but they were acting with insufficient force.”

Hovde was able to help restore peace on campus in his years as dean. When he stepped down to return to teaching in 1972, a Spectator editorial said he had “sought to quietly guide the College, not to rule it; to use the force of persuasion and reason, not the blunt power of authority.”

Hovde earned the admiration of students and faculty alike. He had the capacity to exude the rationality of things and negotiate between different views,” said Michael Rosenthal ’67 GSAS, the Roberta and William Campbell Professor in the Teaching of Literature Humanities, in Spectator. “He had a sort of inner dignity about him which was able to make things happen.”

Hovde taught English at the College until 1995 and then continued his Columbia career as director of the Friends of the Heyman Center for the Humanities. A strong defender of the Core, he received the Award for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum in 1997.

He also was presented a Great Teacher Award in 1975 from the Society of Columbia Graduates. Former Hovde student Dan Baker ’76, now executive director of University donor relations and stewardship, said, “My lifelong connection to Melville and Moby-Dick began in Professor Hovde’s American literature class. His passion and clear analysis were infectious. Recently he wrote a foreword to a new edition of Moby-Dick, which he signed for me. It has a special place on my bookshelf.”

Hovde is survived by his wife, Bertha Betts; daughters, Katherine ’89 SIPA and Sarah ’95 Arch.; sons, Peter ’93, sister, Ellen; and four grandchildren.

Lisa Palladino and Jesse Thiessen ’11 Arts

Esther Beth, Elliot and Seth; daughters-in-law, Maryse and Marianne; and four grandchildren.

1939

Bernard Kaback, retired NYPD principal, Riverdale, N.Y., on June 17, 2009. Kaback was a graduate of DeWitt Clinton H.S. At the College, he played the violin in the orchestra. His classmate Howard Shaten ’39, who played the cello, later became its conductor and taught Kaback’s son, Hofer ’69, in Music Humanities. Kaback earned a degree in 1940 from Teachers College. He volunteered during WWII and in the Army Air Forces qualified as an aerial navigator, bombardier, aerial gunner, radar observer, and radio operator and mechanic. He held the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. Kaback was a principal in the New York City public school system, chiefly at PS 140 on Eagle Avenue in the East Bronx, for many years. Upon his initial appointment, he was one of the youngest principals in the city. At retirement, he was the senior principal in the City of New York in terms of length of service. Married for 53 years to the late Florence Kaback, also a NYC school principal, Kaback is survived by his son; daughter; and two grandchildren.

Philip L. Wintner, retired executive, Whittier, Calif., on April 20, 2009. Wintner was born in New York City on March 21, 1917, and served in the Army during WWII. In 1946, he was employed by Eastman Kodak in Los Angeles and later transferred to the Whittier office, from which he retired in 1983. Wintner was active in Whittier historical and preservation activities as well as railroad preservation groups around the country.

1941

Harold Rogers, teacher, Tokyo, on July 26, 2009. Born in New York City, Rogers taught Japanese-American internes in Manzanar, Calif., and lived and worked in Japan from 1946–2009. He is survived by his wife, Sophie Fumie; brother, George; daughter, Paula; and son-in-law, William.

1944

Harry Boardman, retired, University assistant provost emeritus, Marlboro, Vt., on April 15, 2009. Boardman was born on October 14, 1920, in Denver. He attended Riverdale Country Day School in the Bronx and graduated first in his Black-Foxe Military Institute high school class in Los Angeles. WWII interrupted Boardman’s studies. He served in Europe until late 1946 as an Army typist and graduated from the College in 1949. Boardman spent the next five years as a waiter, typist and clerk. In 1954, he became the east coast director for the American Foundation for Political Education, where he worked for seven years before becoming Columbia’s assistant provost under Provost Jacques Barzun ’27. From 1963-69, Boardman was director of meetings at the Council on Foreign Relations, followed by a year at the Overseas Development Council before becoming secretary general of the Council on Biology in Human Affairs. In 1979, Boardman and his second wife, Jean, purchased the Whetstone Inn in Marlboro, Vt., and became innkeepers. He is survived by his wife; his son, Hamilton ’97, ’05 SIPA and Brook; two of his three daughters from his first marriage to Joy Lange, Wendy and Robyn; son from an earlier relationship, Dieter Rauch; and four grandchildren.

1946

Shepard Conn, retired head of promotions department for The New York Times, Tallahassee, Fla., and New York City, on January 11, 2008. Conn is survived by his longtime friend and companion, Paula Gerson; daughters, Victoria, Liz, and Kowalsky and Kate Bergeron; three grandchildren; and two sons-in-law.

1950

Donald E. Ross, chemical engineer, Washington Township, N.J., on February 20, 2008. Ross was a Marine veteran who served in the Korean War. He attained the rank of captain. Ross worked for Ebasco. He is survived by his wife, Virginia E. Ross; son; daughter-in-law; three grandchildren; brother, Kenneth, and his wife, Ellen; nephews and nieces, Glenn Ross, Ellen Zigler and her husband, Robert, Jeffrey Ross and his wife, Sheryl, Holly Bosley and his husband, Donald, Pamela Butler and Jay Merkle; and brother-in-law, Gerald Merkle, and his wife, Irma. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Association.

1953

Richard N. Rosett, economist and university administrator, Pittsford, N.Y., on April 4, 2009. Rosett was born on February 29, 1928. A pas-
sionate advocate of free markets, property rights and limited government, he received numerous awards and honorary degrees, among them the Wilbur Lucius Cross Medal, presented annually to a small number of outstanding alumni by the Yale Graduate School. Rosett was chair of the economics department at the University of Rochester, dean of the University of Chicago’s Graduate School of Business, vice-chancellor of Washington University and dean of the College of Business at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He also was a director of the National Bureau of Economic Research, a board member of several industrial and financial firms, chairman of the Keuka College Board of Trustees and founder and president of the U.S. Business School in Prague. Rosett is survived by his wife of 57 years, Madelon; children, Claudia, Marthea, Joshua, Sarah and Charles; 15 grandchildren; and sister, Rose. Memorial contributions may be made to the Madelon & Richard Rosett College of Business Chair in Quality at the Rochester Institute of Technology; contact Karen Cegelski, 585-475-4189 or Karen.Cegelski@rit.edu.

Allan E. Thaler, architect, West Haven, Conn., on April 27, 2009. Thaler was born on September 9, 1931. He served in the Army from 1957–59 and was stationed in Verona, Italy. He received a master’s from the Architecture School in 1960 and was principal of his own firm, Allan Thaler, RA. Thaler is survived by his wife of more than 44 years, Susan; sons, Sebastian ’90, Alex and his wife, Valerie, and Cole; brother, Jerome; nephews, Daniel and Jonathan; nieces, Naomi; and one granddaughter. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of the donor’s choice.

1962

Joseph C. Bass, retired ob/gyn, Jupiter, Fla., on July 10, 2009. Bass was born on May 28, 1940, in Claremont, N.H. He received his M.D. from the University of Vermont College of Medicine in 1966 and was a solo practitioner, first in Framingham, Mass., until 1980 and then at Baptist Hospital and South Miami Hospital, in Florida. In 1995, after retiring, Bass and his wife, the former Barbara Brandstatter, relocated to Jupiter. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, and playing golf at Admirals Cove and at his summer home in Quechee, Vt. Bass is survived by his wife of almost 42 years; daughters, Elisa Bass Bauman ’93 SW and Robyn Bass Lavender ’92 Barnard, ’99 Business; sons-in-law, David and Brad; four grandsons; sister, Barbara Sacks; cousins, nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to the March of the Living, c/o Temple Beth David, 4657 Hood Rd., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418.

1963

Stephen F. Caldwell, editor, Tucson, Ariz., on March 18, 2009. Born September 10, 1941, in Hackensack, N.J., Caldwell was paralyzed due to a car accident three months after his College graduation. He lived independently for the next 46 years as a high-functioning quadriplegic. Caldwell worked most of his life as an editor at the Bergen (N.J.) Record. In 1970, he founded an intentional living community, Better Farm, in Redwood and was a freelance writer for the Bergen Record and The New York Times, among others. Caldwell completed two novels and several series of short stories and poetry, including Instead of Shooting Reagan: love poems to the whirled, published in 1985. He enjoyed bird-watching and the outdoors, often traveling 15 miles a day to track species and spending winters in Tucson on and off since 1973. Caldwell is survived by his mother; two nieces; and three nephews. Two brothers, Robert and Daniel, and a sister, Catherine Brown, predeceased him.

1969

David C. MacKenzie ’69 PHOTO: TULSA WORLD

David C. MacKenzie, arts critic, Tulsa, Okla., on October 31, 2008. MacKenzie was born on October 9, 1946, and grew up in Tulsa, where his father was renowned for his treatment of polio victims, one of whom was John Gold, who would later become Tulsa World’s city editor and a friend of the family. MacKenzie graduated magna cum laude from the College and earned a master’s in 1970 from GSAS in comparative literature. He was an intern for a newspaper in the South, where he got caught up in the civil rights movement of the 1960s. MacKenzie landed a job at the World, where from 1977–79 he was its entertainment writer. He is survived by his sisters, Jill and Ann Merrill; and brother, Malcolm.

1990

Kenneth E. Galluccio, lacrosse coach and referee, Hamburg, Germany, formerly of Lindenhurst, N.Y., on February 21, 2009. Galluccio was a proud Eagle Scout. He is survived by his mother, Ena; brother, Douglas; sister, Karen; aunts, uncles, cousins and one godchild. He was predeceased by his father, Richard.

Lisa Palladino
Malcolm Warnock '26, '29L, is in the running for oldest living College alumnus, the younger of his two daughters, Eleanor, reports. At 104, Malcolm still is in "extraordinarily good health," residing in an assisted living community in Maplewood, NJ, where he doesn't need much assistance. He attributes his health to a long and happy marriage, but Eleanor said that tennis also helped. He played three times a week into his early 90s and didn't give up the game completely until after his 97th birthday.

Malcolm worked in patents and trademark issues. He was too old to serve in WWll, but he participated in the war effort by working for the Civil Aeronautics Administration, and was an attorney for the Manhattan Project, working for Columbia.

After the war, Malcolm continued to represent universities doing atomic research before joining the Lehigh Valley Railroad, where he worked as a lawyer from the 1950s until he retired in 1973.

Gene Sosin writes: “Some of my classmates may have seen the Winter 2008-2009 issue of Columbia magazine, which published my article, ‘Moscow and the Hudson.' It was one of their frequent features, called ‘My Columbia,' in which alumni describe their experiences, anecdotal memories and, in my case, the tremendous influence alma mater had on my life — from the time I entered the College in 1937, through my wartime service in the Navy, in which I played a part, and after returning for graduate studies, when I met my future wife, Gloria, and began a 50-year career in Russian affairs with her as my partner.

I was amazed at the feedback produced by my piece. In addition to the letters from old friends printed in the Spring 2009 issue — one from Charles Plotz, who got his M.D. at J&J in ‘51 and became an internationally renowned rheumatologist; another from Marvin Katz, one of the famous is in the field of journalism and TV. My co-author of the Varsity Show of 1942, Bob Bergemann ’43E, phoned me from Concord, Mass., and after 67 years, we have reestablished contact and are enjoying reminiscing about the good old days in ‘showbiz.'

Furthermore, the producers of this year’s Varsity Show, Rebecca Lewis ‘11 and Darcy Zacharias ’10, invited Gloria and me to attend a rehearsal (bare stage and no costumes) in the Black Box Theater of Alfred Lerner Hall. Umno, we had a nostalgic rendezvous with Aaron Frankel ’42, who also had phoned me. He took part in the shows of our era and went on to a distinguished career as a director on and Off-Broadway, as well a teacher at Columbia and other universites. It was a privilege to meet the current talented undergraduates; they seemed awed by us old codgers who are still alive to speak about the productions in the ancient days of the 1940s.

"Other surprises emerged as a result of the article, such as a long letter from Jerry Kurshan ‘39, who was an editor of the Columbian yearbook when I joined the stuff in my junior year. The most satisfying one came about indirectly: I had written in the article that my Ph.D. dissertation on theater and drama for children in the Soviet Union was deposited at Columbia in 1958. My curiosity was aroused about its fate, and I learned that it had been purchased by the film in the University of Wisconsin-Madison, was 'inspired' by my dissertation (then on microfilm) to pursue the subject. She has published her own history of that important medium of aesthetic and ideological education in Russia, updating it to 2000, with generous acknowledgment of my previous study.

"So my Columbia connection continues to spread its ripple effect. The way things are going, I wouldn’t even be shocked to get an e-mail from Magda Lupescu, the Romanian femme fatale about whom I quoted a risque limerick which we undergrads used to sing. It went: ‘Said the beautiful Magda Lupescu/When King Carol came to be/Not a vunderful thing to be under a king/Is democracy better I ask you?’"

Dr. Carl D’Angio and his wife celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this year. Attending their sumptuous brunch were their three children, seven grandchildren and Carl’s brother, Dr. G.J. D’Angio ‘43, and his wife, Audrey. They had been the best man at the wedding in 1944.

Carl closed his office this year and retired from medical practice after more than 60 years in Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Ray Robinson continues his prolific literary output. This summer, he had two interesting bylined articles in The New York Times’ Sports section. The first was a touching description of an experience he had as an 18-year-old in Yankee Stadium. On July 4, 1939, 70 years ago, Ray was there when Lou Gehrig ’25 told the assembled crowd that, after 2,130 straight games, he was “the luckiest man in the world” and was retiring. Columbia Lou knew that the disease he had, ALS, was incurable. Ray’s article was very touching and informative. Incidentally, Ray is on the board of the association striving to wipe out ALS.
G. D’Angio
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[Editor’s note: CCT thanks Connie Maniatty for his three years of service as a class correspondent and welcomes G. D’Angio as the new correspondent.]

Hello, classmates! This is my first set of Class Notes since taking over from Connie Maniatty. He has been our faithful news-gatherer for several years, and recently asked to be relieved. I am confident we all extend a rousing vote of thanks to him for his devoted service.

Please send any news you would like to share with our classmates to the postal or e-mail address above. Your trips or other activities, family news, encounters with Columbia graduates and so on — all are welcome.

Practicing what I preach, I report that my wife, Jean T. D’Angio, died just undergone a crash course in Alzheimer’s disease. I have since married Dr. Audrey E. Evans, a close family friend and collaborator for 50-plus years. She is professor emerita at Penn and is the godmother of my sons, Dr. Carl T. D’Angio and the Rev. Peter D. D’Angio. Neither they nor my two granddaughters, alas, are Columbia grads.

Cedric Philipp and his grandson, Jim Philipp, crossed the Northwest Passage on a Russian ship last September and found the experience fascinating. Their route was the same as Amundsen’s. They completed the voyage in 12 days from Atlantic to Pacific waters, not the 18 months that it took the famous Norwegian explorer. They surprised midway to pay respects to the remnants of the ill-fated expedition led by British Rear Adm. Sir John Franklin in the mid-1800s. Cedric’s next big trip will be to revisit Omaha Beach, Normandy, with his wife, Sue.

Dr. Herb Sandick relates, “I have been involved in the introduction of infrared technology in medical applications presented to the annual FLIR (Forward Looking Infrared) convention held in Reno and coming up again in Las Vegas. The title of the first talk is, ‘Stern Cell Use in Treatment of Tennis Elbow.’ The second is, ‘People Aches and Pains.’ I believe that infrared technology will contribute more to medical investigations in the future.

Deaths sadly noted:
Gordon K. “Bill” Billipp, a retired salesman, sales manager and business owner, of Peterborough, N.H., passed away on June 28. Bill and I were pretty close friends during our undergraduate year, so his death is personally sorrowful.
William R. Goetz Sr., a technical writer and trainer in Bedford, N.H., passed away on July 23.

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We mourn the loss of Ted Jackson in early July.

From his San Francisco apartment, Dr. Francis Rigney reports, “We are having a typical fog-cooled summer, which is why I love living here.” The famed retired psychiatrist is busy helping himself by preparing (mostly handwritten) a concise guide to clear thinking. He describes it as a kind of amalgam of a dictionary, encyclopedia and thesaurus, with simple operational definitions organized according to basic phenomena. The book will consist of seven main sections, starting with reality and the physical world, then symbolic use of reasoning, followed by formal reasoning and so forth. It’s particularly intended to help young people develop logical and easy understanding of the world they must deal with.

Considering the scope and demands of this project, Francis not surprisingly concludes: “Except for some quiet socializing, that’s about it.”

When Albert Ryavec trained as a young G.I. on Catalina Island off the Southern California coast, he decided right then that’s where he would retire. At the time, having just undergone a crash course in Japanese at the University of Chicago, he was being prepared by the OSS (as we old-timers know, the predecessor of the CIA) for service across the Pacific. But thanks to another University of Chicago project going on at the same time, of which, of course, “we were totally unaware” (and not to forget Columbia’s equally hush-hush contribution from Pupin Hall), the bomb came along before he could put his new skills to use.

So Al went back East, studied at Columbia Law and became a practicing attorney in New York. But he never lost his dream. When he decided to retire in 1979, he and new bride Dagmar headed west to San Diego to enjoy life and play tennis. Some years back, Al put away his racket, but neither he nor Dagmar has ever regretted the move.

“Just out… at last” said the triumphant note received from Joseph Cowley days before this column’s deadline. Joe was referring to his newly published book, John Adams: Architect of Freedom (1735-1826), the “cantankerous … tactless” but also brilliant “realist with a strong sense of honor and duty” who did so much to give us our country. For more on his venture, you can ask Joe at jocowley33@gmail.com.

Deaths sadly noted:
William R. Goetz Sr., a technical writer and trainer in Bedford, N.H., passed away on July 23.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6
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Columbia College Today Columbia Alumni Center 622 W. 113th St, MC 4530 New York, NY 10025 cct@columbia.edu

George T. Wright writes: “I want to be sure that some notice of Ted Jackson’s death on July 9 appears in Columbia College Today. The New York Times ran a concise obituary notice two or three weeks later.

“Ted had been living in Tucson, Ariz., for maybe a dozen years before his death, during which his health gradually declined,” George writes. “Though we had been at Columbia during some of the same years, we didn’t meet till we were in our 70s, and then we became good friends, dining together almost every week and enjoying our common interests in drama, poetry, the professors and fellow students we had known at Columbia, and sharing many views about life and art. I will miss him.”

“As for my news, I’m still going to conferences (on Shakespeare, poetic meter, T.S. Eliot), writing essays about English and American poetry, and searching for information about my father’s obscure Vermont (and Massachusetts) family over the last 300 or 400 years.”

Albert Rothman published A Brooklyn Odyssey, Travails and Joys of a Boy’s Early Life, his autobiography about his adventures growing up as a Jew in Depression-era Brooklyn.
The concept of space law began shortly after the launch of Sputnik by the Soviet Union in 1957. There is no explicit agreement on a uniform definition of outer space, but there is a general consensus that outer space begins at the lowest altitude above sea level at which objects can orbit the earth — approximately 62 miles.

Interested nations discussed methods and procedures to ensure the peaceful use of outer space. The United Nations created the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space with a legal subcommittee that served as a forum for negotiating several international agreements.

"COPOUS requires that all of its actions and agenda items must be unanimously agreed to, so it seems unlikely that any new space agreements or amendments to existing agreements will be reached in the near future.

"Apart from the UN, countries participating in the International Space Station (Canada, Japan, Russia, United States and members of the European Space Agency) entered into an agreement of cooperation of the Space Station. Several countries and regional groups have passed or are considering legislation in view of possible commercial space ports and the regulation of private activities in space, including registration and licensing of space vehicles.

"The law of space is in early development and will be influenced by changes and developments. It is hoped, for instance, that eventually commercial space transportation including space tourism will become available at lower costs and within the reach of most, if not all, nations to enjoy the benefits of space resources while at the same time protecting and conserving them. The ISL is active in these areas, with ongoing conferences and an annual meeting in different countries at which time papers are given and seminars are held on space law.

"At the annual meeting, the semifinal and final rounds of a moot court competition are held. One of the more interesting competitions in recent years involved the legal issues surrounding the potential construction and operation of a space elevator originating from Earth to outer space. The elevator could take astronauts and commercial passengers to a space station at the top of the elevator from which space vehicles could then be launched. The resulting legal issues range from problems involved in the construction and operation of the elevator to liability in the event of elevator mishaps and spacecraft collisions."

Howard concludes: "While there are many relevant precedents for these space legal issues, including the law of the sea and the rules and agreements relating to Antarctica, the issues are challenging and in constant flux - a lawyer's dream and challenge."

Bernie Goldman from Lake-wood, Colo., asks, "With Obama's election, will future Columbia alumni meetings be held in the White House? Don't bet against it... There are a ton of Columbia alumni in D.C."

It was nice receiving a note from Malcolm Sampliner, who wrote, "I am an ardent reader of Columbia College Today. Sorry I haven't gotten to recent class meetings."

Mal, I hope you can make it to the next one.

I also heard from Raymond Shapiro, who reflected on the superb education he received at the College and graduate school.

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Mining the list of our classmates reveals more and more surprises. It is no surprise that many of us became lawyers and doctors. But this month, we heard from an outstanding artist and a distinguised manager of important clubs and hotels. Ara Dagljan's career included 10 years managing The Century Association (where some of us celebrated our last classmate Allan Temko's Pulitzer Prize) and 15 years managing the Cornell Club. Almost as an afterthought, Ara added there were some years as manager at the Plaza Hotel. Perhaps his most rewarding job in retirement has been as fire chief of Davis Park, one of about 13 communities on the Fire Island strip of Long Island. He remembers his Columbia College years fondly, but it was his graduate degree earned at the famed Cornell School of Hotel Management that set his life and determined his career path. At this writing, Ara is on a river cruise in Europe. His grown children, a son and a daughter, continue to be a source of great pleasure and pride. All in all, Ara sounded very satisfied with his life.

Calling classmates I never have met is a challenge every time. Not all of my calls evoked positive responses, so I hardly expected the fun speaking to Ara would be equaled by my next call to Byron Dobell. Wow, he had been bugging a CCT editor to get my reluctant predecessor, the late George Cooper, to get going on the telephone. Byron had not been reading CCT for a while, so I had to inform him that I had been on the job for a few months.

Byron told me he had been a magazine editor for many years at Life, New York Magazine, Esquire and American Heritage. But in 1990, his career changed dramatically. He became a full-time professional painter. He has now had eight one-man shows, the last being at the Brady Gallery in September.

Joe graduated from the H.S. of Music and Art (before coming to Columbia, of course) and studied for several years with artists David Levine and Aaron Shikler. His works are in the Smithsonian, National Portrait Gallery in Washington, the New York Public Library, the Union League Club and the Century Association, as well as numerous private collections. He sent me some reproductions and indeed, Byron paints beautifully. Commenting on past one-man shows, Oxford University Magazine wrote a glowing review, and the New York Observer wrote, "Dobell applies oils, watercolors and various drawing media with an ease only someone experienced in the rigors of his craft could possess."

At the outset of this job, I worried that the anemic response to George Cooper's requests for notes would be my fate as well.

Instead, I find our scattered class members are not only solid, productive, and having a lot of fun to boot. A couple have actually written in on their own, and I hope that more will. But, since I find the adventure in making calls very rewarding, I shall continue to use the telephone.

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The Central Piedmont Edition of North Carolina's BOOM! Magazine caught up with Dr. Joseph Mangano for a feature article in a recent issue. We learn that when Joe relocated to the Tar Heel State in 1974 to work in student health services at North Carolina State University, a lot of students had difficulty with his Yankee name on patient forms. He kept a list of their misspellings, which in a couple of years reached 50 variations. Accordingly, he became better known as "Dr. Joe."

Joe graduated from New York Medical College in 1954, met his future wife, Eleanor, while interning at Mount Vernon Hospital, and married her within the year. Now wed 54 years, they have four children and seven grandchildren.

In North Carolina, in addition to student health, Dr. Joe has worked in private practice and in long-term care at several nursing homes.

The BOOM! article summarizes: "At a point in his career when many would consider retirement, Dr. Mangano chose to reduce the volume of his work. Instead of working at seven nursing homes, he now focuses on two and is able to spend unhurried time with the patients, families and staff."

Joe's daughter, Eleanor Cioffi, tells us, "He's still working hard, staying sharp ... I'm sure he could find his old tuition statements. He paid his own way — commuting from home in Mount Vernon, N.Y."
Ethan Davis is enjoying a busy retirement in Prescott, Ariz. He and his wife split their time between water aerobics three mornings a week. He goes hiking one morning a week — usually four miles at a clip on one of the area’s outstanding hiking trails. He plays bridge. He and the Mrs. sing in a community choir at nearby Yavapai Junior College. And they both are founding members of the Granite Peak Unitarian Universalist Society in Prescott.

Ethan’s time at Columbia was interrupted by two years in the Navy, where he was training as a Japanese language interpreter when the war ended. He finally got to Japan in 1984 for the first meeting in the Far East of the International Association for Religious Freedom.

Ethan went to work for Prudential Financial Services right out of college, working in Newark and in Toronto and as v.p. for administration in the company’s Chicago regional office. Then it was back to corporate headquarters in Newark for 10 years as consumer affairs officer, a position he describes as “an interesting, but not high-profile job.”

After leaving Prudential, Ethan briefly was a financial management consultant to the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater Foundation. The Davises retired to Arizona in 1996.

Charlie Cole still is learning the art of moving into his new digs at Bristol Village, a National Church Residences community in Waverly, Ohio. Among his latest discoveries, which he recommends to classmates who like trains: “The world’s largest indoor train display” is at Entertainment Junction in West Chester, north of Cincinnati — two miles of track, 90 trains, 1,200 railroad cars. Charlie spent five hours there recently.

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Writing this in the shelter of a warm room on a cold, end-of-August rainy day... the summer has seen more of that than sun. Missing, as well, has been any word from all of you. It is my fond hope that this means you have all had a summer so full of fun there. A magazine should be leisurely, has not abandoned his portable typewriter and lives in New York City.

When asked about the July/August issue of Columbia College Today being published exclusively on the Web, Arthur S. Verdesca commented, “Who wants to read War and Peace on a computer? A magazine should be leisurely, enjoyed in the comfort of a favorite armchair and be available at one’s beck and call.”

This comment was reiterated by a number of classmates who promised not to reply to the CCT editor’s request for feedback.

Arthur received his M.D. from P&S and completed his residency at St. Luke’s before entering the Air Force. He was assigned to Seward AFB in the Nashville area and served for two years in various medical assignments. Earlier in his internal medicine career, Arthur joined Western Electric, which permitted a dual practice in the corporate and private sectors. After 25 years, he became associated with AIG and spent an additional 20 years practicing medicine and administration before retirement to Morristown, N.J., with his wife, Ann. Of the three children, a son and two daughters, one attended Columbia. Stephen ’85 has followed his father’s footsteps in a medical career.

Hobbies for alumni generally include stamp collecting, woodworking and electronic tinkering. Not for Arthur; years ago he became affiliated with an FM station and became a script writer in his spare time, developing themes for classical music. Most of his programs were aired on the FM stations of from Emerson College in Boston. He has had a long relationship with Columbia, is a tenured professor and currently is teaching a course on Alfred Hitchcock.

Andrew denies being computer-literate, has not abandoned his portable typewriter and lives in New York City.

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Richard Howard ’51’s Writing Life

By Gordon Chenoweth Sauer ’11 Arts

N aturally, a profile of esteemed poet, professor, translator, critic and essayist Richard Howard ’51 would begin with a discussion of writing. Say, perhaps, his 1970 Pulitzer Prize-winning poetry collection Untitled Subjects; or his translation of Charles Baudelaire’s Les Fleurs du Mal, the 1984 National Book Award winner (Howard, a translator of French literature, is a Chevalier d’Ordre National du Mérite); or his poetry collection Without Saying, a finalist for the 2008 National Book Award. Rather unnaturally then, it is Howard’s bathroom in his visibly literary West Village apartment that warrants attention, simply because framed portraits of W.H. Auden, Charles Simic, Lionel Trilling ’25, Emily Dickinson, Lucie Brock-Broido ’82 Arts and others paint the walls an antiquated black and white. Such a display illustrates a lifestyle steeped in a distinct historical, cultural and literary tradition for a man whose own portrait represents 40-plus years of devotion to his craft.

A master of voice, Howard has been lauded for his poetry’s technique and “collegial joy,” to quote critic Benjamin Ivry. Howard’s forthcoming collection, Progressive Education, to be completed this winter, returns to his school days at the progressive Park School in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, with a series of 12 poems in which male and female fifth-graders address letters to their principal, Mrs. Masters, detailing the “injustices” of the school.

Howard was about 9 when he decided he wanted to be a poet. “My boyhood was that of a little boy in the library,” he says. “Although I had plenty of friends at school, I stayed home and read books. That was quite a preparation for being a poet.” Howard says he chose Columbia because his cultural interests were in New York. Among a distinguished group of students rising amidst a star faculty, he studied under Quentin Anderson ’37, ’53 GSAS, Andrew Chappe ’33, ’39 GSAS, Fred Dupee and Trilling.

“Those four were very powerful influences, and I saw a great deal of them, both at school and afterward,” says Howard. “Quentin remained a friend until he died only a few years ago, and I still see his widow and his son. Lionel was a very powerful influence, and a friendly one. He appeared to be interested in what I was doing and what I did.” Among Howard’s peers were his oldest friend at Columbia, Robert Gottlieb ’52, editor-in-chief at Simon & Schuster and Alfred A. Knopf before becoming editor of The New Yorker (1987–92), and fellow poet Allen Ginsberg ’48. While Gottlieb was editor at Simon & Schuster, he published Howard’s first commercial translations, Charles de Gaulle’s war memoirs.

At Columbia, Howard was editor of the Columbia Review from 1949–51 and a member of the Philolexian Society. After matriculating at GSAS and studying for one year, Howard left Columbia without a graduate degree to study French letters at the Sorbonne from 1952–53, having been awarded a fellowship by the French government. He had learned French as a child from the Viennese wife of his grandmother’s cousin on a five-day car trip from Cleveland to Miami. “By the time we got to Florida, I was already pretty sure of myself about French. I knew that that was something I wanted to go on with,” he says.

After three years in France, Howard returned to Ohio, taking a job as a lexicographer before moving to New York City and publishing his translations in 1958. Howard’s first poetry collection, Quantities, was published in 1962. He has since published more than a dozen collections of poetry and more than 150 works of translation. Howard was Poet Laureate of New York State (1994–96), Chancellor of The Academy of American Poets (1991–2000) and is currently poetry editor of Western Humanities Review. He also directed the Braziller series of poetry, published from 1971–78, and in 1996 received a MacArthur “genius” grant. Since 1997, Howard has been a professor of writing at the School of the Arts.

Still, when asked whether writing can be taught, he is unsure. “I think it’s a matter of reading that can be taught,” Howard says. Howard believes reading was a staple of his College tenure: “My fellow students and I were very serious readers. If Trilling mentioned something that we had never heard of, we would precipitate ourselves to the library and get it and read it. That was just part of the education.”

Now 80, Howard has a clear vision of the transformation American poetry has undergone in the past 50 years — the good and the bad.

“There’s just as much talent, just as much dedication and commitment among the young people who wish to be poets as there ever has been. But often the work of a young person of talent isn’t based on a context of familiarity with the whole tradition. Therefore, it makes it harder for poets to continue sometimes. The biggest difference I see in American poetry, though, is that there are as many interesting and valuable exciting new poets who are women as men. That had never been the case before, and that is not the case in any other country.”

Gordon Chenoweth Sauer ’11 Arts is a freelance writer, instructor in Columbia’s University Writing Program and M.F.A. in fiction candidate.
Fordham and Seton Hall. Through the years he has collected more than 11,000 books and has seven libraries in his home. In his spare time, Arthur crosses word puzzles, composes them and publishes some 30-40 annually. Classmates can contact Arthur at 5 Como Ct. and our thoughts are with his family.

It was a hot summer in Vermont. Almost no mail or phone calls from CC '51 classmates. Besides that, Mother Nature was unfriendly. Following my 80th birthday last May 31, when she created a wild storm on Lake Champlain that took out all of our boathocks, the unpredictable lady sent the 'late blight,' which killed off potatoes and tomatoes in the Northeast. At the end of August, what appeared to be a tornado separated my power boat from the mooring and the remains now are awaiting rehabilitation in a nearby marina. You can cheer me up by sending a few lines describing your method for handling octogenarian life!

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Your reporter and his family—15 people including his children and grandchildren—spent the last two weeks of August visiting and exploring the wonderful canyon lands of Arizona, Utah and Nevada. Included were the Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park and Glen Canyon.

My wife, Maxine, and I had seen these wonderful and beautiful areas about 20 years ago, but it was exciting to see them again through the eyes of eight of our grandchildren and their parents. I am sure that most of you have visited these areas and will agree that these awesome sights are magnificent examples of Mother Nature's artistry. All that is needed is some sandstone, land masses colliding and drifting apart, mountains forming and eroding, sea levels rising and falling, relentless forces of moving water and about two billion years to do the work.

Can you imagine how many people and other forms of life have viewed these natural wonders during the passage of billions of years? It does make one feel insignificant and perhaps irrelevant in relation to the total picture of time from beginning to eternity. My response to this premise would be welcomed. I am sure that you educated gentlemen from Columbia College have many varied views worth expressing.

Next, I would like to express my disappointment about many of our classmates whom I contacted by phone. My request is just a few words to give our readers an update about our lives since graduation. So many agree with enthusiasm to do so, but fail to carry through with their promises. I just can't understand this. Is a few words sent by e-mail beyond the ability of Ivy League graduates? Anyone's explanation would be greatly appreciated and enlightening to your reporter.

Now, on to Class Notes:

Dr. Martin Finkel wrote:
"Gentlemen: This is to inform you that I have been honored by the list of best American physicians and added to the list in October."

An interesting note from Isaac Shapiro: "I'm a bit late in a bit I entered Columbia College as a freshman in fall 1948. I tried to join the naval ROTC, but they wouldn't have me because I was not then a U.S. citizen. Thereupon enlisted in the Army Reserve in December 1948. After the outbreak of the Korean War in June 1950, my reserve unit was called to active duty, and I served as a soldier from September 1950-July 1952, when I was released after a six-month stint in Korea. By that time, the Class of 1950 had graduated."

"After finishing my junior year, I enrolled in the Law School on a professional option and received my B.A. from the College in June 1954 and my L.L.B. from the Law School in 1956. From 1956-57, I attended the University of Paris on a Fulbright Scholarship. From 1957-86, I worked at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley and McCloy. I resigned my partnership there in April 1986 to join Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom, where I now serve as of counsel, having retired in April 2001."

"Jacqueline Weiss '55L and I were married on September 16, 1956. We have three children, a son (50) and two daughters (45 and 41). We also have four grandchildren, ages 10, 8, 5 and 2."

"Our older daughter, Alexandra '91L, gave up her partnership in January at Latham & Watkins to found her own boutique litigation firm of Macht, Shapiro, Arato & Isserlis in New York."

"Some sad news from David Schizer, dean of the Law School, dated August 3: 'I am sorry to report that Kenny Jones passed away last week. He was a pillar of Columbia Law School, both a graduate and distinguished and loyal faculty member. We will miss him terribly and our thoughts are with his family. I am attaching the notice that ran in The New York Times last week: 'Columbia Law School notes with profound sadness the passing of our esteemed colleague, Kenny Jones. He graduated from the Law School at the top of his class in 1954 and joined our faculty in 1959. A dedicated and respected teacher to an international cadre of students, he taught courses on contracts, torts, property, and law and economics until he retired in 2001 as professor emeritus. In addition to a long career as a member of the faculty, Kenny was a devoted public servant, as a member of the President's Task Force on Antitrust Policy, and as Public Service Commissioner for the State of New York, among other notable contributions. The Law School community will remember Kenny for his extraordinary integrity and unflinching dedication to principle, as well as for his compassion, intelligence and energy.'"

"Gentlemen: In order for this column to continue and to exist, responses from you are necessary. With this in mind, I hope to hear from you. Thank you.

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The following Class Notes column appeared in the July/August online-only edition of CCT. In case you missed that version, I've asked the Class Notes editor to reprint it here:"

"Not too long ago, I was watching Antiques Roadshow on public television and surprisingly heard a voice that sounded exactly like George Lowry's. Sure enough, George's son, Nicolas, is the show's national expert for evaluating the value of old posters and other artwork. I recently learned that Jackman, a note indicating that, unbelievably for the first time in 56 years, he received a byline in Spectator. Apparently, an associate editor sent Ajax an e-mail asking him to write a 600-900-word essay about an undergraduate experience that had a significant effect on his later life. The following are highlights of Ajax's article, which appeared in the March 23 edition of Spectator: "At the time, getting a good grade in Professor Charles Dawson's organic chemistry class was considered a key to gaining admission into a top-notch Eastern medical school. Somehow, admissions officers at several medical schools in the Northeast had made a discovery that over the years, a strong correlation existed between this grade and the future success of medical students. So I came to the conclusion that the course could be a good prerequisite for me. After I received a perfect grade, I called Dr. Dawson and explained the situation and asked to meet with him to discuss the matter. He was very helpful and encouraged me to pursue my dream of becoming a doctor."

"That fall, at my interview at Harvard Medical School, my interviewer suddenly said, 'I see that you got an A in Dawson's course. Because of this, I am hereby authorized to offer you an acceptance here and now at Harvard.' But I didn't take it, preferring to go to Columbia P&S."

"In his note, Ajax indicated that this is a true story of how he managed to get into P&S, which led to a 40-year career in internal medicine in San Francisco.

Ted Spiegel '54 (top) and Arnold Toktin '54 chatting during their 55th reunion on campus in June.
PHOTO: ALLAN WIKMAN '54
Steve Reich and his wife, Shyla, celebrated their 50th anniversary in January in a golf tournament that included a team of Bob Reiss ’51, Howard Hansen ’52 and Steve versus their sons. After a two-year stint as a 2nd lieutenant and platoon leader in the Marine Corps, and earning his M.B.A. at the Business School, Steve had a successful 40-year career with the Home Life Insurance Co. before retiring about 10 years ago. He and Shyla live on a small ranch with three horses in Orlando, Fla. One advantage to life in Orlando is that they are near their sons, Rob and John, and five grandchildren. They also own a fractional interest in a large, commercial ranch in Bozeman, Mont., where they keep four horses.

Talking to Steve by phone, I learned that members of Lou Little’s 1951–54 football teams held a reunion at Virginia Beach, Va., last September. This past February, Steve and Shyla joined a group of 76 adventurous souls on an around-the-world-in-3½-weeks trip via a private 757 jet. As they embarked, Steve was surprised and delighted to discover that Dick Lempert and his wife, Marylou, were on board. To say the least, it was quite an adventure. They visited 10 world heritage sites, including the Taj Mahal in India, the Luxor Pyramids in Egypt and the Serengeti in Tanzania, Africa, where they drove in Land Rovers on dirt roads and came within 30 feet of lions, giraffes, zebras and elephants. I already am committed to attending our 60th reunion. Please keep in touch. There are many members of our class who want to hear from you and about what you are doing.

**REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Jennifer Freely jf2261@columbia.edu 212-851-7438 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2247@columbia.edu 212-851-7494 Gerald Sherwin 181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A New York, NY 10021 gss481@juno.com**

The students are fully engaged in their studies, our second-to-none faculty has been putting those scholars through their paces, the advisors and administrators are plying their trade, and it is full speed ahead for our 55th reunion. Showing how terrific they are, our professors also have been emitting much knowledge to the various attendees at the Cafes Columbia lectures, which have expanded from the subject of science to arts, humanities and social science at the PicNic Cafe, just off campus at 101st Street and Broadway. We’ve heard: Professor Don Melnick talk about “The Day Before Yesterday: An Evolutionary Guide to Preserving Species”; Dr. Edward Mendelson’s lecture: “Why Virginia Woolf Disliked Symbols”; and an interesting session hosted by writer Jonathan Weiner on “Sex and Death in the Galapagos.” On Monday nights, PicNic is the place to be.

There’s more! Professor Samuel Moye gave a series of lectures a few weeks ago — “Individuals as agents” — designed to give alumni to expand their understanding and cultural exploration, a true Columbia experience. Recently, a special event was held in Oakland, Calif. — an after-work twilight kayaking tour through the Oakland-Alameda Estuary. This had no relation to Columbia physics professor Elena Aprile leading a race to find and identify dark matter for the first time. In Australia, Dr. Joseph Stiglitz gave an inspirational talk in which he exchanged ideas about economics, the world and of course, Columbia. It was well received by the proverbial “packed house.” Another member of our esteemed faculty made an appearance across the ocean, in Moscow, a short while ago. Chris Walsh ’92 CGAS, ’94 CGAS, ’99 CGAS, professor and jazz musician (who has played at a couple of College events), was at his best and enthralled the rhythm and “toe-tapping” audience in Russia’s capital.

A question many people ask is: Why is our class so successful in being a part of Columbia events, such as reunions, Dean’s Day, Dean’s Scholarship Reception and so on, setting all sorts of records, not only in raising money but also in attendance? I look to our reunion planning committee as a prime example. This group has put us far ahead of other classes and Columbia schools in developing programs for next year’s reunion. Thanks must go to Genny Levin, who has let us use his office to gather and ideate together. As part of this crew, there’s Chuck Solomon, Alfred Gollomp, Larry Balfus (getting ready for the College interview season), Bill Epstein, Bob Brown, Dick Kuhn, Don Laufier, Allen Hyman, Roland Plotell (who took off on a trip to France for his 50th reunion), Steve Rabin, Elliot Gross (who keeps in touch with the good professor Harry Scheiber in Berkeley) and, covering for our classmates outside of New York, Jim Berck (Go Browns!), Stanley Lubman (also in Berkeley), Don McDonough (we’re not sure where he is at any given moment), Lew Mendelson (D.C.), Bob Pearlman (New Jersey), Berish Strauch and Herb Cohen (Westchester), Jack Freeman (assigned to getting Ron McPhee and Don Schwartz to the 55th), Chuck Garrison (Westchester/Rockland counties), Jack Stuppin (still painting and showing in northern California), Annie Schwartz (Connecticut) and Jeff Birolo (also in California — La Jolla).

The plan right now is to have some pre-reunion events hosted by classmates. The reunion begins on Thursday late afternoon/early evening with a reception at the home of one of our guys. There will be a special museum tour on Friday, lunch off campus, lectures and then a wine tasting and another class dinner on campus. The fun will continue in earnest on Saturday with breakfast, lectures/talks, lunch on campus, affinity group receptions (i.e., Glee Club, WKCR, Spectator), a wine tasting and another class dinner on campus. The schedule for next year’s reunion will be posted on our website. Thanks must go to Ezra Levin, who has let us use his office to gather and ideate together. As part of this crew, there’s Chuck Solomon, Alfred Gollomp, Larry Balfus (getting ready for the College interview season), Bill Epstein, Bob Brown, Dick Kuhn, Don Laufier, Allen Hyman, Roland Plotell (who took off on a trip to France for his 50th reunion), Steve Rabin, Elliot Gross (who keeps in touch with the good professor Harry Scheiber in Berkeley) and, covering for our classmates outside of New York, Jim Berck (Go Browns!), Stanley Lubman (also in Berkeley), Don McDonough (we’re not sure where he is at any given moment), Lew Mendelson (D.C.), Bob Pearlman (New Jersey), Berish Strauch and Herb Cohen (Westchester), Jack Freeman (assigned to getting Ron McPhee and Don Schwartz to the 55th), Chuck Garrison (Westchester/Rockland counties), Jack Stuppin (still painting and showing in northern California), Annie Schwartz (Connecticut) and Jeff Birolo (also in California — La Jolla).

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COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

Herb Cooper (retired chief of medical service, Salem Hospital and former Spectator reporter).

A happy note to report Joe Jeffers, a grandson of the late Donn Coffee, entered the College in September as a member of the Class of 2013.

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This will be an unusual CCT column. In the last two months, I have received numerous e-mails concerning two topics. As Dr. Maurice Klein told me via e-mail, he also received more than 50 e-mails concerning two topics. As Dr. Maurice Klein told me via e-mail, he also received more than 50 e-mails on the healthcare controversy. We have received numerous opinions spanning the entire range of the controversy, from the very liberal to the extremely conservative.

Dr. Mark Novick, Dr. Maurice Klein, Al Franco ’56E, Alan Broadwin, Buz Paaswell, Ed Botwinick, Stan Manne and Bob Lauterborn, among others, responded. If I have left anyone out, I apologize. Now for the opinions of a retired M.D. of many decades: mine. I have given much thought to this topic. Most important is starting with the overall concept that the healthcare system is breaking and will be broken in not too many years. It is too expensive in relation to results and will bankrupt the economy if nothing is done. There are excessive tests and procedures done due to a number of problems with the system. First, we require tort reform so that there will be much less defensive medicine practiced. Second, fee for service is an incentive for more services. Third, there are too many private health insurance companies with varying complications and forms, even though in many states one giganto company is essentially a monopoly with excessive overhead reaching 25 percent versus 3 percent for Medicare, giganto salaries, options, bonuses and so forth. In many ways, private health insurance companies are rationing care, which is not discussed but known to many M.D.s and patients, by denials, procrastination, too much time and paperwork to get approval from a nurse sometimes as far as 1,000 miles away.

What is my solution? As several classmates have favorably mentioned from experience, single payer systems on a local basis with salaried M.D.s are received very positively (e.g., Kaiser Permanente, Cleveland Clinics and Mayo Clinic, among others). I agree with others that for the country overall, single payer and salaried M.D.s would eliminate the incentive to do excessive tests and procedures. The problem with this plan is compensation to lawyers and M.B.A.s, who are ready to earn at 25, M.D.s are not ready until about 10 years later at 35, having accumulated debts of almost $200,000, equivalent to a first mortgage. To have salaried M.D.s, we need to subsidize the costs of medical training so they are ready to practice without such debts. We also desperately need tort reform to decrease the practice of the unnecessary defensive medicine I hear about all the time from practicing M.D.s.

The national cost of the healthcare system is excessive and rising, and must be controlled. I do not believe this will be done by Congress, with its many disparate views, unless President Obama forcefully takes the helm of this debate and states what he wants and how he will do it. Some concerns about end-of-life matters, rationing and so on are disgraceful and political and do not do our country good. If we miss this chance to effectively and correctly fix the healthcare system, as we missed it in 1994, it will be many years before another attempt is launched. If done correctly, there is so much potential savings that we will not have to worry about increasing the federal deficit, something the Congressional Budget Office does not take into account. Certainly previously has understated savings in every major change in the healthcare system.

Now for the next major topic burning up the e-mail system, ROTC. It involves the “ancient” classes of the mid- to late-’50s, several of which are sending letters to President Lee C. Bollinger. As you remember, when we did a survey for our fabulous 50th reunion, the majority of us served in the armed forces. I was at Fort Bragg at Special Forces headquarters. Certainly this is a major change from the current Columbia student body in a society that has had “guns and butter” for a number of years with most young people not sacrificing in the face of two wars. I am not against ROTC, and in different circumstances I did favor it, but I feel at the time of two unpopular and unnecessary wars, it is not the right time. Forget “Don’t ask, don’t tell” as a red herring.

Next, our popular class lunches, which in warmer weather are combined with tennis. They did not fare well this past summer at Dan Link’s country club in Westchester. June was a washout, with more rainy days than I have ever seen in one month. Same in July on the scheduled date at Maurice Klein’s club in Long Island. In August, we tried two times and failed. In September, we tried at Maurice’s again. In October, we were back for fun, food and conversation in NYC at either of two redone locations, Fine’s and the Columbia/Princeton Club. I have missed these class get-togethers.

Finally, the sad news of two more class losses. They are getting too numerous. Victor V. Mom Jr. passed away on March 7 in Saratoga Springs, and Garrett W. “Digger” DeGroff passed away on June 30 in Amsterdam, N.Y. Hard to believe how fast time is going. So guys and dolls, let me hear from you with more news, order our 50th reunion DVD thanks to Stan Manne and Ed Botwinick, and remember the Columbia College Fund so we can continue to fund the 10 annual scholarships we set up at the 50th.

Here is wishing us all health, happiness, longevity and maybe a happy retirement. Some of the rumors about end-of-life matters, rationing and so on are disgraceful and political and will do nothing but bankrupt the economy and break us. I was in Israel on Homecoming Saturday, October 17, so I missed many of you.

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Harry Siegmund: “From August 29–30, I was on a team participating in the biggest relay race in the world. It ran from 6,000 feet up Mount Hood to the Oregon coast. The total distance is about 197 miles; the running was shared by 12 team members.

I had the first leg. It descends 2,000 feet in six miles. It’s supposed to be very tough to run. It isn’t that bad; it is down! “Here’s the Hood To Coast Web site: www.hoodtocoast.com. There’s more info there than you possibly could want, but it does a nice job of giving the details of each leg of the course.

Frankly, I do not know why my friends asked me to be on the team. We were in the ’Mixed Super Masters’ class, whatever that is. Rather clearly I was recruited to raise the average team age.

There were six males and six females on the team. In general, the females are in their mid- to late-50s. I know many of them, and they are very good runners. The males, in general, are a bit younger. They also are fast.”

“In Hawaii, we really do have significant hills. My first leg, six miles down Mount Hood starting at 6,000 feet, has an average grade of 6 percent. My elevation decrease is 2,000 feet. Mount Tantalus was a prominent mound with a communications antenna on it. The road from there down to Punalou shows the Tantalus is about that slope and distance. I’ve run it many times but not recently.

“I had a good 15K race on August 16. It validated my planned running pace. Now the trick is controlling the downhill speed and pounding. Downhill is about three times greater force pounding on the legs and joints. Running too fast is a prescription for taking yourself out of the race due to injury.”

Yours truly attended the annual meeting of the American Bar Association’s section on Public Contract Law, held in Chicago July 31–August 3. As in prior years, the opening event (Friday evening) was the Air Force Trial Attorneys’ Dinner; this time at Harry Caray’s Italian Steakhouse, a restaurant decorated with memorabilia honoring a Chicago sports personality. Saturday morning, the Section Council, of which yours truly is a member, met in both closed and open sessions. The Section luncheon featured an address by Jeh Charles Johnson, general counsel of the Department of Defense. The afternoon included election of 2009–10 officers and council members, leadership training for 2009–10 committee officers and three committee meetings. In addition to one committee meeting, events included panels on cyber security and on emerging issues in global anticorruption law in the morning, and in the afternoon, panels on the contractor code of business ethics and conduct under the mandatory disclosure rule and on how much reform one acquisition system can take. In the evening was the Section reception, held in Stanley Field (the main) Hall, The Field Museum. Monday morning included panels on labor and employment legislation impacting federal construction under the Obama administration, oversight challenges in economic stimulus contracting and legal challenges for commercial companies seeking a boost from the stimulus package.

As in prior years, the meetings concluded with the Ruth C. Burg Luncheon, which honors the women in public contract law. Judge Burg, retired from the
I have written to the powers that be at CCT my strong feeling that at this point, the electronic publication of CCT is worthless if you want to read the Class Notes. You can express your feelings by e-mailing them to cct@columbia.edu, subject line “Online Edition.”

[Editor’s note: Class Notes are password-protected to protect the privacy of our alumni. When you enter the Class Notes section of the CCT Web site, you may sign up for and receive your UNI so you can read Class Notes online.]

Reflections on our reunion will be spread out over the next several issues, due to CCT’s space limitations in print.

Mike Zimmerman writes, “The reunion was everything I hoped it would be — and more. I got to see not only old friends but also their spouses — much more beautiful than my classmates.”

“I got a real kick out of reminiscing, chatting, philosophizing (ah, the passage of time), laughing, drinking, dining and exclaiming that no one had changed deep down; in fact, Joel Nelson, Bob Ratner, Al Thaler, Dave Smith, Barry Dickman

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Bob Levine’s new book, Shock Therapy for the American Health Care System: Why Comprehensive Reform Is Needed, has turned out to be exceptionally timely in view of the emotionally charged national debate about health care reform. The book advocates a single-payer system to reduce administrative costs and unnecessary care — a tough and controversial political sell. Bob claims, however, that by reducing administrative costs and unnecessary care, his plan won’t require any new government spending or added taxes. If you’re interested in Bob’s views, the book, published by Praeger Press, is available online from Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Further descriptions appear on Bob’s Web site, robertlevinemd.com.

If you’re The Ethicist of The New York Times and you have a really tough question, who ya gonna call? No, not Ghostbusters — a ’58 doc-tor, of course. When a gynecologist asked Randy Cohen, The Ethicist, how to counsel a husband and wife with differing (and concealed) views — the wife wouldn’t tell her husband she didn’t want children — he consulted David Rothman, professor of social medicine at P&S, who suggested, “Tell the couple in advance that whatever is learned from one that is relevant to the other will be shared.” Very Solomonik, Dave.

And the crowd went wild as (left to right) Joe Klein ’58, Bill Rosenthal ’58, Sidney Roseltchter ’58 and Bob Purye ’58 marched down the aisle carrying their class banner during Class Day in May.

Barry Dickman

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Norman Gelfand

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You may have noticed that you never received a copy of the July/August 2009 issue of Columbia College Today in the mail. This is because it was only published electronically (find it here: www.columbia.edu/cct/past_issues). That information was published in the two previous issues of Columbia College Today, but since I don’t read every word in every issue, I missed it, as I suspect did many of you. To read the Class Notes in the electronic edition of CCT, you need a University Network ID (UNI) and a password, which I suspect many of us do not have. I will e-mail the July/August Class Notes to those for whom I have an e-mail address.

Dave Peck, Neil Gold, Bill Frye, Sam Tindall, Joel Rein and Norm Bernstein all seemed to be, at times, about 18 going on 70.

“I am looking forward to June 2014, when we’ll all be 18 again, going on 75.”

From Allen Rosenhouse (to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude for the success of our reunion): “I joined the Columbia Reunion Organizing Committee (check out the acronym) for our 50th reunion with some hesitation, as more e-mails and general aggravation are not what I am looking for at this point in life. It turned out to be a very rewarding experience, meeting with classmates and working with them to put together what I believe most attendees thought was a successful program. The highlights for me, beyond just seeing people after all these years, were the Bernard Wishy ‘48/David Horowitz panel, the medical panel and the addresses by Steve Trachtenberg, John Corigliano and Raul Hoffman. I missed the ROTC panel because I know what I think about that (it should be reinstated) and don’t want to be confused with contrary facts. Finally, all the talk about the Core Curriculum has prompted me to start rereading some of it (and reading some parts I never quite got to). In short, it was good to ‘wake the echoes of the Hudson Valley.’”

Ben Janowski describes the wonderful things that can happen at a reunion. “Rather than give an encapsulated history of my life for the last few decades, I thought I would share one interesting moment I had during Alumni Reunion Weekend. I met Ernie Bial, who was the fencing team manager for our four years at Columbia. I was on the team and remembered Ernie as an upbeat supporter of the team and very efficient at his job. I am sure there was a lot more to it than that, but who remembers after all these years? In any case, here we were on the cruise, and, among other reminiscences, got into a chat about our family histories. Ernie was born in Paris, to parents who fled Berlin in the mid-’30s. In 1940, they fled again, this time to Lisbon. I mentioned that I was born in Lisbon. My father’s family had come there in 1921 to escape starvation and the post-WWI fighting between the Poles and Russians after WWI. My mother’s family came to Lisbon in 1930 from Warsaw after the economic calamity caused by the 1929 crash. During the late ’30s and early ’40s, my family was instrumental in assisting Holocaust-era refugees who came through Lisbon looking for transit to foreign countries. Portugal would not allow them to stay. As I asked about how the Bial family managed, I said that we too had departed Lisbon for New York in 1941. Ernie then asked what ship we were on, and I said the Njisse, a tug that made 14 round trips between Lisbon and various ports in the Americas between 1940-44 (a fact that I was able to determine only recently). He looked at me and said they too had been on that ship. As best as I could determine, they were on an April voyage that landed them in Cuba. We left in July. We are only left to wonder if our families had met in Lisbon, certainly a possibility, and perhaps my family was instrumental in getting them passage, also a strong possibility. And we only learned this small piece of history 54 years after we met.”

From Ernie Bial, “Ben and I had a splendid lunch on Broadway to begin our reunion. All the sidewalk cafes near Columbia make Broadway look like Paris. Our memories and the coincidences in our stories were a revelation that it took 50 years to reveal. In general, the reunion was well received and I am very glad I was there. It was a pleasure to see that fellows who started with light blue beanies became a famous composer, a Nobel-prize winner and a university president. Hail, Columbia!”
J. Peter Rosenfeld writes, "It was great to see my fraternity bros: Clive Chajet and Mike Bromberg (at a private dinner only), and Frank Wilson, Dan Ein, Jimmy Goldstein, Dave Peck and George Mann at dinners and reunion functions. (Whom did I forget?!) Also, non-bros too numerous to mention or remember at my age. It was sad to have just missed Ira Freilicher, who died the week before."

From Mike Berlin: "Taking advantage of the 50th, the '59ers who belonged to a fraternity that no longer exists — Phi Sigma Delta, may it rest in glorious peace — gathered on Thursday night of Alumni Reunion Weekend (with wives, when available) to celebrate their first meeting in half a century. Saul Brody organized (to perfection) the dinner at Alouette, a French restaurant on Broadway between 97th and 98th. All 12 Phi Sigs from '59 signed up to attend, but Jordy Tobin and Steve Remen couldn't make it. Those who did, in addition to Saul, were Fred Knauer, Ira Jolles, Isser Woloch, Bob Nelson, Allan Franklin, Joe Krieger, Ron Sommer (who made it all the way from Peru), Dick Tyler, and me. Everyone enjoyed it so much that the New Yorkers among us planned an encore in September (with invitations to the outlanders, like me, who may be in the Big Apple at the time)."

Gene Appel writes that, "My wife, Linda, and I enjoyed the reunion. What I missed most were specific classmates I was hoping to see. I don't want to mention names, but people like Buddy and Mary Ann, Ben and Pat, Phil and Martha (whom I have yet to meet), and of course, Eddie and Cathy. I'm sure there are others that my old amigos are asking me to forget, but the principle is the same."

"Here is one thing I didn't like: I felt Ted Graske has made a stellar effort to participate in alumni activities and at the dinner when some others were recognized. I felt his omission was directly reflective of Ted's effort to overcome [President Lee C.] Bollinger and the departmental staff's effort to resist ROTC being reestablished on campus."

"As for what we did: See a Broadway show; used the afternoon after campus talks to return to the Museum of Modern Art on our morning ticket (which was good for the whole day); spent the entire visit without renting a car (traveled from airport to Delaware/Connecticut on Amtrak), subway metro on some occasions; visited family and friends. Remembered what NYC meant as part of the education at Columbia and what I tell every prospect thinking of the education at Columbia and the principle is the same."

"I'm sure there are others that my partners are grumbling about "retirement in place." I remain generally busy, however. In the last year, someone finally stepped up and took over as president of our local Columbia alumni club. I held that position for more years than I care to remember. I remain on the club's board and interview about 10-12 applicants to Columbia for ARC every year. It's a lot of fun because these young men and women are really talented. We are seeing more and more women interviewed here in Tampa."

"Sandy and I now have four grandsons: two in Alexandria, Va. (13 and 9; intense baseball); and two in New York City (6 and 2; baseball just starting). We are often in airports around the weekends. I also will be finishing my term as president of the Ferguson-White American Inn of Court in Tampa, and I will remain on the board for another year. I expect there will be some adjustments at the firm head."

"The affinity meetings, in my case WKCR, afforded what had always been missing from reunions held five years apart: the chance to see friends from classes immediately before and after our own. I was also one of several alumni who recorded an hour's worth of reminiscences for WKCR's oral history project, and I was amazed at the things that came to mind once I got going."

"Overall, the reunion was well-planned and run by helpful staffers and volunteers. There was, I think, something for everyone. The ticketed events were, in my view, overpriced, but I enjoyed the excursion to the Museum of Modern Art (had lunch and stayed there all afternoon with the Kushnicks) and the boat ride, which offered a close-up view of the floodlit Statue of Liberty, not to mention Steve Trachtenberg in top raconteurish form."

"As always at reunions, I was amazed at how many of my classmates' names, let alone faces, seemed totally new to me (were they really there 50 years ago?), but at least I got to chat with some of them, perhaps for the first time. All in all, a great reunion!"

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"PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO"
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My contact information is wcffye@trenam.com; 813-227-7458 (w); 813-287-8659 (h); and 813-833-9561 (cell). Hope to see you all again and hear from you as well.

Childhood friends gathered in May for the 50th wedding anniversary of Phil Cottone '61 and his wife, Maureen, at their son's house in Malvern, Pa. Shown from left are Maureen; Alice Senior, her grade school friend; Phil; and Bill Chororos '61, who grew up with Phil.

PHOTO: ELISABETH SANTEIX

A 15-minute video of the Ubud exhibit and of Paul at work in and out of his studio in Bali is a visual treat; one that it is hoped will be shared with the entire class at our 50th reunion. The First-Thursday-of-the-Month Class Lunch is, on occasion, a moveable feast. In what has become a tradition in recent years, the lunch ascended to Portland, Maine, in August. August in Manhattan is not exactly April in Paris, and the change in venue can be a welcome relief. Larry Rubinstein and his wife, Robin, hosted the lunch. In attendance were Bob Berne and his wife, Steffi; Richard Friedlander; David Kirk; and Art Delmhorst. Also present as special guests were Derek Wittner '65, dean of alumni affairs and development, and his wife, Kathryn, associate dean of student affairs. It should come as no surprise that lobster was on the menu. Lunch was followed by a guided tour of the Portland Museum of Art, featuring artists from Connecticut and Maine. The format of a Class Note does not permit a description from narratives of achievement and triumph to tales of tragedy. But tragedies are very much a part of the intricate tapestry of every class chronicle, and it would do us no honor to ignore them. The note that follows will be poignant, deeply sad and thought provoking.

Jay Jackman contributes this warm yet wistful reflection on Stanley Horowitz, who died in February:

"Stan and I attended Erasmus Hall H.S. in Brooklyn. He was among the brightest kids I knew. I think he was valedictorian at Erasmus."

Stan was junior Phi Beta Kappa and the recipient of the Kinne Humanities Prize at Columbia, as reported in the last issue. Following graduation, Stan and Jay entered Harvard Medical School. Then, beset by mental problems, Stan's behavior increasingly turned erratic. His brilliant scholastic journey abruptly spun off track."Stan was very psychologically troubled in medical school," Jay continues. "I don't know what went wrong at Harvard, but he was a casualty, and as I best remember, he did not start the second year. He stayed in the Boston-Cambridge area but seemed on the few occasions I saw him to be a lost soul, and as far as I know, never recovered to a functional life."

Having taken the rites of passage to adulthood in lockstep for almost a decade, Stan never reached their common destination, his gifts effaced and accomplishments negated by an unrelenting tragic destiny. Jay concludes on this plain-spoken affecting note: "I

toward year-end to allow greater flexibility in my schedule, although I am still listed in Best Lawyers in America. I had a conflict last year for the CAA weekend on campus, but I recall that in either '05 or '07, or perhaps both meetings, the endowment fund financial managers gave reports with eye-popping returns. Many alums said that Columbia needed to come up with a program in which the alums could invest with Columbia and enjoy similar returns (luckily it was impossible to do) — funny how things work out. If one hangs around long enough, one realizes that literally anything, no matter how unexpected, could be right around the corner. It's one of the things I try to emphasize to our younger trial lawyers — consider how the case can go wrong.

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Having taken the rites of passage to adulthood in lockstep for almost a decade, Stan never reached their common destination, his gifts effaced and accomplishments negated by an unrelenting tragic destiny. Jay concludes on this plain-spoken affecting note: "I
Marty Kaplan ’61 received the 2009 Thomas Berry award, honoring those who have enhanced awareness of responsibility for the whole Earth community.

The foundation considered Marty as an outstanding supporter of Thomas’ vision. Through his energy, intellect and passionate commitment, he enhanced a guiding force in the development of the field of religion and ecology, and has played a key role in the support of the foundation and the forum.

Marty recently retired as the partner of the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale and Dorr. He has had a distinguished career as a partner of the law firm of Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale and Dorr. He has had a distinguished career as trustee of charitable foundations and as an active leader in interreligious affairs, public education reform, and governance of charitable organizations.

As a member of the Thomas Berry Foundation, Marty has been the driving force behind the foundation’s mission to enhance awareness of responsibility for the whole Earth community. He has been an active leader in interreligious affairs, public education reform, and governance of charitable organizations.

Marty Kaplan, a contributing member of the Thomas Berry Foundation, has been the driving force behind the foundation’s mission to enhance awareness of responsibility for the whole Earth community. He has been an active leader in interreligious affairs, public education reform, and governance of charitable organizations.

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Summer is reaching a steamy climax as I write these notes. Hopefully, you are all enjoying a cool fall, and Columbia’s football team has gotten off to a winning start (one can always hope). I have received some long and interesting notes from you recently, and I include some of them here intact. Others that have been brutally edited by me can be read in their entirety on our Web site, www.cc63ers.com.

**Paul Neshamkin**

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Don Margolis and I went to the College and SEAS Convocation at the end of the year. We were there to welcome the Class of 2013 to its first academic year and hear Michele Moody-Adams, the new Dean of Columbia College. Our class graduated 30 years before the entering class, so we will take part in the “Bridge Program” (formerly called the “Grandfather Program”), which will give us all an opportunity to build a closer relationship with this class through to its Commencement in four years (which will also be our 50th reunion).

**George Viale**

“I went to P&S, graduating in '67 after spending a year as an international fellow at what is now SIPA. I had always been interested in politics and found it to be a wonderful experience. Nobel Laureate Harold Varmus ‘66 P&S was there at the same time.

“Subsequently went on to do research at the Communicable Disease Center (now Centers for Disease Control) in Atlanta. Returning to Boston, I finished a residency in ophthalmology in 1973 and entered private practice. After leaving residency, I married Joan Gambill ‘70 Mt. Holyoke, who worked at a lab at Mass General. We have three children: Jon, a Ph.D. and M.B.A. who is a biotech scientist and entrepreneur; Steven, an M.B.A. and C.F.A. who manages money; and Sally, an M.B.A. who works in health care informatics. They and Joan are all equestrians and chose to go to college at Duke (Jon and Sally) and Colgate (Steve), where their horses could follow them. I believe I have the distinction of being the only one in my circle of friends whose children went to business school on someone else’s nickel.

“Along the way, I pursued parallel careers in real estate speculation and most recently surgery center development. I was one of the founders of Ambulatory Surgical Centers of America, the largest privately held company in this industry and I have been active in the nonprofit sphere, on a national level with AIPAC, CAMERA and Middle East Forum, which was founded by Professor Daniel Pipes. At Columbia, I have donated two endowed chairs in the School of International and Public Affairs, one in Core Curriculum, occupied by Gareth Williams from the classics department. The second is in molecular cardiology, occupied by Wayne Hendrickson. I also have donated a College scholarship in honor of my brother, who passed away, Sigmund Violin, as well as a traveling fellowship to Israel. I was guided in these matters by the memory of my father, a lawyer in Vienna, a dishwasher and insurance broker in the United States. He alone of his generation was not deported by Hitler. He taught me to revere the classics and to pay my dues, in this case to Columbia.

“Which brings me, with revulsion and sadness, to the Massad abomination. I have followed this for several years through Campus Watch and Middle East Forum with Professor Pipes. Although Massad was denied tenure once, the University reportedly reversed itself. The story here is not about Jews or even Israel, but about the battle of the aging generation, in particular, between the new values in political correctness and the old. The public discourse here is inevitably pretentious, as is of course the discourse about ROTC and so on. Those who feel that I have no cause but to turn off the financial spigot. Fortunately, the hard sciences and the medical school still have their integrity.

“I see a few of my classmates now and then, most recently Gary Rachelefsky, I remain in regular contact with Gil Einstein. Would be happy to see more of you, George. We would love to see you, and talk further about the implications of the Massad tenure decision. Many of your classmates have expressed their feelings in e-mail discussions with me. I, for one, am no admirer of Columbia College. I will, however, make sure that they know of the concerns of many of our classmates.

**Frank Sypher**

“Recently published is Liber A 1628-1700 of the Collegiate Churches of New York, edited and translated by [me and] written mostly in Dutch, and here presented in the full original Dutch text, with facing English translation, contains detailed 17th-century records of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of the City of New York. Especially significant are records pertaining to the granting in 1696 of the royal charter of incorporation of the church and records relating to donations for, and construction of, the church building on Garden Street (now the Exchange Place). Nearly all of these pages were written out in the late 1600s by Domine Henricus Selens (1636–1701). The full Dutch texts have never before been published, and they should be of interest to all concerned with American colonial history, especially the history of New Netherland and New York.

**Steven Cahn**

“Am pleased to report that two of my former doctoral advisees, now faculty members, recently edited a collection of essays written by and for Michael B. Mukasey, George W. Bush’s last attorney general.”

It starts, “Michael Mukasey is a modest man, not a horn-tooter, and you may have missed his tenure as attorney general.” I’m sure none of you did, but you might look for this article online (I’ve added it to our Web site, www.cc63ers.com).

**Edd Hanzelik**

“I have co-authored a book, The Inner Game of Stress: Outsmart Life’s Challenges and Fulfill Your Potential, which was released in August. My former student John Horton, and I have been aware of the huge impact that chronic stress has on the health and well-being of our patients. Yet the medical field is quite limited in acknowledging this and its ability to provide effective treatment. We teamed up with Tim Galloway, the author of the best-selling Inner Game of Tennis: The Classic Guide to the Mental Side of Peak Performance, to apply his learning methods to the issue of stress. The results have been remarkable. Our patients learn that they can maintain their inner stability in the face of life’s challenges. The tools we provide are simple, yet they help people see that they have a choice when it comes to stress.

“I live in Calabasas, Calif., a suburb of Los Angeles. My family is growing. I know many of us have grandchildren (I have two). We also have a 1-year-old great-granddaughter! Quite a delight to be with. My wife and I enjoyed the 45th reunion of our class, the first we had attended. Walking around the Columbia campus and meeting classmates brought back many fond memories.”

**Phil Friedman**


**Alexis Levitin**

“I am just this moment back from Ecuador, where my newest book, Tapestry of the Sun, was launched on August 5. The book is a co-translation, with Fernando Iturburn, of 18 modern Ecuadorian poets. It is the first anthology of Ecuadorian poetry published in English. With all that work, I also managed to spend an entire month on the beaches of the Galapagos Islands, taking long walks among the marine iguanas and swimming clumsily with little young sea lions, to their endless amusement. My traveling plan for this year is Brazil: A Traveler’s Literary Companion. It is a collection of short stories representing all the regions of that vast country. I was the editor of the project and also translated four or five of the stories. I continue to enjoy my time in Ecuador, and I travel to Brazil and Ecuador and try to take a break here and there to plod through rainforests looking for monkeys and have the rare fortune to gaze with profound pleasure at a bay filled with sleek dolphins. Still teaching at SUNY-Plattsburgh for the nonce.”

**Gary Rachelefsky**

“Reports, ‘My wife, Gail, and I welcomed our sixth grandchild, Jocelyn Rachel Weinstock, on May 13. The happy parents, Lindsay ‘01 and Daniel Weinstock, live in Columbus, Ohio, as do Jocelyn, Gail and I went to Singapore and then Nepal in October. In our group was Charlie Goldsmith and his wife, Maryanne ‘63 Barnard. We had dinner with Amy and Bobbi Heller recently, I enjoyed visiting with Eileen and Peter Brudo recently in Chicago. All are not aging.”

**Chet Osborn**

“I recently returned from my 50th high school reunion in Monticello, N.Y. It was my first one, and it was a pleasant surprise to see old friends. Thirty of 107 have passed away.

“I miss surgery, having retired from thoracic/CV surgical practice in Columbus, Ohio, a couple of years ago. I keep busy with two grandchildren and traveling between the Smokies in the summer and Kauai Island in the winter. My work and I keep in touch. I enjoy reading the Class Notes and appreciate your efforts on our behalf.”

**Fred Sierles**

“I am a pro-
fessor and director of medical student education in psychiatry at the Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science, and have done that for a few decades. The ‘news’ is that “a) In April, I was selected as an inaugural member of my university’s Master teacher’s Guild.

“b) A paper in JAMA for which I was senior author, ‘Medical students’ exposure to and attitudes about drug company interactions’ (September 7, 2005), was influential in the Association of American Medical Colleges’ developing, in 2008, guidelines for drug company-physician and drug company-student interactions.

“c) In June 2008, I married Terrie Lee Stengel, a fifth-grade teacher at the Shabonee School in Northwest, Ill.

“d) I keep in touch with Mel Gurtov, my Phi Ep roommate (now a professor of Asian political affairs in Oregon), and Bob Peters, my roommate at the Chicago Medical School, now a professor of medicine (cardiology) at the University of Maryland.”

Larry Neuman sends the following update on his alternate energy efforts: “I represent The Wind Company for North America (www.thewindcompany.com (see my pic)), TWC is based in Vienna, Austria, and I am working with it on a number of utility-scale wind farm acquisitions in the United States from Illinois and Minnesota to Texas. We are working on a solar project in China (in addition to wind), and we (Solar Bridge, www.solar-bridge.com) are about to build our first solar project in New Jersey. From Inner Mongolia to Hackensack and anyplace in between — that’s my motto.”

Paul Gorin writes, “I was a panelist at a local healthcare restructure forum. I was the very skeptical advocate for a single payer system. Lively, thoughtful discussion. Some 200 people were at the Presbyterian church in Lewes, Del. As it was a meeting of a private group (Delaware Small Business Healthcare Coalition), they kept the ‘crazies’ and their signs out. Staffers from Mike Castle and Tom Carper’s offices were there. Will send the local paper reportage, which I haven’t seen. Among my observations were that I had just come from my office where I had seen an unemployed couple, newly signed with one of the Medicaid plans, but I couldn’t say how many people I didn’t see, who stayed away because of not having insurance… Of course, I never turn anyone away — but the problem is with diagnostic studies that are very costly. Also, there are in point of fact no uninsured people in the United States, as their costs are shifted to those of us who have insurance. I was the maverick. It was a blast to be one of the ‘experts.’

Remember, the Class of ‘63 lunches are still going strong in the new Grill at the Columbia Club on West 43rd Street, and plan to visit NYC and join us. The next gatherings are on November 12 and December 10. Check the Web site at www.cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.”

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I am writing this shortly before the Labor Day weekend. I hope all of you and your families had a happy and healthy summer. News from classmates is usually sparse during the summer, and this year is no exception.

Steve Case sent a note indicating that he had just recently learned about the 1913 courtroom encounter between the legendary western lawyer Bat Masterson and Benjamin Cardozo, who was a lawyer at the time defending a newspaper against Masterson’s libel suit. I had actually written about the encounter in my blog a few months before. You can see the story at www.fullcourtpass.com/2009/05/bat-master son-and-benjamin-cardozo.html# comments.

As I watched the television reports on the death of Sen. Ted Kennedy, an anchor announced that he would now interview Peter Canellos, author of a book about the senator. I excitedly turned to my wife, Jacqueline, and said, Peter is a classmate, that he is tax lawyer in New York City, that I did not know he had written a book about Senator Kennedy, and here is a great item for Class Notes. But it turned out not to be our Peter C. Canellos. The author is an editor at the Boston Globe. But as I said, news is slow during the summer, so I include the item anyway.

The informal class lunch at the Columbia Club in New York City on the second Thursday of each month has resumed. Join us if you are in town. And send me some news so I am not left to writing about people who have the same name as a classmate.


PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

CLASS NOTES
of six editors of the Journal of Modern Literature, which is published by Indiana University Press, and I recently was named to a term on the editorial board of Publications of the Modern Language Association of America, the journal of record in academic study of modern languages and literatures. I continue my own writing for scholarly journals and books (most recently, an essay on Henry James; a book chapter on homosexuality’s place in modernist-era writing; and an essay on a wrongly-neglected English novelist and critic, Robert Liddell).

“After many years administering departments of English, I am happy to be back full-time in the classroom. In fall 2008, I conducted a pilot program for Penn State students abroad in Rome. It turned out to be my most cherished season of teaching in a nearly 40-year career. I should note that I’ve been lucky to spend a lot of teaching time in Rome. Between 1994 and 2002, I regularly taught a summer graduate seminar (about relations between vision and rationality since the Renaissance) for Temple University in Rome. After moving from Temple to Penn State, I’ve remained a part of the Temple course as a guest faculty member. Meanwhile, back at Penn State, I’ve most recently headed up a full effort to institute a sexuality and gender studies minor, a curricular option that the university long dragged its feet about authorizing.

“I wonder when our next reunion might be; I pray that I can be present, along with you and lots of others. The classmates I keep up with are David Denby, A. Howard Matz, Peter Rutter and Roy Skodnick. They continue to have adventurous and productive lives. If Class Notes hasn’t mentioned their most recent book, Stark, it’s worth noting!”

As I have informed Bob and have mentioned in previous columns, our next reunion, our 45th, will take place from Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. Please mark those dates on your calendar and by all means, please attend!

*Ed Goodgold and I recently had breakfast with Jim Siegel. Jim has been through some difficult times lately since the death of his oldest son, Zachary, in February. I have no doubt that Jim is doing the best that he can. He keeps busy too, with clinics in Chapel Hill, Charlotte and Raleigh, and a software company that does neurocognitive testing. We are particularly interested in predicting very early Alzheimer’s disease, an issue that is close to home.

“We don’t have much contact with classmates from college, although occasionally one comes through from P&S. Classmates for the Class of ’65 are more than welcome to the restaurant (La Residence), and we shall arrange a free sorbet or singing waiter or both.”

David Halperin practices law in Hong Kong, where he has lived since 1976. He writes, “I came out to the Far East originally with Courdier Brothers, but the firm closed its doors several years ago and I moved with our other Hong Kong partners to Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe in what has been an easy transition. I have run across many Columbia graduates in Hong Kong, but none from our class.”

“In 1997 Fran and I moved to an apartment in Bangkok that I get to fairly regularly on weekends, and I enjoy sitting on the boards of some art- and design-related businesses in which I have an interest.

“I recently hosted a cocktail reception at the Hong Kong Club for Columbia College alumni and newly admitted College students and their parents, and I did some interviewing for the College. I would be happy to see any visiting classmates, either in Hong Kong or Bangkok.”

Craig Karpel had an article, “We Don’t Spend Enough on Health Care,” in The Wall Street Journal on August 16. Craig takes a fresh look at the issue of health care expenditures. As this column goes to press, the fate of the healthcare proposals in Congress is unclear, but the leading proposals are motivated in part by a desire to control our nation’s healthcare costs. Craig points out that the healthcare industry contributes to our economy just as manufacturing does. “It’s intuitively clear that one person’s expenditure on widgets is another person’s income. But the same is true of the healthcare industry. The $2.4 trillion Americans spend each year for healthcare doesn’t contribute to our economy any more than the $1.5 trillion Americans spend each year for healthcare.”

Craig sure thinks outside of the box.

I received some news in late summer from my sophomore-year roommate, Kent Kretchman: “Mary Lynn and I have finally retired. We were fortunate enough to purchase a home in Scottsdale, Ariz., and have spent the last four winters there to avoid the weather in the upper Midwest. Our daughter is pursuing a Ph.D. in education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, so we’re able to spend the warmer weather months at our home in Wisconsin nearer to her. Since the end of 2006, I’ve had a total hip replacement and rotator cuff repairs on both shoulders, but I’m still exercising regularly. I’m able to run, but my goals are now different. Consistency is now paramount rather than speed. The surgeon who did my hip replacement envisions every time he sees me out running, but so far I’ve had no problems and had been doing 40 miles a week until this recent shoulder surgery.

Your correspondent asks, is this the story of a human being or a pre-1959 DeSoto in Havana?

So, the rest of the Class of 1966 has chosen to keep its exciting news, gossip and witty reminiscences about the state of the galaxy and so on to itself. How about something interesting from the rest of you classmates? Just because I’m located on the underside of the globe doesn’t mean that your e-mails don’t reach me as quickly as they would if you were in the next room! Let’s hear from a bunch of you for a future issue!”

David Halperin ’65 practices law in Hong Kong, where he has lived since 1976.
his grandchildren when he and Eve are not tending their gardens or biking along the many back roads that beckon. Missing from what has become an annual summer reunion was Eric Dannemann and his family, Peggy, Will and Clara. It seems that Eric’s son, Will, has become a champion rower like his dad and grandfather, and Eric was busy accompanying him to various regattas around the country and abroad. Gerry, Eric, Robert and David are all lightweight crew alumni; Bruce, Gerry, Robert and Eric are all lightweight crew alumni at Lhi Gamma Delta. We all feel fortunate to have found each other again and look forward to many more outings and celebrations together.

Gordon Klein wrote a sequel to his last submission: “In September 2009, I took a three-week trip to India. I provided medical care at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. As rebuilding is slow and tedious, the regents approved cutting of tenure faculty for financial exigency. So, I have been on an unintended sabbatical since last August. As I noted earlier, I went on a lecture tour of India in January, including the All India Institute, a meeting in New Delhi, a few schools, the Sanjay Gandhi Institute and King George V Medical College in Lucknow. I also attended a reunion and a meeting in Sydney by flying to Perth and taking the Indian Pacific across the Outback to Adelaide and then on to Sydney. It’s a three-day ride. One Outback stop was the city of Cook, which is where you do there, as it is 40 degrees Celsius regularly. Cook has a population of about one million, mostly flies. There are four humans who also live there. In June, I was a guest lecturer at Oxford, giving a seminar and participating in a closed workshop at the Hospital Club. We had a wonderful time. In September, I closed out the month and my ‘sabbatical’ by speaking at the International Osteoporosis Foundation Asia meeting in Beijing, after which I returned home, packed my things and headed to Lexington, Ky., where I am professor of pediatrics and faculty at the Kentucky Pediatric Research Institute at the University of Kentucky. Basketball should be exciting there if I can get tickets.”

Gerry Botha writes, “Since graduation, about 40 fellow lightweight oarsmen from the Classes of 1965–1971, and coaches, have pulled off more than 50 reunion events. The most frequent one happens nearly every Memorial Day weekend at the General Clinton. Canoe Regatta thanks entirely to the hospitality, generosity and tenacity of the Schenk Family of Starlight, Pa. (Proctor (aka Don) Schenk ’69 and his wife, Deborah, being the prime movers).

“We soon will be celebrating our 40th one of these reunions, and so are hoping as many as possible of the original group who started it all in 1968 will attend in 2010. The original group consisted of Norman Hildes-Heim ’67, Gerry Botha, Bob Chapla ’68, Dennis Dean ’71E, John Gormley ’69, Dave Green ’69, Gordon Hamilton ’69, Tom Huseby ’69, Don Schenk ’69, Fred Yakulic ’69 and Larry Schenk ’71.

“The other primary reunion events are those with the Class of 1967 five-year reunions. Our class is the primary instigator of these reunions because the 1967 freshman lightweight crew was undefeated in 1964 and, as a result, has an especially strong bond, which is shared by all of those who were elsewhere. None of us have been grasped by our children, Joshua (29), a v.p. in strategic planning at Viaoam, and Abigail (23), a research analyst at an investment fund. Neither of my children is prepared to concede that I received a better education, but they make for lively family discussions.”

[Editor’s note: See Obituaries, September/October.]

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So the summer ended with rainstorms in the bay, but I had a good summer, getting to Saratoga enough and having had a wonderful mini-vacation in Bermuda. We had a great time enjoying the beaches and the elegance of the island. And the weather was perfect. For me, 2009 has been among the best years, and I just celebrated another birthday. St. Louis’ St. Louis Blues have been forward this season more than last and Columbia football and basketball, which I predict will produce outstanding performances and many wins and some upsets, for sure. My daughter, Hannah ’06, whom I recently visited, started graduate school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and will run into Professor Jon Kotch on the faculty there. And my son, Sam ’09, is a paralegal in the city, having finished Columbia in January after having taken a semester off to be in Austin. My 93-year-old mom, who went to Carolina at Chapel Hill and will run into my brother, David Alpern, at the board of directors of the Victorian Society in America (Metro New York). Since 1978, I have been at Shearman & 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 Committee. Although I do value working for clients who also pay, the most meaningful matter on which I have worked in private practice has been my representation of an inmate on death row. I took the case on in 1984, and it is still going. My views on the death penalty, and on the issue of a State of Utah financing, which is slightly more than $1 billion, is the new platform, and Jeffries is an outstanding firm.

I saw Paul de Bary for lunch a couple of weeks before writing this. We continue our luncheons once in a while. Paul and Vicki recently celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary. Congratulations. They were off to Istanbul for vacation. (I saw Bernie Weinstein ’65, and he, too, was off to Istanbul.) Bernie’s daughter, Jessica ’06, a high school classmate of my daughter, has begun medical school, Bernie reported. He is the one who encouraged me to sit in on an alumni class on Plato. It was fabulous. I had dinner with Bob Costas and his wife last birthday, but he seems to always be a year ahead of me. His daughter, Carolyn ’12, is broadcasting for WKCR. She does sports, and if you can get to a radio this year, she is incredibly good. She is a superstar in the dorm. I have known her since she was going to games as a 2-year-old. I am deeply sorry that I missed seeing Lance Nagel while he was in the city. Lance has two children in the city, and he and his wife will be married this summer. When I spoke to him last he, and his wife were roughing the terrain in Central Park on what was a near-perfect day. (And Lance, I do remember you, but the “guy with the fiddle” does not compute for me. But the “guy with the fiddle.”)

Neil Anderson is somewhere in that great area and maybe we three, like a long time ago, can get together for some laughter. And Nigel, I really was in Lansing again recently, but I was in and out in a few hours and I am looking forward to seeing you again. Let me know when you are getting into the city. Seth Weinstein continues to do real estate and is spending more time reading The Wall Street Journal. We run into each regularly at the gym, Reebok, which is as Groucho Marx would say, in my words, too high-end for the two of us. I really enjoyed hearing from John Chee. He and I had a drink, soda or coffee, in the city a few weeks before this writing. He looks great and was in for his son’s 100th wedding. John is doing some development work for a university in Hong Kong, and he met with a businessman who has a factory in mainland China with 300,000 employees on a site half the size of Manhattan.

Russell Needham has good news. He was “elected to the board of directors of the Victorian Society in America (Metro New York)

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

York Chapter). Though a political science major at Columbia, I give credit to all those humanities courses for turning me on to 19th-century art and literature. The Victorian Society’s goal is to educate about and preserve the art, history and architecture of the Victorian period. We have been able to achieve landmark status for many buildings in the five boroughs that otherwise might have been torn down by developers. Speaking of the arts, I invite all Columbians in the NYC area to join the Columbia Alumni Arts League (www.cuarts.com/caal) for discount tickets to events all over the city. Many events include cocktails parties (I think we called them ‘mixers’) before or after the performances.”

Paul Brosnan continues to send bright and thoughtful political humor that I enjoy, but I am staying away from reporting the details and hope that the Columbia baseball star from Arlington, Mass., my hometown, is well and that he is still able to pitch and hit a ball out of the park.

Mas Taketomo sent a good note on the June Dean’s Day event. He had a great time and saw Buzz Zucker there. Mas reported that his wife took a great picture of him and his sons in front of Greg Wyatt ’71’s Scholars’ Lion sculpture on campus.

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With last issue’s report on our 40th reunion, the column returns to its news and/or views from the reunion year: $576,532. The fund number includes one large, anonymous gift that was received at the final buzzer. Our class’ participation rate was 36.45 percent (compared to 30.92 percent from the prior year). As with the last fund year, the need for contributions this year is quite pronounced: The financial aid requests from students and their families have increased, while the amounts available from the endowment have decreased. For those who traditionally make their charitable donations before the end of the calendar year, the fund’s address is Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025. Gifts can also be made via www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline.

A few issues back, I speculated who in the class has the most children to graduate from the College. I had thought it would be Joe Materna, with three daughters, or Jonathan Schiller, with three sons. But Bruce Gillers wrote in about his legacies, and now he and his wife, Mina ’69 Barnard, have taken the lead with four: Shana ’98, David ’00, Sara ’04 and Allen ’06. Their son, Joseph, was accepted to the College “but chose the ambience of the Midwest and will graduate from Washington University in St. Louis in May.” Meanwhile, their son, Ben, after eight years of yeshiva in Israel, graduated last spring from University of Toronto.

Shortly after Justice David Souter announced his retirement from the Supreme Court, and before it became clear that President Barack Obama ’83 was focusing his search on women, the Atlantic Monthly posted an online column including Nick Garafalis (now a federal district court judge in the Eastern District of New York) on the “short list” being considered for elevation to the U.S. Supreme Court: http://politics.theatlantic.com/2009/04/souter_said_to_be_retiring_who_would_replace_him.php. While this elevation did not happen, Justice Souter might have opened the door for Nick being considered, and there is always the future.

Tom Hazen has been a professor at The University of North Caroli-
na-Chapel Hill School of Law since 1980 and is the Cary C. Boshamer Distinguished Professor of Law. Tom writes: “I continue to love law teaching in ‘the southern part of Heaven.’ I just published the sixth edition of my Securities Law treatises (now seven volumes) and new editions of my corporations and securities casesbooks. I am working on the third edition of a monograph on federal securities law published by the Federal Judicial Center for use by federal judges. But the most important achievement this year (also, alas, mine) is that my youngest son, George Spears, will be on the UNC football team (wearing jersey No. 60) as an invited walk-on, and I will be able to watch him every day from my office that overlooks the practice field. My older son, Elliott, has completed a Ph.D. in marine biology at Duke and will be starting a post-doc in Monterey, Calif.”

Bill Bonvillian has co-authored a book on energy policy, Structuring an Energy Technology Revolution. The book proposes a new integrated policy framework for advancing energy technology and outlines a four-step approach for encouraging energy innovations: assessment of how new technology will be launched, focusing on obstacles that may hinder market entry and growth, development of technology-neutral policies and incentives, putting new technology pathways into practice to bridge the traditional “valley of death” between research and late-stage development, and identification of gaps in the existing system of institutional support for energy innovation and the establishment of private and public interventions to fill these gaps. Bill is director of MIT’s Washington office, supporting MIT’s relations with the U.S. Congress and its role on national science policy.

On August 3, HBO broadcast the new documentary by Hart Perry and his wife, Dana, titled Boy Interrupted. The film (which was screened at the 2009 Sundance Festival in January) is about the 15-year-old son, Evan Scott Perry. Hart and Dana combined home movies, photographs and interviews with those who knew Evan (including his doctors, teachers, classmates and relatives), creating a portrait of Evan and an exploration of the ultimately unanswerable question of why Evan took his own life. Dana says in the documentary that she and Hart made the film as a way of seeking closure after the tragic event. And yet, in doing so, they expose their lives and their emotions in telling a compelling story — a story which includes the earlier tragedy of the suicide of Hart’s brother Scott (who entered the College with the Class of 1971) at 21. The film also educates viewers on bipolar disorder, and lets us all know that tragedy can strike despite the most attentive parents, teachers and doctors. In the course of checking out Boy Interrupted on HBO, I learned on a Livestrong posting on wowOwow that Hart is working on a documentary concerning the changing face of fame and celebrity culture from the 1950s–2000s. Speaking of celebrity culture in recent times, Bill Stadiem, who already has written best-selling books on Marilyn Monroe, Frank Sinatra and George Hamilton, is now in the news as co-author of the autobiography of Jon Peters (who went from hairdresser to film producer to Sony studio executive). As reported in the New York Post’s Page Six, HarperCollins had been scheduled to publish the book, but Peters returned the advance after many threats of lawsuits from celebrities described in the book proposal in ways they do not appreciate. Bill is quoted as saying that threats will not intimidate Peters and that the book contains nothing defamatory or untrue. Already on the bookshelves is Mark Rudd’s Underground: My Life with SDS and the Weathermen. Amazon includes favorable reviews from The Washington Post and Booklist, and ranks the book (as of late August) at No. 24 among bestsellers in the subcategory “Radical Thought.” Mark is a teacher and lives in New Mexico. (Editor’s note: See July/August 2009 Bookshelf feature, www.college. columbia.edu/cct/past_issues.)

Hofstra issued a news release in March announcing that Robert Papper ’79, chair of its Department of Journalism, Media Studies and Public Relations, was being installed as the Lawrence Stern Distinguished Professor in Journalism. Bob joined Hofstra’s faculty in fall 2007. Previously, he chaired the journalism department at Ohio Wesleyan and was head of the broadcast news departments at both American and Ball State.

Bob’s professional journalism credentials include having been a writer, producer, special projects director, managing editor, executive producer and assistant news director at various television stations in Minneapolis, Washington, D.C., San Francisco and Columbus, Ohio. Bob has conducted extensive research examining the state of American radio and television news departments, including reports that detail the status of minorities and women in the news industry. He is the author of the widely used Broadcast News Writing Stylebook (fourth edition soon to appear). Bob has won more than 100 state, regional and national awards, including four regional Edward R. Murrow Awards and the prestigious DuPont award from Columbia for “Excellence in Broadcast Journalism.”

And now, at the request of our Class Notes editor and with the encouragement of some of our classmates, I conclude with some news about me — to help illustrate how easy it can be. The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel published an interview with me in its August issue (Northeast edition) titled, “A ‘Switch-Hitter’ Looks at Current Arbitration Issues.” The interview elicited my views on certain pending issues, like the scope of discovery and of substantive motions in arbitration, from my perspective as someone who serves as an arbitrator and who also acts as an advocate for clients in arbitrations. (To access the article, simply Google “Michael S. Oberman.”) A few classmates who read the interview were surprised to learn the details of the day job I hold between writing CCT columns, making Class Agent calls, attending Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meetings and working on reunions. So, here is a brief summary of my career.

After graduating from Harvard Law School, I clerked for Judge Milton Pollack ’27 in the Southern District of New York and then joined Kramer Levin in September 1973. My practice has focused on complex civil and commercial litigation as well as copyright litigation. Many of my commercial cases have involved a business relationship that did not work out as the parties hoped it would, leading to claims such as breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty and/or tortious interference. I’ve represented a number of plaintiffs but more often defendants in a wide array of industries, both in court and in arbitration. Last year, I was lead trial counsel in the successful defense against a claim of breach of a distribution agreement seeking more than $125 million in damages that consumed 20 days of arbitration hearings; the 149-page award was just confirmed. I also have defended securities law class actions and derivative actions. Most of the copyright cases have related to musical works, but I also have had cases involving video games, motion pictures, visual works of art and computer software. I’ve served four terms on the Copyright and Literary Property Committee of the New York City Bar, served since 1989 on the Executive Committee of the Federal Litigation Section of the N.Y. State Bar Association, served in the NYSBA House of Delegates between 1989–91, served on Chief Judge Judith Kaye’s Commercial Court Task Force that created New York’s Commercial Strict Liability Division, and am a member of the Dispute Resolution Section of the ABA and NYSBA. I think there is a great value in being a “switch-hitter” in ADR. Once you serve several times as an arbitrator, you develop a better sense of what is likely to happen in a given case. When you act as an advocate and someone else is the arbitrator, in the other direction, I constantly ask myself when serving as an arbitrator how I would like the case to be conducted were I the advocate, and strive to shape the procedures accordingly.”

Sharon and I have been happily married for 34 years and our daughter, Abby, is a senior in the College.

Interestingly, the interview did not ask me if I knew Mark Rudd, nor did Mark mention anything in his book about his time in the underground. I studied at Carman Hall Room 815B freshman
year while he lived in Room 815A. But, yes, I did know him, and, yes, I am glad not to be mentioned in his book. The Metropolitan Corporate Counsel and C.C.T. are more than enough for me.

**REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6**

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Here are the remaining missives from this year’s earlier e-mail love fest.

First off is Tom Keenan: “I am writing this from room 702 of Carman Hall, which is where Columbia grudgingly (!) is. It was, of course, 21 months ago now. I have been, at various times, a programmer (and later a systems programmer), and this took me into the Columbia community.”

Former U.S. attorney general William P. Barr ’71 has been elected to Time Warner’s Board of Directors.

Joe Gerver also succumbed to our e-mail frenzy with this report: “At last, a name that’s familiar to me, Mark Jaffe. I have a clear memory of Mark sitting with me and my roommate, Eli Cohen, in our Fumald Hall room, well after midnight, while we consumed a bottle of Cherry Heering. (Why? Cherry Heering? Dunno. Because it was there, I guess.) Mark kept trying to flip my steak knife so that it landed point down in my desk, but he only succeeded in bending the tip 90 degrees. Actually, I learned an important life lesson from Mark. He was a stringer for The New York Times, and a lot of his pieces were published there. Invariably, his editor at the Times would make changes, major or minor, in his submissions, and invariably, Mark’s original version was accurate and the published version was wrong. (The only example that immediately comes to mind was a story about ROTC. Mark wrote that the ROTC office was on the first floor of Hartley Hall, which it was, but the Times changed it to the basement.) So I learned not to believe everything you read in the newspaper, even not The New York Times. Maybe especially The New York Times. Later, Mark became a top-notch reporter for The Philadelphia Inquirer.”

“I’ve been living in Cherry Hill, N.J., since 1981, and I read and greatly enjoy Mark’s Inquirer pieces during his years there. As for my life, after Columbia, I got a Ph.D. in math from Berkeley. I had a post-doc in Paris and taught briefly at Cornell, Hawaii and Georgia before joining the faculty at the Camden campus of Rutgers in 1981. I’ve been here since, except for a visiting position at Princeton in 1989–90. In 1974, I married April Kihlstrom, who was a freshman at Barnard in 1969. We have two children, Daniel (32) and Rachel (28). Daniel has Down’s syndrome, and we have had our own experience with a group home, where he seems to be doing well. Rachel got a B.S. in mechanical engineering from Stanford, then spent three years designing hybrid vehicles for General Motors before deciding that she preferred the academic life. She is now working on a Ph.D. in engineering at Texas. (She turned down Princeton, Berkeley and MIT to stay there because she thought Texas had a better program.) In 2002, April asked for a divorce. For the last five years, I have had another woman in my life, Karen Silver. We recently moved in together and plan to get married as soon as her son finishes college. (If we got married now, they’d cut his financial aid.) When I’m not teaching math and doing research, I enjoy traveling. I’ve been in every country in western Europe except for Ireland, Norway and Portugal. Some more unusual destinations: India in 1995, South Africa in 1998, Antarctica in 2004 and Alaska in 2007. The only Columbia folks I’ve kept in touch with are fellow math majors Jerry Kleinstein, Eli Cohen and Richie (now Susan) Bassein. A few years ago, after losing touch with them for more than 30 years, I got together with Ashok Mahadevan and Vic Schwab. I’d be interested in learning what happened to Steve Gelb, Jerry Kleinstein, Eli Cohen and Richie (now Susan) Bassein.

**Bob Douglas** of BN Mellon Wealth Management is once again leading the return efforts for our class and is still looking for help.

Finally, as a result of a wonderful display of spirit, friendship and generosity, the Bill Wazevich conference room/classroom on campus — made possible by many of the Class of ’70E, Steve Komm, Ray Holme ’71, Jodi Scharfstein ’69, Barry Grover ’71, Ina Wool ’71 Barnard and that whole Postcrypt crowd.”

Jim Shaw

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This issue’s column, written in September, is short, perhaps because the July/August issue was online only and perhaps you did not see it. Check it out at www.college.columbia.edu /ctt/past_issues.

A number of classmates have written to me about projects they have undertaken but have asked that I write about them at later stages. I am eager to read their reports, and yours.

Andrew Arbenz: “I have my own investment company, Riverside Capital Advisors, which focuses on selecting the best investment categories, mostly airline positions and some short.” Riverside Capital’s phone number is 212-209-3999, and the address is 222 Third Ave, Fifth Fl., New York, NY 10017.”

Time Warner’s Board of Directors elected William P. Barr to the board. Bill is a former attorney.
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Congratulations to Conrad Lung, who will be presented with the Columbia College Today Alexander Hamilton Medal, given for distinguished service and accomplishment, on Thursday, November 19. Conrad had the following to say about the award and his family: “It was quite a bit of surprise when the College told me I was the chosen to receive the Hamilton Medal. The news is humbling. Even just looking at my own class, the College has produced so many outstanding and distinguished graduates who are more deserving of recognition than I am. I would also like to report that my daughter, Stephanie ’04, is president of the College’s Young Alumni Association. My other children also graduated from Columbia: Jennifer ’01E and Jonathan ’05E (and I better mention my wife, Yin ’74 Barnard, since she also reads this magazine).”  
[Editor’s note: Look for a follow-up article in the January/February 2010 issue.]  

David Ricks reports, “I left New Mexico in 1995 for a job in healthcare consulting based in D.C. I have been in that field ever since, except for a brief adventure in the restaurant/nightclub business. I now work with the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Md., helping manage its drug development programs. In 1996, I married Fatima Abdullahi Ainaab, a beautiful Somali dancer. We have lived in Virginia, North Carolina and now Maryland. My daughters, Cecily and Amelia, both married, live in Denver and Virginia, respectively.” When he sent his note, Dan and Fatima were in Toronto “celebrating Ramadan with our extended family. We just completed a joyful trip with a bunch of rambunctious pre-teen nephews to Montreal, Quebec (always magical) and Ottawa.”

Filling us in on the last 37 years or so of his life, Charles Green writes, “After an M.B.A. (Harvard, the year after Dubya), and a career in management consulting, I started my own business, Trusted Advisor Associates. I co-authored one book, The Trusted Advisor, and wrote another, Trust-Based Selling: Using Customer Focus and Collaboration to Build Long-Term Relationships. There’s a pattern there: I do keynotes and workshops, largely for major corporate clients, based on the subject of trust in business. In a sense, my business is a mix of public self-psychotherapy and social work among the rich. Somehow, I seem to have some impact on creating more trusting and trustworthy people, and therefore more high-trust relationships in business, something that has been sorely missing in recent years. Madoff was good for my business; trustworthy people, and therefore more attention lately. Having recently moved to West Orange, N.J., and gotten a weekend apartment in Atlanta, I’m encouraged that trust is getting more attention lately. Having recently moved to West Orange, N.J., and gotten a weekend apartment on 15th Street, I’m slowly making my way back to the city.”

Bill Geisler ‘77 wrote with the following coda to CCT’s 2008 article about the 40th anniversary of Sha Na Na. [Editor’s note: See the September/October 2008 issue, www.college.columbia.edu/cct/past_issues/]: “I was the (inexperienced) sound engineer for their intercom for me to level each mike correctly in real time. That experience ended my brief career as a sound engineer. What I don’t know is whether a tape was created of that event by WKCR, as they had direct access to the live feed.”

Anyone know?

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Sparse again, troops. You can’t read what I don’t get; somebody famous said that. Once...

Chris Kimball has created a publishing empire, based on his “perfectionist” school of cooking. Among his magazines are Cook’s Illustrated and Cook’s Country. He...

February. It was reviewed on the front cover of The New York Times Book Review. Yet another literary luminary.

Angelo Falcon continues to head up the National Institute for Latino Policy, which he helped establish. He recently was elected chair of the NYC Collaborative for Fairness and Equity in Philanthropy, a group formed to make foundations more responsive to the city’s growing communities of color. Highlights of the past two years have been a guest appearance last year on The Colbert Report and being part of the campaign this year to appoint Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court. Angelo recently moved back to his old neighborhood of “Los Sures” in Williamsburg. I suspect there is more out there that could do with some reportage, yes?

We await your response.

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We are all used to confronting the major societal Darwinian changes (things now commonplace that didn’t exist in our youth) — polio vaccine, space travel, cell phones and so on. If this doesn’t occur to us, our kids will remind us. But the trivial Darwinian changes that have occurred since our gradu-
Paul Giller, who is in his 11th year at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles. He is a Kabbalah scholar (the mystical school of Jewish thought), of which he says, “I would not have chosen if I had known what was going to happen...” There are two degrees removed from M.D.” (also known as Madonna, the pop star who claims to have adopted Kabbalah). When not delving into the 10 emanations of God, Pinchas is forced to deal with the mundane aspects of mortal life: “I have two kids in college, so I am sort of under the gun financially.” I guess there is no rest even for the “fat so wicked”!

There you have it, from Darwin to Madonna (with their binding topic of fertility in between). Goes to show that it is all happening in our world of 500 classmates! I want to again remind you to check out Facebook (using “Columbia 1974” in the “friend finder” space) to see if your long-lost classmate is just a click away. You also can find me there, and send in Class Notes though this social networking site from backgrounds where our parents had not been afforded an Ivy education or even attended college. Shouldn’t we pass on the opportunity to the current generation!

Gracing the front page of The Wall Street Journal was a picture of the Liberty Sun, the U.S.-flagged cargo ship that successfully repelled an attack by pirates off the Horn of Africa. This was just another news item until I received an e-mail from the ever-vigilant Tom Ferguson, who clued me in that the ship’s owner might be one of our classmates. Upon further investigation, I found that the ship was owned by the Liberty Maritime Corp. and that Philip Shapiro was indeed the president and CEO. All I know so far is that Philip came to Columbia from Great Neck, N.Y., and also received a law degree in 1978 from Hofstra. Is anyone in touch with Philip these days?

While having spent so much time on members of the legal profession, I feel it is necessary to cleanse the column by featuring two classmates who are “of the cloth” but not yet brought into our fold. Following our 35th reunion, Chris Hansen (a software consultant living in London but was still at our reunion) traveled to have lunch with the Reverend Jerry Rafferty, who is a professor at St. Joseph’s Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y. Writes Chris, “I thought it would be a good idea to attend reunions and as a result that nostalgia will finally kick in for 2014. He is well and thriving.”

If Chris needs some assistance, we always have our “ace in the hole,” Monsignor Fred Dolan and Father Michael Barrett, who can be called upon to help. The only (known) rabbis in the class is Pinchas (you knew him as whatever your choice, take a moment to pen or click an update on your doings — your friends of 40 years want to know!

And now, the July/August Class Notes:

A plethora of triillating tales always emerge from our class gatherings, and our 35th reunion will be no exception. The grammatical confusion comes from the fact that the reunion was in early June, but publishing deadlines make me write this a month earlier. But let me assure you it was a grand event and, if you weren’t in attendance, you were missed!

Before sharing the missives from our classmates, I would be remiss if I didn’t pass on the news that the College received a record 21,274 applicants for the Class of 2013, an 11 percent increase over last year. The acceptance rate was 8.92 percent — among the lowest in the nation. If you wrote to support a candidate for admission who wasn’t admitted, now you know why. Even without the Supreme Court’s requirement that colleges can’t give alumni children preference, there probably wouldn’t be enough spaces for all of our progeny anyway! And then there are those other 20,000+ (mostly) worthy applicants also looking to enroll at the Columbia College education. Remember that many (most) of our classmates came...
Phil Kline ’75 Strikes a Chord with Critics and Masses

By Justin Clark ’04J

“How many experimental composers does it take to screw in a light bulb? I don’t know — I fell asleep halfway through.”

Whoever came up with this old joke surely wasn’t listening to one of Columbia’s most cutting-edge composers, Phil Kline ’75. Kline may be “experimental” (who else can boast of writing a symphony for 21 iPods?) but his reputation hasn’t scared off less adventurous listeners. Neither has his exposure on CNN, NPR and countless other media outlets. In three decades of writing for post-punk bands, choral groups, and, yes, iPods, the New Yorker has managed a remarkable feat: escaping the avant-garde ghetto.

Maybe it’s because Kline escapes the sterile concert hall entirely, bringing his music to audiences in the unlikeliest of venues. Take one of his best-known pieces, Unsilent Night, which debuted at Christmas-time in 1992. Kline wrote a 40 minute-long piece of ethereal electronic music, placed the tracks on individual cassettes and led his “performers” (volunteers with boomboxes) caroling around Greenwich Village. The piece has traveled to 30 cities — and will do so again this year, with performances on different nights — and is now performed annually by a parade of hundreds of volunteers (www.unsilentnight.com).

“The hardest part now is finding enough boomboxes,” Kline jokes.

Quirky as Unsilent Night sounds, its composer often works with serious themes, literary and political. One of Kline’s recent works, Zippo Songs, juxtaposes Donald Rumsfeld’s briefings at the Pentagon with the witty, tragic poems that Vietnam veterans inscribed on their lighters. “If I had a farm in Vietnam and a home in hell I’d sell my farm and go home,” reads a typical verse. Zippo Songs is “one of the most brutally frank song cycles ever penned,” according to The New Yorker.

Kline’s newest work, released in June, is the CD John the Revelator, a full-length choral mass. He and the early music vocal group Lionheart premiered the piece at the former World Trade Center site. Equally somber and critical in reconciling his musical passions with his love of poetry, Kline spent so much time at the music department as a non-major that former department chair Joel Newman began to mistake him for a student.

Though Kline grew up in a music-loving family in Silverlake, Ohio — “I was a Stravinsky-head at the age of 6,” he says — he spent more time at Columbia on the influential Beggar’s Banquet label, Kline’s musical career suddenly shifted course. One day a friend invited him to perform at an experimental performance series. In mulling it over, Kline remembered how “electrified” he’d been a few years earlier after hearing composer Steven Reich play his landmark minimalist composition, Music for 18 Musicians, at a Columbia music seminar.

“That’s when I had this idea about doing an orchestra of tap players,” Kline enthuses. “Things sort of took off from there.”

Kline lives downtown and also has a studio there. But since his wife, who has her own music publicity firm, is Miller Theater’s publicist, he visits campus frequently and keeps his eye on the music program.

“Right now a particularly vibrant generation of composers is coming out,” he enthuses.

Still, it’s uncertain whether the new generation can top Kline’s Columbia experience — in particular the night he and a couple of friends snuck into the radio station when it was off the air.

“In open defiance of FCC rules,” Sante recalls, “they broadcast an apocalyptic mash-up of music, sound effects and whatever else they could lay their hands on. I didn’t hear it myself, but was told about it the next day with the understanding that if I breathed a word of it to anyone, Phil and friends faced expulsion and perhaps indictment.”

Too bad it wasn’t recorded!” laments Sante.

Justin Clark ’04J writes for numerous publications, including LA Weekly and Nerve, and is a frequent contributor to CCT.

To view a video of the 2007 New York City Unsilent Night performance, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.
was a broker at Merrill Lynch. He is now busy designing employee benefit programs for municipalities and corporations in the greater New York region.

In response to a recent note in this column about finding Tony Barreca hiding at a San Francisco Internet start-up after an impres- sive career at Sun Micro, an e-mail came in from Mark Sereedwych in Santa Fe, N.M. He writes, "Interesting to hear that Tony Barreca, squeaky-voiced son of a Syracuse, N.Y., greengrocer who always agonized about 'what's gonna happen with my Tony ...', ends up a computer whiz! That's a long way from Spinoza and Locke!" Mark says he is "one of the few internists in town who accepts Medicare." His son is in college studying drama and creative writing. His daughter is in high school.

A recent New York Times article on Facebook, the social networking phenomenon, noted that there were more than 200 million members globally. Sacrificing his dignity in the pursuit of Class Notes, I finally registered with Facebook. I was extremely disappointed to find that if any classmates were there. Much to my surprise, I found that almost 10 percent of the class has a Facebook page! Some classmates use it like Twitter to drop frequent postings of their activities (such as Doug Birch in Moscow, blogging of his travels, or Daryl Chiu in NYC commenting on the New York art scene). Others seem to use it sparingly or claim to have joined mostly to follow the thoughts and activities of their teen- and college-aged kids.

The Facebook profiles of two classmates indicate that they have beaten many of us in the race to retirement. While the alumni directory lists Peter Boody as the editor of The East Hampton Press in East Hampton, N.Y., his profile now says "employer: self as of March 12, 2009." It also says that he is now a freelance writer and flight instructor, and teaching a computer class at the East Hampton senior center. Elsewhere on his page, Peter talks of having written a novel (The Consequences of Longing) and has a lot of travel pictures. Sounds like at least semi-retirement to me!

Patrick Dowd also has a Facebook page, where he says that he left his position as president and CEO of Carelink Health Plans (a division of Coventry Health) in 2006. He has moved from West Virginia to Eugene, Ore., and is devoting his time to travel and writing about his journeys on his blog. He recently wrote, "Many a time I’ve grown up in Eugene and wound up in NYC. I grow up in NYC and wind up in Eugene." Kind of reminds me of that old Eddie Murphy movie, Trading Places.

**REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6**

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After many years of living abroad, Peter Garza-Zavala now splits his time between Sarasota, Fl., and Barcelona, Spain. He works in the hospitality industry and has managed high-end facilities for a bed-and-breakfast and consulted in the industry. Peter loves the sun and swims and plays tennis every day. He also is a painter working mainly in oils, and he has held several shows and sold a number of pieces. He is a member of the local symphony and enjoys Sarasota's many offerings in the arts. Peter still feels like Europe is home, and he hopes to be able to make his residence near Barcelona his year-round abode some day soon.

Barry Fine, who lived in the brotherhood's monastery in DeKalb, Alaska, worked in an inner-city parish in Kansas City and managed an Orthodox bookstore in San Francisco. Much of his work is now involved with translating, editing and proofreading the monastery's publications.

Planning for our 35th reunion, Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6, is well under way. We have begun to use a private networking site for communications within the class (http://columbiasq75.ning.com) because it cuts out some of the "static" that other networks give, and is secure and limited to invited members. Invited members for this network are classmates and our (superb!) support team, Kimberly Peterson (from Alumni Affairs) and Sam Boyer (from the Columbia College Fund). Yours truly (Randy Nichols) is the Webmaster. You can be guaranteed that you will not get spam and trash from classmates asking you to assist through our Class Gift, please do.

As we approach reunion, if you are contacted by one of your classmates asking you to assist with planning, contacting other classmates or supporting the College through our Class Gift, please be generous with your time and dollars. The classmates who are calling have you been generous with both already and will continue to support the College and you, our classmates, in whatever way we can.

**Clyde Moneynihan**

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No news from any classmates this time! As always, please send your updates to me at the address(es) above, and I’ll add them to a future column. Also, please respond if you’re one of the lucky ones I randomly e-mail asking for copy for the column. It’s always nice to hear from you.

**David Gorman**

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John Stine, who earned a degree at Fordham Law, has joined Textron Financial following stints at GE Capital and New York Life Insurance. John, on a long career as attorney and will be team leader in the special assets department of Textron’s Resort Finance Division.

Don Hare writes from "hot hot hot" Houston, "I am looking for my next great employment adventure with the idea that the business that brought me here in 2007 was acquired by a Russian billionaire (Columbia alum) three months after I joined it." Don had held a senior position in HR, and I expect that he will again. Meanwhile, life keeps happening; he informs us that one son — of three — has graduated from Clemson, while another transferred to the College of Charleston from Virginia Tech after the shootings there.

Neal Wolfkoff was featured in an article in the New York Jewish Journal (July 10), with a picture and everything. The topic was the prospects for the success of the newfangled venture ELX, a wholly electronic futures-trading exchange, of which he has been CEO since last year. Grateful thanks to Steve Teitelbaum for updates on himself and a couple of classmates. Steve was present at the swearing-in of Howard Gutman as U.S. Ambassador to Belgium in August. Steve reports that it "took place in the ceremonial reception room at the State Department in Washington, D.C. The oath was administered by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg [59L]. Howard, his wife, Michelle Loewinger ’77, Barnard, and their younger son, Chase (in high school), soon will leave for Brussels, where Howard will take up his official duties. Older son Collin will remain stateside to finish his senior year at some college in New York..."
I have whose name escapes me even though it's very short. Having known Gut since we entered kindergarten together and having gone all the way through the College together, it was a real thrill to witness this.

Steve works for Jones Day in Washington, D.C., and notes that he is celebrating a 25th anniversary with his wife, Susan Kitt '81 Business. “Where the heck did all the time go? Our older daughter, Rebecca, graduated from Lafayette College this past spring, a very proud moment. She is spending at least the fall semester at the Prague Film School (yes, the Prague in the Czech Republic) studying filmmaking in hopes of a career in film or video production. She would then like to relocate to New York City. So much for our attempt to escape the gravitational pull by moving to Bethesda, Md. Our younger daughter, Joey, is a sophomore at the University of Virginia. She loves it, works in the athletics department and revels in the War on C.C. sports, which I somewhat understand as a former WKCR sportscaster but cannot put into any context relevant to the Ivy League.”

Steve adds, “Congratulations to all classmates who have recent college graduates of their own. I know that includes at least Rob Murphy, whose son, Andrew, recently graduated from Lehigh.”


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My apologies for not being at the same time congratulate and solicitous enough to gather the critical mass of musings from all of you sufficient to be able to put together a column for the past few issues. No doubt you are wondering, has the old boy finally lost a step or two in his typing fingers after 31 years trying to record the activities of our sorry lot? Sure, this has been heavy lifting at times. And, to dwell on truthfulness for a moment, the joy of finding a dozen or so great stories every two months can only slightly dull the heart of knowing that 600 or so of you have never written a damn thing in a third of a century. Other than contributing a pithy line to my obit someday, I doubt I will ever hear from most of you. But, I always come back to, you can’t beat the pay.

I did hear from my dear College pseudo-roommate, Stephen Gruhin. Having always had singles, I adopted Steve in the ’70s as my literary roommate for the purpose of regaling my children — and some day nursing home bunkmates (I assume, you see, that with the failure of health care reform, when our day comes my long-term care insurance will be good for a ticket to some floating troop ship moored in New York Harbor, but I digress) — with tales of adventure from my bright college days.

The roommate always plays a key role in some mischief and living within a few doors of Steve for three out of four years and putting a number with him in the famous Roberta Spagnola room lotteries for most of those years, he certainly qualifies.

Stephen penned this letter a few months ago, “You won’t believe me, but I tried to reach you via e-mail requesting news the very next day [sure, I believe you] after I received it. Unfortunately, after having sat down and taken the time to write you a long missive, I lost all of the text due to some computer glitch [spend a bit and upgrade to at least Windows 95 is my advice]. I was so aggravated (after having spent quite a bit of time composing it) that I simply walked away from the computer in disgust, promising myself that I wouldn’t write another such crack at it later. Well, now is ‘later.’”

“First off, I what you to know how saddened I was to learn of the loss of your stepdad. All you can hope for is that the lessons learned during a lifetime spent surrounded by such loved ones continue to live on, not only in you, but in the very lessons you impart to your own children.

“Insofar as the ‘pain’ from your back is concerned, fortunately I am not experiencing too much of that these days. By all accounts, I seem to be relatively healthy for an ‘old man.’ The wheels have yet to fall off the wagon, so I guess I still have something to look forward to (with any luck) in the far distant future. Just today I happened to take an insurance physical. Blood pressure is 124/64. Resting heart rate is 60. I guess I must be doing something right — even as I struggle to lose some weight. [Didn’t we used to do laps on the elevated track in the old gym?] I am on the treadmill almost every day for a one-hour, four-mile brisk walk. Jenny, my other (and better) half is finally feeling somewhat better, after having struggled for many years with a muscle disease of choice that cannot be quite pinpointed. She is well on the road back. As for ‘pride,’ I have nothing but joy from my kids — Whitney (21), Melissa (19) and Seth (16). I am proud to report that the girls are straight-A Students at Emory and Michigan, respectively, and Seth is a happy-go-lucky kid, doing well in school and a high school junior.

“Whitney is an Emory Scholar (which seems to be a pretty big deal) based on her academic performance and heavy involvement in social action and related campus activities during the past two years in Atlanta. She is right now on a semester abroad at the University of Sydney in Australia.

“How come we never thought to do anything like that? [We were biologically addicted to Mama Joy’s sandwiches and unwilling to suffer withdrawal symptoms.] We were so misguided that we actually believed the entire universe revolved around 116th Street and Broadway? [Please, you can’t afford it now.]

“[T]hat our parents would simply not be willing to pay for adventures of this kind? [Couldn’t afford it in those days before credit cards were invented and loans were available for something other than college tuition.]

“At the moment, it seems likely that Whitney will be looking to do a joint law and public health program after college.

“My middle daughter, Melissa, announced midyear that she wants to attend a film school, which is fine, since she is biologically addicted to Mama Joy’s sandwiches and unwilling to suffer withdrawal symptoms. [Couldn’t afford it in those days before credit cards were invented and loans were available for something other than college tuition.]

“Steve then chides me for not staying in touch... not really. Thanks, Steve!

Edward T. Ferguson wrote in response to word about things in my life such as throwing out my back, that “There is life after a herniated disc.”

“I had a lamenectomy 15 years ago and aside from a few cortisone injections along the way have been able to get by ever since without medical intervention and with no or manageable/occasional pain. Just be careful when you bend down to pick things up... Children — is there any other true source of pride? I have three: Caleb (16), Elias (7) and Leila (5). To borrow from John Lennon, they all shine on."

Finally, poor Marc Bogatin actually wrote me a letter last winter, within 1 lost (or misfiled more likely, not having seen an actually letter on real paper in several years and perhaps trying to stuff it into my monitor somehow). He then sent me an e-mail that I cannot find that must have recounted the entire episode. When that did not appear the next issue, Marc sent me an update to the letter, which I then misfiled, although I did send it in as an addendum to my last column but too late to be published apparently... now all I can find is the update... Sorry, Marc, you have gotten the worst treatment of anyone in more than 30 years. Which means you should write again or you can just take over the column yourself.

Marc wrote, "I was married last spring. The wedding took place in May at Becco restaurant in New York City. Mark Freyberg and Hugh Weinberg were there. My wife, Barbara, and I went on our honeymoon to Paris.”

As for you, I will find the rest of what he wrote a few minutes after filing this, but that is how things go in the information age sometimes.

Winter is again approaching and with it more time to sit inside with a hot buttered rum thinking and writing. I meant to do it last year. I would do a joint law and public health program for怪兽 in New York Harbor, but I digress)

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and what is least requires security clearance. I wrote to Barack Obama '03 to try to get me clearance, but I guess he is still working on getting it for himself.

“We recently had a mini-reunion of the 'Hungarian Second Generation of Holocaust Survivors Club' in Westfield, 'Budapest Barbque' for short — about a dozen parents and children who came over after the revolution in Hungary in 1956. It was fun to see what happened to all those kids with whom we grew up. Missile crisis, moon landing and Nixon. Beatles, Woodstock and 20 Watts. We have been at the bottom for a while, but there is no way to go but up. Unless it is underground. Aren’t you glad you asked for an update?"

I live near the San Fernando Valley, which is America’s center for the porn industry. I am very aware of what firmware is, and thanks for the update.

After receiving a B.A. and an M.A. in physics from Columbia, Seth Potter went to work in aerospace electronics in various eastern states. He then returned to NYC and obtained a Ph.D. in applied science from NYU. "For the past 12 years, I’ve been working for an aerospace company near Los Angeles and live near the beach. I come to New York about once or twice a year."

With all of your work in aerospace, your middle name should be "Trans" — that would be, Seth Trans Porter.

Pediatrician Bill Lee practices in Westchester, N.Y. He has been married for 22 years and his daughter graduated from college in May. Regarding Alumni Reunion Weekend in June, Bill noted, "I saw Joel Landzberg, who is practicing cardiology in New Jersey. We had a great time exploring the campus and reminiscing."

Tell Joel to send us an update.

Matthew A. Peckham writes, "The reunion was great. It was a pleasure seeing so many classmates, some of whom I’d not met while in school. The Friday night stag dinner was delightful, to say the least. These reunions are always full of laughs. It was great to share a few with Parker Bagley, Steve Gustavson, Peter Lasusa, Rick Quellet and Paul O’Connor. It was good to see Bob Muzikowski and meet his date for the Saturday dinner, his daughter. I look forward to our 35th!"

"As an associate at a midsize architectural firm, we are weathering the current times. Diversity has been a blessing. With a new home in Queens near the water, I am quite busy in that respect. My daughter, who is 11 going on 19, was accepted to Scholars Academy, an advanced public middle school in the Rockaways, and began there this fall. I returned as an adjunct for my eighth year teaching architectural technology in the undergraduate and graduate programs at NJIT. Teaching is a constant reminder of how much you don’t know. I hope this missive finds all in good health and that better days are ahead for all. Peace."

Thanks for the good wishes. Who knows what the world will look like at the 35th-year reunion?

Robert C. Klapper: As the college football season approached, and my friend who went to the University of Florida started bating me about how much I missed out on big-time college football, or my friend who went to the University of Michigan described to me what 100,000 screaming fans are like at their games, I recalled the wise words of our illustrious former dean, Austin Quigley, who reminded me that it isn’t Columbia’s football program that connects us to a shared experience. Rather (and with no disrespect to the current coach, whoever he might be), the simple truth is that our shared Columbia experience — whether we became a lawyer, a doctor, a computer tech, a teacher or a traveling salesman — was to fulfill the Core Curriculum, reading the same great books and learning about the same music and art. And looking back these 30 years since our time at the big house, I am glad that our stadium was Butler Library.

It was great to see many of our classmates at the Homecoming festivities. The football team looks competitive, and the effort given by the players is commendable. Wins will come, and we are a few plays away from potential greatness! I am excited over the progress and prospects we are making on the 30th reunion. We have a wonderful group of dedicated classmates and friends working hard to ensure we have a fun and successful event. A Facebook page has been created so we can all keep in touch. Please join us at "Columbia College Class of 1980 Reunion."

Jonathan Dahl has joined the committee, and it was nice to see him at our kick-off meeting in July. Jon is a senior manager at the Hearst Corp., where he is editor-in-chief of SmartMoney Magazine. He has had a distinguished career in the media industry and is a frequent guest speaker on CNBC’s Squawk Box and Good Morning America. Jon lives with his wife and son in Brooklyn.

Neil Sader will be helping with the reunion from the Midwest. Neil has been practicing law in Kansas and Missouri at his firm, Sader Law, which specializes in bankruptcy, business law, commercial real estate and class actions. Neil is active in community and governmental affairs, serving on his local planning committee and coaching youth sports. He lives in Kansas with his wife and two children.

John Schutty, track star and member of the Track Athletic Advisor Committee, is on our committee. John practices law in New York City at his firm, Law Office of
I really feel sorry for those of you who have crossed over.

I recently caught up with Bob Zinna, who is a systems programmer for a community college. Sadly, he has stopped playing tennis in favor of golf, which in my book is the sports equivalent of the Kraisins. The clothing alone should be more than enough to give anybody pause. Maybe I’ll understand after I turn 50.

Now this is more up my alley: Jordan Stern is opening the first comprehensive sleep apnea and snoring center in New York. Jordan has worked with researchers during the past five years to develop a home diagnostic device for the detection of obstructive sleep apnea. The “Bluesleep” center, which opened on September 1, is located 65 Broadway. Jordan is an otolaryngologist/head and neck surgeon specializing in the surgical treatment of upper airway disorders. He has assembled a group of medical professionals, including speech and language pathologists, nutritionists and dentists, and will offer free educational lectures to medical professionals and to the general public. For more information, go to www.bluesleep.com.

Jordan has a son, Lucas (17), and daughter, Mia (10), both of whom fall soundly to sleep as Jordan starts talking about his work.

Steve Masiar writes: “I spoke with Tom Cava. He is busy with his physical medicine practice in New Jersey. Married with four children, life is hectic but Tom sounds happy. I heard via e-mail from Arthur Geller. Artie recently returned from a vacation at Walt Disney World. The best part of my summer occurred last week when my wife, Patricia, and I attended a birthday gathering for our beloved Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. Thanks to Paul Mannon, we got a VIP invite.”

Any resemblance between Eric Perkins’ life and an episode of The Brady Bunch is purely coincidental. Eric writes: “Since graduation, in a nutshell, was married, divorced and now remarried and living in Oradell, N.J. I have three daughters from my first marriage and my wife has three children from her prior marriage. Five of the six are in college (Bowdoin, BYU, Chapman, Simmons, William Paterson), regrettable none at Columbia. I am an attorney and a partner with McLernon Deutsch Mulvaney & Carpenter. My practice is focused on bankruptcy, representing mostly debtors in consumer and business Chapter 7, 11, 13 cases. I am also on the standing panel of Chapter 7 Trustees in Newark and am a trustee in Chapter 11 cases. And yes, I’m very busy right now. I am an avid cyclist and can be found racing my bike in Prospect Park, Central Park, the New York metro area, New England or Cuba on any given weekend. A lot of twists and turns in all that, but that’s it in a brief summary.”

I heard from the family of Howard Stark, who died in 2005. They have put up a Web site to recognize the fourth anniversary of Howard’s death. Please take a moment to join the Stark family as they remember Howard: http://doctorstark.virtualmemorials.com/main.php?action=view&mem_id=14372&logoff=true.

As always, send suggestions of new and innovative ways to spice up your yogurt to jpunky@yahoo.com.

The early 80s — graduation and birthday years — were well represented when a crew of alumni gathered at Haku on the Upper West Side in August to celebrate Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig’s 83rd birthday. Partying with the professor were (left to right) Niko Kallas ‘84, Scott Senecal ‘84, Mark Gill ‘84, class correspondent Roy Pomerantz ‘83, Tom Vinciguerra ‘85, class correspondent Dennis Kleinberg ‘84, Selig and Steven Masiar ‘81. Not pictured is Jim Weinstein ‘84.

What a 1,000-page bill could possibly contain beyond large swatches of the phone book and photocopies of the drafters’ backides, while I defiantly choose to celebrate the start of the upcoming school year. On the eve of being relieved of a significant portion of my parenting responsibilities I can now concentrate on what’s truly important: Class Notes.

On a personal note, the past summer was a real keeper. The Weisman family had the fortunate opportunity to spend quality time with the Filosa family (Dove Filosa ‘82, his lovely wife, super-attorney Martha Bailey; and their infinitely entertaining offspring) on Fire Island. We all have fond memories of mindless beach frolicking and consuming Dave’s catch of the day; most notably a giant pre-historic sea bass accompanied by a few too many bottles of chilled Pinot Grigio.

Stay tuned for a photo of us in a well-fed, possibly inebriated state.

Steven Greenfield: “About the most interesting recent personal development I can come up with is that I picked up two new U.S. counties for my life list (Fulton and Hamilton, in Upstate New York) this summer; this is the first time in six years that my list has been incremented. In the intervening time, I have been to Greece, Poland, Argentina, Brazil and Slovenia, all for the first time.

“Perhaps you could check in with Seth Farber or Luis Rueda. Luis is in Amsterdam, and is an
84

Dennis Klainberg '84 organized a memorable birthday gathering for the legendary Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. I enjoyed catching up with Tom Vinciguerra '85 and Jim Weinstein '84 at the dinner.

My summer reading included The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court. There are numerous references to my friend and law school classmate, Miguel Estrada. Many of you may remember, Miguel, “a brilliant Honduran immigrant,” was nominated by President Bush to be a D.C. Circuit judge. Jeffrey Toobin, the author, notes, “Estrada had glittering credentials — Harvard Law School, followed by an acclaimed career as a federal prosecutor, an assistant to the solicitor general and a top corporate lawyer — but he also had a prickly personality and a reluctance to share many of his views about constitutional law with the committee. Because Estrada was tapped for the august D.C. Circuit, where he would be a likely choice as first Hispanic on the Supreme Court, Democrats let his nomination linger in limbo.”

Hope you had a great summer and are having a great fall!

Hail, Legacies!
Frederick Fisher, Kevin Liss, Arthur Kohn, John Travis, John Perfetti and Hyun Park must be congratulated for their contribution to this year’s outstanding entering Class of 2013. We welcome their progeny to the fold. The jury is out on Kevin Liss, Samuel Kohn, Cosima Travis, Dean Perfetti and Alexander Park. Roar, Selig, Roar!

In honor of the great professor’s 83rd birthday, Dennis Klainberg ‘84, Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig at a restaurant near his home on the Upper West Side. Many interesting stories, including the little-known fact that Professor Selig starred in an independent movie with Madonna (before she was a star), and references to days gone by (a nod to the Picaresque novel, three cheers for the Quixote) made for a spirited and uplifting evening. Sending their best wishes, but unable to attend, were Bernardo Burstein in Miami, David Cavicke in Washington, D.C., and John Perfetti in Georgia.

Easy Rider Meets Sideways!
As an interesting aside, this writer—a shipping agent specializing in motorcycles and artwork (as if you didn’t know by now)—had the good fortune of assisting the aforementioned Mr. Kallas later that night with the transport of his “baby” (a Honda Valkyrie, Waggerman in size, but not sound!) to Los Angeles. At the time of this filing, he was planning to conquer California with fellow biker Martin Daniel ’81.

(Scene I: Riding up the Pacific Coast Highway, with an In-N-Out Burger in one hand, a merlot in the other and a view of Big Sur in the horizon, nothing and no one can stop these multi-tasking Columbia College graduates.)

...And that’s how I treat my friends! So keep us well informed, or I’ll start making up stories about you.

Kevin Townley wrote in about a pig roast that our class football alums held at the director’s tent for the Homecoming game on October 17 at Wien Stadium. At press time, many confirmed that they would be in attendance, including Kevin, Frank Mambuca, Mike Novotnak, Dan Upperco and Jeff Madden, as well as many from other classes. “We have been supportive of coach Wilson and his efforts to improve the program in recent years,” Kevin said. “Go Lions!”

Geoff Kalish has a private equity firm, Aquiline Capital Partners, based in New York, which invests in financial services companies around the world. “It is an exciting time for us, given how many financial services companies need new equity capital just now. Since graduation, I have been in New York mostly, with stints in Boston, Chicago and London in between. I live in Larchmont with my wife, Michele ’85 Cornell, and our kids, Ben (13), Eli (10) and Lily (7). Life is good.”

Sirus Genachowski, in an interview with The Wall Street Journal, has laid out a major mission for the FCC: making affordable high-speed Internet available to all Americans. Other issues the agency faces include a backlog of broadcast-indecency complaints. “We have spent most of our home leaves and R&Rs for the past 10-plus years during the summers on the Upper West Side, enjoying Jazzmobile at Grant’s Tomb, an occasional pilgrimage to V&T and, most of all, playgrounds at Riverside Park! Best wishes to everyone.”

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS Kimberly Peterson knp2106@columbia.edu 212-851-7872 DEVELOPMENT Kimberly Rogers kr2276@columbia.edu 212-851-7492

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As you read this column, we stand some 200 days away from our 25th reunion. Hard to believe, but believe it. And want you there.

The first meeting of the Reunion Planning Committee was held in New York in late September. I will provide further updates as the months go along. Suffice it to say that if you have ideas about how you think our reunion should be planned, or want to help out, or know anyone who wants to help out, please let me know. You don’t have to be in New York. All you need is a phone to dial into meetings and to call classmates and encourage their attendance.

I got a nice group of updates from my last note, so thanks for responding.

Curtis Mo recently had lunch in Astor Place with Tony Ortega, a CC ’85 classmate who transferred to UCLA after our sophomore year and who’s now editor-in-chief of the Village Voice. They reminisced and compared notes on classmates from Carman sixth floor, a tight group that remains in touch, and were in wonder at the gentrification of Bowery (for those of you outside New York or who haven’t been there, Curtis is right, you would never recognize it). He is planning to attend reunion.

The article said that Julius’ “deliberative style and his focus on broadband policy suggest the agency may take a go-slow approach toward other regulation-writing, in contrast to some other federal agencies, which have moved quickly to implement new regulations or overturn Bush-era policies in recent months.”

Tony Fagan has been a senior project officer with Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health’s International Center for AIDS Care and Treatment Programs (ICAP) since 2004 and has traveled throughout Africa (South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Mozambique, Tanzania, Ethiopia and in October 2009, Rwanda) supporting the implementation of HIV care and treatment clinics and programs. “The position has literally opened up a new world for me, as I get to work with local health care professionals, government officials, partner organizations and our own ICAP teams on the ground, all with the aim of reducing HIV transmission and increasing AIDS awareness in southern African countries with the highest HIV prevalence rates in the world. After 20-plus years of directing and managing health programs statewide, who knew my social work degree would take me into this realm of public health work?”

Joe Dapello’s firm, Schreck Rose Dapello Adams & Hurwitz, is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. “We are a boutique entertainment law firm based in New York City that represents a variety of clients in all areas of the entertainment industry, including film, television, theater, publishing, music and interactive media. My practice focuses on the representation of directors, writers, actors and producers, and the financing, production and distribution of motion pictures.”

Kevin Stur is a Foreign Service officer posted to Harare, Zimbabwe, since 2006, with his wife and daughters (ages 12, 6 and 3). Before Zimbabwe, he did tours in Senegal, Mali and Mauritania, where he worked with entrepreneurs and a federal phone subsidy program and whether consumers are being harmed by exclusive wireless phone deals, such as Apple’s pact with AT&T to offer the iPhone. Additional efforts include an overhaul of the FCC’s Web site to make it easier for consumers to find information.

Geoff Kalish ’85 has a private equity firm, Aquiline Capital Partners, based in New York, which invests in financial services companies around the world.

Alex Rodriguez lives in Mount Laurel, N.J., where he moved several years ago — “it took a lot of efficiency.” Of our 25th, he said, “Times change, everything changes.”

Larry Lurio went to graduate school in physics at Harvard and earned a Ph.D. in 1993. Subsequently, he toured the country as an itinerant academic, making stops at Rensselaer, Union, MIT and Argonne National Laboratory before finally coming to rest in the physics department at Northern Illinois, where he now is an associate professor. He is married to a fellow academic, Melissa Becker Lurio, although she is not a physicist (medieval history). They have a daughter, Mattie. Larry has kept in touch through the years with fellow Columbia alums mostly through a newsgroup for the Columbia University Science Fiction Society (cufsf-alum@columbia.edu).

Paul Stevelman is a managing director and deputy general counsel for RBS Securities. His office is in Stamford, Conn., and he lives in South Salem, N.Y., with his wife, Peri, and their kids Alexa (19), JJ (17) and Samantha (5). “I will be applying to Columbia College this fall, very exciting. I am looking forward to the reunion and would love to see classmates.”

And finally, Scott McGehee has a new movie coming out in (very) limited release this fall. It’s his fourth feature. It’s called Uncertainty and stars Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lynn Collins. IFC is opening it in New York at the IFC Center on November 13, and it will be available through its VOD starting November 11.

Congratulations to Claire Shipman on the success of her book, Womenomics: Write Your Own Rules for Success, which she co-authored with MSNBC’s Kate Snow. Claire continues as senior national correspondent for ABC News’ Good Morning America and lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Tim, magazine White House correspondent Jay Carney. You can follow Claire and Katty at http://trueblu.com/womenomics.

Morrisey Hartstein e-mailed an update from Israel. “I have been living in Raanana, Israel for five years with my wife, Elisa ’94 Business, and four kids. Springer recently published my first book, Pairs and Pitfalls in Cosmetic Oculoplastic Surgery. I am director of oculoplastic surgery at Assaf Haroeh Medical Center in central Israel, serving one of the most indigent populations in Israel. Elisa recently launched her new business, Milknursingwear (milknursingwear.com) after selling her previously successful nursingwear company, which she ran for eight years.”

After 19 years, John Brynjolfsson left PIMCO, the fixed income asset manager, and founded Armored Wolf, a global macro hedge fund headquartered in Aliso Viejo, Calif.

It’s not every day that the media speculates about whether one of our classmates will run for the Senate. The Wall Street Journal on July 31 asked: “Will veteran media banker John Chachas run for the Nevada Senate seat held by Majority Leader Harry Reid? Chachas, co-head of
Lazard's media and digital-content practice, has filed the necessary paperwork to become a Republican Senate candidate. People working on behalf of Chachas are having conversations with GOP officials to determine whether he is a viable candidate. A Lazard spokeswoman declined to comment. Chachas, 44 years old, has more than 20 years of Wall Street experience, including stints with Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse First Boston. He advised on the $18 billion buyout of Clear Channel Communications, Walt Disney's 2006 sale of its ABC radio business and Lee Enterprises acquisition of Pulitzer newspapers.

Lazard and Chachas also have become active restructuring advisers for struggling media companies. Chachas, a third-generation Mexican-American, moved to New York from rural Nevada, among a raft of Republicans who may chase after Reid's Senate post. One of the leading potential candidates being floated is Rep. Dean Heller. If Chachas were to win the Republican nomination, he would have an uphill fight to defeat the incumbent, though Reid's approval numbers have sunk recently as opinion of Congress wanes. Democrats have said they are confident of their chances in 2010, and Reid is assembling a considerable war chest.

Still, Chachas may have a leg up resembling a considerable war chest. Still, Chachas' campaign is taking a different path on fundraising thanks to his deep Rolodex on Wall Street and beyond. His friends are organizing events in Los Angeles, East Hampton and elsewhere to raise money for a potential Senate run.

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While in San Francisco for an academic conference in June, I had a chance to escape the hotel confines for a lovely pancake brunch with Ilene Weinstein Lederman. It was great fun to catch up over yummy food and compare notes on how baseball-crazy her son, Max (6), and my nephew, Judah (6), are. And even though he didn’t win, Judah and I voted for the San Francisco Giants’ Pablo Sandoval to make the 2009 All-Star Team after we heard that Max got to meet the Giants’ third baseman!

Rima (Rachel) Repetto Jolivet has written a chapter in a new book, Birth Models That Work, edited by Robbie E. Davis-Floyd, and Jan Tritten. The book looks at birth models around the world that provide an exemplary standard of care and apply best evidence to facilitate healthy physiological childbirth, appropriate use of interventions and safe, satisfying care. Rima co-authored a chapter on Centering Pregnancy, along with the program’s founder, Sharon Schindler Rising. Rima said that Centering Pregnancy is an innovative model of group prenatal care, in which women of similar gestational age meet in a group throughout the duration of their pregnancy to learn self-care, receive prenatal assessments, participate in shared educational activities, and discuss their goals and concerns during pregnancy. This model, Rima said, demonstrated excellent outcomes and significant reductions in the rate of preterm birth for participants in a large, randomized controlled trial.

Rima, who lives outside of Washington, D.C., has been on the training staff of the Centering Healthcare Institute for about 10 years. Rima also is associate director of programs at Childbirth Connection, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of maternity care through research, advocacy and policy. She was director of the group’s recent national policy symposium, “Transforming Maternity Care: A High Value Proposition,” in Washington. The proceedings and conference papers will be published in a special symposium supplement of the journal Women’s Health Issues in January/February 2010.

Abby Schrader and her partner, Sharon, welcomed Leo Paxton Eble-Schrader to their family on January 31, 2009, joining Hallie Rose (3). Leo was 6 lbs., 8 oz., and arrived at 39 weeks, which Abby said is significant because their last pregnancy ended at 23 weeks and four days.

Happily, not long before Leo’s arrival, I received a major professional award: My article, “Unruly Pelons and Civilization Wives: Cultivating Marriage in the Siberian Exile System, 1822–1860,” published in Slavic Review Vol. 66, No. 2 (Summer 2007), was selected as the winner of the 2008 Heldt Prize in the category ‘Best article in Slavic/Eastern European/Eurasian women’s studies,’ awarded annually by the Association of Women in Slavic Studies.

Rob Flaherty has relocated from Jupiter, Fla., to Virginia Beach to take a new position as v.p. of Gold Key Resorts after eight years with The Ritz-Carlton Development Co. His wife, Leslie, and his stepdaughter, Alexandra, will join him there in January. Rob’s stepson, Drew Goldsmith, is a senior at Penn and recently was named presemi¬ second team All Ivy for the upcom¬ ing football season. His other stepson, Neil, who was a starting lineman at Lafayette last year, tore a ligament in his knee, is out for the season and has transferred to Florida State.

Stavros Zomopoulos has been named head coach for the men’s soccer team at Berkeley College in New York. He previously was the men’s soccer coach at John Jay College, where he led the team to the CUNY Athletic Conference Final in 2006. Stavros also had been assistant coach to the Bronx of Manhattan Community College men’s soccer team. While there, he helped establish a women’s soccer program.

Victor Jerez has been appointed managing director of Wyborowa SA, the Polish vodka company and part of Pernod Ricard. Victor had been managing managing the brand in the U.S. as C.O.O. of Pernod Ricard Brasil. He has been with the Pernod Ricard group for the nine years.

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[Editor’s note: CCT thanks Jon Bassett for his more than six years of service as a class correspondent. Please send news to Class Notes Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., New York, NY 10025 or to cct@columbia.edu, subject line “1988 Class Notes.”]

I have two pieces of news for this issue. The first is that Ben Horowitz has embarked on a new venture: He’s the co-founder of Andreessen Horowitz, a venture capital fund. Andreessen Horowitz will fund technology start-ups with investments from $50,000–$500,000,000, working with the strongest entrepreneurs with the smartest ideas. Ben says, “We see venture investing as a company-specific exercise. Therefore, we are looking for the best entrepreneurs and companies regardless of stage.” The fund is a logical extension of Ben’s experience and success in Internet and high-tech companies, and follows years of angel investing in companies such as LinkedIn and Twitter. Congratulations and good luck, Ben.

The second piece of news is that I have decided to turn in my quill. I’m not sure how long I’ve been serving as class correspondent [editor’s note: see the top of the column], but I have enjoyed it very much. It’s a great way to keep in touch with old friends, and it’s especially gratifying when I serve as a conduit to connect people who’ve fallen out of touch with each other. I appreciate all the kind words I’ve received through the years about the column — your compliments really do make me feel good. I have tried to make this a welcoming space for all of you to share your stories. One of the things I loved about Columbia was the diversity of the student body, and I have tried to have this column reflect our diversity in adulthood as well. Thanks to all of you who wrote, and to all of you who read; it is time for me to move on and give someone else a chance to keep us connected.

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This column’s due date fell just as summer was winding down and most of us were headed back to our desks and our kids to school, so if I sound a bit melancholy it’s because I am (or was). I’ve been enthusiastically connecting with some of you on Facebook, and hoping that it will give me more “material,” but it feels a bit Big Brother-like to peer and reveal your wall writings in this column so I haven’t yet, but I can’t promise I won’t.

Barbara Welshal Bagley, with whom I connected briefly after reunion, wrote in recently, “It was great attending the reunion and catching up with so many old friends. I reconnected with Kim Neuhaus, Samantha Jacobs, Brian Domitrovic, Nathan Nebeker ’88, Tim Cabot, Tim Kelly, Matt As¬ siff, Dan Loflin and Lisa Landau Carnoy. I’m more regularly in touch with Alissa Friedman ’90, Maiken Baird, Kate Movius, Joanne Ooi, Amy Perkel Madsen, Margaret Troub-Aguirre ’88 and Zazu Faure ’87. I’m an investment manager for individuals and private foundations at a boutique firm in Beverly Hills and involved in a few pro bono activities related to that. My husband, Dave, and I are coming up on our 25th anniversary and our daughters are 7½ (Sarah) and 5 (Len). They’re full of energy, and it’s fun reliving elementary school (although I’m
Claire Theobald ’88 Builds Children’s Accessories

By Elizabeth King Humphrey ’88

Theobald credits the College for teaching her the analytical processes I learned at Columbia,” Theobald says of her work today.

While Dante Beatrix, based in New York City, focuses on accessories and not buildings, Theobald credits the College for teaching her the analytical process of solving a design problem. Whether designing a building or a backpack, Theobald says the process encourages her to ask: “What will make it wonderful and durable and different from another? What do you do to get to the final point? What is the big picture? What does the community or retail sector need? How are we going to do this so it lasts?”

Theobald says that she especially enjoyed taking junior and senior studios with Donna Robertson, who headed Barnard’s undergraduate architecture program, and Roy Strickland, who oversaw the College’s undergraduate architecture department. “They were amazingly dedicated to the architecture program and the students. It is an intense experience,” Theobald says. “They were instrumental and taught me the analytical thinking.”

In 1991, Theobald earned a master’s in architecture from Yale’s School of Architecture, and in 1998 she earned an M.F.A. in graphic design, also from Yale. Soon after, Theobald went to work for the Branding Integration Group (BIG) at Ogilvy & Mather in New York, which rebranded products and studied the brands of large, U.S. corporations. Because Theobald had experience with museum exhibition work, she also worked on O&M’s own rebranding, allowing her the opportunity to help create unique O&M interior spaces.

Theobald directly assisted the head of BIG design in the renovation of the lobby for the floor housing the agency’s creatives. The space incorporated chalkboard-based paint on the walls and used a muralist who, throughout the lobby, painted David Ogilvy quotes such as “The consumer is not a moron, she is your wife.” Employees in the creative area were each given a shadowbox to fill with whatever he or she wanted. The completed shadowboxes were placed in the lobby with each person’s name attached. Twenty school chairs were placed in the space and, each day creatives moved the seats around or stacked them.

In 2000, Theobald left O&M to give birth and stay at home with her twins, Alexander and Juliane, with then-husband Michael Purves ’86.

Five years later, as the children prepared for school, Theobald prepared to reenter the work world. Around this time, Dante Pauwels, an O&M colleague who had founded Dante Beatrix in 2002, approached Theobald to join her in the expansion of her company, which initially had focused on designing women’s handbags. “Claire made us think more about veering into kids’ products,” Pauwels says, “and now that is half our company.”

Marcus Woolcott, who has creative marketing experience, followed as a third partner. Although often a collaborative creative effort, according to Theobald, the three split the responsibilities, with Pauwels handling sales while Woolcott is the creative director, designs the characters and deals with manufacturing, and Theobald is involved in the media, marketing and financial areas.

Dante Beatrix (www.dantebeatrix.com) recently started shipping the children’s items with tags that tell fictional stories about the animals. For example, a tag attached to Anastasia describes her as a pig who has a “flair for the dramatic” and beautiful skin, made more attractive because she must have “frequent spa treatments and take such long mud baths.” A series of eco-friendly backpacks made from the recycled material of four to seven 16-oz. bottles have joined the company’s design line. Prices for Dante Beatrix products range from $30 for a T-shirt to $175 for a large DB haul tote.

“Dante Beatrix ties all of my education and experiences together,” Theobald says. “Instead of designing buildings, we’re designing stroller bags, diaper and wipe ‘envelopes,’ and haul totes.”

Elizabeth King Humphrey ’88 is a writer and creativity coach living in Wilmington, N.C. She blogs for TheWriteElizabeth.com and CoastalCarolinaMoms.com.
not looking forward to the high school chapter. Is any mom?)

Jeff Kelley spent time on Cape Cod this summer. We missed him at reunion, but earlier this year he participated in an informal 20th year Columbia swim team reunion. Jeff now is in Alexandria, Va., with his wife, Christine, and told me that his professional path recently crossed with Kyle Loudermilk ’89E, whom he had not seen in 20 years. When Jeff was on the Cape this summer, he went fishing with my husband Dave’s father, who is a charter fisherman. Apparently, Jeff can fish, as I saw a photo of him with what looks like a huge striped bass.

Jared Goldstein was kind enough to reply to me about his beanie and I was pleased to learn that he wore it to 2004’s 250th anniversary homecoming, and I kept it around for our 20th.

Jared and Duchesne Drew attended the reunion lecture about the Columbia campus’ 100 percent expansion over the next 20 years into West Harlem, and here are his Cliff’s Notes for the rest of us who missed it: “Basically, the Business School (Uris) and the School of the Arts’ Dodge classrooms and studios are moving to the new Manhattanville campus, around 125th to 134th Streets from Broadway to 12th Avenue. This opens room on our cramped old campus.”

Jared continues, “I was impressed by the plans for several reasons, including positive community relations, some architectural preservation, really improving that area and Columbia, and design that kind of turns the campus inside out, the opposite of the 116th Street campus: no huge walls, the buildings and streets are literally transparent and integrated.

“My only possible concern is that there is no great focus emerging yet on the new campus’ campus, like the Steps and Low Library. This campus is close to the Hudson River, and they don’t seem to be incorporating that element yet. Promisingly, the co-architect on the project, Renzo Piano, was co-architect on the 1970s Beaubourg Centre Pompidou in Paris, a transparent art museum (kind of like the Steps and Low Library). Promisingly, the co-architect on the project, Renzo Piano, was co-architect on the 1970s Beaubourg Centre Pompidou in Paris, a transparent art museum (kind of like the Steps and Low Library).

I hope you are making plans to attend our 20th reunion, Thursday, November 5, 6, and 7.

Diego Gomez is a man on the move. He left Duke Energy in Charlotte, N.C., and as of July is back in New York at Scotiabank Group Compliance as director, compliance officer, Global Energy Solutions, Scotia Capital. I love hearing from Chris Alexander. He always has such exciting news. As of July, not only is he s.v.p., corporate communications (you already knew this from a previous column) but he also is the head of 20th Century Fox TV’s publicity and talent relations departments. In his expanded position, Chris continues to handle 20th’s consumer and trade publicity campaigns. Most recently, he spearheaded the Emmy campaigns for the studio’s comedies Family Guy and How I Met Your Mother, both of which landed their first Best Series nominations. He also is overseeing the launch of the Fox/20th TV drama Glee. In the non-work side of things, he also recently celebrated his 10th anniversary with a spectacular week on the magical island of Bora Bora. And in May, we went to see Hair on Broadway and we just like to remind everyone that we Columbians did it first, nearly 20 years ago. Of course it was at 116th and Broadway in Ferris Booth Hall, but our cast members got just as naked.”

Chris and Michael also have an addition to their family, an adorable puppy, Duncan.

Rick St. Hilaire has entered the private sector, after four terms as Grafton County (N.H.) Attorney. He and his brother, Dan, have opened a law firm, based in Lebanon, focusing on state and federal issues.

I hope you are making plans to attend our 20th reunion, Thursday, November 5, 6, and 7.
June 3–Sunday, June 6. Can you believe it? 20 years. Wow! I can’t wait to see everyone.

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I love starting the column with baby news! Beth Shubin Stein and her husband, Chris Ahmad ’91, welcomed their third child, Brady, on July 28. Brady and his brother, Charlie, and sister, Sofie, could all be fourth-generation Lions.

Congrats to Jim Kauderfer!
He was named s.v.p. and CFO for OTC Global Holdings, the company responsible for the “As Seen on TV” brands for smarter travel. From Draft Guard, which is designed to reduce closet clutter, and the Twin Draft Guard, which is designed to reduce under-door draft. Those two items are some of the hundreds of products that are pitched on TV ads. Another 50 are sold on the QVC home shopping channel. Steve announced that his company, plr, an online service for smarter travel.

Steve Heroux is the founder and CEO of Hampton Direct, the company responsible for the “As Seen on TV” brands for smarter travel. Steve announced that his company, which is based in East Hampton, Conn., is expanding and expects to double its sales this year despite the current economic condition. Steve and his wife, Jennifer, have four children and would love to hear from anyone in the neighborhood.

Marko Ahitsaari ’91 is CEO and co-founder of Dopplr, an online service for smarter travel.

Steve Heroux is the founder and CEO of Hampton Direct, the company responsible for the “As Seen on TV” brands for smarter travel. Steve announced that his company, which is based in East Hampton, Conn., is expanding and expects to double its sales this year despite the current economic condition. Steve and his wife, Jennifer, have four children and would love to hear from anyone in the neighborhood.
Brad Stone ’93 is based in San Francisco and covers Internet issues for The New York Times, e.g., Apple, Amazon, eBay and Facebook.

in the fall as the drama chair and back to the Barnard / Columbia theater department, where I will be teaching first-year acting lab. I’ll also be teaching at NYU Tisch in the spring. I continue my own acting work — but only commercially right now.”

That’s it for this month … (et cetera) …

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Jennifer Brodie wrote a lovely note catching us up on what she’s been doing the past few years: “On August 4, 2007, I married Andy Khouri, someone I’ve known since high school who, incidentally, used to visit me at Columbia. That same day, I also became stepmother to Mary Beth, Andrew and Tucker (now 15, 13 and 8), so you can see why it’s taken me so long to write. We tend to keep busy. As a stepmom, I feel lucky, as I’ve known my stepchildren their whole lives.”

On May 5, Jennifer and Andy welcomed another son to the family, Aidan James Khouri. The family lives in Ridgecrest, Calif., in the Mojave Desert, where Jennifer and Andy work at the Naval Air Warfare Center-Weapons Division. “Andy retired here after serving 20 years in the Navy and now works for the Navy as a civilian,” Jennifer writes. “I work for Booz Allen Hamilton as a consultant to the Navy. We’re about 2 1/2 hours from Los Angeles and 3 1/2 hours from Las Vegas. Since this is a research, development, test and evaluation base, our jobs are pretty interesting, but this is truly a long way from New York.”

Mason Kirby’s San Francisco firm, Architect Mason Kirby, launched the first annual Kids’ Digital Design Contest this summer, for kids 0-15. The idea, according to the Web site (www.masonkirby.com/contest), is “to provide a venue for kids to demonstrate, develop and reveal their capacity for creative three-dimensional thinking using the digital modeling tool SketchUp (free to download, simple to learn and amazingly difficult to put down). Our inaugural theme is ‘under/over/within’ and features an intertidal aquatic site. Age-based judging ensures fair competition and lots of cool prizes."


in Winchester, Mass., with his wife, Kerry Kerr-Kawai ’98, and family. Paul is an attorney for the City of Cambridge.

To follow up on my last column, I got more of the backstory to the opening of Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt ‘96’s Tony Award-winning Broadway hit, Next to Normal, from none other than Rita Pietropinto-Kitt. Rita and Tom were expecting their second child, who was due to arrive the night Next to Normal opened on Broadway. Rita’s doctor worked with her to delay the baby’s arrival for a week, which relieved the producers of the show. According to Rita, “Everyone was taking bets as to whether I would make the opening. But after 12 years of this show in the making, I was not going to miss it. Being 10 months pregnant didn’t stop me from partying until 3 a.m. on the night of the opening as we celebrated the great reviews. It was a real Columbia party. Joy Gorman ’95, Matt Eddy ’95, Laura Pietropinto ‘01 and some other CC alumni were there. There were a lot of Varsity Show celebratory moments, which was nostalgic and very nice. Going to the Tony Awards was a real treat, even though I was only six weeks postpartum, and it was my first night off the couch and out after having a Cesarean. What an introduction back into society! It was a really thrilling night, even though I had to pump in a ball gown in the ladies room of Radio City Music Hall — a first! And I was certainly so proud of Tom and Brian’s success, especially since I introduced them 16 years ago at Columbia. Other than the Broadway opening, the baby and the Tonys all in one month, life is pretty normal.”

Rita also reported that she is adjusting to life as the mother of two, daughter Julia, born in April, and Michael (4), who is “a real joy. He’s entered pre-K this fall (can’t believe it!). I am returning to Marymount College, Cambridge.”

Rita also reported that she is adjusting to life as the mother of two, daughter Julia, born in April, and Michael (4), who is “a real joy. He’s entered pre-K this fall (can’t believe it!). I am returning to Marymount College, Cambridge.”


PHOTO: BARBARA ALPER

By chance, this column is devoted to attorneys.

Matt Weinstein wrote during the summer from Philadelphia to say he’s at a new law firm, Cozen O’Connor, after his old firm, Wolf Block, dissolved after 106 years. Matt, a father of three girls, is a real estate attorney and recently was promoted to partner.

Shuli, his oldest, is a three-sport athlete: swimming, soccer and softball, and a lefty. He lamented her first summer at overnight camp. “I was a full-time dad the first year of her life while I was finishing law school so it is hard for me to get my arms around the fact that she’s becoming a young lady,” Matt writes. “Aviva, my middle child, is enjoying gymnastics and soccer and is having a wonderful time at school and with her friends. Eliana, the baby, is attending preschool and attended day camp this summer at the same camp as Aviva.”

After receiving her master’s, Matt’s wife, Shila ’94 Barnard, is director of student services at Kellman Brown Academy in Cherry Hill, N.J., a Jewish day school.

David Bjorlin is an assistant district attorney in Moore County, N.C., according to a story in The Fayetteville Observer. He graduated from University of Virginia’s law school.

Giles Giovinazzi has been promoted to staff director for the United States House Committee on
Transportation and Infrastructures Subcommittee on Aviation, according to a press release.

He joined the subcommittee staff in 2002 and became senior counsel in 2006. A lieutenant in the Navy Reserve, Giles returned in January from a year of active duty, including nine months serving as an intelligence officer in Afghanistan. He graduated from Tulane Law School.

Congratulations to Lee Bickley (whom we knew as Saara) on her recent marriage. A wedding announcement in The New York Times told the story of how she met Martin Carr on the first day of Yale Law School in 1995, a few months after we graduated.

"When he heard '80s music emanating from her dorm room, he poked his head in to discuss the artistry of Rick Springfield," according to the announcement. "They dated for a year and a half, and after a friendship of 10 years, later reconnected."

To read the full story and see a photo, go here: www.nytimes.com/2009/09/06/fashion/weddings/06bickley.html?ref=weddings.

Lee, a Carman 10 resident, is a branch chief in the enforcement division at the New York office of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Her husband, a Stanford graduate, is a partner with Belzer & Carr, a real estate law firm based in Sacramento, and an adjunct professor of law at the University of the Pacific in Sacramento.

Any other Carman 10 floormates — please send an update!

96

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No news this time. Please send me an update on your work, life and/or family.

97

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CC '97, where are you? I find it hard to believe that you aren’t up to great things — you’re just not sharing them with the rest of us! Please send in any news about yourself or classmates.

98

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Hello, CC '98. Once again I bring you a short but exciting update about our classmates.

Carrie Dossick and her husband, Stephen Dossick, happily welcomed twins Sara Verde and Charles Ellis to their family on July 23, Charlie at 1:06 p.m. at 7 lbs., 6 oz., and Sara at 1:08 p.m. at 7 lbs., 6 oz. I had the pleasure of seeing Jill Jacobs in July when she was here in Philadelphia promoting her new book, There Shall Be No Needy: Pursuing Social Justice Through Jewish Law & Tradition. So fun to see her in action!

99

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[Editor’s note: CCT thanks Elizabeth Robilotti for her six years of service as a class correspondent and welcomes Lauren Becker as the new correspondent.]

In late August, I got an e-mail (subject: “breaking news”) from Konrad Fiedler, which read, “I was riding home and what did I hear on KCRW Santa Monica? Jay Carson is chief deputy mayor of Los Angeles under [Antonio] Villaraigosa. They created the position for him.” Yes, it’s true: Konrad has defected to the other coast. Having photo-
James off were Mike Erman (Reuther’s work involved unexploded ordnance). James had been a Navy diver and is now operating all the pictorial elements of the again-defunct New York Sun — Konrad pulled up stakes and is now entrenched in Hollywood. And yes, it’s true Jay Carson is a certified Los Angeles bigwig. The mayor’s press release listed Jay’s responsibilities, which are honestly too heavy to get into here, as Los Angeles faces budget shortfalls and forest fires and an onslaught of CC ‘99 charm. Speaking of which, Reed Seerman, are you still in Los Angeles? And whatever happened with the girl you met at my party all those eight years ago? You may have gathered that Elizabeth Robilotti has thrown in the towel on our Class Notes. Her parting words: “Just say thanks to me, and I look forward to keeping in touch!”
Hi all. Hope everyone enjoyed the summer and is having a good fall. Susanna Eleanor Cowen ’01 and Ross Philip McSweeney were married on July 25 at the Westin Grand Hotel in Washington. They met at Columbia. Susanna is a staff lawyer at the National Crime Victim Law Institute, which is part of the Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Ore. She also is a clinical professor in psychiatry resident at Massachusetts General Hospital and McLean Hospital.

Rajani Bahl is a third-year adult psychiatry resident at Massachusetts General Hospital and McLean Hospital.

Karen Lee Park married Raymond Tsai in New York. Zena is a first-grade teacher at Dwight Englewood School in Englewood, N.J. She also received a master’s in elementary education from Columbia.

David and Judith Goldfinger (formerly Farkas) had a boy, Eli Marc, on August 11. The whole family, including Eli’s proud sister, Eva, is doing well.

Dereck’s sister, Cherisse Chiu, writes: “Dereck enjoyed life and loved and admired by members of our class and his family, so I wanted to share a few reflections on his life.

Derek’s sister, Cherisse Chiu, writes: “Dereck enjoyed life and lived life to the fullest. That meant exploring and experiencing. He traveled to far-away countries: China, Peru, Italy, England, Canada. In China, he climbed the Great Wall; in Peru he hiked to Machu Picchu, against his doctor’s wishes because Dereck had bronchitis. Dereck was always determined, and he always defied any obstacles. “It was apparent to us that Dereck excelled in academics very early. In third or fourth grade, Dereck received his first and last C. He knew he could do better and has shown that he has accomplished greatness. At the end of sixth grade, Dereck was given the opportunity to skip seventh grade. He graduated from high school as salutatorian, received a full scholarship to Columbia, and most recently was named an honorary University of Florida psychologist. “While at the University of Florida as a doctoral candidate, Dereck was diagnosed with colon cancer. After the initial shock and disbelief, my family and I pulled our strength and love together to form as one. Dereck, in his gentle, magical way, made our journey with cancer beautiful and calming. Of course there were bad moments and questions. Through it all, we laughed, cried, shared, learned and told stories. Dereck’s sarcastic humor was very, very helpful! “Our lives were changing quickly, but Dereck was still living life to the fullest. I am very proud of Dereck’s achievements and will continue to speak highly of him because it was always his will and determination. Dereck has and continues to touch lives. He was the most thoughtful, caring, loving, attentive friend and brother to us all. I will forever love and miss him dearly.”

Derek’s cousin, Karen Lee, writes, “I will always remember Dereck as this smart, funny, kind, considerate, compassionate and understanding man. “And those who knew him know that he was stubborn as well. When Dereck wanted to accomplish something, he didn’t let anything stand in his way. Only he would hike the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

No one could have known Dereck was so proud of him. When Dereck wanted to accomplish something, he didn’t let anything stand in his way. Only he would hike the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu.

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As we enter the holiday season, we should be thankful for all of the good fortune that has come to our class as a collective for the six years since we have graduated. It’s also a time when many of us remember those friends and loved ones who have left us. It is with a heavy heart that I write that Dereck Chiu died of colon cancer earlier this summer. Dereck was loved and admired by members of our class and his family.

Proctor’s sister, Cherisse Chiu, writes: “Dereck enjoyed life and lived life to the fullest. That meant exploring and experiencing. He traveled to far-away countries: China, Peru, Italy, England, Canada. In China, he climbed the Great Wall; in Peru he hiked to Machu Picchu, against his doctor’s wishes because Dereck had bronchitis. Dereck was always determined, and he always defied any obstacles. “It was apparent to us that Dereck excelled in academics very early. In third or fourth grade, Dereck received his first and last C. He knew he could do better and has shown that he has accomplished greatness. At the end of sixth grade, Dereck was given the opportunity to skip seventh grade. He graduated from high school as salutatorian, received a full scholarship to Columbia, and most recently was named an honorary University of Florida psychologist. “While at the University of Florida as a doctoral candidate, Dereck was diagnosed with colon cancer. After the initial shock and disbelief, my family and I pulled our strength and love together to form as one. Dereck, in his gentle, magical way, made our journey with cancer beautiful and calming. Of course there were bad moments and questions. Through it all, we laughed, cried, shared, learned and told stories. Dereck’s sarcastic humor was very, very helpful! “Our lives were changing quickly, but Dereck was still living life to the fullest. I am very proud of Dereck’s achievements and will continue to speak highly of him because it was always his will and determination. Dereck has and continues to touch lives. He was the most thoughtful, caring, loving, attentive friend and brother to us all. I will forever love and miss him dearly.”

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“Since the night we became friends, Dereck went on to lead a life filled with many wonderful accomplishments, but I think the most important things to him were the connections that he made with his friends and family. Dereck remembered every detail when it came to our friendship. He never missed a birthday, and he would always spend an extra few minutes talking to me no matter how busy he was. He didn’t do it just to be nice. He actually cared. I was always amazed at how he had such a precise recollection of even our most mundane conversations. Even when he took a turn for the worse, he still only thought of his friends. After a night of telling embarrassing stories about him at the hospital, I got up to leave and looked at him a bit teary-eyed. Despite all the pain he was in, he just gave me a roguish grin, gave me a hug and said, ‘F.U.? Probably not the most soothing thing to say to most people, but he knew it was the only thing he could have said to comfort me. ‘Don’t cry for me. I’m not afraid,’ was what he was saying. That was Dereck, tough as nails and a consummate friend to the end. I’ll miss him terribly.”

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes donations be made to the Dereck Chiu Counseling Psychology Training & Research Scholarship Fund (Tax ID #008873) and In Memoriam Dedication Fund (which will be managed by the Chiu family). The family thanks Chris Motley, through his job with a textile company based in Chicago, is trying to raise awareness of cotton made in Africa. This August and September, Miru Kim had a solo exhibition of her photography, Naked City Spleen, at Galleria Hyundai Gangnam Space in Seoul, South Korea.

Miru Kim ’03 had a solo exhibition of her photography, Naked City Spleen, in Seoul, South Korea.

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— I’ve been informed that only so many photos can fit into each issue. But rest assured, the photos will make their way into print and online (www.college.columbia.edu/ct). Now, for some more wedding announcements:

**Tom Longo** and Christina Vullo ’05E were married in May. In attendance were Joe Choopropazha, Laura Martin, Linnea Goodman ’05, Laurel Gordon, Trish Nolan, Nancy (Lin) Fairchild ’05E, Arturo Pelaez ’05E, Hiram Lucena ’05, Mike Koeckert ’05E and Kana Yazawa ’03.

Jessica Hollinger (formerly DiCamillo) and James Hollinger were married in June at a small vineyard in Guerneville, Calif. Jessica writes: “It was a beautiful day, and we couldn’t be happier. After I completed my summer internship at the Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment, James and I enjoyed a honeymoon in the Mediterranean. I am now in my third year at Berkeley Law and hope to win a fellowship position at a local nonprofit after I graduate.”

**Scott Hartman** and Gwyneth McClendon, who met sophomore year at Columbia and have been together since, recently were engaged. They plan to get married in 2010.

And while it has been more than a year, it’s never too late to announce a good thing: Karl Dusen and Emily Conlon were married in September 2008 in Washington, D.C. The ceremony was held at Georgetown’s Dahlgren Chapel, and the reception was at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.

Congrats to all of our newlyweds and newly engaged!

In other news, Elizabeth Segran is writing her dissertation. She is dividing her time between the United States, the United Kingdom, France and India. Elizabeth spent the summer exploring various facets of South Indian life in Pondicherry and Madras. You can check out her travelogue at http://lizsegan.blogspot.com.

**Michelle Oh**

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Another school year is under way, and many of our classmates have transitioned by returning to school. After three years working at the Federal Public Defender’s office in Brooklyn, N.Y., Sergio Torres Rueda has moved to London to start a master’s in development studies at the London School of Economics. He writes, “I was very excited to start school and to get to know London. I also was sad about leaving New York and the wonderful Columbia community behind.”

John Jung started at Stanford Law School this fall. Sean Duffy moved to Boston to start his medical training at Harvard Medical School. Mariza Jean-Louis writes, “Since graduating, I’ve been working in the office of the general counsel at the Open Society Institute in New York, which is George Soros’ nonprofit organization. We’re the
headquarters for the many foundations he has all over the world, doing goodwill wherever we can. I was there for 3½ years as the office manager/senior legal assistant. I quit at the end of July, though, because I was heading to Cambridge to start a joint J.D./M.P.P. program at Harvard Law and the Kennedy School of Government. It’s kind of a trip to be going back to school after a significant period of time, but I’m really excited!” Ted Diefenbach moved to Los Angeles and is earning his M.F.A. in film and television production at USC’s School of Cinematic Arts. Dan Kessler is heading into his second year at Stanford Business School, having spent this past summer working for Kohlberg Ventures in Menlo Park, Calif. Stephen Kunen writes, “I am working for the Centers For Disease Control’s office of Technology Transfer as a field placement. I work for Emory’s T.I.G.E.R program (technological innovation generating economic results). Its program pairs law students with Ph.D.s from Georgia Tech and M.B.A. students from Emory to try to commercialize a technology. I’m also on the Emory Law Journal. I traveled to Alaska and Savannah, Ga., this summer and completed my first sprint triathlon.”

Natasha Chutinthuranond is pursuing a master’s degree in hospital administration at the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne in Switzerland. If anyone is in Europe until August 2010, especially Switzerland, please let her know!

Cindy Miller lives on the Upper East Side. She works for Escola, the digital media branch of Scholastic Publishing, as an online producer. In addition to producing Web sites for the tween market, she also writes for the Scholastic Kids online blog. Ink Splot 26 (http://www.ink-splot.com), as well as other Web sites. Maiya Chard-Yaron writes, “After finishing my M.A. in informal Jewish education from JTS in May, I finally (sadly) left Morningside Heights after seven years. This summer, I traveled to Israel and Belgium to compete in softball with the Israeli National Team, first in the Maccabiah Games in Israel, and then in the European Championships in Antwerp, where we finished fourth. Not long after returning to the States, I moved to Davis, Calif., where I recently started a new position as the program director for the Hillel of Davis and Sacramento, working with the Jewish student population at UC Davis, Sacramento State and other campuses in the Sacramento area. Davis is quite a change of pace from New York, but I am enjoying it.”

Lindsay Granger recently finished her master of philosophy in education degree in counseling psychology from Penn’s Graduate School of Education and is a high school counselor at William H. Bo
dine H.S. for International Affairs in Philadelphia.

Chloe Good continues to globetrot, and her latest report is as follows: “I am still on my way around the world. I recently went on safari with my mother in Tanzania, then stayed with two Columbia Business School graduates in Dar-es-Salaam who are starting a biodiesel company by using the leftover vegetable oil from hotels and restaurants. I am in Rwanda [as I write this] and saw silverback mountain gorillas in the jungle yesterday, which was amazing. I was standing five feet from a 400-lb. gorilla on the side of a mountain. I visited John Jadczyk in Kigali, Rwanda, for the last week. He has been working here for about six months. Going on safari and seeing silverback gorillas were two of the most amazing things I have done in my life. I will be in Africa for another six weeks, then I will be heading to Nepal.” After four months in Paraguay working for Kiva.org, Nicholas Cain moved to Seattle to take a position with a start-up nonprofit, Vittana. The goal is to apply the idea of person-to-person micro lending to small loans in the developing world. “I’m joining the team early so I am hoping it will be a great opportunity to learn a lot and, eventually, make an impact,” he said.

A special congratulations to newly married couples among our classmates.

I recently completed my Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and am starting a new position as the program director for the M.A. program in Counseling Psychology at Antioch University in Los Angeles. I am excited to work with outstanding students and scholars who have the same passion as I do in the field of human development. Jennifer Levine

Andrea Cortes-Comerer ’05 and Paul Burkey ’05 tied the knot on June 20 at St. Paul’s Chapel on campus. Partying with them afterward at Terrace in the Sky were (left to right) Jason Liang ’05E, Michael Dial ’05, Caitlin Verrilli ’05, Sylvain Lapan ’05, the bride, the groom, Matthew Stachowiak ’05E, ’10 GSAS, Ramya Angara ’05E and Natasha Tsiouris ’05, ’10L.

Many thanks to everyone who shared news with us! I wish you all happy holidays and look forward to hearing from more of you.

David D. Chait 41 W. 24th St., Apt. 3R New York, NY 10010 ddc2106@columbia.edu

07

For this edition of CC ’07 Class Notes, we have a special Twitter-theme, as suggested by Rebecca Liu. In addition to regular submissions, 140-character Twitter notes were requested from classmates. Here’s what was reported:

Simeon Siegel: Getting married August 30.

Niko Siegel: Married in June to Emily in Philadelphia.

Jason Liang: ‘05E, married to Jennifer Levine.

Many thanks to everyone who shared news with us! I wish you all happy holidays and look forward to hearing from more of you.

Hagar Elbishlawi received her master’s in environmental engineering from Princeton in May.

John Schneider: In the middle of geology master’s at U-W Madison, doing an internship this fall in Houston with Chevron. Get in touch!

Evelyn Mitchell: I’m engaged to Alvin Strasburger ’06E. We’re getting married May 22, 2010, in Beaufort, S.C. I’m in my second year of law school, and Alvin is in his first year of medical school.

Ngoozi Okoh is in her 2nd year at Penn Dental. Those who are in Philly, I’ll be needing some patients by June 2010.

Zach Kestenbaum: I had a baby boy, Gabriel, a few months ago.

Simeon Siegel: Getting married August 30.

Avi Zvi Zenilman: Even alumni are down with this whole Twitter thing.

James L. Williams: I recently played pool with David Chait and Marc Tracy.

Nikkie Zanevsky: My company, Children’s Progress (founded as a Columbia portfolio company in 1999) made this year’s Inc. 500 list of fastest-growing private companies in the U.S.

Nikkie also writes, “I performed in the Fringe Festival this summer, as part of the first Parkour show to appear in a Fringe event (and one of few Parkour shows ever to be staged worldwide). Parkour is the discipline of moving efficiently through any environment using only the capabilities of the human body.”

Ahrely Falk writes, “In July, after finishing two years in capital markets at Citigroup, I traveled to eastern Uganda to spend a month raising money for the Abya-

Photo: Aja Burton

Andrea Cortes-Comerer ’05 and Paul Burkey ’05 tied the knot on June 20 at St. Paul’s Chapel on campus. Partying with them afterward at Terrace in the Sky were (left to right) Jason Liang ’05E, Michael Dial ’05, Caitlin Verrilli ’05, Sylvain Lapan ’05, the bride, the groom, Matthew Stachowiak ’05E, ’10 GSAS, Ramya Angara ’05E and Natasha Tsiouris ’05, ’10L.

Photo: Aja Burton
based in New York. I look forward to continuing to keep in touch with my classmates in the city.

And last of all, my Twitter-themed note:

David Chait: Thank you for all of the submissions and keep them coming!

Neda Navab
53 Saratoga Dr.
Jericho, NY 11753
mn2126@columbia.edu

Happy Holidays, Class of ’08!

After working at a law firm in midtown Manhattan for a year, Ingrid Scholze picked up and moved west. She is living in San Francisco “and loving it!” Ingrid works at the Seneca Center, a nonprofit that serves up a plethora of programs in the areas of domestic violence and mental health options for kids and families in the Bay Area. “I got hired as a program assistant in June, and now I am county liaison, managing the treatment referral process for San Francisco County.”

Joshua Kaplan-Marans married Margot Schader ’10 this September. They met at Columbia when Joshua was a junior and Margot was a first-year. Margot majors in economics and Joshua is a research analyst at Bank of America.

Rebecca Damooei graduated from AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps Pacific Region, wrapping up 10 months of community service nationwide. This ceremony marked the 15th graduating class since the inception of AmeriCorps NCCC. Rebecca was one of 296 AmeriCorps NCCC members honored. During their term of service, corps members worked in teams of 10–12 and were deployed throughout the United States, including California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming. The Pacific Region campus’ 28 teams provided much-needed support and countless hours to the residents of Texas and the Gulf Coast region devastated by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Ike. Through work with FEMA, the American Red Cross and other grassroots organizations.

C. Lauren Arnold is in her second year of the Peace Corps in Cambodia, currently working on developing a Girls’ Leadership Development Program in a rural town that will involve giving girls from the high school a chance to create and implement their own development projects. She also works with a group of students on health education projects. “They are going to be going out into the rice fields and educating community members about important child-

hood vaccines for their first project. My girls’ Co-op team is still kicking (literally), and in October I started my second year of teaching English at the local high school.”

Farah Mohammed moved in February to “the land down under,” where she is pursuing a law degree at University of Sydney. “Sydney is slower-paced and more spread out as compared to New York City,” Farah says, however, she is excited for her first summer in Sydney, which begins in November. In her spare time, Farah performs belly dance at Midtown Eastern restaurants in the Sydney area. You can check her out at www.farahdance.com.

As the holiday season approaches, the members of the Class of 2009 continued to have a lot to be thankful for. Around the world, our peers are pursuing exciting adventures and opportunities. One thing for which I personally will be thankful this holiday season is having the opportunity to be the class correspondent for such an event and thrive. It certainly does make gathering news and updates more entertaining and easy when your peers have so much to share.

Jisung Park is studying environmental change and management at Oxford. As part of an interdisciplinary program focusing on environmental policy, Jisung looks to continue his research on the economics of climate change and tropical deforestation that he began while at Columbia and expanded upon while working at the Environmental Defense Fund this past summer. He also hopes to begin working with researchers at Oxford’s Environmental Change Institute to explore how biodiversity loss impacts human economic systems. He lives in Magdalen College along with fellow Rhodes Scholar Jason Bello ’08. In addition to his studies, Jisung is hoping to get a spot on the university basketball team.

Jordan Selig spent the summer studying cuisine at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris, learning how to make classical French dishes such as beef bourguignonne, chicken soufflé and fish flan. Though not a huge fan of the dishes themselves, she loves learning the techniques used in preparing them: butchering, sautéing, cutting, chopping, sautéing, frying, braising and everything in between. The first few weeks were tough and involved many cuts and burns, but she is now proud to say that she is injury-free. Beginning in September, Jordan started working at an environmental think tank in Berlin, Ecologic (http://ecologic.eu/), where she is a researcher. Having spent junior spring semester in Berlin, she is excited to reaquaint herself with the German language, connect with old friends, eat some dark bread and sausage, and do climate change research.

Daniella Zalcman took two months off this summer to travel to Mexico, where she spent two weeks photographing Mexico City, Oaxaca and the Sierra Norte Mountains, and Greece, where she was an architectural photographer in Mycenae. Now she’s home and back to work as a photographer for the New York Daily News. After graduation, Jeremy Reiss embarked on an epic cross-country road trip with Isaac Silverman, Kim Davidson and one of his friends from home. Driving from Connecticut to Los Angeles and back again, the group covered around 8,000 miles over the course of a month and 26 states. Since October, Jeremy has been a consultant with Booz & Co., based in the New York office.

Rachael McMillan teaches sixth-grade math with Teach for America in Baton Rouge, La., and loves it. Her southern accent picked up in France and her current hobbies include telling her students that she got a tattoo that says “I Love Math” and learning how to cook gumbo. Rachel was in Phoenix with Dave Collier during TFA Summer Institute, and the two are now contemplating starting a chapter of the Columbia Alumni Association in Louisiana. She hopes that fellow alumni will visit her for Mardi Gras!

This summer, Nhu-Y Ngo researched U.S. immigration policy at the Migration Policy Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based think tank dedicated to the study of the impacts human economic systems. He lives in Magdalen College along with fellow Rhodes Scholar Jason Bello ’08. In addition to his studies, Jisung is hoping to get a spot on the university basketball team.

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Alumni Corner
(Continued from page 80)

About tuna, chicken salad or Caesar wrap.

The wraps were good, as were the chips and cookies that came with them, but something was missing. The press box obviously is a fantastic place to be when it’s 20 degrees outside and the wind is whipping in off the Sputyn Duyliv. But on a warm sunny day, it’s immensely satisfying to sit close to the action, surrounded by cheering fans and the Columbia band.

All I’ll say about the second half is that it had a sadly familiar ring. CCSCU scored 13 unanswered points for a 22–13 win. After the game, the media was offered an opportunity to meet with some of the players and the head coach of each team. Nine of us made the trip to the second floor of the Chrystie Field House.

CCSU head coach Jeff McNerney spoke first. He called Columbia “a traditional Ivy League powerhouse” and said that Lions head coach Norries Wilson was “a great coach who will win a lot of games.”

CCSU senior quarterback Avery Norris, who had taken the reins in the second quarter, completed all eight of his pass attempts and rushed for 75 yards, was less diplomatic. Asked what he thought of the Lions, he responded, “I don’t think they were tackling that well.”

That assessment later was echoed by coach Wilson, who declared, “They came out in the second half and stuffed it right in our faces.”

Then Wilson was asked why it has been so difficult over the years to turn Columbia’s football fortunes around. “I don’t know,” he said with a shrug. “Snowballs roll in two dimensions, you know. You roll bad or they can roll good. We’ve got to find a way to turn the snowball around.”

Thomas Hauser ’67, ’70L is an attorney and the author of 37 books.
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Deadline for January/February issue: Tuesday, November 24, 2009
Columbia has savored gridiron glory. The Lions beat Stanford 7-0 in the 1934 Rose Bowl. In 1938, after trailing 18-6 at the half, they rallied behind quarterback Sid Luckman '39 to a historic 20-18 upset over mighty Army. Nine years later, Columbia recovered from a 20-7 halftime deficit to upset Army again, beating a cadet team that hadn't lost in 32 games by a score of 21-20. The 1961 Lions shared the Ivy League championship with Harvard.

But there have been harsh times, too. Entering the 2009 season, Columbia had lost 605 games. Only two teams in college football history — Northwestern (614 losses) and VMI (612) — have lost more. The last Columbia coach to compile a winning career record was Charles Crowley, who relinquished the reins in 1929.

The first Columbia football game I saw was the home opener against Princeton in 1963. In the 46 years that I've been following Columbia football, the Lions have had three winning seasons. During that time, their record has been 103 victories, 330 defeats and 9 ties. Discounting the ties, that comes to a .238 winning percentage. This is not good.

On the plus side, the Lions are true student-athletes. Football is an extracurricular activity at Columbia, not an obsession. And Lawrence A. Wien Stadium (which replaced the old wooden Baker Field in 1984) is a nice place to watch a football game. The sightlines are good. There's a beautiful view of the Palisades, Spuyten Duyvil and the Henry Hudson Bridge. Tickets always are available.

During my years at the College and Law School, I went to every home game except for one that fell on the same day that the Law School Aptitude Test was administered. Now I go to one game a year and listen to several more on WKCR.

My sport of choice has become boxing. As a writer, I've covered hundreds of fights from ringside. I realized this summer that, for all the times I'd seen the Lions play football, I'd never been in the press box. I decided to fill that void by writing about this year's home opener against Central Connecticut State.

September 26 was a perfect day for football. Blue sky, a gentle breeze, temperature in the mid-60s.

The press box at Wien Stadium overlooks the field from behind the top row of the stands. A long, built-in table and 16 chairs are set against a windowed wall that offers a panoramic view of the field. A second table and 10 chairs stand on a platform close behind. Adjacent rooms house radio broadcasters as well as assistant coaches from the teams, who communicate throughout the game with their brethren on the sidelines.

This was the inaugural meeting on the gridiron between Columbia and Central Connecticut State. CCSU had split its first two games of the 2009 campaign. Columbia had beaten Fordham 40-28 in its season opener and was bidding to win its first two games for only the fifth time in 57 years.

There had been 27 requests for press credentials. I was seated in the front row overlooking the 50-yard line. Major media was largely absent. The Columbia Daily Spectator was well-represented, as were several college-football Web sites. Most of the reporters were of student age; I was one of the few with gray hair. I was also one of the few writing longhand on a yellow pad, as laptops were the predominant instrument in note-taking. Wi-fi was available.

Muffins, bagels, fresh fruit and bottled beverages were set out on a table at the north end of the press box. Copies of the Columbia football media guide and the day's game program also were available.

The game began at 12:30, and Columbia returned the opening kick to its own 44-yard line. A facemask penalty against CCSU, a 28-yard pass from M.A. Olawale '10 to Taylor Joseph '10 and three well-executed rushes by Ray Rangel '10 followed. Just 76 seconds into the game, the Lions led 7-0.

Three minutes later, Columbia got the ball again, pinned inside its own 1-yard line. Rangel for 49 yards on first down. Rangel for 34 yards on second down. First and 10 Columbia just inside the CCSU 17. The Lions looked like Ohio State.

Then the drive sputtered, and a Columbia field goal attempt was blocked. Late in the quarter, CCSU blocked a punt and recovered at the Lions' 1-yard line, but a heroic defensive stand stopped the visitors cold. At the end of the first quarter, the Lions led 7-0. Darlene Camacho, Columbia's director of sports information and media relations, and her staff passed out statistical summaries, as they would throughout the afternoon.

The second quarter began with an extension of hope. An 11-yard pass from Olawale to Austin Knowlin '10 gave Columbia a 13-0 lead. But CCSU blocked the extra point attempt (its third blocked kick of the half) and returned the ball the length of the field for two points. The Lions led 13-2, but I was starting to feel uneasy. I'd seen this tragedy acted out before.

Late in the second quarter, CCSU narrowed the margin to 13-9. Just before halftime, an athletics department intern came through the room asking each of the writers if we'd like a turkey.

(Continued on page 78)
THANKS AGAIN (WE HOPE!)

In uncertain times, people invest in what matters most. Won’t you join the thousands of alumni, parents, and friends who choose Columbia College?

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St. Paul's Chapel on a crisp, fall afternoon.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO
The Road Less Traveled

Not all alumni become doctors, lawyers, politicians or captains of industry. Some choose unusual careers such as U.S. Marshal, bicycle racer or jet pilot.

PLUS

Columbia Forum:
Between the Assassinations
by Aravind Adiga '97
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By Christi Parsons, Chicago Tribune

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Five More Minutes
Watch Professor Ruth DeFries discuss land-use issues and the people working for and against land conservation.

Go Speed Racer
Christine Vardaros '91 races on Long Island and explains the sport of cyclocross.

Cover: Alumni Photos Left to Right: Courtesy of Dan Silverman '70; Joan Brady; Francois Buyssens; Courtesy of Jim Petersen '71; Courtesy of Larkmead Vineyards; Courtesy of Jim Chengweth '50; Courtesy of Mike Manuche '80. Columbia Forum: © Jeremy Horner/Corbis
Letters to the Editor

Holder and the Rule of Law

Although I agree that Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, ’76L is a welcome change after the years of the Bush administration, the article in the November/December CCT neglected to mention that many of his admirers have been disappointed in his overly cautious approach thus far.

In the two central issues mentioned by the author, “restoring integrity to a department tarnished by scandals” and changing a policy of “backing harsh intelligence techniques,” Holder has fallen far short of my hopes. Though, as the article notes, he was quick to dismiss the indictment of Senator Ted Stevens, he has done nothing about the case of Alabama ex-governor Don Siegelman, the likely victim of a Karl Rove-led political vendetta, and has shown a remarkable lack of interest in getting to the bottom of the scandal that involved the firing of several state attorney generals for political reasons.

Similarly, Holder has announced an investigation of detainee abuses at Guantanamo, but the inquiry will focus on the individual interrogators, not the perpetrators of the policy (Cheney, Addington, Gonzales, et al) and the twisted legal justifications for them.

Like President Obama, Holder seems eager to “turn the page,” but as our Vermont senator, Patrick Leahy, has said, we must know what’s on the page before we can turn it. Americans are owed an explanation of the extent to which the Office of Attorney General was sullied during the Bush years.

Rick Winston ’69
Chevy Chase, MD.

The article in the November/December CCT about U.S. Attorney General Holder stressing his commitment to the rule of law is rather biased in that it suggests repeatedly that some terrorists were too harshly treated during the Bush years. The author of the piece might have mentioned that we have not had any terrorist attacks in the United States since September 11, 2001, at least not until recently, when Major Nidal Malik Hasan opened fire on personnel at Fort Hood, Texas.

The enhanced interrogations of a few terrorists have been appropriate for national defense. I suggest that those who disagree recall the photos of American civilians hanging from windows of the World Trade Center, faced with the choice of leaping to their horrific deaths on the pavement far below or burning to death inside the building. Or, consider the possibility that a new attack might have been (or still could be) in the form of an EMP device detonated over the United States, thereby shutting down our communication systems. Such an event would bring our entire economy to astandstill, making the current “recession” seem like a minor nuisance.

So, I am very pleased that the Bush administration “grilled” a few terrorists, and prevented more terrorist attacks here at home. And I hope the Obama administration is just as successful. The most significant, wholesale violation of the rule of law is right before our noses. It is the fact that millions of illegal immigrants live in the United States without becoming citizens and without paying taxes. If President Obama and Attorney General Holder follow the example of the last several administrations (regardless of party), they will do nothing effective. Most of the illegal immigrants should be granted citizenship, along with an IRS booklet, but some of them may be serious threats to our homeland security.

James E. O’Brien ’66
Maitland, Fla.
Going Greener and Saving Green

Last one out of the room turns out the lights — we don’t have stock in Con Edison!”

“Turn off that faucet before the reservoir runs dry.”

“Don’t waste food — there are starving children in India.”

Growing up middle class in the 1950s and ’60s, I learned the meaning of “waste not, want not.” We did not have stock in the local utility company, we did not squander natural resources such as water, and while we never went hungry, we didn’t fill our plates with food we weren’t going to eat, either. I didn’t know the term sustainability — heck, it might not have been coined yet — but my family practiced it on a personal level.

Today, sustainability is in the news every day: The polar ice caps are melting, rainforests are endangered, species are facing extinction. And I’m on board. I’ve watched Al Gore’s An Inconvenient Truth, I followed the Copenhagen climate summit, I’ve read Thomas Friedman’s Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution — and How It Can Renew America. The last car I bought was a Prius, and I love it. Environmental studies, environmental science, environmental law, environmental anything are among the most rapidly growing fields of study on campuses around the country, and I’m both happy and proud that my Barnard-bound daughter has environmental studies in her plans.

Now it’s time for Columbia College Today to do its small part.

This is the first issue of our magazine, your magazine, to be printed on paper that is made from mixed sources — a combination of virgin and recycled pulp — and qualifies to carry the Forest Stewardship Council logo you’ll see at the bottom of our masthead on the opposite page.

Only 10 percent of the world’s forests are certified by one of the credible forest certification programs that encourage responsible forestry, such as the FSC, a global organization created following the 1993 Rio de Janeiro climate summit. The FSC establishes a sustainability chain of custody, from FSC-certified forests to FSC-certified paper mills to FSC-certified printers, including Lane Press in South Burlington, Vt., which has been printing CCT since 1998 and holds chain-of-custody certification from the FSC. Using an FSC-certified printer that buys paper that originated in FSC-certified forests increases the demand for responsibly managed forests, which should only make that 10 percent go up.

Unfortunately, under the laws of supply and demand, FSC-certified paper is more expensive than virgin paper stock, and the difference escalates with the percentage of recycled content. In today’s reality of budget constraints, this made it more challenging to go green and has limited us to 10 percent recycled stock. However, Lane Press identified several options for us that were cost-effective, and by slightly reducing the weight of our paper stock (the 60-lb. paper in this issue is still heavier than that used by most magazines), we were able to switch to FSC-certified paper and save money each issue as well.

So what is the environmental impact of this paper change? Using the Paper Calculator that is on the Environmental Defense Fund Web site (www.edf.org), I learned that in one year we will use 28 fewer tons of paper, the equivalent of about 194 fewer trees. There also will be reductions in the four other categories the Paper Calculator measures: net energy used, greenhouse gases, wastewater and solid waste. It’s all good.

In 2007, Columbia was among nine universities that accepted a challenge by NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg (www.columbia.edu/cu/news/07/06/green.html) to reduce its carbon footprint by 30 percent in 10 years. At CCT, we are happy to play a small part in this effort.

You can help, too. A recent survey told us that the vast majority of you would like to keep receiving CCT in print, in addition to having it available (and archived) online. However, those of you who indicated you were happy to read the magazine online can help us go green and save money by opting out of the print version, thus saving us printing and distribution costs. Please send an e-mail — with your name, class year and address, so we can locate you in the database — to cct@columbia.edu, subject line “Opt-out.” You may be reinstated to receive the print edition at any time, and we will continue to notify you by e-mail when each issue is posted online.

Finally, when you, your family and friends are done with this issue of CCT, the first to be printed on FSC-certified paper, please do the right thing and recycle it. Thanks!

Alex Sarbaze
Five Alumni To Receive John Jay Awards

BY LISA PALLADINO AND JESSE THIESSEN ’11 ARTS

On Wednesday, March 3, Columbia College will honor five accomplished alumni — Brian C. Krisberg ’81, Francisco “Frank” Lopez-Balboa ’82, Tracy V. Maitland ’82, David Rosand ’59 and Julia Stiles ’05 — with 2010 John Jay Awards for distinguished professional achievement.

Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City will be the setting for the black-tie dinner benefiting the John Jay Scholars Program, which aims to extend and enhance previous academic and extracurricular experiences for outstanding first-year College students. John Jay Scholars are offered the opportunity to participate in special programs such as panels, discussions and outings.

Krisberg, who graduated from the Law School in 1984, is a partner with Sidley Austin in its real estate department. His areas of specialty include commercial real estate finance, warehouse lending, structured finance and securitization. He previously was a partner at Latham & Watkins and at Milbank Tweed Hadley and McCloy.

Krisberg serves the College as an ex officio member of the Board of Visitors and as chair of the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors. He has sat on the CCAA board since 1986 and was its president from 2006–08.

Lopez-Balboa has been at Goldman Sachs since 1991. A managing director since 1997, he oversees the telecom, media and technology sector for investment grade clients in the Financing Group of the Investment Banking Division. He also is a member of the firm’s Credit Market Capital Committee.

Lopez-Balboa earned an M.B.A. from Harvard in 1986. He served on his class’ 25th Reunion Committee and, along with his brother, Victor ’82, established the Frank and Victor Lopez-Balboa Scholarship for need-based financial aid at the College. The brothers have pledged $1 million for the fund.

In addition to being on the Advisory Council of the Association to Benefit Children of New York City, Lopez-Balboa is a member of the Board of Trustees for St. Mark’s School in Southborough, Mass.

Maitland, who majored in economics, is president and chief investment officer of Advent Capital Management, which manages more than $4.5 billion in long-only products, hedge funds and closed-end mutual funds. Prior to founding Advent Capital Management, he was a director in the Convertible Securities Department in the Capital Markets Division at Merrill Lynch. While at Merrill Lynch for 13 years, Maitland advised institutions on investing in convertibles, fixed income and equities.

Maitland serves on the Board of Directors of the Apollo Theater Foundation in Harlem and is a trustee of the Studio Museum in Harlem.

The Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History, Rosand has been on Columbia’s faculty since 1964 and earned a Ph.D. from GSAS in 1965. Currently chair of the Art Department’s Wallach Art Gallery Committee, Rosand has twice chaired the Department of Art History and Archaeology, and has been director of Art Humanities and chairman of the Society of Fellows in the Humanities.

Rosand has been developing a project for Raphael’s Stanza della Segnatura, extending visual and cultural analysis through digital imaging and computer graphics. He also has been instrumental in acquiring, developing and fundraising for Casa Muraro, Columbia’s Center for Study in Venice, Italy.

Along with other “Tenured Teachers of the Core,” Rosand received the Alexander Hamilton Award in 1994. He also received the Great Teacher Award from the Society of Columbia Graduates (1997) and the Award for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum from the Heyman Center for the Humanities (2000), among other honors.

Stiles is a critically and commercially successful actress with experience on stage and in film. She began performing with the Ridge Theater Company at 11 and has gone on to star in diverse theatrical leading roles, from Shakespeare in the Park’s production of Twelfth Night to a revival of David Mamet’s Oleanna in London. She reprised the role of Carol in Oleanna on Broadway last fall.

Stiles’ film credits include all three Jason Bourne movies; Save the Last Dance; Mona Lisa Smile; and State and Main. Stiles is slated to star in an upcoming film adaptation of Sylvia Plath’s The Bell Jar. In 2007, Stiles wrote and directed her first short film, Raving, which stars Zooey Deschanel and Bill Irwin. The film premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and on the Sundance Channel.

For more information on the dinner, contact Jennifer Freely, assistant director of alumni affairs: jf2261@columbia.edu or 212-851-7438.
Graybill Awarded Rhodes Scholarship

Raphael Graybill ’10 has been awarded a Rhodes Scholarship to pursue an M.Phil. in politics at Oxford. He was one of 32 winners selected out of a pool of 805 applicants nationwide.

Graybill, who is from Great Falls, Mont., and majors in political science, has worked extensively with Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.) and plans to devote himself to public service in his home state after leaving England. “The best way to live out your values is in public life,” said Graybill, who at 19 was elected to serve as a delegate for Montana at the 2008 Democratic National Convention.

Graybill spent last summer in Washington, D.C., as a health care associate for Baucus, working on one of the nation’s most important domestic issues.

Graybill also volunteers as a New York City auxiliary police officer and is the captain of Columbia’s Ski and Snowboard Racing Team.

He recently was awarded a Marshall Scholarship, but turned that down when the Rhodes committee called.

Graybill is one of four College students to win the Rhodes in the last four years.

Columbia students and alumni also have won two Marshall Scholarships and more than 18 Fulbright Scholarships in the same time.

Michael Pippenger, associate dean of fellowship programs and study abroad, attributes the recent successes in part to the entire Columbia community coming together to assist in the application process. Students, faculty, staff and alumni critique applicants’ submissions and conduct mock interviews to prepare them.

“We’ve really increased the number of ways that we assist students in terms of having them work with faculty, work with alumni, work with administrators,” Pippenger says. “We try to put them in touch with as many people in the Columbia community to put together the best application possible. That has really come together in the last four years to create a great success.”

To read more about Graybill, see “Student Spotlight” in the September/October 2009 issue. To read about last year’s Columbia scholarship winners, see “Around the Quads” in the January/February and March/April 2009 issues. All may be found at www.college.columbia.edu/cct/past_issues.

“Give back to Columbia. Because it’s something we can do, and should do . . .”

—Kenneth Forde ’59PS

“A SURGEON’S SURGEON.”
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To learn more about Dr. Forde and planned giving, visit giving.columbia.edu/plannedgifts or call 800-338-3294.
Ruth DeFries is Columbia's first Denning Professor of Sustainable Development. She teaches in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology and is working to establish an undergraduate major in sustainable development. A winner of a 2007 MacArthur Foundation "genius" grant, DeFries is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She received a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins and a B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis.

Where did you grow up? The Washington, D.C., area.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? A veterinarian. A violinist. I thought it could be a career.

How did you get into environmental science? When I was growing up, the environmental movement was in its heyday. There was the first Earth Day. That was right around my adolescence, and it made a big impact.

How did you come to Columbia? I was at the University of Maryland since the early '90s. A change seemed like a good idea. Columbia was very attractive because of the Earth Institute, the opportunities to engage with so many colleagues in interdisciplinary research, the focus on sustainability, the fabulous students.

What are you teaching this spring? I'm teaching a class with John Mutter from the earth and environmental sciences department on science for sustainable development.

What are you working on? I work on land use change, which is the major way that people change their environment. I work mostly in the tropics using satellite data to observe land use changes and what that means for climate, conservation and ecosystems in general. Land use is a balance between transforming the landscape for society and what it needs in terms of food and urban spaces, and the environmental impact these things cause. Most often it's only the direct, short-term human needs that are factored into these decisions. One technical leap that has allowed this field to move forward is the availability of satellite data, which gives us the ability to see large landscapes and changes over time.

Where do you see this movement going? Right now, there's a movement to incorporate ecosystem services into the market so that landowners get actual economic benefits out of managing the landscape in ways that are congruent with maintaining ecosystem services, whether that's protecting climate, the watershed or conservation of biodiversity. The movement now is to build those aspects into the economic decisions people make about how they manage the land. It's a very exciting and promising time. There also is a major focus in the international climate negotiations and U.S. climate legislation to provide incentives for tropical countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation as one way to mitigate climate change.

What on your resume are you most proud of? None of the awards. There's enormous internal pressure to live up to them, which is essentially impossible. I'm most proud of the work we did with our Brazilian colleagues to improve their deforestation monitoring. That went into effect and was influential in making decisions about reducing deforestation.

Do you travel often? I just got back from India. I've worked in Brazil. We have a project in Peru.

If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be? There are so many wonderful places. The Himalayas is one. The confluence of the rivers in the Amazon is another. I like the so-called pristine places away from human influences, but I prefer the places where you can see people and their environment interacting on a daily basis. India is a place that I really love for that reason.

What's something your students would never guess about you? My husband and I have a house next to a tiger reserve in central India. The tigers pretty much stay in the reserve, but once in a while, they come out.

Do you have children? My daughter graduated from the College in 2006 and then got a master's at Mailman. My son is 22 and doing an engineering degree at Northeastern.

What are your hobbies? Playing piano, reading, hanging out with friends and family.

What's the last good book you read that wasn't related to work? I loved The Inheritance of Loss by Kiran Desai.

How do you recharge? Travel is a great way that I remind myself that there is a big and varied world out there.


As someone who studies how to protect the natural world, how do you feel about living in New York? One of the solutions to protecting the natural world is for people to live in high-density urban environments. I'm very happy to have reduced my carbon footprint by moving to Manhattan.


What's your favorite spot in New York City? My apartment.

Do you have a green space in your apartment? No, but Riverside Park is great.

Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen '04

To watch DeFries talk about the challenges of working in her field, visit www.college.columbia.edu/cct.
Students, Donors Meet at Dean’s Scholarship Reception

Approximately 500 students and donors — including alumni, parents, family members and friends of the College — attended the Dean’s Scholarship Reception on November 4 in Roone Arledge Auditorium in Alfred Lerner Hall. The festive annual event provides an opportunity for scholarship donors and student recipients to meet and chat in a casual setting.

Dean Michele Moody-Adams, hosting her first Scholarship Reception, thanked the donors for their generosity and loyalty, especially in hard economic times, and met with many of them personally.

On behalf of the scholarship recipients, Veronica Colon ’10, the Packer-Bayliss Scholar, spoke eloquently about the impact the donors’ generosity had on her, saying she never would have been able to fulfill a lifelong dream and attend the College without that support. Dan Dolgin ’74, ’77L delivered heartfelt remarks from the perspective of an alumnus about the ways in which his College education shaped his life and his career. Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development Derek Wittner ’65 gave welcoming remarks, noting the “unfiltered nature” of an event that gives scholarship donors and the beneficiaries of their generosity an opportunity to meet face-to-face and perhaps establish lasting bonds.

Alex Sachare ’71

Veronica Colon ’10 explained how scholarships allow her to attend the College; Bernard Sunshine ’46 talked with Carrie Montgomery ’13, recipient of the Bernard and Marjorie Sunshine Scholarship.

PHOTOS: DAVID WENTWORTH

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Carl Hovde ’50 – A Remembrance

By Andy Fisher ’65

In the aftermath of the protests, which left a fine Columbia College dean, David Truman, disillusioned, defeated and out of work, Carl Hovde ’50 was chosen for what could well have been, at the time, the least sought-after academic post in the world. He was a quiet but eloquent scholar, a professor of English and comparative literature, a scholar of American writers, particularly Thoreau. In his own understated, modest, but effective way, Hovde rebuilt Columbia’s credibility, stability and, most importantly, morale. Better than most English scholars, he found the words to lead the College through a seemingly impenetrable maze. He skillfully noted that the protesters “were not acting without cause, but they were acting with insufficient cause.” After four years, he left the Dean’s Office and returned to teaching.

All this happened after my encounter with him, in my senior year. He taught two of my courses: Victorian literature and an American literature seminar. Victorian literature is not easy to teach, perhaps because it is too easily parodied and dismissed as excessively flowery, but Hovde made us understand why the Victorians wrote as they did.

The seminar course was somewhat different. Every Friday morning at 8, I would appear at Hovde’s office, and we would spend an hour discussing the week’s readings. It was just the two of us; the student-teacher ratio in that course was 1:1! Clearly, I was not to show up for the student-teacher ratio in that course was 1:1! Clearly, I was not to show up for that class without a reasonable command of everything I had been assigned to read. Only now do I realize what a privilege it was to have the undivided attention of a member — later the chairman — of Columbia’s awe-inspiring English faculty for an entire hour every week.

We listened to the Transcendentalists, to Thoreau and Emerson, to Longfellow and Lowell. Thoreau, the nexus of Hovde’s scholarship, was a particular thorn in my side. I arrived at the office one Friday morning to say, quite high-handedly, that I had been offended by Thoreau’s observation that, “to a philosopher, all news, as it is called, is gossip, and those who edit and read it are old women over their tea.”

“Well,” he said, quietly but forcefully, “go out there and prove him wrong!”

During the second semester, meeting in the afternoon and joined by two more students, we studied Hawthorne, Melville and Henry James. And then, suddenly, it was all over, or almost so. There was a question about whether I had enough points to graduate on time, an extremely important issue in that drafty year of 1965. If I were not a full-time student, I would be eligible for, and probably taken by, the draft before I could graduate. Hovde argued my case, and on June 1, with my 650 classmates, I received my degree. Four months later, I was drafted anyway, but having that degree helped me get a better assignment once I was in uniform.

Through the years, the ideas tossed around in those early morning discussions would come back. My writing became my most important skill in radio, as a news anchor for WNEW and the NBC Radio Network; in television, as the principal news writer for NBC’s Today show and CNBC’s Business Center; and on the Internet, as the stock-market blogger for CNBC.com. In his remarks on my retirement in April, CNBC President Mark Hoffman called me “a brilliant writer”; that might not have happened without those Friday mornings in 1964, when my mind was sharpened and focused and given deep respect for the power of words.

The death of my wife of 37 years from cancer in 2006 was a brutal wake-up call about how little time we have, how opportunities to express love and appreciation and gratitude can disappear forever. I began to search out people who had made a difference in my life and to thank them. One was Hovde. I told him how one of his own mentors, Charles Everett, long dead by then, had commissioned me to put the words “joy” and “beauty” back into the English language. I told him how two 16th-century poems had been especially comforting to me during my wife’s illness and after her death. I thanked him for his patience, his perceptiveness and his perseverance with a marginally attentive student. He wrote back that my letter “did this old teacher’s heart good.”

Hovde died over the Labor Day weekend, at a time when I was preparing for a grand adventure on the train and not paying attention to the newspapers. I did not learn of his death until several weeks later, when a letter arrived from his wife. She mentioned my letter to her husband, saying, “He was deeply touched. Now it is my turn to write...” And how beautifully she did; of the noble way he had endured his final battle with cancer, she wrote, “His enviable equanimity sustained us all.”

His enviable equanimity indeed; how the memory of it continues to sustain us. How often he could have angrily chided me for poor preparation, for sloppy scholarship, not only with cause, but with sufficient cause! How he never did, but rather encouraged me to be a better scholar, better prepared, finding the needles in my academic haystack, praising the light instead of cursing the darkness.

Hovde was more than an alumnus of Columbia, more than a senior member of the Columbia faculty, more than an officer of the University through one of its darkest nights. To me, Carl Hovde was Columbia.


Andy Fisher ’65 lives in Denville, N.J., having retired in April 2009 after a career that began with a column in a suburban weekly newspaper when he was 11 and included a semester on the adjunct faculty of the Journalism School.
CAMPUS NEWS

MANHATTANVILLE: The New York State Supreme Court Appellate Division, by a 3–2 vote, ruled on December 3 against the invocation of eminent domain in Columbia’s planned expansion in Manhattanville. The Empire State Development Corp., which authorized the use of eminent domain in December 2008, will appeal the ruling to the state’s highest court, the Court of Appeals. The University, which already controls more than 90 percent of the land in the 17-acre expansion site, is not a party in the case. Eminent domain is the process by which the state may seize private property “for the public good” in exchange for market-rate compensation.

SAID: Columbia University Libraries has acquired the papers and library of the late University Professor Edward W. Said, who was a faculty member from 1963 until his death in 2003. An author of more than 20 books, Said was one of the most important literary critics in post-war America. The collection “will represent a gold mine of material for scholars and students throughout the world,” said Jonathon Cole ’64, the John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University and Provost and Dean of Faculties from 1989–2003. Said’s library will be housed in a special reading room in Butler Library dedicated to his memory, and his papers will be housed in the Rare Book & Manuscript Library. In conjunction with the papers coming to the Libraries, Columbia will establish a lecture series and research fellowship in Said’s name.

2CUL: The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded $385,000 to the libraries at Columbia and Cornell to support the development of a partnership dubbed “2CUL.” Across the next two years, 2CUL (pronounced “too cool”) will explore ways to improve campus collections and services, redirect resources to emerging needs and make each institution more competitive in securing government and foundation support. While this new relationship has the potential to become the most expansive collaboration between major research libraries to date, the partnership is not a merger, and the libraries will remain separate institutions.

Alumni Create Materials Database for Scientists

If you’re an academic scientist, two alumni are trying to make your life easier. Dr. Adam Regelmann ’99, ’04 GSAS, ’06 GSAS, ’07 P&S and Meena George ’03E, ’07 GSAS, ’08 GSAS, ’10 P&S have launched a free inventory management Web site, Quartzy (www.quartzy.com), where scientists can upload information about, rate and maintain an inventory of materials for research. Quartzy also allows for communication across institutions, giving scientists the option of sharing materials with other schools.

Regelmann says a lack of current, centralized information about lab inventories has led to lost productivity and wasteful spending. “Once during my Ph.D. program I needed a tiny quantity of an antibody for a single experiment, but I had to buy $500 worth because I didn’t know anybody who had it. Two weeks later, I found that a lab in a different building had some and would have shared it with me.” Quartzy launched in January 2009 and has attracted hundreds of daily users, including 150 from Columbia. While any academic scientist can use the site, Quartzy is primarily focused on assisting life science research.

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COLUMBIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

**Nettra Pan ’12 Works To Help Her Cambodian Homeland**

**By Nathalie Alonso ’08**

Though Nettra Pan ’12 moved halfway around the world to attend Columbia College, many of her efforts continue to revolve around what she considers her life cause: improving quality of life for the people of Cambodia, her homeland.

During her first year in the College, Pan organized fund-raisers and benefits as events manager for the Cambodia Project, Inc., a nonprofit with an office in New York City that is committed to advancing secondary education in rural areas of the country. She spent the summer between her freshman and sophomore years at home in Phnom Penh, Cambodia’s capital, working to strengthen partnerships among CPI, other nongovernmental organizations and several ministries within the Cambodian government.

“The organization was a great opportunity for me to get involved in something close to my heart,” she says.

Pan was a senior at the International School of Phnom Penh when she became interested in collaborating with CPI. In early 2008, she met the organization’s founder, Jean-Michel Tijerina, a GS student, at a meeting at Cambodia’s Ministry of Commerce. Pan’s professional demeanor led Tijerina to entrust her with important tasks, despite her youth.

“Nettra presents herself with tremendous confidence, as well as the skill and savoir-faire that display a maturity well beyond her years,” says Tijerina. “Her passion for Cambodia and her unique talent in working with others have enabled The Cambodia Project to recruit [people with] valuable skills and support to move ahead in our developments.”

Since December 2008, Pan also has been president of SEADS in Cambodia (Southeast Asian Development & Service), an interschool student club dedicated to educating the public about issues affecting Cambodia and other underdeveloped countries in Southeast Asia.

The group was originally considered a chapter of CPI but the two no longer are affiliated.

“Coming to Columbia and New York, I expected an international environment, and that’s what I found, but I also found a lot of people who did not know where Cambodia was and did not know about one of the worst genocides of the 20th century,” says Pan, referring to the mass killings that took place from 1975–79 under the Khmer Rouge.

“I wanted to bring more awareness to campus.”

Events have featured former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Sichan Siv ’81 SIPA and Khmer Rouge survivor and author Kilong Ung as guest speakers. Pan hopes to further expand the club’s scope in order to encourage participation in service projects in that region of the world.

“We’re exploring everything from social media campaigns, to expansions in the Columbia curriculum, to student exchange programs,” she says.

Pan, an only child, was born in California and was a toddler in 1992 when her father accepted a position with the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia, a peacekeeping mission. Pan and her mother joined him in Phnom Penh two years later. While in high school, Pan was involved with fundraising and planning for another nonprofit, Tabitha Cambodia, which organizes excursions to build homes for underprivileged families.

It also was in high school that Pan began to explore visual arts. Many of her creations depict the lotus flower, an important motif in Buddhism and other Southeast Asian traditions.

Pan began to explore visual arts. Many of her creations depict the lotus flower, an important motif in Buddhism and other Southeast Asian traditions.

“I really want art to redevelop in Cambodia. A lot of it was lost during the genocide. I see it as my personal responsibility to do as much as I can to bring that back,” says Pan, who says she hopes to witness “a Cambodian renaissance.”

Other of her pieces, a combination of acrylic, plaster and newspaper on canvas titled Lotus Paper, is currently on display at the U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh. Pan loaned the piece to the embassy at the request of the ART in Embassies Program, an initiative of the U.S. Department of State, which places original artwork created by U.S. citizens in American diplomatic residences around the world.

Pan competes as a member of Columbia’s Model United Nations club and enjoys writing fiction, singing and playing the guitar. When deciding where to spend her undergraduate years, she felt the College would be the best venue in which to explore her eclectic interests.

“I like being involved in an active place,” says Pan. “I thought Columbia was the perfect mix of everything.”

Pan, a fluent speaker of English, French and Khmer, plans to major in political science. She highlights several courses — among them Barnard associate history professor Lisa Tiersten’s “Colonial Encounters” — for having provided her with the context necessary to understand the problems she seeks to alleviate.

“I really appreciate the big scope that I am getting,” says Pan. “I had a lot of firsthand experience in Cambodia. I saw the direct effects of Cambodia being an underdeveloped country competing in the big global market. But I wasn’t aware of all the history.”

Pan is interested in international affairs but is unsure about what career she will pursue. In the meantime, she will continue to use her time in the College to explore new ways to help her country.

“What really ties everything together is my passion for Cambodia,” she says.

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, majored in American studies. She is an editorial producer of and contributing writer to LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s Spanish language Web site.
Robert Paaswell '56, 57E has been appointed interim president of the City College of New York. A distinguished professor of civil engineering in The Grove School of Engineering, Paaswell is an expert on transportation operations, management and planning. He has been the director of the CUNY Institute for Urban Systems and the director and CEO of the University Transportation Research Center for Region 2. Last year, Paaswell received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Council on Transportation at the NYU Rudin Center for Transportation Policy. He also received the Rutgers University Outstanding Civil Engineering Alumnus Award in 2003 and the Secretary’s Medal for Distinguished Service from the U.S. Department of Transportation in 1976. He was executive director of the Chicago Transportation Authority, the second largest public transportation agency in the United States, from 1986-89 and joined the CUNY faculty in 1990.

Joel Klein ’67, chancellor of the New York City school system, the largest in the country, talked about his life, the problems with the U.S.’ public school systems and a variety of other issues in a lengthy interview in October with Fortune. Klein spent 12 years as a student in the New York City public school system before heading for the College, Harvard Law and a stint in President Clinton’s Justice Department. Since becoming chancellor, “test scores have improved, graduation rates have risen, and the racial and ethnic achievement gap has narrowed,” according to the article. “Klein’s progress in a chronically poor system has been so remarkable that two years ago his department won the Broad Prize for Urban Education, America’s top education award.”

Jamie Kitman ’79, the New York bureau chief for Automobile Magazine, won a 2009 National Magazine Award for his monthly column, “Noise, Vibration and Harshness.” It is the first time in the awards’ 44 years that a car-enthusiast magazine has won. “Like all the best critical columnists, Jamie Kitman pushes our envelope, our buttons and our preconceived notions of how things should be written, with style, humor and bravery,” said Jean Jennings, president and editor-in-chief of Automobile Magazine. “Whether or not you agree with him, he is always a great read.”

Steve Bargonetti ’78 is channeling one of his inspirations in the hit Broadway musical Hair. In the on-stage band, Bargonetti performs as a rocking Jimi Hendrix-like lead guitarist, adding new riffs to the timeless soundtrack and bringing down the house with a whammy-fueled Star Spangled Banner. His latest gig is another in a unique career that has included being the resident guitarist on Sesame Street, as well as playing with Eric Clapton, Aretha Franklin, Garth Brooks and others. CCT profiled Bargonetti in the March/April 2006 issue: www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/mar_april06.

Julia Stiles ’05 is getting rave reviews for playing Carol in David Mamet’s Oleanna, which opened in October at the Golden Theater on Broadway. The New York Times said Stiles was “luminous” as a college student who accuses her professor (played by Bill Pullman) of sexual impropriety. Stiles took a leave from the College in 2004 to star in Oleanna in London.

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X-COUNTRY: Thirty years ago, Columbia won its first Ivy League Heptagonal men’s cross country championship. Members of that squad gathered for a reunion on October 30 in Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx and cheered on the current team to a one-point victory over Princeton for the 2009 championship and the first Jeffrey H. Orleans Trophy.

Scoring in cross country is based on the sum of the placings of a team’s top five finishers, so there is often uncertainty as to the outcome of a race until sometime after the finish. Columbia’s top five finishers totaled 60 points to 61 for Princeton, the tightest finish in 37 years, and coach Willy Wood broke the news to his team by saying, “If you had beaten that last Princeton runner, you would have won by two points instead of one.”

Brendan Martin ’11 was the top Lion finisher, in fifth place, completing the eight kilometers in 25:31.2. He was followed by Kyle Merber ’12 in eighth, Terence Prial ’11 in 12th, Justin Heck ’12 in 15th and Anthony Merra ’11 in 20th.

The women’s team finished third behind Princeton and Harvard. Jacqueline Drouin ’11 was the top Columbia finisher, in eighth place, with Julianne Quinn ’11E next in 10th. Completing the top five were Christina Henderson ’10 in 14th, Emily Lanois ’13 in 18th and Camille Murphy ’13 in 25th.

ALL-IVY: Austin Knowlin ’10, who set Columbia football career records with 210 receptions and 2,484 receiving yards, earned his third consecutive All-Ivy first team honor. He also earned honorable mention as a return specialist. Joining Knowlin on the All-Ivy first team were defensive end Lou Miller ’10, a unanimous selection after setting the school career record with 17 sacks, and offensive tackle Jeff Adams ’12. Earning second-team recognition were tight end Andrew Kennedy ’11 and free safety Adam Mehrer ’11, while quarterback M.A. Olawale ’10, linebacker Corey Cameron ’10 and strong safety Andy Shalbrack ’11, received honorable mention.

All-Ivy honors in cross country were determined at the Ivy Heeps championships, with the top seven finishers earning first team and the next seven getting second team. On the men’s side, Brendan Martin ’11 was on the first team, and Kyle Merber ’12 and Terence Prial ’11 were on the second team, while on the women’s side, Jacqueline Drouin ’11, Julianne Quinn ’11E and Christina Henderson ’10 earned second team recognition.

Sophie Rieser ’10, who finished her Columbia soccer career as the all-time leader in assists and ranked second in total points and third in goals, earned All-Ivy first-team honors for the third time. She also became the first Columbia woman soccer player in program history to earn ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America honors, gaining a place on the third team. Ashley Mistele ’10 and Ashlin Yahr ’12 were on the All-Ivy second team, and Meggie Ford ’10 and Chrissy Butler ’11 received honorable mention. In men’s soccer, forward Bayo Adafin ’11 received honorable mention.

In women’s field hockey, Julia Garrison ’11 made the All-Ivy second team, and Katie DeSantis ’13 and Leti Freauen ’12 received honorable mention.

Austin Knowlin ’10 breaks away from Brown in his final game.

Members of the Ivy League Heptagonal champion 1979 cross-country team join the champion 2009 squad following their victory. Also pictured is former sports information director and athletics historian emeritus Bill Steinman (back row, right).

PHOTOS: GENE BOYARS, COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

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Save the Date!
SPRING SEMESTER 2010

Saturday JANUARY 9
Columbia in California - San Francisco

Sunday JANUARY 10
Columbia in California - Los Angeles

Monday JANUARY 11
Café Science

Monday JANUARY 18
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Tuesday JANUARY 19
First Day of Classes

Monday JANUARY 25
Café Social Science

Monday FEBRUARY 8
Café Science

Wednesday FEBRUARY 10
February Degrees Conferrfed

Monday FEBRUARY 22
Café Social Science

Wednesday MARCH 3
John Jay Awards Dinner

Monday MARCH 15
Café Humanities

Monday-Monday FEBRUARY 15-MARCH 19
Spring Break

Monday MARCH 22
Café Social Science

Monday APRIL 12
Café Science

Monday APRIL 19
Café Humanities

Monday APRIL 26
Café Social Science

Monday MAY 3
Last Day of Classes

Friday MAY 14
Spring Term Ends

Sunday MAY 16
Baccalaureate Service

Monday MAY 17
Class Day and Alumni Parade of Classes

Tuesday MAY 18
Commencement

Thursday-Sunday JUNE 3-JUNE 6
Dean’s Day and Alumni Reunion Weekend

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Save the Date
Alumni Reunion Weekend
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Make plans now to return to New York City and the Columbia campus for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010. This weekend will feature:

- Class-specific panels, cocktail receptions and dinners planned by each class’ reunion committee.
- “Back on Campus” sessions featuring Core Curriculum lectures, Engineering lectures and more as part of Saturday’s Dean’s Day.
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- New York City entertainment options including museum tours, Broadway shows and other cultural activities.
- The all-class Wine Tasting and Starlight Reception with dancing on Low Plaza.
- Camp Columbia for little Columbians, ages 3-12.

Make sure you don’t miss out on reunion details by updating your contact information at http://reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate.
Conrad H. Lung ’72
Receives Hamilton Medal

BY ALEX SACHARE ’71
PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

Conrad H. Lung ’72 was presented with the 2009 Alexander Hamilton Medal, the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College family, at a black-tie dinner in Low Rotunda on November 19. The medal is awarded annually by the Columbia College Alumni Association to an alumnus/a or faculty member for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

Lung, who was born in Canton, China, recalled receiving a thin letter from Columbia when he was 18, which he surmised to be a rejection of his application for admission. “I do not remember so much the joy, but the utter disbelief and incomprehension,” he said, upon learning he had been accepted and offered a scholarship and campus job that would enable him to attend.

President Lee C. Bollinger joined Dean Michele Moody-Adams and CCAA President Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74 in presenting Lung with the medal. “You have always been a pioneer, a leader rather than a follower,” Bollinger said. “You saw a world that was changing long before globalization became a mantra for all of us.”

Moody-Adams praised Lung’s commitment to “racial, ethnic and socio-economic diversity” at the College, as well as his ongoing “desire to connect students with alumni.” Lung is one of the founders of the Asian Columbia Alumni/ae Association and was the group’s first president, and assisted in the founding of the Columbia Club in Singapore and improved the link between Columbia and various Columbia Clubs in Asia.

Lung’s family has become very much a part of the Columbia family. Lung spoke of how his two sisters followed him to New York and enrolled at Barnard, and his brother came to the College. It was while at Columbia that Lung met his “best friend of 39 years, and my wife of 35 of those years,” Yin Yee Lung ’74 Barnard. The couple has three children: Jennifer ’01E, ’08 P&S; Stephanie ’04; and Jonathan ’05E.

Stephanie Lung, who is president of Columbia College Young Alumni, delivered welcoming remarks and held up her father’s copy of The Iliad, which he had given her upon her acceptance. She drew a laugh from the crowd of approximately 400 alumni, students, parents, faculty, administrators and friends in Low Rotunda when she told of how her father had bet that she could not match his GPA, and that four years later, “I was very happy to parade, in his face, my higher GPA.” Lung, who spoke afterward, attributed the difference to grade inflation but noted with pride, “Stephanie used to say that she was known at Columbia as Conrad Lung’s daughter. Now, I’m known as Stephanie’s father.”

Lung, who majored in Oriental studies at the College, founded Sunnex, Inc., a global manufacturer and wholesaler of women’s career clothing, in 1985. He serves the College as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and as an emeritus member of the Board of Visitors.
President Lee C. Bollinger praised Lung as “a pioneer, a leader” in presenting him with the 2009 Alexander Hamilton Medal, flanked by Columbia College Alumni Association President Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74, ’77L, ’78 Business and Dean Michele Moody-Adams; Chester Lee ’70E, ’74 Business offered a toast to Lung, his longtime friend; four of the approximately 100 students who attended the dinner; Lung has carried the College banner to China, Singapore and throughout Asia; the Clefhangers provided an a cappella coda to the festive evening.
The Road Less Traveled

From U.S. Marshal to bicycle racer, some alumni choose unusual career paths

By Ethan Rouen '04J

Thousands of College alumni have left Morningside Heights to make their mark in law, medicine, education and business. Their names come up in magazine “Best of” and “Most Promising” lists again and again. Some well-known alumni even have moved into the highest ranks of world leadership.

Then there are those who opted to forgo Wall Street and law school for a different approach to making a living. There are those who rely on their hands, their legs or a bush pilot in the frontier the way many others rely on their BlackBerries. They work just as hard — if not harder — than their classmates who have followed more traditional career paths, but instead of wearing suits and commuting to offices, they spend long hours harvesting grapes or fighting fires. They don’t necessarily think they are special; they are just like everyone else, going to work to feed their families.

One mark of a truly outstanding liberal arts education is that it prepares you for any possible career. Here are seven alumni who have used their Columbia degrees to take their lives in unusual directions.

PHOTO: FRANCOIS BUYSENS
After years in the metropolitan extreme of New York City, Jim Chenoweth '50 and his wife packed up their bags in 1951 and headed west in search of the opposite rush, the intense solitude of the Alaskan frontier.

Chenoweth could only stand his humdrum job in a chemical laboratory for a year after graduation. When a friend told him work was plentiful in what would become the 50th state, he jumped at the chance.

"It was exciting," he says. "Alaska became a state in 1959. The period of time when we were there before that was the rough and tumble years."

Chenoweth soon got a job as an Anchorage police detective doing undercover work. In 1952, the U.S. Marshal in Alaska hired Chenoweth as his deputy.

In a territory without state police, the marshals assumed that role, taking over law enforcement duties for 142,000 square miles, or 10,000 square miles per marshal.

The last of the wild west was known as a refuge for outlaws and those looking to become outlaws. "Many criminals who came to Alaska thought they could get lost, or there'd be no professional law enforcement," Chenoweth says. "They made a big mistake."

The feds worked closely with local law enforcement and even relied on bush pilots to spot suspicious activity in the wilds.

Chenoweth once helped Montana police track down and capture a fugitive on the lam in the Aleutian Islands. One of Chenoweth's favorite cases involved solving a murder that took place in a sleazy roadside gin mill outside Anchorage.

"Columbia taught me the importance of personal values in life," he said. "In boom-town Alaska, I hoped to find a job with personal values as well as a paycheck. I think I did."

After Alaska became a state, though, Chenoweth returned East and was a criminal investigator for various government agencies including the Treasury Department and the House Select committee looking into the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. He had been one of the last U.S. frontier Marshals before Alaska created its own police force.


"I'm doing a little placid work here," he said. "But writing is not rocking chair luxury."

Lew Robins '53 likes to say he has always been unemployed, but he certainly hasn't been lounging on his sofa in pajamas for the last 56 years.

During college, Robins started his own business as a printing broker and arranged the printing for Spectator and Jester. He started at the top of virtually every skyscraper in Manhattan and worked his way down, offering his services to almost every company in New York City.

Two years after graduation, Robins took over his father's business supplying Bible paper, but he enlisted in the Navy soon after that.

"That's where my troubles started," Robins jokes.

By applying psychology Professor Fred Keller's famed Keller Code-Voice Method, which uses instant audio feedback to teach students, Robins was able to cut the number of hours it took to teach Morse Code from 200 to 100. The method he developed was adopted by the Army and Coast Guard. Robins then tried to apply it to other skills, like touch typing, but he ran into a brick wall.

"I met with a Naval aide to the President to find out why the Navy was blocking an enlisted man's way of teaching typing," he says. "The Navy couldn't believe that an enlisted man could invent anything."

With the help of some Columbia connections, Robins eventually got his method implemented throughout the armed forces and went on to publish long-playing records teaching his strategy.

Keller, whose psychology course Robins initially took to
Lew Robins '53 invented a program that teaches struggling children to read.
PHOTO: JOAN BRADY

meet his science requirement, inspired him to use these tools to teach a variety of skills, ranging from foreign languages to computer programs.

Robins invented a reading program designed to help the 20 percent of elementary school students who are unable to learn to read in the traditional way. That system is being used in a Detroit charter school with great success.

He also recently created a fifth iteration of his software designed to give voice to adults who have lost the ability to speak. By studying how the English language flows idiomatically, Robins continually reduces the number of clicks it takes for those who have suffered from stroke and other diseases to create full sentences using a computer.

Unlike other technologies that cost as much as $10,000, Robins’ program will be inexpensive.

He has been perfecting the system with Paul Sawyer, the law partner of Mort Freilicher ’53. Freilicher, who represented the astronauts during the moon landing, lost his ability to speak and was severely paralyzed after suffering a stroke, but he still has control of his left hand.

“There was a brilliant man who had lost his ability to speak,” Robins says. “He had tried other things and been frustrated. They were too complicated. When he saw what I developed, he took my hand and kissed it.”

Dan Silverman '70 came to Columbia already possessing some of the skills that would lead him on the path from carpenter to woodworker to fire chief of a small Cape Cod community. From a young age, the New York native was fascinated by jobs that allowed people to work with their hands as well as their heads.

“I was the only person I knew who had a tool kit under his bed in Carman Hall,” he says.

Columbia and the country were in upheaval when Silverman, an English major, graduated. “A lot of us going through those times were disillusioned with traditional modes of going through life,” he says. “We were looking for non-traditional career paths. I’m not unique.”

In 1972, Silverman headed for Wellfleet, Mass., a beautiful sliver of land and home to a mix of fishermen, tradespeople and vacationers in the heart of the Cape Cod National Seashore.

At first, he made his living doing carpentry, but by the late ’70s, he was making a steady, if humble, income doing custom woodwork. The money wasn’t great, but the freedom and creativity were what mattered.

A self-described long-haired, left-wing hippie, Silverman took an active role in town affairs.

“I wanted to integrate myself into the community,” he says. “One of the very important institutions in a small town is the local fire department. It took a few years before they were willing to accept a ‘washashore.’ Eventually, I think I wore down their resistance.”

Although he stood out, Silverman also had one important ability he could offer the Wellfleet Fire Department. Firefighters were paid by the call, so most worked full-time jobs. There was a scarcity of responders available during the day, but since Silverman was his own boss, he had the flexibility to take those calls. He joined the department in 1982, was promoted to lieutenant after 12 years, and nine years after that became deputy chief while still running his woodworking shop.

In 2005, the chief unexpectedly retired early, leaving Silverman to contemplate a mid-life career change he never thought likely. Less than a year later, he was appointed full-time chief of the department, overseeing eight full-time firefighters / paramedics and 12 paid-on-call personnel.

Although Wellfleet is growing into a summer community, Silverman doesn’t get to kick up his feet when the beachgoers head home. The department responds to about 1,200 calls a year, averaging more than three a day. Most are emergency medical calls, but they range from fires to car accidents to hazardous material spills.

Silverman has about three more years as chief before mandatory retirement will allow him to return to the passion that initially brought him to Wellfleet.

“I gave up woodworking because this is a full-time job plus,” he says. “I still have my shop, and going back to it will be my retirement.”

Fire Chief Dan Silverman ’70 meets Smokey Bear.
PHOTO: COURTESY OF DAN SILVERMAN ’70
While some students float through college with their heads in the clouds, Jim Petersen '71 sank to the bottom of a pool and is still there.

Petersen, a pre-med student with an economics concentration, started teaching scuba diving in the Columbia pool when he was a student, and employees of the business he formed, Pan Aqua Diving, still teach there today.

"Columbia was truly a liberal arts school," Petersen says. "I took a scuba course at Columbia, and I was in the student bartending agency. That's what I ended up doing with my life."

A Midwest native, Petersen started scuba diving as a teenager in the Boy Scouts. After college, he earned a master's in marine biology from CUNY and spent some time doing research in the Caribbean. When he couldn't find a job in warmer waters, he returned to New York and taught high school for a year.

By that time, he and a friend were teaching scuba diving to up to 250 people a year at Columbia and the YMCA.

"We thought that that was a good base to open a retail diving business," he says.

While he was opening Pan Aqua Diving on the Upper West Side in 1983, Petersen also was helping a friend open a bar, which provided good training for his next business.

Six years later, he opened Dive Bar on Amsterdam Avenue. When Pan Aqua moved to its current Midtown location in 1996, Petersen opened the popular watering hole Dive 75 in its place.

Petersen's newest venture is Buceo 95, a tapas bar, also near Morningside Heights.

While his life sounds like a script out of a Tom Cruise movie, Petersen is quick to mention that he spends much time doing mundane chores like his businesses' books. He still makes time, though, to lead a dive trip to some exotic location (think Bikini Atoll) each year and recently went to Mexico to become certified as a cave diver.

Mike Manuche '80 spent two summers during college interning at a Fortune 500 company and seemingly laying the groundwork for a career in business. That was until his football team buddy Mike Riordan '80 made an appointment with a Marine recruiter in Times Square and didn't want to go alone.

"He dragged me with him," Manuche says. "The rest is history."

Manuche, a political science major, told the recruiter he wasn't interested in joining the military, but if he did, he'd want to fly. After a two-hour conversation with an aviator and a glimpse at the new F-18 jet, he had only one question: "Where do I sign up?"

His military contract guaranteed that he would attend flight school. By then, the company that he had been interning for had offered him a job, but Manuche could not pass up the opportunity to fly.

"They offered me a job when I get out," he says of the company at which he interned. "But the Marine Corps never gave me a good reason to get out."

Manuche served for 21 years, traveling the globe, training others to fly the F-18 and teaching at the U.S. Navy Fighter Weapons School, also known as Top Gun. During the last two years of the Clinton administration, Manuche served in the Pentagon, helping develop national military strategy.

In 2002, a year after the attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center, Manuche made the difficult decision to retire from the Marines. With three sons about to enter their teens, he was eager to spend more time with his family.

But he didn't give up flying. He had a connection at JetBlue, a fledgling airline at the time. He could have gone into business — he earned an M.B.A. while in the Marines — but he wanted a job that offered him the time he wanted to be with his sons.

Manuche now is a captain with JetBlue, living in San Diego and flying out of Long Beach, Calif.

"For me, it's more of a retirement job," he says. "It allows me to get a lot of time off. It gives me time to coach JV football."

Mike Manuche '80 and his wife, Judy, at the Marine Corps Birthday Ball in 2001.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MIKE MANUCHE '80
Christine Vardaros '91 traveled a long way in a short time.

After studying for medical school at the College, Vardaros spent a couple of years in marketing at Morgan Stanley, making more money than she could spend and staying up late into the night trying to spend it at bars.

"I really didn't like it," she says. "I worked 80 hours — 100 hours — a week, and I ended up living this zany life."

Then, in 1994, the love of her life appeared at her door. It was a friend's Breezer, an early generation mountain bike.

"It looked like something straight out of the Schwarzenegger Terminator movies," she says. "Before I knew it, I packed up my desk on the trading floor and moved to California to become a bicycle racer."

She used to laugh at cyclists in New York and wonder why they didn't just take cabs. But by 1996, Vardaros was a semi-professional bike racer, sponsored by the same bicycle company that bore the name of her first love. Two years later, she turned pro, racing mountain bikes and cyclocross, a race that involves taking modified road bikes across muddy, bumpy terrain.

Vardaros moved to Belgium in 2007 to be in the heart of the professional bicycle racing scene. Now 40, she is riding cyclocross and road races for Zannata-Champion System and represents the United States every year in the World Cup series and the World Championship race, one of the most prestigious events in cycling. She has ridden the women's Tour de France and plans to start mountain biking again next year.

Vardaros also writes about cycling and veganism for a variety of American and European publications. As a vegan and an athlete in an incredibly difficult sport (about one in four pro racers don't complete the season because of injury), she has become known as "the vegan athlete," traveling the world to speak about the benefits of a vegan diet and the dangers of eating animal products.

"I couldn't imagine doing what I do, especially at my age, in possibly the hardest cycling discipline, if I ate meat," she says. "I couldn't do it. I'd be sick more often. I'm almost never sick."

Still, life isn't all fast bikes and globetrotting. After a recent race in Italy, Vardaros came back to her rural Belgium home and had to fight with government officials to get five sets of wheels out of customs. On her off days, she devotes considerable time to dealing with sponsors and bicycle maintenance.

"Very few days are the same," she says. "It's really tough for me because I'm a homebody. Cycling is nothing like that."

To watch Vardaros race and explain cyclocross, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Dan Petroski '95 can trace the genesis of his career to a few too many glasses of cheap white wine one night at Columbia Cottage.

"I woke up the next morning feeling pretty bad," he says of that undergraduate experience, "so much so that I couldn't stomach the smell of cheap white wine for about four years after the fact."

When Petroski returns to campus for his 15th reunion this year, he plans to be pouring for his classmates the white wine he is currently making for his own label, Massican, named for the southern Italian hills where, according to legend, Bacchus blessed a farmer with the most sought-after grapes after the farmer gave shelter to the Greek god.

Petroski says Columbia treated him like "a blank canvas," and a football player in college, he also gained some more practical options that eventually led him to his current career. And as a football player in college, he also gained some more practical experience needed by wine makers.

"Part of my goal was to craft a white wine that was affordable and approachable, unique and different," he says. "I went back to my Italian training to find wines I like to drink."

Petroski says Columbia treated him like "a blank canvas," giving him the skills and self-confidence to explore creative options that eventually led him to his current career. And as a football player in college, he also gained some more practical experience needed by wine makers.

"Harvest is like three days of football camp," he says. "It's 13–15 hours a day for six weeks. It's exhausting and repetitive, but it's invigorating, like blocking and tackling drills."

Dan Petroski '95 samples Larkmead Vineyards' wares.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF LARKMEAD VINEYARDS
George Starke ’71 Helps D.C. Youths Excel

T he young people who attend the Excel Institute in Northeast Washington, D.C., are unfailingly polite. They hold doors open for their classmates, call visitors “sir” and “ma’am” and are (almost) always on time.

If a 6-foot-5 Super Bowl champion offensive lineman ran your school, you’d be on your best behavior, too.

But George Starke ’71 doesn’t rely on intimidation when dealing with his students. He earns their respect the old-fashioned way: being tough — habitual tardiness results in expulsion — but always fair. Plus, he’s the guy who gave these 120 students a chance when no one else believed in them.

The Excel Institute, which Starke co-founded with parking lot magnate John W. Lyon in 1997, trains high school dropouts as auto mechanics and helps them earn their high school equivalency degree (GED). Similar programs in the Washington, D.C., region cost as much as $25,000 a year, but Starke promised from the beginning that anybody who qualified could attend Excel for free, knowing that the kids who needed the school most could not afford to pay. Although there is an application form, few students are turned away, and Starke is planning a night program to keep up with demand.

“What we’ve created is a place [with] an esprit de corps of losers who don’t want to be losers anymore,” Starke says. “They may be in gangs or whatever, but here they leave their weapons and drugs at the door and work their tails off.”

Working with troubled youths is not the most obvious career path for Starke, who has rarely failed at anything in life. A two-sport standout at New Rochelle (N.Y.) H.S., he turned down scholarship offers from football powerhouses such as Notre Dame and Ohio State as well as Virginia, which wanted him to be the first African-American on its football team, to attend Columbia. Friends and mentors told him he was crazy, that he was giving up a chance to play in the NFL by going Ivy League.

“Everybody said it was impossible to go from Columbia to the NFL, but I didn’t care,” Starke says. “I didn’t even know if I’d want to play football in a couple of years, and I figured I needed a good education.”

Starke’s education began as soon as he set foot in Morningside Heights, involving not only classes in the Core Curriculum, but also the volatile campus culture of the late 1960s that formed what he describes as the political and social consciousness that remains part of his identity.

When he wasn’t joining in the protests, Starke was quickly becoming a star on the gridiron. Playing mostly tight end, he was a rare bright spot for the Lions, who never won more than three games during his years in uniform. During the winters, he played for a more successful Columbia team, starting at center for a nationally ranked Lions basketball squad during his junior and senior years. In 2000, Starke was named to Columbia’s football “team of the century.”

Starke graduated with a degree in physics but decided to enter the NFL draft in hopes of proving the doubters wrong. He almost didn’t get the chance; the Washington Redskins didn’t draft him until the 11th round, then traded him to the Kansas City Chiefs, who cut him from the roster during training camp. After a brief stint as a history and math teacher in Yonkers, N.Y., the Redskins invited Starke back to training camp in 1972.

The decision resulted in a huge pay-off for Washington. Starke earned a spot on the team and became a starter at offensive tackle in 1974. He held that job for a decade, playing in two Super Bowls and winning one. The offensive line, arguably the best in the league, became known as the Hogs, and thousands of fans donned pig snouts at every game. Because of his seniority, Starke was named “Head Hog.”

“That was just fun football,” he says. “We all got along. We hung out off the
"They may be in gangs or whatever, but here they leave their weapons and drugs at the door and work their tails off."

Starke was nicknamed "Head Hog" when he anchored the offensive line of the Washington Redskins, who won the Super Bowl in 1983.

Photo: Courtesy of the Washington Redskins

The $300,000 seed money to start Excel (www.theexcelinstitute.org) represented Starke's entire profit from the sale of his dealership. Since then, the school has survived on substantial grants from Congress, the city of Washington, D.C., dozens of nonprofit foundations and private donations.

"He's the only guy I know who can walk into the Mayor's Office in cut-off jeans and ratty sneakers and walk out with a huge check," says Marcus Robinson, an Excel graduate who now is the school's professional services manager.

Nearly half of the roughly 50 Excel students in a class enter the program with sixth-grade reading skills or lower, creating a formidable challenge for the teachers who must teach them how to read complicated auto manuals. The two-year program prepares students to pass the five-part GED exam, requiring high school skills in writing, reading, math, social studies and science. Excel also trains students to earn their Automotive Service Excellence certificate, a prerequisite for most auto mechanic jobs. Many of the 500-plus Excel graduates now work for the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority, fixing buses and subway trains.

"A new car today is like a rocket ship; you really have to be an engineer to fix it," Starke says. "So I train engineers. They get the remedial stuff they need, but we slam them into advanced electronics, too.

I tell them they'll be lost at first, sort of like I was in French 1 at Columbia, but you'll learn."

Many Excel students (and some of the teachers) aren't old enough to remember the days of the Hogs, but they have respect for Starke's Super Bowl ring — and his commitment to helping them succeed.

"I was barely getting by, working as a busboy, and I didn't have too many options to do anything else," says Mario Johnson, a 25-year-old second-year student. "Now I'm going to be able to get a high-paying job and support myself."

Starke is hoping to open a similar school in New York. In late October, two officials from the New York City Department of Education toured Excel at the direction of the system's chancellor, Joel Klein '67. And although some people have doubts about whether Starke's program can succeed in other places, he plans to prove them wrong — just like he did the people who said he couldn't become an NFL star after playing at Columbia.

"There's this theory in education that once students drop out of high school it's too late and you have to write them off," Starke says, gazing at a classroom full of students diligently studying basic electronics. "I ignored that altogether, and just look at the results."

Megan Greenwell '06 Barnard was the 129th editor-in-chief of the Columbia Daily Spectator. She is a reporter for The Washington Post.
More than 1,000 alumni, students, parents and friends gathered under the Big Tent at Homecoming 2009 and proved once again that they know how to have a good time.

Columbians of all ages flocked to the Baker Athletics Complex on October 17 to enjoy gourmet barbecue fare and convivial conversation at the annual Homecoming pre-game picnic and carnival. It may have been gray and cold outside, but inside the toasty tent, fans showed off their best light blue outfits, and Roar-ee the Lion made his rounds with the band and cheerleaders in tow. With their faces painted like lions, the hardiest children (and some adults as well) braved the drizzle to run through giant inflatable obstacle courses and toss around footballs.

Not even a 27-13 loss to Penn in the afternoon football game at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium could dampen the spirits of the lively crowd. The Lions had hoped to build on their dominating victory over Princeton two weeks earlier, but Penn took advantage of several turnovers and pulled away.

The festivities began on Thursday and Friday with a two-day “Especially Open House” at the new Columbia Alumni Center at 622 W. 113th St. that featured tours and prizes. Parents gathered on campus on Friday for special Family Weekend programming; a reception was held on Saturday to mark the rededication of Chrystie Field House; and a record crowd of more than 300 alumni and friends convened at Branch in Midtown for the annual Black Alumni Homecoming celebration on Saturday night.

Ethan Rouen '04J
Gerald Sherwin ‘55 remembers his Columbia interview with the head of admissions in 1951. The question session lasted two minutes and ended with the officer telling him to expect his packet in the mail.

These days, it’s a little different, Sherwin says. For starters, he’s asking the questions. Sherwin is one of more than 3,200 College and SEAS alumni who interview prospective students as members of Columbia’s Alumni Representative Committee (ARC). It’s a job he sees as a cross between being a cheerleader, an information-provider and a salesman, as well as a way to help his school.

“I want [students] to feel that they’re going to get a great education, that Columbia is second to none,” says Sherwin, who has done interviews for two decades and heads a group of more than 600 alumni who interview in Manhattan.

In 2009, ARC members interviewed nearly 7,400 prospective students, about three out of every 10 applicants. But Columbia still lags behind its Ivy League peers; schools such as Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Brown and Penn interview almost nine out of 10 applicants, and that difference can be crucial. Admissions officers say interview reports often highlight certain aspects of the applicants — like their love for playing an instrument or why they chose to study in Guam during high school — and help them make more informed decisions.

Interviews are important for prospective students, too, giving them a personal connection to Columbia that can help them decide where to go. Students who get interviews choose to go to Columbia at a higher rate than those who don’t. And that’s one of the reasons the Admissions Office is looking for more alumni interviewers. If more alumni do just one or two interviews a year it would be a tremendous help, says Office of Undergraduate Admissions Associate Director Alec Milton ’04 TC.

Former admissions officer Keith Hernandez ’07 recalls reading interview reports from an alumnus who had specifically sought out students from a small region of upstate New York, where he had lived before attending Columbia. Even though the man had moved to Colorado, he continued to interview the New York candidates by phone. “I remember feeling an immediate connection with the students, the alumni and that region of upstate New York,” Hernandez says.

Admissions officers say that an updated online system that interviewers began using last year should streamline the process. Alumni can accept interview assignments and submit their written reports online. These reports are automatically uploaded into an applicant’s file for the admissions officer to review alongside the application.

Cities such as New York, Boston and Los Angeles could always use more interviewers. But other parts of the country have a particular need for interviewers; Utah, for example, has only one. Other places with few interviewers include central New York, Wyoming, West Virginia, Arkansas and Kansas.

The Admissions Office also is always looking for alumni to conduct interviews overseas, and its new Web site (www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/volunteer/arc) may help. Alumni who may be on extended trips outside the country can now schedule international interviews. Alums also can interview in more than one region.

Sarah Ramsay ’05 conducted about 20 interviews last year, both in her hometown of Portland, Ore., and in Baltimore, where she is in medical school at Johns Hopkins. Younger graduates like Ramsay make up a large number of the interviewers.

“It’s really fun just to get to know someone,” she says of interviewing, adding that she also considers it a “huge honor” to be part of the admissions process.

Tom Ichniowski ’74, ’76J has been interviewing for more than 30 years and chairs an alumni interviewing group for Maryland. The current ambassador to Belgium, Howard Gutmans ’77, was an active interviewer before his nomination last year. “Sometimes the busiest people are the ones who try to squeeze in a few interviews every year,” Ichniowski says.

ARC members say that interviewing is a way to give back to the school, and that interviews — which may last from 30 minutes to an hour — can fit into any schedule. Some take the process beyond the interview.

Mark Momjian ’83, the chair of the Philadelphia ARC region, tries to set up events for admitted students that showcase Columbia alumni, from baseball great Lou Gehrig ’23 to Clement Clarke Moore (Class of 1798), who is credited with writing “‘Twas the Night Before Christmas,” and get students excited about going. Kevin Chapman ’83, the chair of the Princeton, N.J., ARC, urges his members to call admitted students to offer their congratulations and any additional advice, in addition to hosting admitted students events. Group members also get together for a holiday party last year.

Jessica Gresko ’05 lives in Washington, D.C.

**ARC FAQ**

**How do I become an interviewer?** Alumni interested in interviewing prospective students should visit www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/alumni/volunteers.php to sign up. Alumni need a UNI and password to sign in. If you do not know your UNI or have forgotten it or your password, you can request them on the site.

**Where and when are interviews conducted?** Alumni typically interview students at coffee shops such as Starbucks. Interviews take place at the alum’s convenience, and students should travel to meet the alum in the most convenient location. Interviews also can be conducted by phone if the travel distance is significant. In an effort to increase the percentage of applicants who will have the opportunity for an interview, ARC members are encouraged to conduct more phone interviews with applicants outside their respective regions.

**How do I know what to ask?** ARC has an online “cheat sheet” for interviewers.

**How many interviews must I do?** ARC members are asked to do at least two interviews a year, though in 2009 one member did more than 80.

**Still have questions?** Contact the ARC team at arcinfo@columbia.edu.
Aravind Adiga ’97 provides a rich mosaic of Indian life in his collection of short stories, Between the Assassinations, which is loosely organized around a six-day walking tour that features various characters in the fictional town of Kittur. In this opening story, Adiga follows the fortunes, and misfortunes, of a porter at the town’s railway station.
DAY ONE

The Railway Station

The arches of the railway station frame your first view of Kittur as you arrive as a passenger on the Madras Mail (arrival early morning) or the West Coast Express (arrival afternoon). The station is dim, dirty, and littered with discarded lunch bags into which stray dogs poke their noses; in the evening, the rats emerge.

The walls are covered with the image of a jolly, plump, potbellied, and entirely naked man, his genitalia strategically covered by his crossed legs, who floats above a caption in Kannada that says: A SINGLE WORD FROM THIS MAN CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE. He is the spiritual leader of a local Jain sect that runs a free hospital and lunchroom in the town.

The famous Kittamma Devi Temple, a modern structure built in the Tamil style, stands on the site where an ancient shrine to the goddess is believed to have existed. It is within walking distance of the train station, and is often the first port of call for visitors to the town.

One of the other shopkeepers near the railway station would hire a Muslim, but Ramanna Shetty, who ran the Ideal Store, a tea-and-samosa place, had told Ziauddin it was okay for him to stay. Provided he promised to work hard. And keep away from all hanky-panky.

The little dust-covered creature let its bag drop to the ground; a hand went up to its heart.

"I'm a Muslim, sir. We don't do hanky-panky."

Ziauddin was small and black, with baby fat in his cheeks, and an elfin grin that exposed big, white, rabbity teeth. He boiled tea for the customers in an enormous, pitted stainless-steel kettle, watching with furious concentration as the water seethed, overspilled, and sizzled into the gas flame. Periodically, he dug his palm into one of the battered stainless-steel boxes at his side to toss black tea powder, or a handful of white sugar, or a piece of crushed ginger into the brew. He sucked in his lips, held his breath, and with his left forearm tipped the kettle into a strainer: hot tea dripped through its clogged pores into small, tapering glasses that sat in the slots of a carton originally designed to hold eggs.

Taking the glasses one at a time to the tables, he delighted the rough men who frequented the tea shop by interrupting their conversations with shouts of "One-a! Two-a! Three-a—" as he slammed the glasses down in front of them. Later, the men would see him squatting by the side of the shop, soaking dishes in a large trough filled with murky bilge water; or scooping the gunk of tea leaves out of the strainer; or tightening, with a rusty screwdriver, a loose nail in the back of a chair. When a word was said in English, all work stopped: he would turn around and repeat it at the top of his voice ("Sunday-Monday, Good-bye, Sexy!")?, and the entire shop shook with laughter.

Late one evening, just as Ramanna Shetty was ready to close up, Thimma, a local drunk, who bought three cigarettes every night, roared with delight to see Ziauddin, his butt and thighs pressed against the giant icebox, shoving it back into the shop, inch by inch.

"Look at that whippersnapper!" Thimma said, clapping. "The icebox is bigger than him, but what a fighter he is!"

Calling the whippersnapper close, he put a twenty-five paisa coin in his palm. The little boy looked at the shopkeeper's eyes for approval. When Ramanna Shetty nodded, he closed his fist and yelped in English:

"Thanks, sir!"

One evening, pressing a hand down on the boy's head, Ramanna Shetty brought him over to the drunk and asked, "How old do you think he is? Take a guess."

Thimma learned that the whippersnapper was nearly twelve. He was the sixth of eleven children from a farm-laboring family up in the north of the state; as soon as the rains ended, his father had put him on a bus, with instructions to get off at Kittur and walk around the market until someone took him in. "They packed him off without even one paisa," Ramanna said. "This fellow was left entirely to his own wits."

He again placed a hand on Ziauddin's head.

"Which, I can tell you, aren't much, even for a Muslim!"

Ziauddin had made friends with the six other boys who washed dishes and ran Ramanna's shop and slept together in a tent they had pitched behind the shop. On Sunday, at noon, Ramanna pulled down the shutters and slowly rode his blue-and-cream-colored Bajaj scooter over to the Kittamma Devi Temple, letting the boys follow on foot. As he entered the temple to offer a coconut to the goddess, they sat around the green cushion of the scooter, discussing the bold red words written in Kannada on the cornice of the temple:

HONOR THY NEIGHBOR, THY GOD.

"That means the person in the house next door is your God," one boy theorized.

"No, it means God is close to you if you really believe in Him," retorted another. "No, it means, it means—" Ziauddin tried to explain.

But they wouldn't let him finish: "You can't read or write, you hick!"

When Ramanna shouted for them to come into the temple, Ziauddin darted in with the others a few feet, hesitated, and then ran back to the scooter. "I'm a Muslim, I can't go in."

He had said the word in English, and with such solemnity that the other boys were silent for a moment, and then grinned.

A week before the rains were due to start, the boy collected his bundle and said, "I'm going home."

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A week before the rains were due to start, the boy collected his bundle and said, "I'm going home."

He was going to his duty to his family, to work alongside his father and mother and brothers, weeding or sowing or harvesting some rich man's fields for a few rupees a day. Ramanna gave him an "extra" of five rupees (minus ten paise for each of two bottles of Thums Up he had broken), to make sure he would return from his village.

Four months later, when Ziauddin came back, he had developed vitiligo, and pink skin streaked his lips and speckled his fingers and earlobes. The baby fat in his face had evaporated and entirely naked man, his genitalia strategically covered by his
“Nothing happened,” the boy said, rubbing a finger over his discolored lips.

Ramanna ordered a plate of food at once; Ziauddin grabbed it and stuffed his face like a little animal, and the shopkeeper had to say, “Didn’t they feed you anything?”

The “whippersnapper” was displayed to all the customers, many of whom had been asking for him for months; some who had drifted to the newer and cleaner tea shops opening up around the train station came back to Ramanna’s place just to see him. At night, Thimma hugged him several times, and then slipped him twenty-five-paisa coins, which Ziauddin accepted silently, sliding them into his trousers. Ramanna shouted to the drunk, “Don’t leave him tips! He’s become a thief!”

The boy had been caught stealing samosas meant for a client, Ramanna said. Thimma asked the shopkeeper if he was joking.

“I wouldn’t have believed it myself,” Ramanna mumbled.

“But I saw it with my own eyes. He was taking a samosa from the kitchen, and...” Ramanna bit into an imaginary samosa. Gritting his teeth, Ziauddin had begun pushing the icebox into the shop with the back of his legs.

“But... he used to be an honest little fellow...” the drunk recalled.

“Maybe he had been stealing all along, and we just never knew it. You can’t trust anyone these days.”

The bottles in the icebox rattled. Ziauddin had stopped his work.

“I’m a Pathan!” He slapped his chest. “From the land of the Pathans, far up north, where there are mountains full of snow! I’m not a Hindu! I don’t do hanky-panky!”

Then he walked into the back of the shop.

“What the hell is this?” asked the drunk.

The shopkeeper explained that Ziauddin was now spouting Pathan-Wathan gibberish all the time; he thought the boy was white skinned, You hear; I’m no cheat!”

The next morning there was a storm at the tea-and-samosa store. This time Ziauddin had been caught red-handed. Holding him by the collar of his shirt and dragging him out in front of the customers, Ramanna Shetty said:

“Tell me the truth — you son of a bald woman. Did you steal it? Tell me the truth this time, and I might give you another chance.”

“I am telling the truth,” Ziauddin said, touching his pink, vitiligo-discolored lips with a crooked finger. “I didn’t touch even one of the samosas.”

Ramanna grabbed him by the shoulder and pushed him to the ground, kicked him, and then shoved him out of the tea shop, while the other boys huddled together and watched impassively, as sheep do when watching one of their flock being shorn. Then Ramanna howled: he raised one of his fingers, which was bleeding.

“He bit me — the animal!”

“I’m a Pathan!” Ziauddin shouted back, as he rose to his knees. “We came here and built the Taj Mahal and the Red Fort in Delhi. Don’t you dare treat me like this, you son of a bald woman, you—”

Ramanna turned to the ring of customers who had gathered around them and were staring at him and at Ziauddin, trying to make up their minds as to who was right and who was wrong:

“There is no work here for a Muslim, and he has to fight with the one man who gives him a job.”

A few days later, Ziauddin passed by the tea shop, driving a cycle with a cart attached to it; large canisters of milk clanged together in the cart.

“Look at me,” he mocked his former employer. “The milk people trust me!”

But that job did not last long either; once again he was accused of theft. He publicly swore never to work for a Hindu again.

New Muslim restaurants were being opened at the far side of the railway station, where the Muslim immigrants were settling, and Ziauddin found work in one of these restaurants. He made omelets and toast at an outdoor grill, and shouted in Urdu and Malayalam, “Muslim men, wherever in the world you are from, Yemen or Kerala or Arabia or Bengal, come eat at a genuine Muslim shop!”

But even this job did not last — he was again charged with theft by his employer, who slapped him when he talked back — and he was next seen in a red uniform at the railway station, carrying mounds of luggage on his head and fighting bitterly with the passengers over his pay.

“I’m the son of a Pathan; I have the blood of a Pathan in me. You hear; I’m no cheat!”

When he glared at them, his eyeballs bulged, and the tendons in his neck stood out in high relief. He had become another of those lean, lonely men with vivid eyes who haunt every train station in India, smoking their beedis in a corner and looking ready to hit or kill someone at a moment’s notice. Yet when old customers from Ramanna’s shop called him by his name, he grinned, and then they saw something of the boy with the big smile who had slammed glasses of tea down on their tables and mangled their English. They wondered what on earth had happened to him.

In the end, Ziauddin picked fights with the other porters, got kicked out of the train station too, and wandered aimlessly for a few days, cursing Hindu and Muslim alike. Then he was back at the station, carrying bags on his head again. He was a good worker; everyone had to concede that much. And there was plenty of work now for everyone. Several trains full of soldiers had arrived in Kittur — there was talk in the market that a new army base was being set up on the route to Cochin — and for days after the soldiers left, freight trains followed in their wake, carrying large crates that needed to be off-loaded. Ziauddin shut his mouth and carried the crates off the train and out of the station, where army trucks were waiting to be packed.

One Sunday, he lay on the platform of the station, still asleep at ten in the morning, dead tired from the week’s labor. He woke up with his nostrils twitching: the smell of soap was in the air. Rivulets of foam and bubble flowed beside him. A line of thin black bodies were bathing at the edge of the platform. The fragrance of their foam made Ziauddin sneeze.

“Hey, bathe somewhere else! Leave me alone!”

The men laughed and shouted and pointed their lathered white fingers at Ziauddin: “We’re not all unclean animals, Zia! Some of us are Hindus!”

“I’m a Pathan!” he yelled back at the bathers. “Don’t talk to me like that.”
As he was shouting at them, something strange happened — the bathers all rushed away from him, crying, "A coolie, sir? A coolie?"

A stranger had materialized on the platform, even though no train had pulled up: a tall, fair-skinned man holding a small black bag. He wore a clean white business shirt and gray cotton trousers and everything about him smelled of money; this drove the other porters wild, and they crowded around him, still covered in lather, like men with a horrible disease gathering around a doctor who might have a cure. But he rejected them all, and walked up to the only porter who was not covered in lather.

"Which hotel?" Ziauddin asked, struggling to his feet.

The stranger shrugged, as if to say, Your choice. He looked with disapproval at the other porters, who were still hovering around, nearly nude and covered in soap. After sticking his tongue out at the other porters, Zia set off with the stranger.

The two of them walked toward the cheap hotels that lined the roads around the station. Stopping at a building that was covered in signs — for electrical shops, chemists, pharmacists, plumbers — Ziauddin pointed out a red sign on the second floor.

**HOTEL DECENT**

**BOARDING AND LODGING**

ALL FOODS AND SERVICES HERE

NORTH INDIAN SOUTH INDIAN

CHINESE WESTERN

TIBETAN DISHES

TAXI PASSPORT VISA XEROX

TRUNK CALL FOR ALL COUNTRIES

"How about this one, sir? It's the best place in town." He put a hand on his heart. "I give you my word."

The Hotel Decent had a good deal with all the railway porters: a cut of two and a half rupees for every customer they brought in.

The stranger lowered his voice confidentially: "My dear fellow, is it a good place, though?"

He emphasized the critical word by saying it in English.

"Very good," Zia said with a wink. "Very, very good."

The stranger crooked his finger and beckoned Zia closer.

He spoke into Zia's ear:

"My dear fellow: I am a Muslim."

"I know, sir. So am I."

"Not just any Muslim. I'm a Pathan."

It was as if Ziauddin had heard a magic spell. He gasped at the stranger.

"Forgive me, sir ... I ... didn't ... I ... Allah has sent you to exactly the right porter, sir! And this is not the right hotel for you at all, sir. In fact, it is a very bad hotel. And this is not the right ..."

Tossing the foreign bag from hand to hand, he took the stranger around the station to the other side — where the hotels were Muslim owned, and where cuts were not given to the porters. He stopped at one place and said, "Will this do?"

**HOTEL DARUL-ISLAM**

**BOARDING AND LODGING**

The stranger contemplated the sign, the green archway into the hotel, the image of the Great Mosque of Mecca above the doorway; then he put a hand into a pocket of his gray trousers and brought out a five-rupee note.

"It's too much, sir, for one bag. Just give me two rupees."

Zia bit his lip.

"No, even that is too much."

The stranger smiled. "An honest man." He tapped two fingers of his left hand on his right shoulder. "I've got a bad arm, my friend. I wouldn't have been able to carry the bag here without out a lot of pain." He pressed the money into Zia's hands. "You deserve even more."

Ziauddin took the money; he looked at the stranger's face.

"Are you really a Pathan, sir?"

The boy's body shivered at the stranger's answer.

"Me too!" he shouted, and then ran like crazy, yelling, "Me too! Me too!"

That night Ziauddin dreamt of snow-covered mountains and a race of fair-skinned, courteous men who tipped like gods. In the morning, he returned to the guesthouse, and found the stranger on one of the benches outside, sipping from a yellow teacup.

"Will you have tea with me, little Pathan?"

Confused, Ziauddin shook his head, but the stranger was already snapping his fingers. The proprietor, a fat man with a clean-shaven lip and a full, fluffy white beard like a crescent moon, looked unhappily at the filthy porter before indicating, with a grunt, that he was allowed to sit down at the tables today.

The stranger asked, "So you're also a Pathan, little friend?"

Ziauddin nodded. He informed the stranger of the name of the man who had told him he was a Pathan. "He was a learned man, sir; he had been to Saudi Arabia for a year."

"Ah," the stranger said, shaking his head. "Ah, I see. I see now."

A few minutes passed in silence. Ziauddin said, "I hope you're not staying here a long time, sir. It's a bad town."

The Pathan arched his eyebrows.

"For Muslims like us, it's bad. The Hindus don't give us jobs; they don't give us respect. I speak from experience, sir."

The stranger took out a notebook and began writing. Zia watched. He looked again at the stranger's handsome face, his expensive clothes; he inhaled the scent from his fingers and face. This man is a countryman of yours, Zia, the boy said to himself. A countryman of yours!

The Pathan finished his tea and yawned. As if he had forgotten all about Zia, he went back into his guesthouse and shut the door behind him.

As soon as his foreign guest had disappeared into the guesthouse, the owner of the place caught Ziauddin's eye and jerked his head, and the dirty coolie knew that his tea was not coming. He went back to the train station, where he stood in his usual spot and waited for a passenger to approach him with steel trunks or leather bags to be carried to the train. But his soul was shining with pride, and he fought with no one that day.

The following morning, he woke up to the smell of fresh laundry. "A Pathan always rises at dawn, my friend."

Yawning and stretching himself, Ziauddin opened his eyes: a pair of beautiful pale blue eyes was looking down on him, eyes such as a man might get when he gazes on snow for a long time. Stumbling to his feet, Ziauddin apologized to the stranger, then shook his hand, and almost kissed his face.

"Have you had something to eat?" the Pathan asked.

Zia shook his head; he never ate before noon.

The Pathan took him to one of the tea-and-samosa stands.
Aravind Adiga ’97’s The White Tiger: A Novel won the Man Booker Prize, one of the literary world’s most prestigious awards, in 2008. Born in Madras (now Chennai), Adiga moved in his teens to Australia and then to New York, where he attended the College, majoring in English. The salutatorian of his class, Adiga later attended Magdalen College, Oxford. After various stints in financial journalism, he became a correspondent for Time in India.

Adiga’s newest book of fiction, Between the Assassinations, is a companion piece to the bestselling The White Tiger. “The two books, in my mind, have always linked together,” Adiga told Mother Jones in an interview last year. Adiga sets The White Tiger’s upwardly mobile protagonist, Bahram Halwai, in the era after 1991, “when the economy opened up and what is called the New India began.” The stories of Between the Assassinations come instead from “the last years of the old India,” the interregnum between the assassinations of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi (1984) and her son, Rajiv (1991). To Adiga, Rajiv Gandhi was an appealing but ineffectual leader, unable to change his powerful mother’s “corrupt” system — and his era was a time of “squandered” hopes. “It was quite an extraordinary time when you knew that your way of life, your political and economic system was bankrupt, and that a great crisis would hit it. But no one knew what that crisis would be and what the new India would look like,” he said in the Mother Jones interview.

Adiga’s stories from this nervous historical lull are set in the fictional town of Kittur, on India’s southwest coast. Loosely structured as a kind of tourist guidebook, Between the Assassinations leads us through the town’s meandering streets and byways. Reading between the guidebook’s lines — its purposely bland directives — Adiga’s followers will find layered-in cinematic stories, realistic and empathetic vignettes from the lives of Kittur’s high- and low-caste inhabitants, from a well-off factory boss to a Hoyka bus conductor.

“I spend a lot of my time loitering about train stations, or bus stands, or servants’ quarters and slums, and I listen and talk to the people around me,” Adiga remarked in a 2008 interview with Bookbrowse.com. “There’s a kind of continuous murmur or growl beneath middle-class life in India, and this noise never gets recorded.”

Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard

near the station. It was the place where Zia had once worked, and the boys watched in astonishment as he sat down at the table and cried:

“A plate of your best! Two Pathans need to be fed this morning!” The stranger leaned over to him and said, “Don’t say it aloud. They shouldn’t know about us: it’s our secret.”

And then he quickly passed a note into Zia’s hands. Uncrumpling the note, the boy saw a tractor and a rising red sun. Five rupees!

“You want me to take your bag all the way to Bombay? That’s how far this note goes in Kittur.”

He leaned back in his chair as a serving-boy put down two cups of tea and a plate holding a large samosa, sliced into two and covered with watery ketchup, in front of them. The Pathan and Zia each chewed on his half of the samosa. Then the man picked a piece of the samosa from his teeth, and told Ziauddin what he expected for his five rupees.

Half an hour later, Zia sat down at a corner of the train station, outside the waiting room. When customers asked him to carry their luggage, he shook his head and said, “I’ve got another job today.” When the trains came into the station, he counted them. But since it was not easy to remember the total, he moved farther away and sat under the shade of a tree that grew within the station: each time an engine whistled past he made a mark in the mud with his big toe, crossing off each batch of five. Some of the trains were packed; some had entire carriages full of soldiers with guns; and some were almost entirely empty. He wondered where they were going to, all these trains, all these people ... he shut his eyes and began to doze; the engine of a train startled him, and he scraped another mark with his big toe. When he got up to his feet to go for lunch, he realized he had been sitting on some part of the markings and they had been smudged under his weight; and then he had to try desperately to decipher them.

In the evening he saw the Pathan sitting on one of the benches outside the guesthouse, sipping tea. The big man smiled when he saw Ziauddin, and slapped a spot on the bench next to him three times.
“They didn’t give me tea yesterday evening,” Ziauddin complained, and explained what had happened. The Pathan’s face darkened; Ziauddin saw that the stranger was righteous. He was also powerful: without saying a word, he turned to the proprietor and glowered at him; within a minute a boy came running out of the hotel holding a yellow cup and put it down in front of Zia. He inhaled the flavors of cardamom and sweet steaming milk, and said, “Seventeen trains came into Kittur. And sixteen left Kittur. I counted everyone of them just like you asked.”

“Good,” the Pathan said. “Now tell me: How many of these trains had Indian soldiers in them?”

Ziauddin stared.

“How-many-of-them-had-Indian-soldiers-in-them?”

“All of them had soldiers ... I don’t know ...”

“Six trains had Indian soldiers in them,” the Pathan said.

“Four going to Cochin, two coming back.”

The next day, Ziauddin sat down at the tree in the corner of the station half an hour before the first train pulled in. He marked the earth with his big toe; between trains he went to the snack shop inside the station.

“You can’t come here!” the shopkeeper shouted. “We don’t want any trouble again!”

“You won’t have any trouble from me,” Zia said. “I’ve got money on me today.” He placed a one-rupee note on the table.

“Put that note into your money box, and then give me a chicken samosa.”

That evening Zia reported to the Pathan that eleven trains had arrived with soldiers.

“Well done,” said the man.

The Pathan, reaching out with his weak arm, exerted a little pressure on each of Ziauddin’s cheeks. He produced another five-rupee note, which the boy accepted without hesitation.

“Tomorrow I want you to notice how many of the trains had a red cross marked on the sides of the compartments.”

Ziauddin closed his eyes and repeated, “Red cross marked on sides.” He jumped to his feet, gave a military salute, and said, “Thanks you, sir!”

The Pathan laughed: a warm, hearty, foreign laugh.

The next day, Ziauddin sat under the tree once again, scrawling numbers in three rows with his toe. One, number of trains. Two, number of trains with soldiers in them. Three, number of trains marked with red crosses.

Sixteen, eleven, eight.

Another train passed by; Zia looked up, squinted, then moved his toe into position over the first of the three rows.

He held his toe like that, in midair, for an instant, and then let it fall to the ground, taking care that it not smudge any of the markings. The train left, and immediately behind it another one pulled into the station, full of soldiers, but Ziauddin did not add to his tally. He simply stared at the scratches he had already made, as if he had seen something new in them.

The Pathan was at the guesthouse when Ziauddin got there at four. The tall man’s hands were behind his back, and he had been pacing around the benches. He came to the boy with quick steps.

“Did you get the number?”

Ziauddin nodded.

But after the two of them had sat down, he asked, “What’re you making me do these things for?”

The Pathan leaned all the way across the table with his weak arm and tried to touch Ziauddin’s hair.

“At last you ask. At last.” He smiled.

The guesthouse proprietor, with the beard like the moon, came out without prompting; he put two cups of tea down on the table, then stepped back and rubbed his palms and smiled. The Pathan dismissed him with a movement of his head. He sipped his tea; Ziauddin did not touch his.

“Do you know where those trains full of soldiers and marked with red crosses are going?”

Ziauddin shook his head.

“Towards Calicut.”

The stranger brought his face closer. The boy saw things he had not seen before: scars on the Pathan’s nose and cheeks, and a small tear in his left ear.

“The Indian army is setting up a base somewhere between Kittur and Calicut. For one reason and one reason only—” He held up a thick finger. “To do to the Muslims of South India what they are doing to Muslims in Kashmir.”

Ziauddin looked down at the tea. A rippled skin of milk fat was congealing on its surface.

“I’m a Muslim,” he said. “The son of a Muslim too.”

“Exactly. Exactly.” The foreigner’s thick fingers covered the surface of the teacup. “Now listen: Each time you watch the trains, there will be a little reward for you. Mind — it won’t always be five rupees, but it will be something. A Pathan takes care of other Pathans. It’s simple work. I am here to do the hard work. You’ll—”

Ziauddin said, “I’m not well. I can’t do it tomorrow.”

The foreigner thought about this, and then said, “You are lying to me. May I ask why?”

A finger passed over a pair of vitiligo-discolored lips. “I’m a Muslim. The son of a Muslim too.”

“There are fifty thousand Muslims in this town.” The foreigner’s voice crackled with irritation. “Every one of them seethes. Every one of them is ready for action. I was only offering this job to you out of pity. Because I see what the Indians have done to you. Otherwise I would have offered the job to any of these other fifty thousand fellows.”

Ziauddin kicked back his chair and stood up. “Then get one of those fifty thousand fellows to do it.”

Outside the compound of the guesthouse, he turned around.

“The Indian army is setting up a base somewhere between Kittur and Calicut. For one reason and one reason only—”

The Pathan was looking at him; he spoke in a soft voice.

“Is this any way to repay me, little Pathan?”

Ziauddin said nothing. He looked down at the ground. His big toe slowly scratched a figure into the earth: a large circle. He moved his toe into position over the first of the three rows.

“Do you know where those trains full of soldiers and marked with red crosses are going?”

The Pathan dismissed him with a movement of his head. He sipped his tea; Ziauddin did not touch his.

“At last you ask. At last.” He smiled.

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“The Indian army is setting up a base somewhere between Kittur and Calicut. For one reason and one reason only—”

The Pathan was looking at him; he spoke in a soft voice.

“Is this any way to repay me, little Pathan?”

Ziauddin said nothing. He looked down at the ground. His big toe slowly scratched a figure into the earth: a large circle. He sucked in fresh air, and released a hoarse, wordless hiss.

Then he ran. He ran out of the hotel, ran around the train station to the Hindu side, ran all the way to Ramanna Shetty’s tea shop, and then ran around the back of the shop and into the blue tent where the boys lived. There he sat with his mot¬
tied lips pressed together and his fingers laced tightly around his knees.

“What’s got into you?” the other boys asked. “You can’t stay here, you know. Shetty will throw you out.” They hid him there that night for old times’ sake. When they woke up he was gone. Later in the day he was once again seen at the railway station, fighting with his customers and shouting at them:

“—don’t do hanky-panky!”

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Bookshelf

John Adams: Architect of Freedom (1735-1826) by Joseph Coylet '44. A personal and political biography of America's second President (Columbia College Today, $18.95).


The Hawk and the Dove: World War II at Okinawa and Korea by Roland Glenn '50. The author tells of his experiences in Japan and Korea during and immediately after WWII. He also describes his struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder in the years following the conflict (Smith/Kerr Associates LLC Publishing, $24).

Bootstrapting 101: Tips to Build Your Business with Limited Cash and Free Outside Help by Bob Reiss '52. Reiss' book is a resource offering street-wise advice for entrepreneurs and would-be small-business owners with limited budgets, including where and how to get free assistance (R&R, $19.95).

Edokko: Growing Up a Foreigner in Wartime Japan by Isaac Shapiro '52. Shapiro's memoir recounts a childhood spent traveling through China, Japan and Hawaii (University of California Press, $27.95).

Bends Explained: How to Plan a Safe Dive by Dr. Jeffrey H. Rudell '61. This SCUBA diving manual focuses on the dangers of the bends, a condition that arises when nitrogen bubbles form in the nervous system during the ascent from a dive (University, $14.95).

The Inner Game of Stress: Outsmart Life's Challenges and Fulfill Your Potential by Dr. Ed Hanzel '63 et al. The authors explain the dangers of stress and offer ways to alleviate its harmful effects (Random House, $25).

The Great American University: Its Rise to Preeminence and Threatened Future by Jonathan R. Cole '64, the John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, Provost Emeritus of the University and Dean Emeritus of Faculties. Cole emphasizes the historical importance of the university in the United States and warns against government policies that threaten to undermine the American system of higher education (Public Affairs, $35).

Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Deception: A New Jason Bourne Novel by Eric Van Lustbader '68. This latest series installment finds Jason Bourne embroiled in international intrigue as he tries to track down the people responsible for his attempted assassination (Grand Central Publishing, $27.99).

Molly Ivins: A Rebel Life by Bill Minutaglio '76 and W. Michael Smith. Minutaglio and Smith chronicle the life of Ivins, a liberal journalist famed for her satirical wit (Public Affairs, $26.95).

The Marketing Performance Measurement Toolkit by David Raab '76. A comprehensive guide to assessing the success of marketing projects of all types and sizes (Racom Communications, $39.95).

Bauhaus 1919-1933: Workshops for Modernity edited by Lath Dickerman and Barry Bergdoll '77, professor of art history and archaeology. This collection of essays about and examples of Bauhaus art accompanies a comprehensive exhibition on the subject at New York's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA, $75).


The Arabs: A History by Eugene Rogan '82. Rogan's historical study of the Arab world stretches from the 16th century to the present day (Basic Books, $35).

The Sultan's Helmsman by Robert Calburn '84. A fictionalized account of naval battles between the Turkish army and Christian forces during the Renaissance, narrated by an Ottoman-educated European (BookSurge Publishing, $15.99).

Birth Models That Work edited by Robbie E. Davis-Floyd et al., with an essay by Rachel Repetto Jolivet '87. The essays in this collection represent an international study of modern obstetrical models (University of California Press, $27.50).

The Wandra Unit by Jessy Randall '92. Randall's tale of high school life centers around the relationship between two best friends, Wanda and Dora, who are so similar that their classmates refer to them as a single entity (Ghost Road Press, $17.95).

The Interpersonal Theory of Suicide: Guidance for Working with Suicidal Clients by Kim Van Orden '02 et al. The authors discuss the feelings of social isolation that often contribute to suicidal impulses and suggest techniques for clinicians working with clients in crisis (American Psychological Association, $49.95).

Crazy, Wacky Theme Restaurants by La Carmina. This work, written under a pseudonym by Carmen Yuen '05, surveys the world of Japanese theme restaurants, from diners decked out like prisoners to Alice in Wonderland cafés (Mark Batty Publishers, $24.95).

Sound Kapital: Beijing's Music Underground by Matthew Niederhouser '05. This collection of photographs showcases Beijing's contemporary music scene (powerHouse Books, $24.95).

Islam on the Street: Religion in Modern Arabic Literature by Muhsin al-Musawi, professor of
Mark C. Taylor Meditates on Death and Life

Professor Mark C. Taylor's advice to anyone who picks up his latest book is simple: "Read it slowly." After all, the work has been several decades in the making; it ought to take more than a few hours to finish. Indeed, its author would argue that Field Notes from Elsewhere: Reflections on Dying and Living (Columbia University Press, $26.95) has been the work of a lifetime.

Taylor, chair of Columbia's religion department and co-director of the University's Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life, has written many works of scholarship through the years, but this is his first autobiography. Although the author, now 64, began to entertain the idea of this project more than 30 years ago, as he points out in the book's opening pages, "Such a work . . . cannot be rushed because the experiences of life and death constitute the necessary research."

Taylor's original working title for his autobiography was Betrayal. He chose the word for its dual meaning: to betray is to act in bad faith — to double-cross — but it also is to reveal. This sort of ambiguity fascinates Taylor, who points out the uncertainties and limitations of words throughout his work.

Indeed, one of Taylor's greatest challenges while writing about his past was the struggle to capture the substance of subjective experience through the imprecise medium of language. In Field Notes, he asks outright, "What if some things cannot be said? What if some secrets can never be revealed?" To write a memoir, then, is to decide not only what should be told but what can be told.

The catalyst for the writing of Field Notes was a near-death experience that Taylor underwent during fall 2005. Stricken by diabetes and cancer, he hovered for several days in an uncertain area between life and death, a space he has come to refer to as "elsewhere." Elsewhere, as Taylor defines it, is a state of profound physical weakness, and yet it brings with it a sense of complete invulnerability.

"Once you've been elsewhere," Taylor says, "you know that there's nothing anyone can do to you that life hasn't already done."

The author explores this paradox, along with many other philosophical contradictions, throughout his autobiography. The book is divided into 52 chapters, each made up of two parts that address distinct but interrelated concepts. Chapter one, for example, is titled "Day/Night," while chapter 19 makes the more abstract distinction "Solitude/Loneliness."

The book's autobiographical material is incorporated into this framework and takes the form of discrete, individual anecdotes, organized thematically rather than chronologically. "I didn't want to write a straight narrative," Taylor says, "because life isn't a straight narrative. It's episodic."

Taylor was raised in Westfield, N.J., the son of a pair of high school teachers. After graduating from Wesleyan in 1968 and earning his Ph.D. in religion from Harvard in 1973, he followed his parents' example and went to work as an educator. While teaching religion and philosophy at Williams, Taylor made a name for himself as an unconventional and outspoken instructor, a reputation that has only grown stronger since he came to Columbia in 2003.

The landscape of New York City plays a central role in Taylor's recollections. "Place matters," he writes. "What you think is, in large measure, a function of where you think." In one passage, Taylor describes the experience of traveling to Ground Zero in the days immediately after 9-11 and the feeling of "primordial vulnerability" evoked by the towers' collapse.

Many of Taylor's anecdotes revolve around the University and Morningside Heights. In fact, it was while staying in St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center that he underwent the transformative period of illness and recuperation around which the book centers.

While Taylor's reminiscences will be of particular interest to readers who are familiar with Columbia and New York, he focuses throughout the book on those memories that he believes will resonate with the widest possible audience. In addition to his struggles with disease, Taylor describes the pain of mourning loved ones, the sustaining powers of his most important friendships, and the joys and anxieties of watching his two children grow up.

"The book holds up a mirror in which we see our own lives reflected," he says. "It's about things we all experience, things we all share."

Thus, although Field Notes is very much rooted in his academic background and philosophical perspective, Taylor hopes and trusts that the book will strike a personal note with his audience. Readers may not be familiar with his intellectual framework, but they will be able to relate to the experiences he describes.

"It's accessible," Taylor says, "as long as you take the time to read it carefully. You have to go through it slowly, which may be difficult for a modern audience. In today's frantic world, nothing is more radical than slowness."
Arthur A. Gladstone, retired judge and teacher Reno, Nev., on May 8, 2009. Gladstone was born in New York City in 1911. He earned a degree in 1934 from the Law School and served in the Army and Coast Guard during WWII. From 1934-41, Gladstone was an attorney with the Federal Power Commission and then worked for the FCC from 1941-72, serving in almost every area before becoming the chief of the Domestic Radio Division, an administrative law judge in 1962 and then the chief administrative law judge in 1969. He retired in 1972 and in 1990 moved to Reno. Gladstone taught administrative law at the National Judicial College there for many years, remaining open 24 hours a day. He also taught administrative law judge in 1962 and 1969. He was a member of the Governing Board of Woodward Academy for more than 25 years. Tucker is survived by his wife, Grace. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

Richard P. “Robert” Tucker Jr., retired physician, Atlanta, on April 27, 2009. Tucker was born in Miamisburg, Ohio, in 1934. Tucker attended Harvard Medical School on scholarship and in 1960 graduated cum laude as class salutatorian. Following surgical residencies at Massachusetts General and other Boston hospitals, he became a flight surgeon for Pan America Africa Ltd. and helped establish hospitals in equatorial Africa. He later saw service in Africa, Sidney, Italy and the Pacific and was among the first team of American doctors to visit Japan after Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In 1947, Tucker established a family medical practice, for many years remaining open 24 hours a day. He also became known locally as a pilot’s advocate and friend. Tucker retired in 1998. He was a member of the Governing Board of Woodward Academy for more than 25 years. Tucker is survived by his wife of 56 years, Marion Carlson Tucker; children, Robert III, Carol, and Suzanne Tucker Flybon; and eight grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Parkinson’s Disease Foundation or to the Emory Eye Center, 14400 Candler Rd, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Richard F. Hess, retired market research executive, Lancaster, Pa., on June 14, 2009. Hess was born in Manheim, Pa. During college, he needed to work, and thus graduated in 1938. Hess’ career began with The Gallup Poll and Benson & Bensen in Princeton, N.J. He spent 28 years with CBS in New York City, where he had managerial responsibilities and directed audience research for the radio network and CBS-owned radio stations. Subsequently at Opinion Research Corp. in Princeton, Hess was v.p. for financial marketing, corporate communications and media research. Hess was president of the Grand Jurors Association in Queens County, New York, where he lived with his first wife, the late Barbara McCann Hess. He was a founding member and president of the Media Research Directors Association. With his second wife, Hess operated the marketing research firm Hess/Harris Associates in Pound Ridge, N.Y., and later in Somers, N.Y., retiring in 1984. Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Joyce Hess; son, Richard, and his wife, Mary Elizabeth; stepdaughters, Carolyn Jay Harris and her companion, Art Hendersen, and Marilee Scott Twine and her husband, Jeffrey; two grandchildren; four step-great-grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sons of the Revolution, 108 South Liberty St., Independence, MO 64050-3701 or to the Hospice of Lancaster County, PO Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17605-4125.

Arthur B. Colvin, retired intellectual property attorney, New York City, on November 27, 2009. Colvin earned a degree in 1940 from the Law School. While at the College, he was on the track team, and he ran in the famed Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden, a feat of which he was very proud. Colvin is survived by his wife, Phyllis; daughter, Andrea Roberts ’79 Business and her husband, Calvin ’78 P&E; son, Geoffrey ’74, ’77L, ’78 Business, and his wife, Marcia Eppler Colvin ’81 TC; and six grandchildren, including Jeremy Colvin ’08, Andrew Colvin ’10 and Leigh Colvin ’14. Memorial contributions may be made to Park Avenue Synagogue, 465 Grand St., 4th Fl., New York, NY 10002, or to the Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025 or www.columbia.edu/giveonline.

Domenick A. Lupino, retired businessman, Glen Rock, N.J., on March 25, 2009. Born in New York City, Lupino resided in Glen Rock for 45 years. He served in the Air Force and worked with Shearson Lehman Brothers in New Jersey for a number of years. Lupino was an active member of The Community Church of Glen Rock, serving on the consistory for many years. Previously, he was with Marble Collegiate Church in New York and played an active role in its young adults group. For more than 25 years, Lupino was involved with Faith at Work. Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; daughter, Leslie; son, John, and his wife, Catherine; two grandchildren; and a niece and a nephew. Lupino was predeceased by his brother, Rudolph. Memorial contributions may be made to The Community Church of Glen Rock.

Alvin S. Yudkoff, writer and filmmaker, Water Mill, N.Y., on May 27, 2009. Born in New York City, Yudkoff graduated from DeWitt Clinton H.S. While at Columbia, he played on the varsity tennis team, the beginning of his lifelong love of the sport, which he continued well into his 70s. Upon graduating from Columbia, Yudkoff enlisted in the Army and served as a second lieutenant during WWII. He was trained by the Army to speak Japanese and served in military intelligence in the Pacific Theater, for which he was awarded a bronze star. Yudkoff was recalled during the Korean War and served in Japan and Korea. He spent his civilian career as a writer and a filmmaker and wrote numerous television screenplays and several books, including a 1999 biography of Gene Kelly. In the early 1960s, Yudkoff founded Silvermine Films and led it until the late 1980s, when moved to Huntington, Long Island, in 1960, where they resided until his death. Long was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Hazel (McGregor) Long, in 2006. He is survived by his sons, Kenneth and his wife, Elizabeth, Donald and his wife, Barbara, and Kerry; daughter, Sally J. DeGaetano, and her husband, Jack; eight grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter. Memorial contributions may be made to a charitable organization supporting families of wounded or deceased veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Obituaries Guidelines
Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Please include the deceased’s full name, date of death with year, class year, profession, and city and state of residence at time of death. Biographical information, survivors’ names, address(es) for charitable donations and high-quality photos (print, or 500 dpi jpg) also may be included. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at editors’ discretion. Send materials to cct@columbia.edu or to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.
he returned to writing, including serving as his class’ CCT class correspondent from July 2003 to March 2006. Yudkoff is survived by his wife of 55 years, Lill; son, Royce, and his wife, Jody; three grandchildren; and a nephew.

1944

Thomas T. Tamlyn, cardiologist and professional choir singer, New York City, on April 26, 2009. Tamlyn earned a degree in 1947 from P&GS and served in the U.S. Public Health Service in Europe. He later was an attending physician at Roosevelt and St. Luke’s hospitals. In 1969, Tamlyn served on the teaching hospital ship S.S. Hope in Tunisia. For 75 years, he was a singer and soloist in numerous choirs and choral groups, including the Columbia Chapter of the Canterbury Choral Society; the Canterbury Choral Society of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine and Central Presbyterian Church. During the 1960s, he was lead tenor for the Village Light Opera Group. A lifelong enthusiast of history and literature, Tamlyn was fluent in German, French, Spanish and Dutch. He is survived by his wife, Ann Donaldson Tamlyn; sister, Elisabeth T. Harris; daughter, Lucy; sons, Thomas Jr. and Benjamin; and three grandchildren. A third son, Edward, died in 1978.

1945

Burton P. Fabricand, physicist, economist, financier and author, Danbury, Conn., on May 5, 2009. Fabricand, a WWII veteran, was born in New York City on November 22, 1923. He earned a Ph.D. in physics in 1953 from GSAS and was professor emeritus at the Pratt Institute. Fabricand was an expert in many areas and had been published widely in the fields of atomic and nuclear physics, oceanography, finance, free market economic theory, chaos theory, and, most notably, horse racing and the stock market. He and his wife, Heather, traveled the world. She survives him, as do his children, Nicole Person and Lorraine; stepchildren, Robin James, Leslie, Anthony and Thaddeus North; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Wing of The Metropolitan Museum in NYC.

1948

Clinton N. Latimer, Power Squadron instructor and past commander, Honeoye Falls, N.Y., on April 16, 2009. Clinton earned a B.S. at the College and a Ph.D. from Syracuse. He is survived by his wife, Pat; sons, Clinton J. and his wife, Nancy, and Christopher M. and his wife, Jennifer; daughter, Candace P. Bramant and her husband, Ken; brother, William; sister, Sybella Mierzwa and her husband, Ed; sister-in-law, Theresia; seven grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother, Arty. Memorial contributions may be made to VNS Hospice of Rochester.

1949

Walter H. Blum, feature writer and editor, Santa Rosa, Calif., on March 22, 2009. Born in New York City, Blum earned an M.A. in music in 1951 from GSAS and was a skilled pianist and composer. Before moving to the Bay Area in 1960, he was a disc jockey and announcee along the East Coast. Blum became a feature writer and editor with the San Francisco Examiner and was there for more than 30 years. He was a novelist, a continual scholar and a long-time volunteer reader for Recording for the Blind. Blum was married to his wife of 52 years, Shirley; sons, Dave and Brian; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society at www.leukemia-lymphoma.org or to Hadassah at www.cpcr.hadassah.org.

1950

John “Jack” P. Neville, retired executive, Northville, Mich., on May 2, 2009. Neville was raised in Port Henry, N.Y., and earned a graduate degree in economics from Ohio State. He spent his entire career working in management positions at Fisher Body and Chrysler. Neville spent the happiest years of his life making frequent visits to his grandchildren, learning Spanish, collecting and caring for any stray animal that crossed his path and supporting all the social causes for which he was passionate. Neville is survived by his children, Ann Humphreys and her husband, Hill, John P. Jr. and his wife, Kristie, Kathleen and her husband, David Gill, Amy and her husband, John Frasik, Jane Buckley and her husband, John and a former wife, Susan; eight grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Michigan Animal Rescue Community.

1951

Anthony V. Porcelli, physician, Hackensack, N.J., on May 21, 2009. Porcelli was raised in Demarest, N.J., and while in high school studied classical violin at the Juilliard School of Music. He earned a B.S. from the College and then entered the Boston University School of Medicine. Porcelli married Libby Lou Burket in 1953, and the couple settled in Montvale, where they raised three children. Porcelli was a family practitioner for 17 years in Pearl River, N.Y., then completed a residency in rehabilitation medicine in 1977. He was chairman of rehabilitation medicine at St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center in Paterson from 1978–2004. Porcelli’s wife died in 1995, and he married Mary Ellen Haun in 2002. The couple moved to Wanaque four years ago. Porcelli’s second wife survives him, as do a son, Steven 79; daughters, Elizabeth Gigli and her husband, Walter, and Janet and her husband, George Combs; stepdaughter, Tara Haun Casbaker and her husband, Bruce; and two step-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Family Service of Morris County.

1952

William K. “Ken” Jones, law professor, on July 28, 2009. Jones earned a degree in law from the College in 1954 and had taught there since 1959 as the Charles Evans Hughes Professor of Law. Jones was valedictorian of his College class and editor-in-chief of the Law Review. He derided for Justice Tom Clark of the U.S. Supreme Court and served in the Navy. Jones also served as public service commissioner for the State of New York from 1970–74. A 2003 book, Insult to Injury: Libel, Slander, and Invasions of Privacy, caps his many publications. Jones was predeceased by his wife, Bunny: He is survived by his children, Deborah and her husband, Andrew, Patricia, and John and his wife, Beth; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Law School.

1953

Frank Barabas, retired UN senior information officer, New York City, on May 21, 2009. Barabas was born...
OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.


1937 Richard H. Durham, retired comptroller, Delaware, Ohio, on October 9, 2009. Durham entered the Class of 1937 but earned a degree from the Business School in 1938.

1939 L. Fred Ayvazian, pulmonologist, Northampton, Mass., on November 3, 2009. Ayvazian was the first folksinger to sing at a coffeehouse in Greenwich Village (the Gaslight). He also performed at the first Newport Festival, and wrote thrillers, westerns and adventure books under 14 pseudonyms. He also did graduate work in American history at Columbia and in political science at The New School. He is known for his work in computerizing the Department of Public Information at the UN. Ayvazian started his career in the UN in 1955 as a clerk and retired in 1993. Afterward, he worked as a press officer for the International Seabed Authority on a freelance basis. He is survived by his wife, Anne; daughter, Florence Jacqueline Fedyszyn; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation.

1940 Norbert A. Bohn, Danville, Calif., on November 12, 2009. Bohn entered the Class of 1940 but earned a degree in 1940 from the Business School.

1941 George L. Hesse, engineer and real estate developer, Washington, D.C., on November 13, 2009. Hesse entered with the Class of 1940 but earned a degree in 1940 from the Engineering School.


1943 Lincoln Diamant, writer, adman, historian and cartographer, Williamstown, Mass., on October 20, 2009. Diamant entered with the Class of 1940 but earned a degree in 1940 from the Engineering School.

1945 Jerome W. Heller, Corona del Mar, Calif., on November 27, 2009. Heller entered with the Class of 1945 but earned a B.S. and an M.S., in 1945 and 1947, respectively, from the Engineering School.

1946 Miguel Torregrosa, Puerto Rico, on October 13, 2009. Torregrosa entered with the Class of 1945 but earned a degree in 1946 from the Engineering School.


1952 Wesley W. Bomm, retired, Cherry Hill, N.J., on September 28, 2009. Bomm entered with the Class of 1951 but earned a degree in 1951 from the Engineering School.

1953 William Dick, teacher, Greenwich, Conn., on November 16, 2009. Dick entered with the Class of 1952 but earned a degree in 1953 from the Engineering School.


1957 Raymond Federnan, writer, professor emeritus, San Diego, Calif., on October 6, 2009. Federnan entered with the Class of 1957 but earned a degree in 1957 from the Engineering School.


1958 Roy G. Berkeley, teacher, folksinger, photographer and writer, Stoughton, Vt., on April 24, 2009. Berkeley was born in New York City on June 2, 1935, and was raised in Washington, D.C. After earning a B.A., he worked briefly for the New York Post as an assistant to the news editor, then was editor of the Long Island Post. During his 20s, Berkeley worked for the Port of New York Authority in its photography department, and wrote thrillers, westerns and adventure books under 14 pseudonyms. He also did graduate work in American history at Columbia and in political science at The New School for Social Research. Early in life, Berkeley taught himself to play the guitar, and in 1999 he was the first folksinger to sing at a coffeehouse in Greenwich Village (the Gaslight). He also performed at the first Newport Festival, and throughout the United States at colleges and in coffeehouses. He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Ellen Perry Berkeley; brother, Arthur; and nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews and cousins. Memorial contributions may be made to Bennington Rescue Squad, Manchester Music Festival and/or the Museum of Black WWII History, in Jersey City, N.J., and was a longtime resident of Corona, Queens, N.Y. He was a senior information officer in the Press and Publications Division for the Department of Public Information of the United Nations and was best known for his work in computerizing the Department of Public Information at the UN. Barabas started his career in the UN in 1955 as a clerk and retired in 1993. Afterward, he worked as a press officer for the International Seabed Authority on a freelance basis. He is survived by his wife, Anne; daughter, Florence Jacqueline Fedyszyn; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation.
OBITUARIES

C. Jack Bark, retired physician, San Diego, on May 23, 2009. Bark was born in Pennsylvania in 1915 and became a San Diego resident on October 21, 1935. Escaping the Nazis, his family arrived in New York via Ellis Island in 1940, and Bark spent his childhood in New York. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and practiced medicine in San Diego in 1961. It was during medical school that he met his wife, Margaret. They traveled West, where Bark completed his internship at County Hospital in San Diego and residency in pathology at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital in Los Angeles. Bark returned to San Diego in 1968, joining the faculty at the new UCSD School of Medicine. In 1972, he was recruited to design and direct the clinical laboratory at the then under-construction Alvarado Hospital and remained at Alvarado until his 2007 retirement. Bark is survived by his wife; children, Todd Arndt and Ethan and his wife, Miho; Mike and his wife, Kate; Todd Arndt and his wife, Nancy; Debra DeVries and her husband, Daryl, and Tamara Schaufhauser and her husband, Bill; nine grandchildren; and a great-grandson. Visit Segal’s Web page at www.lifestoriynet.com.

Kim T. Ziegel, professor emeritus, Covington, Ohio, on May 7, 2009. Ziegel was born in Cincinnati and was a magna cum laude graduate of Walnut Hills H.S. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa fraternity’s Delta Chapter. Ziegel earned an M.A. from Indiana and initiated his doctoral studies at Yale. He taught at Cincinnati State for 28 years before retiring in 2007, but continued to teach part time. Ziegel was a birdner, a photographer, a birder and explorer of Ohio River Valley canals and rivers and in the last year was working to photograph the Miami and Erie Canal. Survivors include his partner, Tammy Kramer; father, Kenneth; stepmother, Priscilla Mack Knight Ziegel; and sisters, Penny Kose, Patricia Timmy and Jan Taylor. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kim Ziegel Memorial Scholarship Fund, Cincinnati State Foundation, Cincinnati State Institutional Fund, Rm 164, 3520 Central Pky, Cincinnati, OH 45223 or to the American River Valley, South Bank Partners, 421 Monument St., Newport, KY 41071.

Jonathan Z. Souweine, attorney and community advocate, Amherst, Mass., on April 7, 2009. Souweine attended Harvard Law and after graduation was a clerk for Federal District Court Judge Joseph Blumenfeld, Hartford, Conn. He then was staff attorney and lobbyist for Massachusetts Public Health, where led the first state-wide Bottle Bill campaign. Souweine worked for Attorney General Frank Bellotti in the Consumer Protection division in Springfield, Mass., before joining the law firm of Lesser, Newman, Souweine and Nasser in Northampton, Mass., where he was a partner for more than 25 years. Souweine was a devoted public citizen and served many environmental, civic and community groups, including as a board member of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the Connecticut River Watershed Council. He is survived by his wife, Jeannine; children, Jesse, Isaac, ’02 and Daniel; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pan-Mass Challenge at www.pmc.org or at PMC, 77 4th Ave., Needham, MA 02494. Memorial contributions may be made to the Miami and Erie Canal, Rm 164, 3520 Central Pky, Cincinnati, OH 45223.

Steven B. Tompkins, Brooklyn, N.Y., on March 23, 2009. Tompkins had been employed by Bank of New York Mellon Bank in Manhattan. An avid reader, he was fluent in German and published widely online and in print on American genre fiction. He is survived by his parents, Gerald and Mary; and brothers, David, Jeffrey and Mark.

Celine H. Berl
t, teacher, New York City, on April 5, 2009. Ber
t was born in New York on August 10, 1978. Berl
t spent her early years in Lake Forest, Ill., before moving to Connecticut. As a child, she was recognized as a gifted amateur clarinetist, fluent French speaker and effortless scholar. She graduated from New Canaan H.S., Berl
t earned a B.A. in classics magna cum laude from the College and the Departmental Prize for Classics. In her graduate studies at NYU, she was a contributor to the publication Classical Antiquity at New York U. Berl
t taught Latin, Greek and French at the Orme School of Arizona, where she learned to enjoy fly fishing and horseback riding, and at the Bullis School of Maryland, and also tutored in New Canaan, Conn. Berl
t is survived by his parents, Martin and Jean Pierre; and siblings, Melanie and Damien. Memorial contributions may be made to New Canaan H.S. to provide college scholarships for Latin students.

Memorials are welcome. Memorial contributions may be made to New Canaan H.S. to provide college scholarships for Latin students. Memorial contributions may be made to New Canaan H.S. to provide college scholarships for Latin students. Memorial contributions may be made to New Canaan H.S. to provide college scholarships for Latin students. Memorial contributions may be made to New Canaan H.S. to provide college scholarships for Latin students.

Daniel L. Blanchard, former TV host, Oklahoma City, Okla., on May 25, 2009. Blanchard earned a degree in sociology from the College and was a member of Beta Theta Pi. From 1961 on, he was president of the American Broadcasters Association, primarily responsible for developing A.B.D.’s road and discuss course materials. From 1970-91, Blanchard hosted three television series produced by the Community Workshop of the Oklahoma County Metropolitan Library System: Creative Crafts, Medicine and You and Money and You. In 1974, he received a medal from The National Academy of Western Art at The National Cowboy Hall of Fame, for hosting a TV show on Robert Loughhead. Since 1977, Blanchard was the co-owner of The Grapevine Gallery in Oklahoma City and beginning in 1987 was a longtime influential member of the Oklahoma Center for the Book, serving two terms as president, from 1986-88. He is survived by his wife, Kathy; daughters, Ann Cronin, Mary Simon and Louise Angelyo; sister-in-law, Charlotte; and brother, Jim. Memorial contributions may be made to Oklahoma Center for the Book, 200 NE 18 St., Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

1962

Galen R. Plummer, retired naval captain, Northport, Maine, on March 24, 2009. Born November 16, 1938, in Milo, Plummer graduated from Robert W. Traip Academy, Kittery Point. At Columbia, he earned a B.A. and then a B.S. in mechanical engineering science in 1963 from the Engineering School. Plummer received a commission in the Navy and was accepted for duty in the Navy’s Nuclear Propulsion Program and submarine service. Carrot of his greatest pride was serving on seven submarines, culminating with commands of the nuclear attack USS Archerfish - SSN 678 and nuclear attack Submarine Squadron Seven in Hawaii; program manager of Nuclear Propulsion Program and submarine detailer; and chief, Strategic Command and Control Division for the chairman of The Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired from the Navy in 1992 as a captain after 36 years of service. In 1994, Plummer married Barbara (English) Murray and they moved to Northport, where Plummer began his second career, working with the church and in community service. He was predeceased by his first wife, Regina (Conklin) Plummer and a brother, Gerald. Surviving are his wife; children, David, Sandy Stroud and Rebecca; stepchildren, Juanita Rogers and Kevin Fletcher; five grandchildren; and sisters, Sandra Plummer Hooper and Shirley Johnson.

1963

Elia A. Segal, media historian, author and retired professor, Kalamazoo, Mich., on April 5, 2009. Segal was born September 19, 1941, in Boston and raised in New York City, where he was a graduate student at Columbia. Segal earned a B.A. in English and then an M.A. in television and film, from NYU. In 1969, he moved to Kalamazoo and Western Michigan University, where he was professor of broadcasting and instructional communications until 1982 and director of media services at Eastern Connecticut State University from 1982-87. From 1987 until his 2007 retirement, Segal worked at a Chicago university as professor of media communication. During this time, he moved back to Kalamazoo and commenced to work. Segal wrote produce/ directed more than 4,500 programs and won numerous industry awards for excellence, including the prestigious Governor Byrne Scholarship for Latin students. Segal was bom September 19, 1941, in New York City, on April 5, 2009. Bom November 16, 1938, in Milo, Plummer graduated from Robert W. Traip Academy, Kittery Point. At Columbia, he earned a B.A. and then a B.S. in mechanical engineering science in 1963 from the Engineering School. Plummer received a commission in the Navy and was accepted for duty in the Navy’s Nuclear Propulsion Program and submarine service. Carrot of his greatest pride was serving on seven submarines, culminating with commands of the nuclear attack USS Archerfish - SSN 678 and nuclear attack Submarine Squadron Seven in Hawaii; program manager of Nuclear Propulsion Program and submarine detailer; and chief, Strategic Command and Control Division for the chairman of The Joint Chiefs of Staff. He retired from the Navy in 1992 as a captain after 36 years of service. In 1994, Plummer married Barbara (English) Murray and they moved to Northport, where Plummer began his second career, working with the church and in community service. He was predeceased by his first wife, Regina (Conklin) Plummer and a brother, Gerald. Surviving are his wife; children, David, Sandy Stroud and Rebecca; stepchildren, Juanita Rogers and Kevin Fletcher; five grandchildren; and sisters, Sandra Plummer Hooper and Shirley Johnson.

1969

Jonathan Z. Souweine, attorney and community advocate, Amherst, Mass., on April 7, 2009. Souweine attended Harvard Law and after graduation was a clerk for Federal District Court Judge Joseph Blumenfeld, Hartford, Conn. He then was staff attorney and lobbyist for Massachusetts Public Health, where led the first state-wide Bottle Bill campaign. Souweine worked for Attorney General Frank Bellotti in the Consumer Protection division in Springfield, Mass., before joining the law firm of Lesser, Newman, Souweine and Nasser in Northampton, Mass., where he was a partner for more than 25 years. Souweine was a devoted public citizen and served many environmental, civic and community groups, including as a board member of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the Connecticut River Watershed Council. He is survived by his wife, Jeannine; children, Jesse, Isaac, ’02 and Daniel; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Pan-Mass Challenge at www.pmc.org or at PMC, 77 4th Ave., Needham, MA 02494. Memorial contributions may be made to the Miami and Erie Canal, Rm 164, 3520 Central Pky, Cincinnati, OH 45223.

2003

Derek G. Chiu, doctoral candidate, Bloomfield, N.J., June 30, 2009. Chiu was born in New York, N.Y., and raised in Bloomfield, where he was salutatorian at his graduation from Bloomfield H.S. and was awarded the Governor Byrne Scholarship Award of Environmental Science. He attended the College on full scholarship and furthered his graduate studies at Rutgers. Chiu moved to Gainesville, Fla., last year to attend the University of Florida, where he was a doctoral candidate in psychology. He was named an honorary University of Florida psychology postgraduate prior to his death. Chiu was survived by his parents, sisters, brother, grandmother, godparents, niece and other relatives. Memorial contributions may be made to The Derek Chiu Counseling Psychology Training and Research Scholarship Fund, Tax ID No. 088783. Attention: Dr. Carolyn M. Tucker, Dept. of Psychology, University of Florida, PO Box 112250, Gainesville, FL 32608.

Lisa Palladino
Malcolm Wamock '26, '29, continued sharing his biography (see the earlier part in the November/December issue). The most interesting work he did, he says, was helping to set up the Brookhaven National Laboratory, where he helped with atomic research. That job led to his role in the procurer to the Manhattan Project. He also ran a training program for pilots in Washington, D.C.

Always fascinated with the arts, Malcolm played the piano and violin, belonged to drama clubs, acted and was a paid soloist in church choirs. He still belongs to a playing group.

Leon Rangell '33 turned 96 in October and still writes and publishes. In August, he published Music in the Head: Living at the Brin-Mind Border, co-written with Oliver Sacks.

Robert Zucker 29 The Birches Roslyn, NY 11576 rzucker@optonline.net

The Society of Columbia Graduates held its annual dinner at Low Library on October 22. At Art Weinstein's table were Len Shayne, Ray Robinson, Ted de Bary, Bob Zucker and Bud Sturm '42.

Ray Robinson, author of Iron Horse: Lou Gehrig in His Time, and a frequent contributor to the sport section of The New York Times, was a guest of the Yankees and Major League Baseball at the Yankee Stadium celebration of Gehrig's 1939 farewell speech. Art Weinstein accompanied Ray to the stadium.

Ray is working on a personal history, for publication two years from now.

Take a minute to let us know what you are doing.

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Take a minute to let us know what you are doing.
Philadelphia, Dec. 16 — The late Jack Arbolino, who was wounded at Tarawa but survived the war and returned to Columbia to work in the Admissions Office before founding the Advanced Placement Program for high school students across the country. Arthur “Wizzer” Wellington, the late Charles E. “Chic” Hoelzer Jr. and Donald Seligman also served as Marine officers in WWII. As I write this, Art lives in Elmira, N.Y., and Don lives in Somers, N.Y. We are eternally indebted to all of these Columbia classmates and alumni for their service and sacrifices on our behalf so long ago.

I regret to report that because of family obligations and various infirmities, my wife, Leslie, and I could not make it to Homecoming in the fall. Our Alumni Office told me that Ed Kallaidjian, Arthur Graham and Dr. Gerald Klingon were at the game versus Penn. Columbia led in the first half, but after several unfortunate errors and penalties, lost to Penn 27-13. I thank Lisa Palladino and Ethan Rouen, our CCT editors, for their help in reporting about our classmates.

Let me hear from you with news of yourselves and your families. Kind regards to all.

G.J. D’Angio
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Hello, classmates! This is my second set of notes since taking over from Connie Maniatty.

Please send me any news you would like to share with our classmates. Your trips or other activities, family news, encounters with Columbia graduates, etc. — all would be welcome.

Jim Byrnes ’43E wrote to say he was in the Engineering Class of ’44, but because of the WWII speed-up, he graduated in ’43. He then worked on a hush-hush project at Columbia separating the isotopes of U-235 and U-238 and was deferred from the draft because of that. He goes on to say, “I kept in touch with Al Blase-witz ’42, Ed Crowley ’43E and Henry Beck ’44. Ed was a heavy smoker and unfortunately died of lung problems. Henry and I exchange season’s greetings each year.”

Jim became certified as a health physicist and worked with various companies in the nuclear field. Since retiring, he has repaired bicycles to be given to needy children through the Christmas Toy Shop philanthropy. He has repaired more than 2,000 bikes through the years. He also helps in the AARP Tax-Aide program for the elderly.

Henry Rolf Hecht ’44 writes to inform CCT readers that Orrin Keppness’ news was quoted in a piece on NPR’s Morning and Saturday Editions that concerned Thelonal. Monk. This was an outgrowth of Orrin’s prominent stature among Bay Area music producers. [Editor’s note: CCT profiled Keepness in November 2004: www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/nov04]

Henry F. Klemmuss died in Ringwood, N.J., on July 27, 2009. He was a publicist and the founder of National Secretary’s Day, for which thousands of hard-working assistants are no doubt grateful.

Henry Rolf Hecht
11 Evergreen Pl.
Demarest, NJ 07627
hr15@columbia.edu

We are delighted to report that our November/December issue report on the death of Ted Jackson was, as Mark Twain once put it, “greatly exaggerated.” A very much alive Ted submits this news flash: “I DENY THE ALLEGATION AND I DEFY THE ALLEGATOR!”

We bid a sad farewell to Dr. Clem Curd, who left us in August. Veteran retired diplomat and unretired world traveler Al Seligmann and his wife, Bobbie, paid another visit to Europe last summer, to “four countries, with four currencies, each appreciating against the dollar even as we watched.” They started with a visit to British friends in an East Anglia village, followed by “a nostalgic return to Berlin for the first time since we lived there 35 years ago, when the Wall was very much in place.”

Al reports: “Berlin’s vibrancy as a united capital was all it was cracked up to be, but excursions to the outer reaches of the former Soviet sector — East Berlin and a bit of the countryside — left a strong impression, reinforced by a few conversations that, even as we approach the 20th anniversary of the breaching of the physical Berlin Wall, it will be another 10-20 years before the psychological barriers between ‘Osses’ and ‘Wesses’ (as the former East and West Germans are familiarly called) are overcome.” The Seligmanns also took advantage of Europe’s fine rail system to visit two other ex-Soviet zone capitals: Prague and Budapest.

Back home in the D.C. area, “Bobbie was our newspaper. She received the Generations United Outstanding Older Adult Volunteer Award at a dinner during the organization’s biannual International Conference in Washington for her lifetime work coordinating the volunteer mentoring program at our local elementary school.”

Since none of the rest of you, dear classmates, decided to share word of your doings, let me report that your class correspondent and spouse, Hattie Parks, spent a delightful and absorbing end-of-summer week in Cape May at the southernmost tip of New Jersey (as far south as Washington, D.C.). We continue to find Elderhostels, even with their funny new name of “Exploitors,” a great way to both enjoy and learn about a place, and always in good company.

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REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6 ALUMNI AFFAIRS Jennifer Freely jf2261@columbia.edu 212-851-7438 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2247@columbia.edu 212-851-7494

Columbia College Today Columbia Alumni Center 622 W. 113th St., M/C 4530 New York, NY 10025 cct@columbia.edu

Dr. Barnett Zumoff writes: “I am in excellent health and am still practicing medicine (endocrinology) at Beth Israel Medical Center. I also am active in Yiddish cultural affairs — I am v.p. of the Forward Association, the Folksbiene Theater, the Atran Foundation and the International Association of Yiddish Clubs; co-president of the Congress for Jewish Culture; and ex-president of the Worker’s Circle / Arbeter Ring.

I have just published my 14th and 15th books of translations from Yiddish (both poetry and prose), and I am working on four more books, all of which should see the light of day within the next year. My granddaughter, Michelle Cammarata ’04, had her fifth class reunion in June. Columbia is close to my heart — it was truly the alma mater, the shaper of my world outlook and the educator of my mind.”

Bernard Sunshine
255 Overlook Rd.
New Rochelle, NY 10804 bmsun@optonline.net

Richard Friedenberg, whose medical career centered on radiology, writes from Santa Ana, Calif.: “I started out as an English/drama major hoping to be a writer. I worked part-time for Lionel Trilling ’25, who wrote for The New York Times Book Review section, and I also worked at the information booth, where I wrote my first and only play. It was an adaptation of a Book of the Month selection, Apartment in Athens, by Glenway Wescott. I collaborated with someone whose name I have forgotten. With the audacity of youth, we sent our first play to the author, and we were pleasantly surprised when he asked us to meet him in his Park Avenue apartment. He told us that Somerset Maugham had read our play, liked it and had already selected his cast. We were floating on a cloud, skipped midterm and planned rewrite sessions only to have it all die a quiet death. I crawled on hands and knees to the dean, who kindly allowed me to take make-up exams. I decided writing had too many pitfalls and switched majors to medicine, which I have never regretted.”

Dick trained at NYU-Bellevue, Columbia/New York Presbyterian and Albert Einstein with two years of military service intervening. His entire career has been in academia, serving as chair at Beth Israel, New York Medical College and the UC Irvine sequentially. Dick notes: “My greatest pleasure always was teaching residents, and through the years, I contributed to the training of about 400 men and women.”

He retired in 2006, but at 83 has been called back to fill a gap in the department for a few months.

Dick has sustained his passion for writing with about 150 articles in professional journals and three books in his medical specialty. And now he has penned a novel called writing a pulp fiction novel, which he says, “I am sure no one but my family will ever see, but it will be an interesting exercise.” Dick and Gloria celebrate their 60th anniversary this month.

A particular recollection about Dick stays with me. Dick chaired the Collegiate Prom, and he and I went backstage to crown Celeste Holm prom queen. She was starring in Buxee Girl, a hot Broadway ticket. Dick crowed and I photographed. She kissed him and I got my picture (see 1945 Bloomer Girl, ring in a hot Broad¬way hit). I went backstage to crown Celeste Holm prom queen. She was starring in Buxee Girl, a hot Broadway ticket. Dick crowed and I photographed. She kissed him and I got my picture (see 1945 Bloomer Girl, ring in a hot Broadway hit).
speaker. Also in attendance was Dean Nicholas M. McKnight, who later sent a note: “I am sure I need not tell you that I greatly enjoyed the opportunity to see so many of my old friends again. As I remarked to Harry Coleman, it is evident that ‘46 is rolling as an alumni class. I think that steady pressure on the accelerator will move the class forward to genuine distinction in the alumni body.”

The 15th year reunion was at the Advertising Club (NYC) on February 10. Diminishing calls out of the blue, from Ed McAvoy, were now $7.50. Harry Coleman, then College admissions director, spoke and assured us that despite his fabulous life, he wanted to share a Columbia-inspired memory. Around 1948, a group of mainly Columbia University faculty, staff and students living in Shanks Village, Orangeburg, N.Y., decided they wanted to continue living in Rockland County.

After WWII, housing was near non-existent in metropolitan New York. Columbia spearheaded a movement to convert a section of the largest U.S. Army port of embarkation on the East Coast, Camp Shanks, into about 1,500 temporary housing units. (I remember visiting Ed there with with his family there.) But the project was partially supported by Columbia students, whose families lived there briefly before being moved to Columbia's own housing projects.

‘70s Ed added to this: “We owe a lot to Columbia for ‘getting us all together.’”

Alan Hoffman, whom I especially remember for his infectious chuckle, received his Ph.D. in mathematics from Columbia in 1950. He worked for 41 years as a mathematician at the IBM Research Center in Yorktown Heights, retiring as IBM Fellow Emeritus in 2002. He also has been visiting or adjunct professor at a dozen universities, most durably with the Graduate School of CUNY, and at Yale and Stanford.

You can look in Google Books for "Selected Papers of Alan Hoffman," scroll to page XXIII and read the autobiographical notes, which give his life story and an account of the more of his mathematical research.

I asked Alan for a Columbia College recollection and was surprised to learn he may have organized, in 1941, the first televised debate. He was a sophomore and a dedicated member of the Debate Council, which we both remember had an office in John Jay. He said, “I dreamed up the idea that since television was coming, we should have debates on TV. Our faculty adviser, Ben Brown, agreed. So I contacted NBC and CBS, which were then broadcast experimentally. One of the networks ignored me. But the other (I think CBS) agreed to try. I believe Gilbert Seldes, the famous critic, was the program director.”

“My pitch was that, since looking at faces was just boring (hah!), we should see how interest could be pecked by cartoons, pie charts, moving gadgets, etc. So we did it. I remember that the heat from the light bulbs was almost unbearable.

Of course nobody saw us, since there were only a few small TV sets in New York sitting in a few network offices.” And, Alan added, “My program was boring. We were never called back.” Nowadays, anyone watching "Handball with Chris Mathews" will see that Alan’s use of career and such was ahead of his time.

I hadn’t met Ed in college, and I hadn’t spoken to Alan in probably 40 years, so hearing from them out of the blue was a tremendously enjoyable surprise. Following the last issue of CCT, my wife, Shirley, and I went to the opening of Byron Dobell’s art show at the W.M. Brady Gallery. As I’ve said, Byron paints beautifully, and we were pleased to see he has a loyal following. Most of the paintings there were sold before the end of the afternoon.

Having met Ara Daglian via phone only a short time ago in connection with a Class Note [November/December], I was saddened to read an obituary notice in The New York Times in November. His life’s career grew out of his Cornell hotel school degree. But before Cornell, Ara had absorbed the unique Columbia College experience that we all treasure, and he was pleased to participate in a CCT Class Note. I am sorry I never met him in person and am grateful to have heard his rich voice, and to have told him his name was poetry.

Durham Caldwell
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durham-c@att.net


Arthur “discusses the nature of music and the responses it provokes.”

He points out that the same Bookshelf page listed a book by Barnett Zeffelmoff: “We were in the same freshman class in 1942, but he sped through school. As it turned out, many of my early friends at Columbia did not stay around long.”

Arthur, who took time out himself for two years in the Navy, is looking for other “and infantilistic” former classmates. For two years, Arthur, friend Benjamin R. Kaplan, “who was finishing Law School in 1948.” Can anybody help? [Editor’s note: Columbia records show Kaplan graduated from the College in 1945 and earned a degree from the Law School in 1951.]

Among Arthur’s observations on the contemporary music scene in his book are these: “A preference today for authentic jazz correlates best with a professional father, and fits much the same profile as those devoted to serious music. The demographics tend to exclude rural dwellers and regular churchgoers. A sudden appreciation of folk songs comes with college (for women particularly) along with better discrimination all around. Rock rules, of course, but students are respectful of ‘bluegrass’ while drawing the line at ‘country.’ Folk music seems to resonate better with the more affluent, and much more to Jews than Catholics...
Studies suggest that ‘adult contemporary’ audiences comprise more women than men, and more Catholics than all other religions combined.” As for “country and western,” Arthur says, “few residual hillbillies or folk roots are discernable... The adherents are mostly white and more than likely regular church-goers. C&W stars are overwhelmingly Republican, while folk artists are often found to the left of Democrats.”

Sylvain Desprez of Los Angeles is doing research for a biography of Thaddeus Golas and invites anyone with memories of Thaddeus or information about him to e-mail him at sylvain@sylvain.com. Sylvain says classmates “may enjoy reading up on Golas and his adventures in the ‘60s summer of love, as well as his minor fame in the ‘70s as a ‘reluctant guru’ through Web sites he’s created: www.thaddeusgolas.com and http://604engineercamouflagebattalion.blogspot.com/.”

The latter Web site deals with Thaddeus’ experiences in the Army during WWII. Sylvain was planning to add pages from Thaddeus’ wartime diary. The Columbian yearbook lists Thaddeus as active in the chess team and Rowing.

Ted Melnechuk remembers meeting Ted (as he liked to be called) in 1946 or ’47 on campus. Ted tells us, “After graduating, he lived for a time in San Francisco, where I introduced him to his neighbor, Herb Gold, who hadn’t recognized him... Ted is best known as the author of Lazy Man’s Guide to Enlightenment, originally self-published, so successfully that a publisher took it on. Ted thereafter lived on the royalties of its English and foreign-language versions. He later resided in Florida. I have a file of letters he wrote me. Maybe I should donate them to the Columbia archives...”

Your humble scribe also has taken a liking to a book. My spicy political novel, Tumultuous Affairs, is now available through Amazon and, for anyone wanting a signed copy and/or to read excerpts, through my Web site: http://tumultuousaffairs.home.att.net.

The book is subtitled “Uncertain Politics and Unlikely Romance during a Turbulent Time, 1964-1975.” It covers the period from the Goldwater nomination through the Nixon resignation, touching on local issues from the devastation to minority residential neighborhoods brought on by urban renewal to Vietnam War protests, civil rights tensions and the campaign to end de facto segregation in inner city schools. There are cameo appearances by Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, Elliot Richardson, Larry O’Brien, and Ted and Joan Kennedy.

And, along the way, there are a couple of romances, one of them deliberately reminiscent of the Rabelais we studied in Humanities A-2. I figure with enough help from classmates it can become a snook bestseller and make Prof. Dick and Dr. Nobbe proud — or turn over in their graves.

Every once in a while, this column seems to stimulate a classmate to reminisce. That’s what Frank Snyder of Henry County, Va., did. Here’s the bulk of his letter:

“I was one of those 16-year-old kids who got into the first freshman class at Columbia following the takeover by the Navy during the war years. I was from Denver, on an academic scholarship, and I was totally out of my league until I learned how to do the essay tests that were common in the New York-area high schools. I remember (as you do) that the College had us staying at another location until the dorms were cleared of some of the Navy guys, and that’s how I met Bob Dietsche, who was next door, from New Jersey, and a total nutcase for the politics of that state.

“When we finally moved into the dorms, there was a strange mix of young guys and veterans who were already out of the services, mixed in with the ‘commuters,’ who lived in the New York area. (My best friend at the time, Tony Komminos from Queens, was in that category.) As the Navy moved out, however, more and more civilians moved into the dorms. Originally, I was on the second floor of John Jay; later, I moved into Livingston Hall.

“During my entire school experience in Denver, I never received less than A’s in all of those courses. I note that only to indicate that, because of the difference in the levels of comprehension and the volume of information that came at us in the Core Curriculum, I almost flunked out of the first year at Columbia. It overwhelmed me. But after I got into the groove of reading with comprehension, writing with clarity and speaking to the point, I began to feel that I might make it after all (and I did).

“There are tons of stories that I remember from that time in my life, including making it to the varsity crew that first year, putting together a study group of really smart guys (we met often and talked about the notes that we had taken in class... and it saved my butt many times from coming to the wrong conclusions from the lectures) and getting used to the college system at that time.

“You won’t find my picture in the crew section (in the 1948 Columbian). When coach [Richard J.] Glendon retired in ’47, I quit rowing... As a freshman, I made the varsity crew with all Navy guys. I was the only ‘civilian,’ non-Navy, the only freshman — all the rest were seniors — and the only one from out of the New York area. Being from Denver, I had never touched an oar before. I went to Columbia. But I was tall, lanky and apparently had enough coordination to pick up the ‘Glendon lay-back stroke’ and fill the slot.

“I was a pre-law liberal arts major. I got the absolute most out of sociology with Professor [William C.] Casey. After college, I went into law, got into the Marine Corps during the Korean War as a pilot, was a prosecuting attorney with the government for a while, then went into corporate law with Burlington Industries, then with Tenneco Industries, and then with Bassett Furniture Industries. I retired in 1993, was a consultant for a while and now live on a farm in Henry County.”

Frank is hopeful that some CCT readers might be able to catch up with or supply frank’s e-mail address for one of more of these Morning-side friends he’s lost track of: Walt Smith, Jerry Carpenter, Bob Swanson, Bill Lubich, Charles Wright, Tony Pedesta and Bob Dietsche. Another friend, Tony Komminos, died last year. Frank’s e-mail address is fa.snyder@earthlink.net.

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We all have seen TV or read in local papers about the lost ring that finds its owner years or even decades after the disappearance. Well, here’s our chance to participate in one of those charming stories. Forwarded to me by our stalwart Paul Staller, director of reunion giving in the Alumni Office, is an e-mail regarding a Class of ’49 ring! It was found in Glover Park, Washington, D.C., by a Mr. Peter Greer. If any of you were wondering where a lost ring might be that vanished some time in the last 60 years, Mr. Greer has it! We have Mr. Greer’s e-mail address, but the condition attached is that this correspondence must be copied on any e-mail exchange that takes place, as well as the detailed report of the adventure undertaken as you, whoever you may be, journey to retrieve your personal treasure. It is only fair that you share this with your classmates! Yours truly, for the first time in a decade, missed Homecoming. Faced with a regretful choice, I had to absent myself to attend an uncle’s 97th birthday. It is hoped there will be many more Homecomings for us all, and one does not often get to witness 97 candles. However, our leader, Fred Berman, reported attendance by our most faithful supporters. At our class table, in addition to Fred, were Bob Rosenzans, Mark Lipman, Al Koska, Ed Lemanski and Guy Longobardo ’49.

On a sad note, we mention the passing of Paul Tanner in July. I received a touching note from his widow, Hannalore. She recalled my publishing a letter from Paul

I can tell you all that being your class correspondent has been, and continues to be, a profoundly gratifying privilege. It is all the more so when there is feedback. It is my opportunity to connect with classmates I would never have remembered. Most of us enjoyed the camaraderie of a relatively small group of friends during our undergraduate years. The time invested in this column has allowed me to expand my personal circle. Your communications do the same for us all. Let us hear from you as we mark the turn of a decade in this new century.

**REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS **

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Our 60-year reunion committee, under the chairmanship of Leonard Kliegman, has been active in planning a program for our class. At this point, the program is a work in progress, so the committee is not yet ready to announce definitive plans, but the focus is on putting together a schedule of events that will be enjoyable and gratifying for all of us.

Specific information will be forthcoming in our next newsletter, which is scheduled for distribution in the spring. Mark your calendar with the dates: Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6.

We have seen the obituary for Carl Hovde, published in the November/December issue of this magazine (also at www.college.columbia.edu/cec/dec09). A memorial service for Carl was held at Columbia in October, and at that service, Rudy Weingartner, a longtime close friend of Carl’s, was a eulogist. Rudy’s remarks are reported here so that we all may see a revealing portrait of our late classmate:

“Carl was my oldest American friend. I hope, therefore, to be excused if I mostly reminisce. But to live up to these august surroundings, I will mimic Plutarch’s parallel lives. I felt neither of us makes it into his class of ‘noble Greeks and Romans’

“Carl and I met when taking the placement exams for the class of 200 veterans admitted to Columbia College in February 1947. It was instant rapport. We were both anxious to start college after having served at the end of the war, Carl in the Army and I in the Navy. We were ravenous for brain food. Mostly we did not take the same classes, but we were together for two years of college and in Fred Dupee’s new comparative literature course — an innovation because we read authors who were alive: T.S. Eliot, Thomas Mann, James Joyce and others. Dupee asked Carl and me to each report on a section of *Ulysses.* Carl delivered his assignment masterfully. I declined, unsure of myself and afraid of the cutting tongue of Norman Podhoretz.

“Outside class, we spent an immense amount of time together: We saw quite a few plays, went to hear concerts and spent hours talking. Since Carl’s father was then president of the New School for Social Research, we hung out often in its 66 W. 12th St. apartment and supplemented our full Columbia programs by sitting in on New School classes, on lower floors of that building — a form of overeating. A small group of us also read Shakespeare plays at the home of Dick Rowland, an instructor of English. But the attempt to start our own reading group founded when sitting around our dining room table in Jackson Heights, we dissolved in uncontrolled laughter as we tried to read *Cymbeline.*

“As we were ready to graduate in June 1949, Carl and I were both awarded Henry Evans Traveling Fellowships. Thinking back, I find it mindboggling that the powers-that-be would take cognizance of our friendship! And in just the right way, since we had intended to get abroad somehow. We needed a real break, having worked exceedingly hard in college. While Carl was taking a class in Paris, I found myself in London, enjoying summers. Travel we did, to Associate Dean McKnight’s great surprise. Prior to then, he told us, Evans fellows had merely traveled across 116th Street from Hamilton Hall to Philosophy Hall to do graduate work.

“We bought bicycles in Paris and roamed through western France, southern Germany and Holland, supplementing leg muscles with trains and hitchhiking, including on a barge going down the Rhine. We were true culture vultures, missing no noteworthy church or museum. We even managed to talk our way into the sold-out *Passion Play of Oberammergau,* with a Jesus reputed to have been a Nazi and a Judas said to have been an opponent.

“For the winter, we rented rooms in Neuilly, took out books from the American Library in Paris, frequented the Comédie Française and wandered around the Sorbonne, looking for classes we never found. More than once, a Sorbonne retainer would address the students waiting for the lecturer, ‘Monsieur le professeur est en Amerique.’

“I would enjoy going on with this travelogue, but will end it with a trivial incident that has some symbolic significance. After we had gone our own ways for a few weeks, we reunited in Rome, renting a couple of rooms from a postal employee. Wandering around, we overheard a cook preparing to eat some of the delicious looking sweet goods to be seen in bakery windows. (You must understand that given the extreme tightness of our budgets, we only ate to live, not vice versa, including truly vile food in Paris’s student cafeterias.) Standing in front of a magnificent display, we broke down and decided to gorge on pastries as a hoped-for cure of this unaffordable desire. We bought more of them than we could eat and yet found ourselves isolated only for the shortest time.

“For 4½ years, it was togetherness without strain. I am still astonished by the harmony of two people who had opinions about most things and were quite ready to yield to anything but bickering. A match made in heaven? And without sex, yet! That stretch of time together — that temperamental mesh — became the glue that held for the next half century during which we never lived in the same place, while yet leading parallel lives — never out of touch.”

“We both became academics. That may all along have been Carl’s goal; it became mine almost by accident. Certainly Carl got there a lot faster. But soon after the end of the war, Carl in the Army and I in the Navy. We were ravenous...”
Livia Huang ’12. Quoting from the award announcement, “Livia plans to write as much art and literature [as she can] out of college before heading off to medical school. She is, however, also open to the idea of delving deeper into the field of architecture, which seems to be a nice marriage between function and creativity. She will start exploring the architecture field during the fall, knowing that there is a looming possibility that she might not get accepted to medical school, but if she does, she plans to get her master’s in the same, thus becoming an audiologist. Her other fields of interest are the visual arts and literature. Livia paints mostly in oils, and in high school, she took an art class offered by her school every year, including some at the Maryland Institute College of Art. She played violin for 13 years.”

Congratulations, Livia, from the members of the Class of 1951. It comes with our best wishes for your continuing success.

Mary Ware, whose husband, known as Peter, died on August 16 in Leawood, Kan. We spoke with his wife, Ann, to convey the condolences of our class and learned that aside from his enthusiasm for the advertising world, Peter was a lifetime lover of opera. Although not a singer nor a player of a musical instrument, he cherished the operatic talents of all the extraordinary voices in the operatic world of our time. [See Obituaries.]

With a victory over Princeton, the Columbia football team appeared ready for Penn during the Homecoming festivities at Baker Field. Such was not the case, much to the chagrin of Class President Robert Snyder, Richard Drachman and Ralph White ’51E, who attended the festivities again, the Light Blue faltered, giving credence to the words of the famous Brooklyn Dodger baseball team of years ago, “Wait ’til next year!”

Have you heard about the Columbia Alumni Center at 622 W. 113th St., close to the main campus? In the Center’s recent announcement describing the facilities, featured are a library, lounge and refreshments. Take advantage of this opportunity to keep in touch. For complete information, visit the Web site at http://alumnicenter.columbia.edu.

Here is some news from Donald A. Beattie, who resides in Saint Johns, Fl. After a long career with NASA in Washington, D.C., and having reached 80, he still works every day. Last April, Donald gave a presentation in conjunction with the opening at the National Space Society convention in Orlando. He was honored with a seat at the head table next to Buzz Aldrin. You can bet there were plenty of tall tales to be told! Last July, Don was invited to the 40th anniversary celebration for Apollo 11 and in early November provided a seminar on lunar exploration at the Goddard Space Flight Center. A project Don has been working on involves radio tapes and interesting interviews from Apollo missions. Apogee Books soon will publish a series of DVDs on these Apollo activities. Among his other assignments, Don was the “color commentator” for Voice of America’s worldwide English and Spanish language broadcasts regarding this scientific material. CC ’51 classmates can go to www.popularmechanics.com/apollo11tours40 to get more information. Finally, at a family reunion in Phoenix last September, Don and his family welcomed home a grandson serving in the Marine Corps in Afghanistan.

Without a doubt, Columbia College Today is one of the best, if not the best, alumni magazine published today. The dedicated staff turns out pages at a height which one is proud of every other month. Now the time has come for our class to step up to the plate and provide some financial support for this fabulous publication. Only recently did I learn that of the more than 300 members of our class, only 20 sent in a voluntary contribution to keep CFT alive and well. CCT is sent free to all College alumni, and the College has no plans to do otherwise. I don’t know how much participation other 1950s classes provide, but it seems to me that the one class that could grab the “Blue Beanie” from the top of the greased pole should have a lot more guys writing a check for at least $20. Surprise me! Send in your check today (made payable to “Columbia College Today”) stating to the editors in the next issue we have 300 guys who care. Mail to Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4350, New York, NY 10025 or give online at www.college.columbia.edu/cct/giving.

Roxen, CCT’s associate editor and Class Notes editor, to the Class Notes correspondents. So on October 3, your reporter and wife, Maxine, attended the Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference in Low Library. The new dean, Michele Moody-Adams, was the keynote speaker. She is a lovely lady with credentials a mile long. It was exciting to meet Moody-Adams, and everyone wishes her good luck.

After 36 years as a foreign correspondent, Washington, D.C., bureau chief for the Baltimore Sun, Ernest B. “Pat” Furguson is still busy typing. Since retiring, Pat has written four more books and dozens of magazine pieces, on everything from 300icuses to Siberian rivers to the man who shot Lincoln (Thomas “Bostom” Corbett). His post-retirement books, all published by Alfred A. Knopf, are Nonscience 1863: The Souls of the Brave; Ashes of Glory: Richmond at War; Not War But Murder: Harper’s, 1864; and Freedom Rising: Washington in the Civil War. Pat is toying with a memoir about his newspaper adventures in all 50 states and 65 countries. He lives happily in Washington, D.C., and would be glad to hear from old Phi Pals.

Dr. John Laszlo writes: “I was inspired to write not only by your urgent plea for support but also by your lovely travelogue on the canyon lands of the west. My wife, Pat, and I had a similar experience last spring in visiting 11 National Parks in Utah, Arizona and California. We plan to see and hike in more next spring. I had been to so many countries but had omitted visiting most of our magnificent parks. It gives one a special feeling to be in our own country visiting areas we had not seen before. I wish that more people from the inner cities could experience these wonders. The Ken Burns series [The National Parks: America’s Best Idea] probably piqued some new interest. When we returned to Atlanta, I went to elected politicians with a writing campaign urging support for the parks and giving the argument that it is a good way to bring tourists to this country and help our economy. Indeed, according to one-third of the people we met were from other countries. Stimulus money is coming for that purpose now.

I have had a great career in medicine, oncology, and in basic and clinical research. Retiring as professor of medicine from Duke Medical Center after 27 years in Durham, then joining the American Cancer Society as head of its research program, it has been a full career of patient care, laboratory and clinical research, teaching and administration. I have authored or co-authored some 250 scientific papers and written several books for the lay public about the cure of childhood leukemia, understanding cancer and a biography of the leading innovator in medical education of the last century. Largely retired now, I do some biotech consulting on DNA vaccines and electroporation, a technology designed to insert DNA into muscle cells in order to have the body make the immune proteins to destroy all kinds of organisms and toxins. It looks promising.

“We have four children and a like number of grandchildren; all are productive citizens—good jobs, benefits, no arrests or bad habits—but as far as we know,

“My only tie to Columbia now is to the Atlanta Columbia Book Club.

“One funny reflection: I enrolled in the Class of 1952 but decided late to accelerate. My faculty adviser told me not to apply because getting into med school was so hard, and I did not take me after three years and lacking a few credits. I applied anyway and selected Harvard over Yale and a couple of other acceptances. The lesson is about conflict of interest, because my faculty adviser, professor of physics education ‘Tex’ Adams, also was my tennis coach. Although I was not a great player, my early graduation left him with an unscheduled position to fill! But now at 78 and with two artificial knees, I am still pretty fair and love the game. Thanks, coach.

“My best to all my classmates.”

Max Frankel, who began his journalistic life as Columbia correspondent for The New York Times (1949–52) and editor-in-chief of Spec, retired as executive editor of the paper in 1981. Continuing his column on media for The Times Magazine until 2000, published an autobiography, The Times of My Life and My Life With The Times, and a history of the Cuban Missile Crisis, High Noon in the Cold War: Kennedy, Khrushchev and the Cuban Missile Crisis. He returned to Columbia to teach CC, together with Richard Wald, in 2008–09 and in a solo turn in the current academic year. Max lives in Manhattan with his wife, Joyce Parnick ’67 Barnard, former Times “Metro Matters” columnist and author of Mike Bloomberg: Money, Power, Politics.

Bob Kandel writes: “I am glad that you and your wife survived your automobile accident and, hopefully, your medical and physical damage. You have been doing a great job as class correspondent. Congratulations.

“I have come out of hibernation to sadly report that Frank Carbonara passed away on August...
19. Frank was having heart problems and a valve was successfully replaced. It was then decided to install a pacemaker and, unfortunately, complications ensued.

"Frank transferred to Columbia from Fordham in his second year. Some of you may remember him as one of the hosts of the classical music program, Kings Place Concert Hall. After college, he went to Teachers College. Most of Frank’s career was in social studies, at a public junior high school on Long Island for more than 30 years. Frank was an accomplished cellist and gave private music lessons. After retiring, he returned to the love of his life, music, and gave adult education classes at various venues. He was a great teacher, and his music lectures were well received. Frank was a very nice, gentle person. I can’t recall ever hearing him say anything derogatory about anyone unless it related to politics. He is survived by his wife, Fran, and their sons, Danny (with wife, Susan, and children), David (with wife, Natalie), and Nick, as well as Frank’s brother, Peter ‘53 (and wife, Jean). Frank will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him."

From Donald Surr: “For many years, Henry Mazzeo and I have exchanged phone or e-mail messages once or twice a year to keep in touch. Henry had been hospitalized several times with a heart ailment, which sometimes delayed replies. He usually answered after returning home, however. When he failed to respond to recent mail and e-mail, I tried to follow up by phone but only found that his phone had been disconnected. I then remembered that he often spent time at the Yonkers Library, so I e-mailed the librarians there to see if they knew of his whereabouts.

“The following return e-mail arrived (9-22-2009): ‘We regret to report that the name of Henry J. Mazzeo (date of birth: March 27, 1930) is listed in the Social Security Death Index. According to the SSDI, Mr. Mazzeo died on May 10, 2009. A search in the Web site of the local newspaper failed to locate an obituary for Mr. Mazzeo.’

“To the best of my knowledge, Henry had no close living relatives, which may account for there having been no local obituary. He will, however, be fondly remembered by his classmates at Columbia, where he was an active member and magazine contributor to Jester, in its day one of the top college humor magazines. Henry earned an M.A. in English at Columbia, his adviser and mentor being Mark Van Doren.

“Henry mainly worked in the advertising industry and wrote ads for several well-known agencies. He also achieved some note as the editor of an anthology of Gothic tales that was published by Doubleday in 1968. It is out of print now, but still is mentioned on the Amazon.com Web site and on the LibraryThing.com Web site, where the following review, dated 2008, appears: ‘Published in 1968, edited by Henry J. Mazzeo Jr., and illustrated by Edward Gorey, this collection of 17 spooky tales is absolutely charming! Authors include August Derleth, H.P. Lovecraft, Robert Bloch, Manly Wade Wellman (a local interest of Asheville and Madison County), Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Henry James, H.G. Wells and 10 other excellent writers. Most pleasing to my taste were Wellman’s ‘Where Angels Fear,’ Hodgson’s ‘The Whistling Room,’ and Wells’ ‘The Stolen Body.’ Oh yes, also charming was Robert Aickman’s ‘The Delta Star.’ The editor includes a bit of little-known information about the authors, their stories, and relative information at the beginning and end of each story. Very nice collection of ghost stories which I, and others, make a distinction with between works of horror.’

Alfred P. Rubin, emeritus distinguished professor of international law, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts, writes: ‘It was with great regret that I read of the passing of William (Len) Jones in the September/October issue of CCT. We were classmates at Stuyvesant (Class of 1948), and we both qualified for a senior year at the Law School (for Columbia College). It was so very sorry to be the bearer of the above unhappy news. Feel free to send me some happy news via e-mail. Thank you all.

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If your children or grandchildren ever watched an animated movie called Mad Monster Party, more than likely they didn’t know that the script was written by Len Kobrkin. Boris Karlov, Phyllis Diller and Jonathan Swift are featured voices. After a successful run in movie theaters nationwide and appearing on TV, Len’s movie now is available on DVD.

Len has been a successful entertainment lawyer since 1962, and I discovered that his first client was Saul Turteltaub ’54, a successful TV writer and producer. Len’s list of famous clients included performers, writers, directors and producers includes Johnny Cash and even making care of a small legal matter for Michael Jackson.

Len and his wife, Frieda, have three children, 17 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Interestingly enough, Frieda is the author of a book, Throw Your Feet Over Your Shoulders: Beyond the Kindertrot, published by Devora Publishing and available on Amazon and eBay. Frieda was born in Vienna and when she was 6 was separated from her parents and taken to England to escape the Nazis. Her memoir includes descriptions of what life was like for a little girl living in England without her family during the blitz.

John Plate: After serving in the Army, John returned to Columbia to earn a master’s at SIPA. Subsequently, he worked for five years with the Asia Foundation, which included a fascinating stint in Sri Lanka, where he helped the Asia Foundation give a wave of small grants to help develop local organizations. In the course of our conversation, I became curious about the types of grants and if John remembered a specific grant that had an important affect on people in Sri Lanka. John explained that when Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) became independent in 1948, the legal system was rooted in Colombo, which was the capital of the country, and a person in the countryside with a legal problem had to hire a lawyer in Colombo to handle the matter. To improve access to the legal system, the Asia Foundation funnelled money to local groups of attorneys and encouraged them to create their own associations. Gradually these efforts resulted in decentralizing and significantly improving the legal system in Sri Lanka.

Several years after returning to America, John received an offer to work on the President’s Council on Youth Opportunity, which was headed by VP Hubert Humphrey. John and his colleagues helped set up summer youth programs in 100 areas of the country. John’s next job, which lasted 18 years, was with the United Nations, where he ran the global youth program. John’s task was to convince governments in various countries to rationally and deliberately consider the problems their young adult population (ages 15-24) faced and to find solutions; for example, to try to improve youth health and to increase youth employment.

John retired in 1988 and has been teaching international relations at a local college. On the phone, he said, “Without Columbia, none of this would have happened.”

I am told, Frank Kennedy’s wife, Rebekah ’78 GS, reports that Frank passed away on December 10, 2006. Until he retired, Frank had been a motivational researcher and had his own company in Baltimore. Frank and Rebecca have two children and four grandchildren. Rebecca told me that Frank had the personality of a renaissance man. Aside from his creative work as a motivational researcher, he composed music, was an excellent amateur photographer and built an incredible model railroad that included scenery that he created. In addition, Frank wrote stories that were published in various literary journals as well as in a book, Seasons of Discovery, A Collection of Short Stories.

Frank will be sorely missed.

I received notice that Richard Rosset of Pittsford, N.Y., and Allan Thaler of West Haven, Conn., have passed away. However, I wasn’t able to reach their families for information about their lives since graduation.

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I was pleased to hear from a classmate whom I had known a decade ago when we were both residents of and commuters to New York from Westport, Conn. Norman Friedman and I retired about the same time, and we both moved to warmer climes. Norm went to Florida, and I went to southern California. We used to meet fairly often at the Westport train station. He and his wife, Dina (who sadly passed away), were and are the proud grandparents of two children. Norman was an attorney who now is happily retired. He lives in Aventura, Fla., and would love to hear from our classmates.

I hear that Saul Turteltaub and his wife, Shirley, spent Thanksgiving at their son’s home in Encino along with other members of their family as well as other Columbia alumni.

One bit of sad news was that my high school and college classmate, Alan Trei, died a couple of years ago after a long and successful career with DuPont. I know that he had several children and in 1998 married a young lady from Estonia, which is where Alan’s parents were from. Alan and his wife moved there about six or seven years ago. I had heard from Alan when he was part of a gigantic glee club in Tallinn. He was bright and had many talents and interests including running with the bulls in Pamplona. I shall miss him.

I hope that all of our classmates are well and happy. I hope that we will hear from you in time for our next issue of CCT."
As you might expect, there has been a lot going on around the world, in the United States and on campus. In Asia, it was “Meet the Bollingers” toward the end of 2009, when President Lee C. Bollinger and Jean Magnano Bollinger headed east to meet with alumni in Hong Kong and Singapore. At almost the same time, alumni celebrated happy hours around the world in places such as Ho Chi Minh City, Zurich, Bangkok and Ridgewood, N.J. A terrific time was had by all the attendees. Noted professor David Rosand ’59 appeared at a function in Portland, Ore., where he discussed how Vermeer’s 17th-century revolution in oil painting opened new expressive possibilities for the art. A little closer to home in Washington, D.C., SIPA Senior Associate Dean Austin Long, a counterinsurgency and urban warfare expert, delivered a talk on campus. In Asia, it was an interesting stuff! 
I recently went to a well-attended Yellow Ribbon ceremony with a number of dean, the recently-named provost Claude Steele, a three-star Marine general and many more young people, some in uniform, than I anticipated seeing, as I expected mainly we older veterans. Bob Waldbaumen '58, a former Marine surgeon and fellow poker player, attended; he had told me about the event. It concerned the recently passed bill to recreate the equivalent of the G.I. Bill of our days, which helped me with my medical fellowship years ago. GS Dean Peter Awn was there promoting the effort. GS accepts more than 40 students a year who were veterans, and largely pays for their education.

Robert ("Bob") Millburn and his wife, Friedhelde; Dick Shalmouron '56 and his wife, Barbara; Nelson Tom Nordquist '55 and his wife, Ellen; and Sandy Hirshen '57 and his wife, Vivian, celebrated their 50th reunion of the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation Class of 1959. They had lunch at the recently-renovated Faculty House with GSAPP Dean Mark Wigley, toured the school's new facilities and toured the Museum of Arts and Design at Columbus Circle, renovated by Brad Cloepfil '85. Arch. I was happy to hear about Dick Dickman '76 and his wife, Carol; we used to be quite friendly during undergraduate days. But lost touch. I will certainly try to reach him.

Robert Gnaizda '57 received the 2009 Loren Miller Legal Services Award from the California State Bar.

"Bob" Fleischer came down from West Hartford for the event. He showed me photos of his three terrific grandchildren by his M.D. / Ph.D. daughter, Ellen, who lives close by the Fleischers. She and my son, Louis, were Yale '93 together and were in the same residential college, Timothy Dwight. (What happened to former Dean Jack Greenberg, '46's ambitious plan to adopt the residential college system to Columbia? It works well at Yale; somehow I never thought it would take at Columbia.)

"Ellen and George Lutz were looking forward to a fall trip to Greece and the eastern Mediterranean, where they traced the route of St. Paul on his historic apostolic journeys.

"Joe and I attended the October 22 memorial service for Dean Carl Hovde '50 at St. Paul's Chapel."

"I reminisced with Mark about my fall 1954 pledge period at ZBT. Although I dropped out, I remembered Al Salko '54, Herb Sturman, the late Billy Friedman, Al Lerner '55, Jerry Kahn and the late Steve Birnbaum. I have often wondered how different my college years might have been if I had completed pledges. 'Hell Week,' and become a full-fledged member of ZBT.

"One of the problems of living with my memories is that I am doomed to repeat them, over and over again. But as for 2009, the petty (and not so petty) concerns of college life were erased and we had a really enjoyable time.

"My curiosity got the better of me and I looked up eight of the cities [St.] Paul visited on his way to Rome. From east to west, they were Damascus, Antioch, Tarsus (his birthplace), Colossae, Ephesus, Philippi, Thessalonika and Corinth.

"I wonder what these Hellenistic population centers look like today."

"My new TV show is up and running. I'm host of LIFE (Part 2), a 20-episode PBS weekly talk show on boomers aging (or denial of) that began airing in September in New York and at different times,"

Robert Gnaizda '57 received the 2009 Loren Miller Legal Services Award from the California State Bar.
days and months throughout the country. It airs on WLIB channel 21 on Wednesday nights at 11:30. The entire series of 20 episodes is being repeated on channel 13 on Sundays at 3 p.m. beginning in November. Check your PBS listings

“Here’s the Web site: www.pbs.org/ld/1130/”

Art Meyerson: “I didn’t remember that you [Marty] had pledged ZBT at the same time as Jerry Finkel, [David] Fink and myself. A week or so into the pledge period, an upperclassman named Fred ordered me to go out and get him a pack of cigarettes. When I asked why I should, he said, to paraphrase, ‘Because you’re a pledge and have to because I say so.’ With my usual Lower East Side insouciance, I replied [expletive] ‘I’ve somewhat been tempered by time) and suit myself to the vagabond of Finkel and Fink. Jerry went on to become president of ZBT and remains my lifelong friend. I don’t know what became of Fink after he went to Cornell Medical School.”

“I wanted to thank the Feldman and another fellow (I’m worse now than ever at remembering names) at the lunch for providing a great deal of interesting information during our discussion of the Palestinian /Israeli situation.

“Best to all and good luck to Bob on his new venture. I’m sure it will be successful, as he is so capable and thoughtful.”

While in NYC for the weekend of September 11–13, yours truly went to the campus to visit the CCT staff (Lisa Palladino). The next evening, I met Ellen and George Lutz for dinner. Among many other things, we discussed their upcoming trip to trace St. Paul’s historic journey.

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Our condolences to Al Tapper on the death of his wife, Naomi, on September 17, after a 15-month battle with cancer. Al’s e-mail reporting her death was headlined, “The guy who used to be across the hall”; he and your reporter were freshman year neighbors in Livingston Hall. Al is a retired aeronautical engineer. He advises that any classmates living in or passing through Seattle, “can see my signature on the wheel well of the SR71 in Boeing’s Museum of Flight. I had written much of the software that was on board that ship’s avionics.” Al and Naomi have three children: Josef, Ari and Robyn. Josef, a scientist who lives in the United Kingdom, has been granted a patent for a process that generates energy without using fossil fuels and does not have any carbon dioxide byproducts. His invention won a competition in new environmental technology run by two British companies, as a result of which he will receive up to $1,000 in consultancy support, grant writing and other technology support.

Stuart Huntington’s granddaughter, Samantha, is a teenage celebrity, appearing under her professional name, Jenny Smart. For six years, she was the youngest radio syndicated talk show host in the country. Now 13, she has acted in her first major film, The Haunting of Winchester House, and is working on a daytime TV talk show.

Jerry sent us an update on his children. Jacob ‘06, after being an investment banker in New York for three years, is enrolled in the M.B.A. program at Stanford. Shaina ‘09 is in her first year at Brooklyn Law School. Asher added, “I am thrilled to hear from classmates that would send large checks to help us with extraordinary tuition bills.”

A yes or no question, picture of some of our classmates was taken on the Low Steps. Gil Wright, with help from some others, undertook the monumental task of identifying the people in the picture. I have sent them the captioned picture to those on my e-mail mailing list. If you would like a copy, please send me your e-mail address. I will not distribute the address to anyone else without your permission.

Now for some more reflections on the reunion.

Robert (Bob) Swartz writes, “I had not been on campus for years and had some qualms about making the trip to New York as well as being exposed to (possibly engulfling) traffic and densities that I had not been prepared for almost 20 years. To be sure, I arrived with out mishap and returned home in similar condition. Moreover, I actually arrived early on Wednesday and found a few things just getting cranked up for the reunion and some information (e.g., the parking site) not quite adequately disseminated. However, in every instance (including stopping in offices that were near my ambling around the campus, totally unconnected with any reunion efforts), I encountered people who were exceptionally friendly and helpful, a characteristic that seemed to prevail with every level of University staff and employee that I encountered during the reunion. Was it that way 50 years ago? My vague recollection suggests that there has been considerable, highly favorable improvement.

“Having known so few in the class and having had so little interaction with others through the years, I was not sure what to expect in the encounters that might occur. In addition, I admit to some curiosity concerning the way in which other surviving members of the class had weathered the past 50 years.

“I had anticipated some boating and bragging (which I was not interested in and initially made me hesitate with regard to attending) and far less of the academic program strength than occurred. In fact, I was increasingly impressed with the quality of the overall program and its particular sessions, rising through the event in something of a crescendo that increasingly engaged my interest and appreciation. The panels and talks were not just good; they were excellent, alone’ worth the price of admission. I had more time talking to many members of the class than I had spent with them in all of the years of the degree program. I was delighted by the cordiality of the group and the orientation of the sessions and individuals toward issues and perspectives on changes over time versus self-declara
tions of achievement that I suspect imbue other class reunions.

“I went to the session on health care without any expectation of the exceptional strength of the panel presentations and an anticipation of significant debate. It was, of course, a vibrant discourse with unusually voluminous — and highly enthusiastic — audience participation. In fact, it was another excellent session, which, if you recall, based on hands raised and interactions, could have gone on far beyond the time allotted. It was informative and provocative.

“Overall, it was a pleasure to attend the reunion, despite the drab and, perhaps surprisingly excessive, preshow attempt to promote the reunion that provided on-campus accommodations. However, that may only have added to the dramatic nature of the event and contrast with the increasingly engaging program during the interval of the reunion.

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Some things struck me:

"Being thankful: We are all thankful for being able to come. We have lost a significant number of classmates (Ira Freilicher just before the reunion, Peter Hall and numerous others). I think of my roommate during freshman week, Eric Frankenstein, who died in a plane crash going to Nantucket before graduation. What would his life story have been?

"Fifty-year perspective: We all have taken our journey, and as Steve Trachtenberg said at a past reunion, when we ultimately come home, we see it as though for the first time.

"Speaking for myself (but I saw echoes of my sentiments with others):

"Listening skills: Classmates spoke, but they also listened.

"Verbal expression: I was struck by the unanimity of our classmates to express themselves verbally, clearly, succinctly and with confidence.

"Writing abilities: As mentioned, Mr. Williams, my freshman English instructor, gained my attention with a 36 grade scrawled over my thesis draft but it was one of the best things that ever happened to me.

"Sense of humor: The banter was quick and friendly, and we were appreciative of being there and being able to stand vertically.

"Studying too hard: We were all quick and friendly, and we studied too hard. It was one of the best things that ever happened to me.

"Changes: Positive changes such as the addition of women and a determination to have a diverse student body I think are critically important.

"Curriculum: The core curriculum is commendable, but two countries, China and India, represent close to half the earth’s population. We need more focus on Asian studies. We also need to send our younger generation abroad not only to travel but also to enroll in degree programs in Asia and elsewhere.

"ROTC: I listened to the panel that thoughtfully spoke in support of ROTC. Not having a ROTC program at Columbia eliminates possible bright officers coming from the College of Arts and Sciences and a more liberal view. The whole idea of ROTC was to not create a separate officer caste. Why abbreviate that possibility?

"Leadership: Educating leaders of the future who can think critically and be able to have a vision of where they want to go, and the skills to get to there are vital ingredients of education.

"What a privilege to have been with all of you, and thank you all for making it happen. The best is yet to come.

Jim Levy wants us to know that he’s “back in the land of Oz!” Thanks to all who helped to organize and manage the reunion. It was wonderful. I am reminded that it is to people, not institutions, that we should be loyal to. Institutions bring us together but it is “us” who matter.

I am struck by the unanimity of support for the Core — more on this later.

From Mike Tannenbaum, “I thought that the class panels, parties, lunches and dinners were the best part of the reunion, including, especially the physics major reunion, where I also enjoyed talking to a few faculty friends who attended. I also enjoyed the all-College cocktail party and wine tasting, where I spent some quality time with my daughter, Nina ’99, and her husband.

Clive Chajet reports that, “A group of former Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity brothers and many of their significant others gathered for a nostalgic and warm dinner on the Thursday night of the 50th reunion event.

“The sad note was that Ira Freilicher, who worked with me to organize the evening, died the previous week. While it cost a damper on the whole evening, his wife, Vivian, attended because she knew that is what Ira would have wanted, and that helped a lot.

"Most of us had not seen each other for 50 years or more. The person looked exactly how he looked in college — Bob Stone.

"The rest of us looked and acted our real age and had in general a positive outlook on life as well as mostly positive memories of Columbia, and we all agreed not to wait another 50 years to get together again. Obviously Columbia and TEP prepared us well for dealing with our futures.”

Luigi Lucaccini ([domani@padbell.net] has written a rather long submission. I can’t get it all in one column. This is his beginning. More will follow as I have the room for it.

"In every life there are some peak experiences, events whose richness and emotional impact are indelible and long remembered. Attending the reunion of Columbia College’s class of 1959 was a peak experience for me. Let me try to explain why.

"Unique individuals: First of all and most obvious are the personal contacts with and reminders of classmates, then and now. Some examples — Alan Kahn, whose generosity and inquiring (and sometimes acerbic) mind is now quietly focused on fundraising efforts both on behalf of Columbia and also in an important area of healthcare research at the national level; Ben Huberman, whose thoughtful reticence when we washed dishes in the John Jay cafeteria as freshmen presaged his reasoned contributions to the area of arms regulation; Ralph Wyndrum, who was way ahead of the curve academically when he entered as a freshman and who has remained in the forefront, ultimately assuming national leadership roles in the IEEE; Frank Weiss, high school pal and advocate for the importance of being able to handle yourself in the water, someone who walked the talk” during his Navy service in 1960 when he saved the life of a young pilot whose plane crashed into San Francisco Bay, not mentioning his many later contributions as a physician; Ron Lightstone, who guided me patiently through a freshman year of chess-by-mail and went on to successfully play a much higher level of ‘organizational chess’ in the Southern California corporate media arena; Mike Cohen, who asked presciently during an NROTC discussion session 50-plus years ago (to the discomfort of those then in authority) about managing the issues of homosexuality in the Navy, issues that we now confront with respect to bringing NROTC back on campus in the face of the ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell’ policy; Lou Kushnick, whose boundless energy and unique curiosity turned his many later contributions to the world of sociology and social relations which culminated in the award of the OBE; and Stan Feld, a new acquaintance to me, one of the determined NYC subway warriors who ultimately made his mark in medicine and now in leadership of this class.

"Undoubtedly each class member has his own memories and examples of individuals he knew 50-plus years ago, individually whose youthful energy, talent, and values are evident in more than their economic success and personal achievement, individuals whose unique qualities underlie truly meaningful lives and contributions to our society.

"Those few personal disappointments at this reunion, I was hoping to finally collect on the $5 that I lent a monetarily impertinent George Orphanos in 1958, but found instead in the
while the sons of Knickerbocker rally round Columbia...”? As Bob Dylan foretold back in the day, “The Times They Are a-Changin’”, and perhaps the time came when some of the songs had to change as well. [Editor’s note: Yes, the words are the same; the p.c. police have not gotten around to changing “sons” to “children” or some such.]

Miles McDonald, contemplating our upcoming reunion, came to the realization that the exquisitely moment to write had arrived; I am most grateful.

“I haven’t been a long time coming, but I thought I should make at least one report on the McDonald family in the 50 years that have passed since graduation. Having spent seven years at Columbia, which includes my three years of law school and four years of graduate study with a New York law firm but soon decided that commuting was not for me and started practicing law in Connecticut as a trial lawyer, which continued for 45 years. I have been retired one year and I enjoy every minute of it. My wife, Patricia, and I have one daughter, a fourth-generation lawyer in our family. They say we were born with congenitally forked tongues. We delight in her and our one grandson. “My involvement with crew at Columbia was a life-shaping experience. As a hobby, I became a wooden boat builder, attending boatbuilding school in Maine and building a variety of classic small craft including a number of rowing shells. My wife and I have rowed numerous rivers on the East Coast and circumnavigated (if that is the right description) Lake Como in Italy and a variety of other wonderful locations and waterways. I see Arthur Delmhorst regularly. I’ve known him since dancing school and we both served as commodore of a local yacht club in Riverside, Conn., and both enjoy sailing and bemoaning Columbia football, which, I’m glad to say, appears to be getting better.”

Miles is looking forward to the reunion, and we look forward to seeing him there.

We in the Class of ’60 take pride in the number among us who have earned the right to be designated stars in our chosen fields. We are not unique in that regard. Stars glitter throughout the legions of alumni. Having an asteroid in the class, however, now that’s a matter of an entirely different magnitude.

News arrives from the Minor Planet Center of the International Astronomical Union that the asteroid provisionally designated “1987 QD6” has now been named “4897 Tomhamilton” in honor of Tom Hamilton and in recognition of his contributions to the study and conquest of space. Tom worked on the Apollo project for several years, determining fuel and radar accuracy requirements for lunar orbit rendezvous, and was an astronomy educator, planetarium director and author of shows for planetaria, and is a published science fiction writer.

The International Astronomical Union is the body officially recognized by astronomers and scientists worldwide as the naming authority for astronomical bodies. Minor planets, as discovered, receive provisional designations; as those discoveries are confirmed they are given permanent numbers by the IAU’s Minor Planet Center, and the discoverers can submit names for them in accord with the IAU’s naming conventions.

The IAU’s naming committee is being formed to plan the committee is being formed to plan the 50th reunion as a place where classmates can get together as it were, in advance of the reunion itself. You can participate on the site, www.CC1960.ning.com, by e-mailing Lee at jirathome@yahoo.com.

With respect to the 50th, the Reunion Committee hopes to gather and put together photographs from our undergraduate years that you all have stashed away in albums and attics. If you have photographs, it would be much appreciated if you would send them and the scanned copy to me by postal mail or e-mail at the relevant address at the top of the column. Please do not send your original photos. If you send a copy by e-mail, indicate in the subject line “Class Photo,” or something to that effect. Please include as much descriptive information as you can: names, place, date taken, event or occasion and whatever else you believe would provide context, explanation or reason.

Hope you’re all enjoying the class reunion logo that heads our Class Notes, the creation of the inimitable Paul Nagano. Several cultures honor artists and craftsmen who have achieved the highest degree of mastery of an art that preserves their traditions by designating them Living National Treasures. Paul certainly has earned a designation as a Living Class Treasure.

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The planning has begun for our 50th reunion, which will take place Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011, so you can plan your schedule well in advance. A committee is being formed to plan the event with the help of the Alumni Office. Anyone interested in helping should contact either Tony Adler (awadler@spartacommercial.com) or Burtt Ehrlich (burtt@bloomberg.com) with their ideas of what we should do at the reunion.

Glenn E. Schaaf has again been elected v.p. and board member of the Greater Cincinnati Knothole Baseball Supervisors Association. He has been a coach, manager and district supervisor for 39 years. In addition, during the past year, Glen was the District 2 supervisor and directed 130 teams involving 2,000 kids in eight leagues. Out of this group, four teams competed for the city championship, with the 12-year-old age team winning the city championship. Glenn continues to be an advocate for cost-effectively supplying teams with competitive uniforms, approximately 25,000 youths play in the Knothole baseball program.

Richard J. Mace will retire in February from his second career as a high school and college English teacher. In 1990, Richard retired from the insurance business after a career that spanned 25 years with federal, New York City and private enterprise firms and agencies, designing numerous sales and marketing forecasting systems.

Richard has a vivid memory of serving in Army communications during the Cuban Missile Crisis, of which the 47th anniversary was in 2009. His son, Richard Riurik, is director of approximately 700 small group ministries associated with the Victory World Church of Norcross, Ga., and is the father of his three granddaughters, Abrielle, Silken and Olivia. Richard’s daughter, Michelle Margaret, is the office manager for a newly established and thriving dental firm in Cumming, Ga. Richard has been married for 34 years, Ingeborg, spent Thanksgiving weekend with the family in Georgia.

Mel Urofsky’s biography of Justice Louis D. Brandeis and Morris Dickstein’s latest book, Dancing in the Dark: A Cultural History of the Great Depression, were reviewed in the New York Times Book Review on September 27. Morris’ book was also reviewed on NPR.

For several years, Jim Ammene, Stuart Sloane and Jack Kirik have been carrying on their own Homecoming tradition of attending the pregame brunch and sitting together at the game. Unfortunately, this year the wrong Columbia team took the field against Penn. We made mistake after mistake, which led to Penn winning. Jim, Stuart and Jack would like to expand their group next year with more classmates, especially those who conveniently live in the New York area.
George Souls was unanimously chosen as chairman of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee of the East Hudson Youth Soccer League for induction on September 26 as part of the Class of 2009. The League Hall of Fame has kept membership to a select few individuals whom it feels best exemplify the spirit of sportsmanship and commitment to young athletes and whose accomplishments are lasting, significant and made throughout a substantial period of time. George was honored for his many contributions in a variety of roles, both prominent and behind the scenes, in the Yorktown and Shrub Oak, N.Y., soccer clubs, as well as his many years of excellence as an in-house, travel and league selection coach.

Arnold Kliepstein has completed 36 years of practicing gastroenterology in Manchester, Conn., and still is going strong. He is the oldest gastroenterologist in town and one of the older members of the staff at Manchester Memorial Hospital and Rockville General Hospital. Arnold is the second generation of gastroenterologists: his father, and then his son, have practiced in the field. Arnie has no immediate plans to retire. His oldest grandson celebrated his bar mitzvah last June. His other three grandchildren are doing well.


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Thanks to your response to my plea for news, my CCT file contains more than 1.5 million words. If your news is in this issue, you can rely on its appearance in two months. If you haven’t yet written, please do so today.

Jim Spinagel has been in the securities brokerage business since graduation and was long a partner in Gruntal & Co. Although he no longer works as much as he used to — who does? — he still handles client accounts.

Jim has been married to Jane Somayk for 45 years. They have two children: Robert ’89, an aerospace defense analyst with three children; and Liz ’92 Barnard, a homemaker with two children. Jim and Jane spend most winters in Jupiter, Fla., where Jim alternates between work and golf. For the balance of the year, they live on Long Island’s North Shore. Jim was friendly with the late Joe Bass, who, like, a number of other Columbians, made/makes Admirals Cove their Florida home. Jim collects books on history, the military, aviation and natural history (particularly birds) and is learning bridge. You may reach him at jimspingam@yahoo.com.

After graduation, Carl Jakobsen earned a degree the following June at the Engineering School. Following a 45-year engineering career, including service in the Navy from June 1963–June 1965, Carl retired in early 2008. In retirement, he writes, “I have been an amateur educator, running the tutoring program at my church and teaching Sunday school. I also serve as chairman of the political action committee of the Bremerton, Wash., branch of the NAACP and serve on its international relations committee.” An example of Carl’s work is the upcoming 10th anniversary celebration of the Bremerton Inclusion Center, which begins Saturday, January 30, at 4 p.m. at the Silverdale United Methodist Church, 9982 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale, Wash. The day is sponsored by the Bremerton Branch of the NAACP, the House of Representatives of the Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Kagayonons of Washington, the Kitsap County affiliate of Habitat for Humanity and the Filipino-American Charities Foundation. It celebrates four milestones when the modern church took successful action to protect the basic human rights of people under attack:

• the adoption of the Namibian Constitution,
• the release of Nelson Mandela from prison, the People Power Revolution in the Philippines and
• the annual observance of Black History Month in the United States.

Carl is married to Estela Casino Jakobsen. It is the second marriage for both. “Between us,” says Carl, “we have seven children and 18 grandchildren. I guess, if we survive another decade or two, we’ll meet some of our great-grandchildren!” Carl’s e-mail is cjakobsson@comcast.net.

Jim Fishman thinks “classmates write about themselves when they feel that ‘these are the good times.’ Being known to my closest friends as ‘Mr. Lucky.’ I’m going to volunteer that these are my good times and that I stuck up a little.

I am happily married to an extraordinarily wonderful woman; we are healthy and do all we can to remain that way. Working out in the gym, running, bicycling and hiking are all parts of our routine. We live in Virginia, although I spend part of each week in NYC. The rest is in Washington, where I am completing my 10th year at AARP.” Jim spent most of his career in consumer magazine publishing, working on publications from People to Yankee. He retired once, but then returned to the fray to join AARP, as it prepared for the tsunami of baby boomers. Jim writes, “AARP Publishing has become an integrated communications corporation, so my area also involves the Web and broadcast.

Larry Loewinger ’62 has worked in the film and video industry since graduation as a teacher, technician, writer and filmmaker. He has a partner in Poland and recently returned there — after a 40-year absence — to make a new film. Its working title is Not for the Dead. Larry says, “It is set in Poland. It was not the site of Europe’s last pogrom. It tells the story of one man who turns hatred into hope, and a 60-year crisis linking art, memory, murder and reconciliation. We’ve completed filming, are beginning to edit and are raising funds to sell the film to market. Our Web site, where we keep the old; one is silver and the other gold.’’’ Conrad served in the Coast Guard, was a first responder at Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls, N.J., and coached the Marlboro, N.J., little league for more than 10 years.” [Editor’s note: An obituary is scheduled for a future issue.] You may contact Frank at frankgrady@earthlink.net.

Since graduation, Larry Loewinger has worked in film and video as a teacher, technician, writer and filmmaker. He has a partner in Poland and recently returned there.
Greenland and Labrador. He found nothing wrong with one captain, but nothing right with another. David then earned a civil engineering degree and M.B.A. from Northeastern. Moving to Houston, he was the construction manager of high-rise office buildings until, in his words, "reality hit in the form of a national recession." David then changed occupations and became a certified financial planner and registered adviser. He has no plans to retire because "I am still going strong and already indulge my hobbies of photography, painting, landscaping and home remodeling.

"I've also," David writes, "had a brush with mortality in the form of an artificial heart valve. So I am part bionic. While I move slowly, I've lost none of my energy. I guess my major achievement is being married for 35 years to my second wife. We have three sons, all of whom have their own interests, master's degrees from the University of Texas and live in Austin. Somehow we avoided the upbringing problems and conflicts.

I participate in a growing Columbia Club in Houston. The only nearby classmate I know is Dr. Bernie Patton, retired. Recently, I saw him at a lecture on astronomy. I haven't been to Manhattan since the first to build and use computers for data collection and analysis in neurobiology. But," he writes, "I have no idea how to use an iPhone." Amen!

Neilson Abeel and his wife, Tori Breyer '63 Barnard, traveled to Athens in September. They visited the new Acropolis Museum and then had a terrific week on the island of Andros, where they celebrated the wedding of Typhaine Zagoreos '96 Barnard to Frederic de Bure. Typhaine is the daughter of Marine and Alex Zagoreos '59. Norman Hicks-Helm '60 made the trip from Fairfield, Conn., where he is a beach lifeguard.

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg appointed Burt Lehman to the city's board of interest, a five-person independent agency charged with interpreting and enforcing the city's conflict of interest and financial disclosure laws.

Harvey Rosen writes: "The more things stay the same, the more they change." He's still married to Marta Curbelo (13 years) and still living happily in the same apartment in New York City (40 years). He still practices law in his solo general practice, mostly estate planning, and shoots hoops. And he soon will take the New Mexico bar exam because "I am still going strong in my backyard." [Editor's note: An obituary is scheduled for a future issue.] You may reach Peter at epetekl@gmail.com.

Richard Eisenberg '63, the Tracy H. Harris Professor of Chemistry at the University of Rochester, has been named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society.

my early years in Boston — too many people. Houston has been an interesting city and a good place to raise a family. I'm especially interested in my political buddies, Bill Campbell '62 and Bob Kraft '63. David's e-mail address is cohendavid@sbglobal.net.

Driven by his enjoyment of the work and fear that retirement will be dull, Peter Shragger continues to do research in neurobiology at the University of Rochester. He's been married to Diane '64 Barnard for 43 years. They recently celebrated the all-Columbia wedding of their daughter, Sarah '05 P&S, to Joel Lusman '93, son of Paul Lusman '61 and Barbara Lusman. [Editor's note: See photo near the front of this issue.]

Peter sees Bill Ross at scientific meetings, and they both attended their 50th reunion at Stuyvesant H.S. Diane and Peter travel frequently, primarily to Europe, and have begun to escape Rochester winters by going to Florida's Sans Souci in North Carolina. The fun one that may make some sense to CC '63ers is the one of the license plate 'SAN SU.' Gonna be on this property all next week.
enjoying the summer breeze in the North Carolina mountains.” (See www.cc63ers.com for photos.)

Richard Eisenberg, the Tracy H. Harris Professor of Chemistry at the University of Rochester, has been named a Fellow of the American Chemical Society. I received the following information in the University’s press release: “Eisenberg has contributed to the education of hundreds of chemists through his efforts at the University, has served the community as chairman of the College Research Conference on Organometallic Chemistry, as chair of the American Chemical Society Division of Inorganic Chemistry, and as editor-in-chief of the American Chemical Society journal Inorganic Chemistry.

“Some of Eisenberg’s work that has earned him this honor involves inorganic photochemistry, chemistry that underlies light-to-chemical energy conversion, and organometallic chemistry related to catalytic reactions done by the chemical industry. His career-long broad research interests have paved the way to important studies in light-driven reactions of organometallic complexes toward water conversion to hydrogen, which is the critical transformation required for the development of sustainable energy conversion for our planet.

“The ACS Fellows Program was created last year to recognize members of the ACS for their outstanding scientific achievements, as well as contributions to the profession, the chemistry community and the Society.”

I received a press release announcing that Michael M. Hunter has been appointed corporate secretary of the Warrior Girl Corp. (Pink Sheets: WRGL).

Lee Lowenfish writes, “Spoke at Midtown Village Civil Rights Roundtable on a panel chaired by Charles Ogletree that included two Hall of Famers, basketball’s Oscar Robertson and baseball’s Tony Perez. Also represented Branch Rickey’s family when the patriarch was inducted into the College Baseball Hall of Fame in Lubbock, Texas. (Also inducted Ron Poll, Mississippi State coo who remembers fondly and sends best wishes to our former coach, Paul Fernandes. One of Poll’s players, Rafael Palmeiro, also was inducted.) My first book on baseball’s labor wars, The Imperfect Diamond: A History of Baseball’s Labor Wars, will be out in a new updated edition in the spring from U of Nebraska Press.”

Mark Brider writes, “Since I recently retired after being a math professor at Northeastern for more than 40 years, I guess I should say a few words about what I’ve been doing. My book, Real Analysis a Constructive Approach, appeared several years ago and is the only undergraduate text to follow an ‘intuitionist’ approach to the theoretical foundations underlying calculus and the real numbers. Predictably, it is not selling like hotcakes. For about five years, I have been writing a blog explaining the mathematics behind the CBS TV show Numbers, for which I was also an unpaid (the story of my life) consultant. I now write a political blog, http://thatmaniscope.blogspot.com. Furniture-making and house-building, as well as organic farming, playing bluegrass music and long-distance cycling, have been important parts of my life. The most important, my wife, Maxine Simon Bridger, also is a mathematician; we have three children, one of whom should be getting her doctorate with Eric Foner from Columbia this spring. We also have three grandchildren. From time to time, I reread some of the wonderful works I first encountered at Columbia nearly 50 years ago. It’s even better the second time around. I wish my classmates good health and happiness.”

Sid Kadiash sent a photo (which you can see on our Web site, www.cc63ers.com) and writes, “I rode last year in the Pan Mass Challenge, a road bike event for 162 miles, from Wellesley to Provincetown, over two days. The money raised goes to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, otherwise known as the Jimmy Fund. This is my 14th ride. The picture shows me after the first day’s ride on August 1. I am posing with Wally, the Red Sox mascot, after I have showered up and taken a picture with my riding team, Team Perry. They are the ones who distribute the shirt about how pain is temporary. The race site is the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, in Bourne, Mass., along the Cape Cod Canal.”

Remember, the Class of ’63 lunches are still going strong in the new Grill at the Columbia Club on West 43rd Street, so plan to visit New York and join us. The next gatherings are on January 14 and February 11. Check the Web site at www.cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

Steve Case, Marty Isserlis, Beril Lapson, Fred Kantor, Jeff Newman, Rob Rivitz, Nick Rudd, Steve Solomon and Alan Sperling.

Classmates have been on the move: Larry Kessler was in Paris and London during the summer, and Ira Jaffe spent time in Maine during the summer before returning home to New Mexico. More recently, Beril Lapson spent a week in Istanbul on business, and Marty Isserlis and his wife, Judy, spent 13 days in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

Fred Kantor was induced into the Society of Columbia Graduates at the society’s annual dinner in October, held at Low Library. The society presents the annual Great Teacher Awards to a member of the College and Engineering School faculties. [Editor’s note: See “Around the Quads.”]

Neil Schachter is medical director and former member of the board of the Mount Sinai Medical Center in Manhattan. Jeff Newman’s son, David, is the director of clinical research at the St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital emergency medicine department in Manhattan. David is the author of Hippocrates’ Shadow, a highly regarded book on improving the physician-patient relationship.

Kudos to the following classmates, who have made financial contributions to help support Columbia College Today: Marty Berger, Tom Bolton, Rich Bonner, Ken Durham, Jon Edelbaum, Mark Fontaine, Les Gordon, Bill Gussman, Ed Harrow, Tom Jorgensen, Bob Jutkowitz, Howard Kissel, Beril Lapson, Leo Levy, Arthur Lew, Peter Lovitt, Joel Magid, Arthur McCradle, Rob Nash, Joe Ozaki, Scott Parker, Jay Portnow, Pete Robrish, Jeff Rosenstock, Nick Rudd, Gary Schonwald, Barry Shapiro, Mike Silverstein, Peter Trooboff, Jonathan Weiss and Paul Zeitlin. Anyone who wishes to join the list can give online at www.cc63ers.com. I am happy to report that my son Alexander’s film The Windmill Movie, which was a selection at last year’s New York Film Festival at Lincoln Center, made its HBO debut on October 28. For a month, it was available on HBO on Demand, and is now on the regular HBO schedule. As I write, Alexander is in Copenhagen as an invited guest of the Copenhagen International Documentary Festival (also known as CPH:DOX), the largest documentary film festival in Northern Europe. I am told that 33,000 people attended last year. My wife, Jacqueline, and I are very proud.

By the time this appears, the holiday season will have passed. Jacqueline and I send all of you and your families our best wishes for a healthy and happy new year.

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Stella Miele-Zanidis mzf2413@columbia.edu 212-851-7846 DEVELOPMENT Heather Hunte hh15@columbia.edu 212-851-7957

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Planning for our class’s 45th Alumni Reunion Weekend (Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6) continues to accelerate. The current thinking includes a cocktail reception hosted by Michael Cook on Thursday, June 3; a Chelsea art gallery crawl led by A.G. Rosen on Friday afternoon, June 4, followed by a private tour and cocktail party reception at the Bloomberg headquarters; an
John Zeisel ’65 Takes New Approach to Alzheimer’s Care

By Jonathan Lemire ’01

It can be done with a favorite work of art, a familiar piece of furniture or even a comforting touch to the cheek.

A soothing environment can ease the anxiety and confusion felt by those within the grip of Alzheimer’s disease, and that friendly stimulation can alleviate some of the stress felt not just by patients but also by their concerned loved ones.

That revolutionary approach, which emphasizes a non-medicinal method to dealing with one of the nation’s fastest-growing health care crises, is central to the work of John Zeisel ’65, ’71 GSAS, a sociologist who firmly believes that a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s does not mark the end of a life, but rather the start of a new chapter within one.

“We are countering the idea that a diagnosis equals a ‘sentence,’” says Zeisel. “We need to get rid of that stigma and treat them as people, not patients.

“Many people with Alzheimer’s live 10-15 years after an initial diagnosis and with a new approach, the quality of their lives can still remain high.”

Zeisel’s focus, detailed in his recent book, I’m Still Here: A Breakthrough Approach to Understanding Someone Living with Alzheimer’s, is to create warm, inviting surroundings for those with the disease. Gone are the sterile white walls, the harsh lighting and the impersonal treatment usually associated with nursing homes devoted to caring for Alzheimer’s patients.

In their place, Zeisel recommends decorating walls with family photos (often labeled with the loved ones’ names, to act as a prompt), building common spaces that lead to interactions with other patients and providing stimulations — such as a trip to a theater or ballpark — that can even create new memories.

“A patient doesn’t lose his or her sense of self; but Alzheimer’s just makes it harder to find,” says Zeisel. “That person is still yelling out, through the fog of the disease, ‘I’m still here,’ and we help his or her loved ones see that.”

Perhaps foreshadowing his academic future, Zeisel grew up in Morningside Heights in a building on West 115th Street and Riverside Drive now owned by Columbia. Though he made a point of exploring the city as much as he could while growing up in Morningside Heights, the research taught him more than anything, how to look at the world and then try to improve upon it.

“That mantra shaped everything in my life afterward.”

After receiving his Ph.D. in sociology in 1971 and then a Loeb Fellowship at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design, Zeisel taught at Yale and McGill before returning to Cambridge and Harvard’s Architecture School. There, he focused on constructing “better buildings,” structures that were not just functional or aesthetically pleasing, but actually improved the lifestyle and health of those working or living inside them.

Believing that the interiors of offices affected employees psychologically, Zeisel emphasized workplace lighting and layout that people intuitively responded to when he designed the 350-person newsroom at the Minneapolis Star-Tribune.

“The goal was to design hospitals that help people heal faster or offices that would reduce stress and increase productivity,” says Zeisel, who published his theories in the 1984 book Inquiry by Design: Environment/Behavior/Neuroscience in Architecture, Interiors, Landscape, and Planning. That concept — that the interior spaces of buildings could reduce stress — led Zeisel to what he considers his life’s work: helping patients with Alzheimer’s disease. More than 5.3 million Americans suffer from the often-misunderstood condition, creating more than $100 billion in health care costs annually.

No cure yet exists, but Zeisel strongly disputes the current pervasive thinking — often reinforced by movies or television — that relatives have no choice but to stand idly by as their loved ones slip away into a morass of confusion and even anger.

Using the principles he eventually outlined in I’m Still Here, Zeisel co-founded Hearthstone Alzheimer Care, which runs seven facilities in New York and Massachusetts.

Hearthstone, which also is affiliated with facilities elsewhere in America as well as Australia and Brazil, tries to help patients overcome the difficulties they have with their physical environment. Through smart and safe design, these homes battle the four “A’s” of Alzheimer’s suffered by the patients and their loved ones: anxiety, agitation, aggression and apathy, Zeisel believes.

“We engage them in the world and we encourage them to engage with each other,” says Zeisel, who notes that the Hearthstone facility on the Upper West Side exposes its residents to new stimulation thanks to partnerships with New York institutions such as the Big Apple Circus and Tribeca Film Institute.

“Certain parts of the brain can be engaged and lead to rewarding moments for the patients and their families,” says Zeisel, who splits his time between New York, Massachusetts and Montreal, where his wife teaches. The couple has four children, including Evan ’02.

“This is a glass-half-full approach,” said Zeisel. “We don’t give up on anyone.”

Jonathan Lemire ’01, a frequent contributor to CCT, is a staff writer for The New York Daily News.
on-campus class luncheon on Saturday, June 5, and a cocktail reception and dinner for our class alone that evening. A pre-reunion event is planned for Thursday, February 4. It will be a Midtown Manhattan cocktail event that will include the adjacent Classes of 1964 and 1966. Please mark your calendars and make every effort to join in what promises to be a great weekend at Columbia next June.

I got a nice note from Gad Heuman, a professor in the department of history at the Caribbean Studies of the University of Warwick. I had reached out to Gad and some other classmates seeking news for this column, and Gad wrote that he picked up my e-mail “in Easter Island, of all places, where I was traveling with my wife (the same one, Ruth Weinstock ’66 Barnard) after having attended a conference on slavery in Rio de Janeiro.” Gad continued, “As for news, I am continuing as a professor of history at the University of Warwick, specializing in issues of slave and post-slave societies, especially in the Caribbean. My most recent book may be of interest to classmates traveling to or interested in the Caribbean: It is a short history of the region, titled The Caribbean, and is published by Rodopi. I acknowledge Arnold in the U.K. and distributed in the United States by Oxford University Press. It is genuinely short — just over 200 pages. Our two children graduated from college ( alas, not Columbia but Cambridge and Warwick) and live and work in London.”

Paul Hyman, who is on the Reunion Committee, announced that there is a new book to be published by Routledge (a British academic press), Clifford Geertz in Morocco (1963) and is published by Richard Arnold in the U.K. and distributed in the United States by Oxford University Press. It is genuinely short — just over 200 pages. Our two children graduated from college ( alas, not Columbia but Cambridge and Warwick) and live and work in London.”

Paul Hyman wrote me a clinic, “what I did on my summer vacation” note: “During my three-week vacation [last] summer, I took part with three others in a 21-day backpack trip from Yosemite Valley to Mount Whitney along the John Muir Trail. We covered about 220 miles and carried all our camping gear and food,restocking every three or four days along the way. Every day, I hiked about eight or nine hours. The elevations varied between 4000 feet in Yosemite Valley to 14,496 feet at the summit of Mount Whitney. The trail is generally north to south, crossing a series of canyons oriented generally east to west. Each day’s hike required climbing one or more ridges and descending. Gainning the summit of Mount Whitney doesn’t require technical rock climbing skills, but it does require surmounting a 3,000-foot gain from the lake where we had camped the night before on the west side of the mountain and a 2,500-foot descent to the closest campsite on the east side. Despite the warnings I had heard, bears didn’t bother us. The only large creatures we encountered were deer. When I returned to the Bay area, I felt more relaxed than I have in years. I had shed 20 pounds.”

Gary Schwartz also sent me a clinic note, “we recently purchased a new house — in its entirety. “Just having learned that my best friend and roommate, Kim Siegel, has passed, I hasten to state my coordinates before ... who knows?”

“Tours have been under the radar since I graduated; Michael Cook is probably the only regular of the ’65 bunch who might remember me, one of the rare breed of Greek and Latin majors, now tagged ‘classicists.’ After two years at Jesus College, Cambridge, on Columbia’s Kellett dime, I returned to slog out a Ph.D. (’72) through the height of the war against East Asia; and I was an admissions interviewer (’67–’68) under John Wellington with a group of some of the best people I ever spent time with. Phil can be reached at philmelita65@gmail.com. When Dean Harvard Orange ‘46 hired me, he told me I’d never be allowed to interview athletes. I guess that was gender prejudice on his part or some other quirk. There were so many graduate students in classics that I knew I’d never get a job unless I moved quickly. So in April 1969, I put on a suit, fluffed my mutton chops, walked into the classics department at Lehman College Burnett (then the Hunter College Burnett, now Lehman College Burnett) and was hired within the day. Things ain’t what they used to be. I cry for university teaching candidates today: they have to crawl through infiltration courses and invent alphabets in the process of trying to score. All I needed was my Columbia B.A., and concomitant pedigree. Last September marked my 40th at Lehman, where I have seen everything there has been to see in public higher education in the city. Life has been anything but CC and Humanities, and I have no intention of ever retiring because I have never lacked for appreciation from my students during the sea changes of four decades. Amalgamating my Columbia and Cambridge experience with a strong admixture of idiosyncrasy, as a professor and founding director of The Lehman Scholar Program since 1980, as well as Macaulay Honors College at Lehman, CUNY’s elite undergraduate arm, designed to compete with the Ivies, and it does, I’ve been privileged to serve the people who don’t own New York. Classics has long fallen by the wayside in the working-class Bronx, but I have been teaching honors film and literature seminars on campus since 1989. Barbara Siegel, artist, Parsons faculty and member of A.I.R. Gallery in Dumbo, graciously married me in 1968, the night LBJ effectively resigned, and we spent our after-honeymoon weeks not having to attend class. Our son, Luke (25) continues to live in the Brooklyn (and would-be physicians) organic chemistry keeps one continually in contact with young, growing minds. Thus retirement, of which I now read so often, is not a consideration for me (oh, yeah, and my wife is a second-year medical student, so I can’t afford to retire, even without the recession). Apart from all that, the coolest thing yet is that kid from the Class of ’83 who is now the President.

“May the beaches of Rio keep you forever young.” Phil can be reached at philmorrill3@gmail.com.

From Seagrove Beach, Fla., we heard from Albert Bruns: “I’m retired and live in Seagrove Beach, Fla., with my wife, Prudence. We have four children and four grandchildren. My daughter is a pre-med student and lives next door. My oldest son lives in Napa, Calif., and is a programmer. My youngest son is at LCSB in La Jolla, Calif., and is studying neuroscience. My wife finished her Ph.D. in South Asian studies and Sanskrit in 2007 at UC Berkeley. I have had many jobs but the central theme of my life has been teaching transcendent meditation and studying Indian philosophy and Sanskrit. I spent several years in graduate school in Canada at McMaster University and also at UC Berkeley. I taught briefly everything from elementary school to graduate school and worked at several bookstores.”

“in the last year, I have made e-mail contact with Bill Wise and Dick Melita.” Albert’s e-mail address is albertmorrill3@gmail.com.

In late October, Tom Corba sent the following report: “Neshua and
Hanover, N.H., were the scenes of this year's Class of '66 mini-reunion for College football players, wrestlers and fraternity brothers of Alpha Chi Rho, Beta Theta Pi, Nu Sigma Chi and Phi Gamma Delta, and our wives, who listen to the same stories over and over.

"Eighteen class members and 12 wives were in attendance. Kudos to Dean Mottard, Robert Klingensmith and Steve Franke for their superb organizational skills. A Thursday welcome dinner was held after a day of sightseeing by helicopter and brief visit to a firing range. Yes, Virginia, some people actually own and use guns. There were only superficial flesh wounds involved.

"A Friday dinner in a private room was magnificent, as former classmates caught up with each other’s lives over drinks, appetizers, dinner and dessert. Bob Klingensmith provided the wine for the evening’s festivities. The philosophies of Locke and Hobbes were thoroughly explored throughout the night.

"We left the following morning by bus to Hanover for the Dartmouth game. Heavy rain and a disappointing result did not dampen spirits.

"We had a chance encounter with the 'Cleverest Marching Band in the World,' i.e., CUMB, at our hospitality tent. What a joy it was to see these fresh faces and talented Columbians of every race, color and creed toasting Columbia and each other and serenading the nearly brain-dead Class of '66 alumni. They were a treat, and it was just wonderful to be with them that day. Attendees: Richard Beggs, Tom Chorba, Chuck Christensen, Bill Corcoran, Roger Dennis, Spencer Falcon, Richard Forzani, Steve Franke, Tom Harrold, Bill Hiney, Bob Klingensmith, Paul Lenart '67, Dean Mottard and son Lee, Barry Nazarian, John Nossal (after 45 years!), Pete Salzer, Gene Thompson and Earl Werner.

"Go Band! Long may Columbia Stand Honored throughout the Land." Tom can be contacted by electronic epistle at tachorba@aol.com.

"Rich Forzani also wrote about this event, commenting that an important part of the weekend was honoring the memory of Robert Yuhas '68, a friend and fellow rugby player who passed away earlier in the month. [Editor’s note: An obituary is scheduled for the March/April 2010 issue.]

"Referring to the participation of the Marching Band at the game, he wrote: ‘One unexpected treat was the arrival of the Columbia Marching Band, who at our invitation, took shelter in the tent and shared our refreshments. In return, they serenaded us with Sans Souci, Roar Lion Roar (both standard and unexpurgated versions), and a very apt and festive tribute to their Dartmouth contemporaries. It was the highlight of the day, and we were certainly impressed with the energy, enthusiasm and cheerfulness of the kids.’

"Finally, Rich admits, ‘the game itself, unfortunately, was not so terrific. But we had a warm, dry bus to retreat to, beer and wine for the return journey, and most important, an in-suite restroom. A casual dinner that evening and dessert. Bob Klingensmith, Paul Lenart '67, Gerry Botha '67, Charlie Miller '67, Jon Jarvik '67 and Dick Dumais '67.

\[\text{It was just like old times at a lightweight crew reunion at the Gould Boathouse in May 2009. Reliving good times were (left to right) Hasso Molinies '63, coach Jim Menasian, David Blanchard '67, Eric Dannennman '67, Gerry Botha '67, Charlie Miller '67, Jon Jarvik '67 and Dick Dumais '67.}\]

\[\text{JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010}\]

\[\text{CLASS NOTES}\]

\[\text{Sanford's luncheon comments at our last reunion, so Tom, two of us remember vividly your comments about exercise and eating well, two things very hard to do. In the spirit of David Shapiro and those of us inspired by our art history classes, Tom Kline was featured in an article in The Washingtonian about his job helping to return stolen treasures and art to their rightful owners. After representing Cyprus in an effort to recover stolen antiquities, he developed a reputation as one of the leading art-restitution lawyers in the country. My prediction about football this year was off a little bit, but the 38-0 drubbing of Princeton at Princeton was a good season.}\]

\[\text{Michael Oberman}\]

\[\text{Kramer Levin Naftalis} & Frankel 1177 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 moberman@kramerlevin.com}\]

\[\text{With no news arriving for this column, I went to the essays some classmates submitted for our 40th Reunion Class Book and extracted some news. Each item below is an excerpt from the listed classmate's essay. (The Class Book is posted at www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunioninfo?collegealumniclassyear=1969).}\]

\[\text{Mark Drucker:} ‘What always interested me most was helping to pursue progressive domestic social policies by applying equally progressive methods of policy analysis for resolving issues, designing and evaluating programs, planning, and budgeting. I liked doing this, beginning with my senior year internship in Mayor Lindsay’s office, followed by business school and then by studying with those Lindsay administration people at the New School and teaching others what I had learned and applied. Then I had the chance to teach that kind of work in a start-up of a graduate curriculum in St. Louis, which I directed for many years. For two years, I took time out as a Pew Fellow at Boston Medical Center, helping to prepare the United States for national healthcare in 1993-94. Oh, well. And back in St. Louis as a community leader and as a consultant for free and for money, I continued to try to help with problems in housing, community development, healthcare, education and criminal justice. ‘In 1999, I was in a coma and almost died, and people here had an even harder time than I had in getting over it. I lost traction,}\]

\[\text{This column is a team effort. Please write in with your news so we can fill it.}\]

\[\text{Albert Zonana}\]

\[\text{425 Arundel Rd. Goleta, CA 93117 az164@columbia.edu}\]

\[\text{This year was off a little bit, but the 38-0 drubbing of Princeton at Princeton was a good season.}\]
from the American Diabetes Association, usually given for a lifetime of research. Frieda and I celebrated our 40th anniversary this year. My daughter Stephanie is a medical researcher in immunology at Yale. And my son provides the IT support for the Denver VA Research Institute. One grandchild by each child rounds out our life."

**Bob Gabel:** "My life story has developed slowly and happily during the past 40 years. The College years are a blur of bridge games at the end of Carman 5 and vanishing forgeries for (1965) and against (1966, etc.) the war. My favorite course is and was CC with Mr. Brown first year and ethnology senior year. I have not been in a bridge game since 1970, but I do refer to Homer’s Iliad in normal conversation. A major focus for Hilary and for me."

**George Eisenbath:** "My good fortune was attending Columbia on a Pulitizer scholarship after living over an ice cream parlour in Brooklyn, N.Y. When I was accepted to Columbia, we knew almost nothing about it. Given my family’s background, my father had me call to make sure the scholarship was not a ‘come-on,’ and there were no hidden costs we couldn’t afford. It was not a come-on, and I moved from New Jersey and my family had been. George, a local cousin, with a career for Hilary and for me."

**Andrei Markovits:** Andrei is the Karl W. Deutsch Collegiate Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, as well as an Arthur F. Thurnau Professor (which the university bestows on exceptionally committed and successful teachers of undergraduates). Andrei was born in the western Romanian town of Timisoara. He was raised as the single child of a middle-class Jewish family, speaking German and Hungarian at home. In school he learned Romanian, and from his early childhood he was tutored in English — later in French as well. When he was 9, Andrei and his father emigrated from Romania, first to Vienna and then to New York, the two cities that would play the most important roles in his upbringing.

After graduating from Vienna’s Theresianische Akademie, Andrei enrolled at Columbia, where he continue good friends, and his political education, acquiring five degrees in the process. He studied political science, economics, sociology and business administration. After receiving his doctorate in political science in 1976, he went to the City University of New York, where he would remain an active member and a research associate until June 30, 1999. At the Harvard Center, Andrei chaired for many years the study group on German Politics as well as on the German-American relationship between France, Germany and Austria. Andrei has commenced a research project on the relationship between France, Germany and Austria. Andrei has commenced a research project on the relationship between France, Germany and Austria. Andrei has commenced a research project on the relationship between France, Germany and Austria. Andrei has commenced a research project on the relationship between France, Germany and Austria. Andrei has commenced a research project on the relationship between France, Germany and Austria.
lion people each year. I was then accepted into the Senior Executive Service as deputy director for the Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings.

“Our son, Aaron, was born while we lived in Yellow Springs, Ohio. He double-majored in math and computer science at M.I.T., where he met his wife, Yevgeniya. Aaron works at NIH, while his wife begins a residency in pediatrics. Their proximity allows us to see our two grandchildren often. It’s one of the reasons we really like living in D.C.”

Bill Longa, Jack Probolus and Mike Bradley found themselves in a bit of a pickle last fall. They had to choose between joining the regular posse, consisting of your increasingly crusty correspondent, Dennis Graham, Terry Sweeney, Bernie Josselson and Frank Furtado, at the Yale game, or play golf. As unpleasant an undertaking as golf can be, they chose wisely, for the football loss was right up there in the annals of Lion losses as one of the most gut-wrenching, unbelievable, crushing Lion losses as one of the most gut-wrenching, unbelievable, crushing

Steven Hirschfeld ’72 is chief medical officer and operations chief for a U.S. Public Health Service Rapid Deployment Force.

“I was glad to read what Juris Kaza said [May/June Class Notes]. I knew him during the excitement of 1968. Wow, that’s ancient history now.”

Bob Fuhrman sent this separate note: “Although I try to keep my name out of routinely left-wing and dubious publications such as CCT (just kidding but not entirely), I feel free to note in your column that on August 30, my wife, Nan, and I were pleased to attend the installation of Vincent Rigdon as pastor... 10 miles up the road from our home in Seneca, Md. Many members of the Class of 1971 at one time might have seen themselves taking vows of obedience and/or poverty and spending the rest of their lives working for a cause greater than themselves. But how many of them actually did? Vince is an exceptional person, and I am glad to have him as a friend.”

Forty bronze sculptures, spanning Greg Wyatt’s 40-year career, were featured in a September 5–November 24 retrospective exhibition, Two Rivers, within the historic, Renaissance-style façade of the Casa d’Arme di Palazzo Vecchio in Florence, Italy. The exhibition’s bilingual catalog is impressive, as are Greg’s sculptures throughout it.

Len Renery: “With sadness, I inform our classmates that Bob Wheeler, known, of course, as ‘Wheels,’ passed away on September 28 after a battle with cancer. He was 61. He leaves behind his wife, Chris Wheeler, and three daughters. Bob was a lifetime New Yorker, avid Yankee fan, great Columbia football fan and a down-to-earth good guy. Wheels worked many years for a shipping company in the city, was the best man at my wedding and was my closest friend for 41 years. ‘I’d like to take this opportunity to say hi to him and to the soccer and football teams back in the day. Hope all is well with you. I’ve been living in northern California with my family for 27 years but visit New York whenever I can. No place like it! I can be reached at lenrey@earthlink.net or 415-710-6896. ‘Farewell, Wheels.’

Steven Hirschfeld ’72 is chief medical officer and operations chief for a U.S. Public Health Service Rapid Deployment Force.

“I was glad to read what Juris Kaza said [May/June Class Notes]. I knew him during the excitement of 1968. Wow, that’s ancient history now.”

Bob Fuhrman sent this separate note: “Although I try to keep my name out of routinely left-wing and dubious publications such as CCT (just kidding but not entirely), I feel free to note in your column that on August 30, my wife, Nan, and I were pleased to attend the installation of Vincent Rigdon as pastor... 10 miles up the road from our home in Seneca, Md. Many members of the Class of 1971 at one time might have seen themselves taking vows of obedience and/or poverty and spending the rest of their lives working for a cause greater than themselves. But how many of them actually did? Vince is an exceptional person, and I am glad to have him as a friend.”

Forty bronze sculptures, spanning Greg Wyatt’s 40-year career, were featured in a September 5–November 24 retrospective exhibition, Two Rivers, within the historic, Renaissance-style façade of the Casa d’Arme di Palazzo Vecchio in Florence, Italy. The exhibition’s bilingual catalog is impressive, as are Greg’s sculptures throughout it.

Len Renery: “With sadness, I inform our classmates that Bob Wheeler, known, of course, as ‘Wheels,’ passed away on September 28 after a battle with cancer. He was 61. He leaves behind his wife, Chris Wheeler, and three daughters. Bob was a lifetime New Yorker, avid Yankee fan, great Columbia football fan and a down-to-earth good guy. Wheels worked many years for a shipping company in the city, was the best man at my wedding and was my closest friend for 41 years. ‘I’d like to take this opportunity to say hi to him and to the soccer and football teams back in the day. Hope all is well with you. I’ve been living in northern California with my family for 27 years but visit New York whenever I can. No place like it! I can be reached at lenrey@earthlink.net or 415-710-6896. ‘Farewell, Wheels.’

Steven Hirschfeld ’72 is chief medical officer and operations chief for a U.S. Public Health Service Rapid Deployment Force.
research and scholarship, artistic achievement and exemplary service to society. Mark’s work focuses on corporate finance, including corporate bankruptcy and reorganization, which has made him a “go to” person for the press as reporters try to convey the implications of recent massive changes in the American financial system.

Speaking of President Obama, Steven Hirschfeld, in his role as chief medical officer and operations chief for a U.S. Public Health Service Rapid Deployment Force, coordinated a component of the medical support for the Obama inauguration, squirreled away in a command center next to the Capitol on January 19 and 20, 2009. Steven also has been appointed acting director of the National Children’s Study—a longitudinal, epidemiologic study of the interactions among genes, environment, growth and development in 100,000 children. Steven continues with his responsibilities as associate director for clinical research at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at NIH.

Passing through campus this fall was Douglas Weiner, professor of history at the University of Arizona, whose interests include Russian and Soviet history, environmental history, and the business of literature. Doug came to the Harriman Institute to discuss two presentations on Soviet science.

Finally, jazz pianist and composer Armen Donelian performed an evening of music at The Philadelphia Museum of Art inspired by the Armenian experience and culture. Armen’s trio featured original compositions and jazz interpretations of Armenian folk songs. The performance was held in conjunction with Arside Gorin’s A Retrospective, an exhibition celebrating the Armenian-born artist who was a seminal figure in the movement toward abstraction that transformed American art.

Bill Schmidt received the Distinguished Service Award from Common Cause Massachusetts in June; he has served on its governing board for 20 years. Bill lives in Cambridge, Mass., with his wife, Rosemarie Barker.

Pat Sharkey was appointed vice-chair of the Leasing Group of the ABA’s Section of Real Property, Trust and Estates Law. Pat has more than 33 years’ experience as a commercial real estate attorney; he’s a partner with the firm of Jackson Walker.

Dennis Milton was honored by Regis H.S. in NYC for service to the school. Dennis is a federal bankruptcy judge in Brooklyn.

Lorin Walker was promoted at Tercon Consulting, a human capital resources consultancy to the Fortune 1000. He received his M.A. in organizational behavior and a Ph.D. in psychology, both from BYU.

Not bad, folks, but we’d all like to see more, especially from those from whom we haven’t heard from.

Give it up, guys.

Andrew Goral

Barry Etra

Drew Gerstle has lived in London since 1993, working at the School of Oriental and African studies at the University of London. He first worked on an exhibition with the British Museum in 2005, a Kabuki and Ukiyo-e art exhibit that toured Osaka and Tokyo. His new three-year project is on Japanese erotic art (Shunga) of the 18th and 19th centuries, which will be at the Museum in 2012. Drew remarried recently, and has a 6-month-old baby (!).

Fred Bremer

When you are next on campus, go up past the 116th Street gates to the north edge of the main campus. At the corner of 120th and Broadway, you will see the latest addition to our campus — a nine-story interdisciplinary science building that adds 50,000 square feet of laboratories, a science library and a 170-seat lecture hall. Designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect José Rafael Moneo, the contemporary glass and aluminum structure soars nine stories above the existing grotto-like gable roofs — without touching the gym. (An elaborate truss system of diagonal beams transfers all the weight to columns at the sides to avoid crushing the gym.) The resulting structure is in stark contrast to the brick buildings of McKim, Mead and White, much like Lerner Mead and White, much like Lerner

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CLASS NOTES
international, and he often has long work days. His son, Joe, is a junior in high school and a varsity rower.

Life has been hectic but most rewarding for Albert Knapp. Last year, Albert was promoted to full professor of medicine (gastroenterology) at the NYU School of Medicine. He is now one of the youngest to get this honor. In addition, Albert recently was appointed a lifetime member of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York and Washington, D.C., for work done on national and international health care policy formulation. Finally, he recently opened a new office at 760 Park Ave., complete with a state-of-the-art endoscopy suite where he now has the capability to perform even the most advanced endoscopic procedures in a pleasant outpatient setting.

Physician and mayor of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., Don Kurth, recently was appointed to the faculty of the Department of Health Policy and Management in Loma Linda University’s School of Public Health. Don also owns the Rancho La Nona (a member of the faculty at Loma Linda; he has taught there for 12 years and holds the academic rank of associate professor in both the Departments of Preventive Medicine and Psychiatry. Don also owns the Rancho La Nona, a health spa and an urgent care center, in Rancho Cucamonga.

After making 1,000,000-plus sandwiches at Mama Joe’s, Michael Liccione ’80, ’87 Penn Ph.D., is an associate editor at First Things, a journal of religion and public life offering interreligious, nonpartisan research and education advancing a religiously informed public philosophy. Michael is the former Columbia roommate of Bob Schneider.

Randy Nichols has moved to Baltimore and started a position as senior manager for registrar systems and reporting for Walden University, one of the members of the Laureate Higher Education Group of Walden University. He will be responsible for reporting and reporting strategies as well as for systems used to support the university and its students records operation, especially the Banner Student System. Randy looks forward to finding a new home in Baltimore for himself and his two cats and to renewing acquaintance with Baltimore and Washington-area classmates and other Columbians.

October was a month chock-full of Columbia-related activity for a number of classmates. Barry Beier, Steve Jacobs, Bob Katz, Ina Malin and Randy Nichols participated in the Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference in early October. They learned more about reunion planning, soliciting funds and developing alumni networks, and also heard from the recently-appointed dean, Michele Moody-Adams. Steve Jacobs and his daughter, Michelle; Ina Malin and his wife, Janet Serle; Randy Nichols; Bob Schneider and his wife, Regina Mullahy; and Richard Witten and his wife, Lisa — regulars in the Big Tent and at Wien Stadium for Homecoming — were joined this year by New Haven resident Dave Gawarecki. Many of these same guys, joined by Walter Ricciardi and others, have been meeting regularly to plan for our 35th reunion, coming up June 6. Yes, it is time for another reunion.

Plan to meet your classmates, their families and Colombians from other years and schools on campus on Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. We’ve planned an exciting program of tours, seminars, parties and dinners. You’ve heard some already (Deadhead or not, we’re in for a treat!) and will be receiving registration packets soon. Please do plan to join us. And, whether you can attend reunion or not, know that one of your classmates will be calling you to ask for a contribution to our anniversary gift to the Columbia College Fund. When you get that call, please be generous. Every dollar counts in supporting the young men and women who will build the futures as the leaders of tomorrow and the next generation.

Not entirely related to reunion is the CC'75 Network. We see more classmates there every month and will continue to use it to communique with each other in the years to come. If you have already joined the Network, please stop back and see what’s new there. If you have not joined, you’re missing out.

You can return or join by e-mailing colombia75@ning.com. Several classmates have renewed friendships with long-lost classmates because of seeing them on the Network. Who would you like to hear from or contact? He may be there!

Clyde Moneyham Program in Writing and Rhetoric Serra Mall 430, Bldg. 460 Room 223 Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305 cam131@columbia.edu

Mark Baker has been promoted from s.v.p. to president of Progenics Pharmaceuticals. He also has been appointed to the board of directors. In addition to a College degree in history and biochemistry, Mark has a J.D. from the Law School. Before joining Progenics, he was an attorney for 25 years, 21 of them with Dewey Ballantine, where he worked in capital raising, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, technology and product licensing, and general business counseling. Progenics focuses mainly on the development and sale of products for patients with debilitating conditions and life-threatening diseases including HIV, the hepatitis C virus and cancer.

David Gorman 111 Regal Dr. DeKalb, IL 60115 dgorman@niu.edu

After a stint in Louisville, William Wheaton has returned to Philadelphia, where his wife, Margaret, recently retired from her position as photo editor at the Philadelphia Inquirer, "is enjoying renewing our 150-year-old row house," Will tells us, "and painting in oil." Will Jr. (22) is a finance major finishing up at Temple, while Clay (20) "when not surfing, is attending college in San Diego, and hopes to become a philosopher/psychologist and law professor."
Richard Baer '79 (left) and Eric Perkins '81 packed on the miles during the “Escape from New York” bike ride in September. Perkins rode with two black eyes caused by a crash shortly before the event.

**CLASS NOTES**

**Richard Baer '79** is a director on the boards of National Jewish Health and the Colorado Legal Aid Foundation.

Mike Montgomery is a metro-Detroit area fundraising consultant. Last fall, he was selected as one of a dozen “Interesting Adjuncts” by Crain Detroit Business for bringing “practical, real world experience” to the nonprofit management classes he teaches at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Mich. Mike was quoted, “I don’t know if this is a big honor, but it is certainly better than being included on a published list of uninteresting adjuncts.”

Van Ghothen dropped us a line regarding a cross country reunion he attended. As you may know, the men won the Heps and the women’s team finished third. John Schutt, Jim Hannon and Charles Miers ’81 had a great day up in Van Cortlandt Park.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Jeff Pundky
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Greetings, fellow mid-lifers. I am Robert Klapper, a partner at Sullivan & Cromwell in London with my sons during their school holiday. The 13-year-old was excited about the trip while the 15-year-old — in typical fash¬

don’t win enough praise.

The Lions did not win the foot¬

For bringing up the questions

about having to be with his father

on my birthday I bought myself a shiny

red bicycle. This year, John writes: “In

October 2009, I strapped on my old

nylon backpack and took off for a

stint in Baghdad. My documents iden¬
tifying me as a reporter weren’t as

were none other than me and Eric

Perkins riding “Escape from New York” in September. Eric is a hard¬

core, real deal road racer — and he’s

spinning two black eyes from a

fall the week prior to prove it. I’m

more of a weekend cyclist, content

to ride gently along the Hudson in

search of a latte and carrot muffin.

John Leland has taken a more

extreme response to mid-life. The

New York Times reporter is bringing

his talent for finding the stories

hidden in everyday life to Bagh¬
dad, where he has been stationed

since October. John writes: “In

October 2009, I strapped on my old

nylon backpack and took off for a

stint at The New York Times’ bureau

in Baghdad. My documents identi¬
fying me as a correspondent weren’t as

impressive as they might be, so I

brought along my last clip from

New York, a front-page article

about a hostage program in a max¬
imum-security prison. I didn’t real¬
ize at the time how similar and yet
tall and owns a company that sells

pillows and comforters. She has a
daughter (11), and I have two sons
(14 and 16). The wedding took place
in May 2009 at Becco restaurant in

New York City, and we then went
to Paris for the honeymoon.

“I have a solo litigation practice,

With an emphasis on commercial

litigation, and have had this practice

since 1991. I am in frequent touch
with Mark Freyberg, who also has

a solo practice. His is devoted to

criminal defense, appeals and real

estate. We have teamed up on a

number of matters and frequently

work together as co-counsel.

“I also see Hugh Weinberg, who

is counsel to the Queens Borough

President. He and his family were

at my house for Hanukkah 2008.

Mark and Hugh were at the wed¬

ding, and Hugh gave the toast.

“In February 2008, I went to

London with my sons during their

school holiday. The 13-year-old

was excited about the trip while the

15-year-old — in typical fash¬

don’t win enough praise.

The Lions did not win the foot¬

championship in honor of our

Board of Trustees chair this year as

I had hoped, but they did post four

wins, which is not bad for the light

time analysis. Sadly, I have no

deep thoughts to share. Despite the

years of fancy education, I remain

a rather shallow fellow. And, as I

got older, I take comfort in simplic-

ity. I find myself shunning the

complexity that comes from living

an examined life. To wit, for my

birthday I bought myself a shiny

red bicycle. This year, John writes: “In

October 2009, I strapped on my old

nylon backpack and took off for a

stint in Baghdad. My documents iden¬
tifying me as a reporter weren’t as

impressive as they might be, so I

brought along my last clip from

New York, a front-page article

about a hostage program in a max¬
imum-security prison. I didn’t real¬
ize at the time how similar and yet
different that reporting experience was to the one that awaited me. As I write, I'm looking out at 12-foot-high concrete blast walls topped by razor wire; beyond which lies a phalanx of armed guards.

"Some guys turn 50 and crave red sports cars and young girlfriends. I went the safe route. I arrived after the story here had turned: There's nothing and everything, my daughter, Zoe, went off to college. Like her mother, Zoe is brilliant and charming and has strong opinions about most things, and so she charted her own path regarding colleges. She chose to go to Yale, and although it's hard to fathom why one would choose to be a bulldog when you could be a lion, I could not be more proud of her.

"Having recently visited her during parents weekend, my college memories came flooding back. But also the realization about how amazing it is to have the chance to go to one of the great universities in the world. Gentlemen (and from recollection, I am taking great liberties in using that word so encompassingly), I think back now on our years at Columbia, and my only wish is that I could have been more aware of how precious that was. As I said to Zoe, we both had tears in our eyes. She smiled, gave me two big thumbs up, and said, 'Dad, I'm good to go.' I hope she soaks up every bit of living that these four years can provide. I am grateful for the good fortune all had. And hope you and your families are well.

On a more newsy note, I've been living in London for the past eight years with my wife, recently departed-for-college daughter and 17-year-old son (one more shot in the eye). And I think over Columbia while writing this because the resulting colossal arc-welder capable of converting concrete into glass, I highly recommend a prophylactic tree pruning. In November, I was pleased to learn about the recent appointment of our esteemed classmate, David Cowen, as president and CEO of the Museum of American Finance. For those who haven't remained in contact with David, he spent more than 20 years on Wall Street as a trader, including in the foreign exchange group at Bankers Trust and Deutsche Bank. David also founded Capital Partners, earned an M.B.A. from Wharton and an M.A. and Ph.D. in American history from NYU. Just so no one gets the idea that David has otherwise been idle, he also managed to write extensively on U.S. financial history and co-authored Financial Founding Fathers: The Men Who Made America Rich, published in 2006.

Commenting on his recent appointment, David remarked, "I am honored and excited to take the helm of the museum that represents our nation's collective financial memory. My background, which combines the study of financial history, practical Wall Street experience and an inherent passion for museums, makes the fit a natural one. I inherited a first-rate staff, an energized board and the splendid museum expansion achieved during the leadership of my predecessor, Lee Kjellren. I look forward to building on this wonderful base."

For those who haven't had the opportunity to visit the museum, which is literally in the heart of the Wall Street district, I highly recommend it. The museum, founded in 1988, moved in January 2008 from modest quarters on lower Broadway to its present 30,000-square-foot home in the former Bank of New York building on Wall Street. At its new location, the museum serves as the de facto visitors' center for the New York Stock Exchange. It features permanent exhibits on money, banking, the financial markets and entrepreneurship; temporary exhibits such as the current "Women on Wall Street," and "Tracking the Credit Crisis," as well as a theater, auditorium, library and archives.

As a certified financial nerd, I couldn't resist imposing on David for a tour of the museum. It was well worth the trip. It's an extraordinary facility filled with fascinating historical artifacts and educational displays with contemporary content. The museum, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is the nation's only public museum dedicated to finance, entrepreneurship and the free open market system. With its extensive collection of financial documents and objects, its seminars and educational programming, and its publications and oral history program, the museum portrays the breadth and richness of American financial history, achievement and principles. The museum is located at 48 Wall St., at the corner of William Street, and is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, visit www.mofa.org.

Keep those notes coming in.

**Andrew Weisman**

710 Lawrence Ave.
Westfield, NJ 07090
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Greetings, gentlemen. I hope the holiday season found you all in good health and surrounded by friends and family. At the time of authoring this period's Class Notes, New York days are shortening and the last few mottled leaves are falling from the leafy oak trees that adorn my neighbor's front yard. For those of you who never witnessed a transformer being ripped from a utility pole in the middle of the night and the resulting colossal arc-welder capable of converting concrete into glass, I highly recommend a prophylactic tree pruning. As a certified financial nerd, I couldn't resist imposing on David for a tour of the museum. It was well worth the trip. It's an extraordinary facility filled with fascinating historical artifacts and educational displays with contemporary content. The museum, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is the nation's only public museum dedicated to finance, entrepreneurship and the free open market system. With its extensive collection of financial documents and objects, its seminars and educational programming, and its publications and oral history program, the museum portrays the breadth and richness of American financial history, achievement and principles. The museum is located at 48 Wall St., at the corner of William Street, and is open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information, visit www.mofa.org.

Keep those notes coming in.

**Roy Pomerantz**

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The following press release was sent from MicroAid International: "Jon Ross, who graduated with a degree in urban studies, recently started a non-profit to help victims of natural and man-made disasters abroad. MicroAid International took the lead in taking steps in when the other big organizations move on to the latest disaster (www.microaidinternational.org)."

**Andrew Weisman**

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Keep those notes coming in.
between Jon and Kate Gosselin of TLC. Gosselin was interviewed on Larry King Live, and he was also interviewed by Matt Laufer of The Today Show. Mark and his father, Albert Momjian ‘55, ‘57L, are co-authors of Momjian and Momjian: Pennsylvania Family Law Annotated. In its seventh edition, they are both listed regularly in The Best Lawyers in America.

Mark was a tremendous help in organizing our 25th reunion and introduced our keynote speaker, Dean Austin Quigley, at the class dinner.

Wayne Root: “FVI, my newest book, The Conscience of a Liberalitarian: Empowering the Citizen Revolution with God, Guns, Gambling & Tax Cuts, hit No. 1 in the United States in the business section at Amazon. It also hit No. 5 in the U.S. in the politics section with only Glenn Beck, Michelle Malkin and Dick Morris ahead of me. It also hit No. 1 in two other categories: taxes and taxation.”

Wayne joined my family for dinner at our home during a recent visit to New York. He shared great stories about his recent appearances on Fox’s Hannity & Colmes, as well as Michael Savage’s radio show. I also, by chance, tuned into Wayne’s radio show recently while returning from work. He was tremendous. He mentioned several references to my columns at days by Wayne. Wayne also appeared on a special Internet broadcast of the Emergency Dollar Summit with Steve Forbes, CEO and editor of Forbes magazine, and Newsmax CEO Christopher Ruddy.

I attended the Columbia College Fund Leadership Conference in October. Sreenath Sreenivasan, dean of student affairs at the Journalism School, spoke about digital communication. He was named to the “Top 100 Twitterers in Academia.” By the end of the conference, Newsweek named him one of the nation’s 20 most influential South Asians. He was inspirational. In fact, he inspired me to develop an entire line of Twitter sayings on our website. scratching.

Dean Michele Moody-Adams was the keynote speaker at lunch. She was outstanding. She spoke without notes, without a tele-prompter and from the heart. I had the pleasure at lunch of sitting next to Robert Davis, the Russian, Eurasian and East European Studies librarian for Columbia. I encourage anyone who is visiting Columbia to look for him. Rob has attended the last few reunions, and it is great to have an active classmate with such a prominent position at Columbia!

I also sat next to Jon White ’85, CCT class correspondent, at lunch. Jon’s son, who is a senior in high school, is taking college-level science courses at Columbia. Jon was a headliner during our days at Columbia and continues to be a class leader. He is chairing his 25th reunion.

I also spoke with Rick Wolf ’86. Rick is now the principle at DW Capital Real Estate Developers. Rick’s brother, Doug ’88, is representing my company on several intellectual property matters. Doug is a partner at Wolf Greenfield and fellow member of the Columbia Alumni Association Board of Directors.

My family attended Homecoming. My children, Rebecca (7), David (5) and Ricky (2), had an unbelievable time. The carnival and jumping castles were extraordinary. This was the first year David and Rebecca were tall enough to go in the Cars jumping ride. After 10 races, they finally were tired out. I was surprised more families with young children do not attend Homecoming. The activities for the kids (face painting, balloon animals, prizes, popcorn, climbing walls) are among the best my wife, Debbie, and I have seen in NYC. This year’s Homecoming also was a Marching Band reunion. Steven Greenfield wrote to the band members of ’83: “Hope to see all of you up at Baker Field on Saturday, October 17, or as many of you can practically make it. The football team has already managed to win double the number of games it generally won during our tenure, and the season’s not one-third over yet.”

I spoke with Steven at Homecoming. He is still traveling the world, playing his clarinet, having a great time with his girlfriend and attending as many Columbia sporting events as possible. Ed Harris ’82 and David Filosa ’82 also were at Homecoming. They both are in better shape now than the rest of the current football team. David’s kids attend Trinity School, where he is in touch with Larry Momo ’73, former director of admissions. David lives in a sprawling apartment not too far from Columbia on the Upper West Side and is in frequent contact with Professor Karl-Ludwig Seelig.

I received the following e-mail regarding Homecoming from my freshman 14 Jay neighbor and fellow band member Steven Greenfield ’82: “I’m on the school band, and the New York State School Boards Association is having its annual convention this weekend, which at first was going to make this easy because I would have had most of Saturday available and a hotel room in midtown to boot. But I was appointed the ‘voting delegate,’ which means I actually have to be in the main room for the resolutions portion of the convention, and that starts at 1 p.m. on Saturday and will be far more tedious (no matter how much I GTFB2, and believe me, that will be going on) than watching the Lions lose 69-0 (to which the rest of you, I hope, will not be subjected).” Steve plays the saxophone in a rock band and also is a volunteer firefighter.

Trumpet player Jim Reinish ’82’s daughter is attending Columbia. Band member Steve Holtje was featured in a New York Times article about David S. Ware, the world-renowned saxophonist. David needed a kidney transplant in order to survive. The Times notes, “Steve Holtje, a jazz critic in Brooklyn, volunteered as soon as he realized he had the right blood type. ‘I have to admit,’ he said in an interview, ‘if David were not a very important person, I probably wouldn’t have instantly agreed to that. It’s a combination of that and the feeling that I have gotten so much from his music, I owe him, in away.’ Mr. Holtje’s wife had some reservations, but the couple never had to make a decision. Laura Mehe, a resident of Port St. Lucie, Fla., was undergoing psychological evaluation to donate a kidney to a friend when that friend called her to say his turn had come on the state’s list so he would not need hers. Two days later, Ms. Mehe, 57, received the entreaty from Mr. Joerg and realized she was a match for Mr. Ware, as well.”

Frank Scheck ’82 continues to write theater reviews for the New York Post. He gave The Emperor Jones 3 1/2 stars, remembering Frank attending every Broadway show when he attended Columbia, and I am glad he continues to pursue his passion.

Margo and Adam Bayroff were Gold Plate dinner honorees for the...
Steven Waldman '84 has been appointed to lead an FCC-wide initiative to assess the state of media as well as make recommendations.

Dennis Kleinberg
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Box 300665
Jamaica, NY 11430
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After 25 years, David Rier checks in: “I was married in 1986 to the former Vida Freedman, and we’ve been blessed with six children, ages 6-20. The first three came together, as triplets. The big news right now involves one of the triplets who, along with his wife, recently presented us with a grand-daughter. I completed a Ph.D. in socio-medical sciences (public health and sociology) at Columbia in 1995, and brought my family to Israel, where I took a job as a medical sociologist in the sociology department of Bar-Ilan University. My entry into that field has a lot to do with Joe Bernstein, who in 1983 talked me into taking a medical sociology class. But that’s another story..." Since arriving in Israel, we’ve lived in Jerusalem. I’m still at Bar-Ilan, currently studying the patient’s experience of critical illness, blame and responsibility on Internet support groups, and Israeli tobacco-control policy.

Robert Colburn’s novel, The Sultan’s Helmsman, about the Ottoman Navy and Renaissance Italy, has been released. Corrupt popes, scheming diplomats, invading armies, dangerous books... there’s even a bit with a rhinoceros. It is available from Amazon, alibris and other sites.

Richard J. Brody has been appointed v.p. of business development and strategic marketing for PowerGenix, a manufacturer of nontoxic, high-performance rechargeable batteries.

Averill Powers is the managing director and general counsel of Celtic Therapeutics Management and is also managing director and general counsel of Celtic Pharma. He has more than 18 years of experience in mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and private equity transactions. Averill previously was employed for more than six years with J.P. Morgan’s investment banking and merchant banking divisions in London.

The following is excerpted from a press release from the White House: “Federal Communications Commission Chairman Julius Genachowski ’85 announced... the appointment of Steven Waldman, a highly respected Internet entrepreneur and journalist, to lead an agency-wide initiative to assess the state of media in these challenging economic times and make recommendations designed to ensure a vibrant media landscape.”

“Waldman is the co-founder, president and editor-in-chief of Beliefnet.com, the largest multi-faith Web site for religion and inspiration, and served as its CEO from 2003 until it was acquired by News Corp. Under his leadership, Beliefnet won the top editorial awards on the Internet, including the General Excellence Award from the Online News Association and the National Magazine Award for General Excellence Online.”

“Waldman, who will join the Office of Strategic Planning and serve as senior advisor to the chairman, will work with the relevant FCC bureaus and lead an open, fact-finding process to craft recommendations to meet the traditional goals of serving the public interest and making sure that all Americans receive the information, educational content and news they seek. He will step down from Beliefnet and Corporation and discontinue his blog and the regular column he writes for Wall Street Journal Online.”

"A strong consensus has developed that we’re at a pivotal moment in the history of the media and communications, because of garrulous-changing new technologies as well as the economic downturn," said Genachowski. "Highly respected entities have called on the FCC to assess these issues..." Steven Waldman is uniquely qualified to look at the 21st century media and make sure we manage this moment wisely. He was an award-winning journalist in traditional media and then became an Internet pioneer — launching, running and bringing to profitability one of the great content success stories. He’s also known for his evenhandedness and has garnered respect from people of widely different ideologies and approaches.”


"I’m excited by many of the new media’s innovations and, at the same time, concerned about the challenges facing American journalism, which potentially harm citizens’ ability to get information they need and Americans accountable," said Waldman.

‘Most solutions will come from the private and nonprofit sectors. But government rules already affect the media landscape in profound ways so it’s imperative that we both vigorously promote the First Amendment and determine which media policies make sense, which don’t. Unwise government policies can undermine business models and hinder innovation. Smart policy can help businesses, facilitate innovation and ensure a thriving media marketplace.’

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Steven Waldman '84 has been appointed to lead an FCC-wide initiative to assess the state of media as well as make recommendations.
Michael F. Mundaca ’86 has been appointed assistant secretary for tax policy in the Department of the Treasury.

ment lawyer Neil Meyer, and has three sons, a 12-year-old and twin 9-year-olds. She is also the author of Remodel This!: A Woman’s Guide to Planning and Surviving the Madness of a Home Renovation and, for now, has given up law after having practiced for years in New York and as a mom and wife.

And for your reading pleasure, I am happy to include an update from Michael Cho, clearly best left unedited: “Greetings from Alameda, Cali. (It’s near the People’s Republic of Berkeley), where we welcome home our 125 business; daughter, Allison ‘23; son, Andrew ‘25; and avid electronics disassembler, Kyle ‘27E. As we approach our 25th year reunion, I am reminded of that famous texting acronym HCM46-WTH (Translation: Holy Crap I’m Over 46… What the Hell Happened?). I don’t know about you, but I feel as young as I did at Columbia when orientation was still sponsored by Budweiser and Marlboro. Oh, how times have changed. I now eat fiber regularly and chug wheat grass after Pilates class, but I digress. As fall draws near and fond memories of our first days at orientation are still fresh in our minds — okay, let’s not go there. As you can see from the current participation rate, our graduating seniors are feeling pretty positive about their college years.

Most importantly, we want you there for whatever part of the weekend that you can make. Please be on the watch for info in this column as well as mail and e-mails from the Alumni Office for further info. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions, but we want to start getting a list of attendees early if we are looking to more than double last year’s contributions, with a class goal of $250,000. We are fortunate to have received multiple significant gifts already, and we are well on our way at this early writing. In addition, we are looking to have 25 percent participation from our class (last year we had only 20 percent).

Considering that the senior class last year had a participation rate of more than 90 percent, we don’t have a tough target to hit, but we need your help to get us there. As you can see from the current participation rate, our graduating seniors are feeling pretty positive about their college years.

Andrew Hayes recently gave a presentation on his transportation company, Fastranisl, at the Green Tech Connect Forum in Pasadena, Calif. Fastranisl is planning a demo to retrofit the 42nd Street subway with train cars that are permanently levitated over the tracks and run silently, using linear motors. Fastranisl also is participating in the Zero Emission Container Mover System Project sponsored by the Port of Long Beach, Calif. “When asked what led me to get involved in this field, I note the frustration of sitting at the 116th Street station, waiting for subways that seemed to take forever to arrive and then took a half-hour to travel downtown. My automated parking company is in talks with a developer in New York to build a demo automated garage on the East Side. The motive for getting into that business? Trying to find parking spaces in Midtown.”

Laura Glick-Meyer is working hard as the founder and CEO of TheUltimateGreenStore.com, a one-stop online green shopping destination that sells hundreds of eco-friendly products for the home office and everyone in the family. She is living happily in Los Angeles with her husband, entertaining of us calling/stalking you to come to the reunion so you can end the call early. I think it would be a blast to see everyone, and I bet you my tiny Nutri-System brownie that Jon White and I will be there with our six-pack right next to our gross abs. See you all in June.”

Adam Fischer is beginning his 12th year on the faculty at Kent School in Kent, Conn., where his wife, Deirdre, is a teacher and their oldest child will start in the fall (which is still hard to believe). It’s a super school to be at! Adam and Jim Flores got together last summer in central Pennsylvania for an extended weekend of great fun and mediocre golf. Adam also recently touched base with Bob Miller, who’s in San Francisco, and Pete Drucker in New Jersey, and hopes to see them, and many of the rest of you, in June.

Mike Reilly works in Philadelphia at FMC Corp., as the lead lawyer for FMC’s global agricultural products business. He contributes work from Wilmington, Del., where he has lived for the last 15 years, and where his wife, Elaine, are raising three children. Their oldest son started high school in the fall, “and we are already thinking about college. Columbia has piqued his interest, but it seems to be more due to Obama’s alumni status than mine. I am in touch with Joe Danaplo and Peter Georgiou, and am hoping to attend our reunion in 2010 and see many more . . .”

John Casanova is a partner at Sidley Austin in London, having moved to the United Kingdom in 1999 for “just one year.” His wife and two teenage sons split their time between London and Wallerswick.

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Daniele Baliani ’87 Built Culinary Career from Scratch

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

Long before his face graced boxes of frozen pizza, culinary artist Daniele Baliani ’87 was a College senior making a not-so-smooth transition from the classroom to the kitchen. Baliani spent his last few months at Columbia blanching and peeling vegetables as an apprentice at Le Cirque, the legendary French restaurant in Manhattan, under the mentorship of renowned New York City chef and restaurateur Daniel Boulud. Despite possessing no culinary skills at the time, Baliani convinced Boulud to take him on as an apprentice.

“I was doing the most menial work. The Columbia education was what made me feel good because at the time, I was floundering in a new environment,” recalls Baliani, who ended up at St. Luke’s Hospital’s emergency room on his second day at Le Cirque after cutting his ring finger while slicing a tomato. The gash required seven stitches.

Despite Baliani’s initial struggles, Boulud recognized his potential and arranged for Baliani to train at several restaurants in Italy and southern France. Unable to pay for his plane fare, the 21-year-old Baliani agreed to accompany a couple on their month-long trip to Italy as an au pair in exchange for $1,000 and a round-trip ticket. The days he spent changing diapers were well worth it, as the old-world experience l would have never appreciated what l was doing.” After a year of training in Europe, Baliani returned to New York and became sous chef at an Italian restaurant, San Domenico NY. In 1991, he returned to Le Cirque as sous chef under Boulud, a position he held until 1993. The following year, Baliani moved to Massachusetts and opened restaurateur Lydia Shire’s Pignoli, an Italian restaurant in Boston, where he created the menu and was chef de cuisine until 1999.

Baliani went on to consult for Freschetta, a brand of frozen food, from 2000–07. As a member of the company’s Culinary Council, he was featured in print and televised ads and on the back of its frozen pizza boxes. His affiliation with Freschetta also led to an appearance in a 2007 episode of Food Network’s Unwrapped.

It was his love of soccer that ultimately led Baliani to Columbia. His plans to return to Europe when Dieter Ficken, head coach of Columbia men’s soccer from 1979–2006, approached him after one of his soccer matches at Abraham Clark H.S. and suggested he apply to the College.

“When I got the acceptance letter, I was floored,” says Baliani. “I never thought I’d be going to an Ivy League school. All the things that came along with that letter convinced me to stay in the United States.”

Baliani, who majored in political science, saw little playing time as a first-year soccer player and left the team after being injured for most of his sophomore year. He thoroughly enjoyed the Core Curriculum, however, in part because he felt it brought his childhood to life.

“I remember going to Art Hum and everybody else was looking at these things with wide eyes,” recalls Baliani. “Meanwhile, I had literally lived next door to many of those artifacts.”

Baliani now owns and operates Pantheon Adventures, a boutique travel company that offers personalized, gastronomic tours of the Mediterranean basin. He resides in Westwood, Mass., where he continues to cook for his wife, Claudia, and stepdaughter, Michelle.

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, majored in American studies. She is an editorial producer of and contributing writer to LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s Spanish language Web site.
Barreling down some mountainside

... hearing from alums involved in law enforcement and other aspects of the public sector. I can be reached at fredrick.tullka@dos.nh.gov.

Chris Guth wrote: “Since finishing my M.B.A. in ’94 at UC Irvine, I’ve been consulting in the marketing research field. I spend my non-work hours taking advantage of the great So-Cal weather, either in Huntington Beach playing beach volleyball or barrel-riding down some mountainside on my mountain bike. Really sucks living in paradise!”

Michael Gottdenker joined the Georgetown Day School Board of Trustees in 2009, serving on the investment committee. Michael is chairman and CEO of Access Spectrum and holds the same positions with Hargray Communications Group.

Mazel tov to Mark Berman and his wife, Brenda ’90 Barnard, on the birth of their son, Aidan Scott, in the Department of the Treasury. Michael had served previously in the Treasury during the Clinton administration. In between appointments, he was an international tax partner for five years at Ernst & Young in D.C. Prior to the first Treasury stint, Michael was an associate at Sullivan & Cromwell. He earned a J.D. from UC Berkeley and an L.L.M. in taxation from the University of Miami.

I was sad to hear about the death of Marshall Wright, who died unexpectedly on September 10 in his hometown of Williamsburg, Va. Marshall left New York four years ago to live in Williamsburg. Following graduation, he worked in private banking at the Bank of New York and J.P. Morgan. Hauptman was a preceptor to my days in law school, Marshall and I studied for our CC exam together using something of a Socratic method. The day before the exam, we quizzed and probed each other on the course materials until we knew the material cold and out. I had Marshall to thank for this — in many ways, he taught me the course that day. He had it all covered and, by extension, so did I. Marshall and I only had that one class together, and I wish I had known him better, but I certainly do remember him and am very sad at hearing of his passing.”

Michael Gilligan: “I didn’t know Marshall well, but recall he was a gentle soul, articulate (like all good Columbia men) and a bit of a character. Sorry to hear of his passing.”

Bob Cornell: “I remember Marshall from freshman year when we were both on the 13th floor of John Jay. I met him the first day we moved in, and I remember four or five of us were having a beer in his room that hot evening, and he evidently forgot that he was in New York on the 13th floor, and not home in Williamsburg, when he nonchalantly tossed his empty bottle out the window. There was a frozen silence for the few seconds until a distant crash announced that the beer bottle had arrived safely on the pavement of 114th Street, with no pedestrians having gotten in its way. All of us diligent freshmen had just read in our freshman information packets that throwing things out the windows was an offense that could get us expelled, so it was awhile before anyone got up to look out the window, but eventually someone did and confirmed that the street was deserted and no one appeared to have been injured. No sign that security took any notice, either — collective sigh of relief, camouflaged by bravado. I don’t recall seeing much of Marshall after freshman year, but I will never forget that beer bottle.”

Sarah A. Kass
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With the start of the academic year comes another opportunity for our classmates to give back to Columbia students.

The Class of ’87 has been out in force for two big programs this year — the Bridge Program and the Columbia College Women Mentoring Program. The Bridge Program brings together members of the 50th and 25th anniversary classes with students in the class that will graduate in the same year as those landmark reunions (for us, the Class of ’12). The CCW Mentoring Program brings together alumnae with members of the senior class. The end result in both cases is a lot of wonderful collaboration, learning and friendship between the two groups of students.

Havana Central at The West End was the site for this year’s October kickoff event for the Bridge Program. Rather than limit the event, all College students were invited to join members of the classes of 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1988, as well as those from 1960, 1961, 1962 and 1963. Jill Niemczyk, Juanita Punwane and I represented the Class of ’87 and met with many sophomores and exchanged stories of the College then and now.

And by the time sophomore year arrived, students were thinking of the 50th and 25th anniversary classes with students in the class that will graduate in the same year as those landmark reunions (for us, the Class of ’12). The CCW Mentoring Program brought together alumnae with members of the senior class. The end result in both cases is a lot of wonderful collaboration, learning and friendship between the two groups of students.

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How many Columbians can be squeezed into one photo? [PHOTO: CRAIG PAULSON PHOTOGRAPHY]

Emily Miles Terry
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For those of you who didn’t get enough of our 20th reunion, and particularly for those who missed it, a few reunion die-hards have put their heads together to plan a mini-reunion so we don’t have to wait another five years to get together. Mark your calendars, because on Friday, March 5, your class reunion committee chairs are hosting an informal cocktail gathering in Manhattan. Says Donna MacPhee, Columbia’s v.p. of alumni affairs, “Since our usual reunion event at Bobby Van’s in Midtown Manhattan was such a hit, we are looking for a repeat performance.”

Save the date, book a business or pleasure trip so you’ll be in NYC and stay tuned for details.

In my line of work I see many gorgeous book jackets, but the jacket on Elana Amsterdam’s book literally takes the cake. Pictured on the cover of The Gluten-Free Almond Flour Cookbook is the most delectable-looking white frosted cake, which is one of the 100 recipes found in her popular book released last July.

Elana, mother of two boys (9 and 11) and founder of Ecelov, an environmental consulting firm that specializes in recycling, and her husband grew weary of the New York City lifestyle and decided to relocate to Colorado several years ago. Once she landed in Colorado, Elana was hungry for a new venture, and turned to her past study of ayurvedic cooking when she and her son were diagnosed with celiac disease. Elana writes, “When my son and I were diagnosed, this three-year study came in handy. Celiac disease is an inherited autoimmune disorder triggered by eating gluten. Out of necessity, my cooking took on an entirely new dimension as we both went on a gluten-free diet. Unwilling to cook separate meals each night for my family, I needed to make gluten-free food that tasted like regular food. Would I be able to do this well enough to convince my husband to come home for dinner? I threw myself into this culinary challenge and my husband, a tough critic, held nothing back. With much trial and many errors, I developed a gluten-free repertoire that tastes delicious. Friends and family now ask for my recipes, even those who are not on restricted diets!” For more information on Elana’s book, go to www.elanaspantry.com. Though the food looks gorgeous, Elana swears that the recipes are “super-easy, healthful and quick.”

Last fall, I caught up with Clayton Steele who, with her family, had just relocated to Bogota, Colombia, where she is happy and feels quite safe. Clayton says, “I am working at a law firm, Posse, Herrera & Ruiz, as special counsel, focusing on marketing, PR and international transactions while working toward being admitted to the Colombian bar, after which I am looking forward to practicing corporate law locally as well. I am happy to welcome any CC visits to Bogota, Colombia. It’s a fabulous country, despite the bad rap it had in the ‘80s and ‘90s.” It often troubles me that the College and Engineering Class Notes are separate because so many of my friends were in Engineering. With that in mind, I wanted to write a brief update on Pam Hayback Mancuso ’89E, “who lives on the Jersey shore with her husband of 16-plus years, Mark, and our children, David (11) and Julia (8). Six years ago, I participated in my first triathlon, and now I’m hooked! I have completed 12 sprint and/or Olympic distance races. Along with three friends, I run a nonprofit group, The Jersey Shore Tri Gals, that provides an emotional and physically safe environment for women of all ages to train and compete in swimming, biking and running events. Since most of my races are during the summer, during the rest of the year I am a contract technical documentation writer. Of course, the most rewarding job is mom to my children.” Love to hear from more—you send me an e-mail or find me on Facebook.

Congratulations to Erika Henik, her husband, Amitai, and daughters, Sylvia (3), on the June 14 birth of her son, Ariel. Erika received her Ph.D. in organizational behavior from UC Berkeley and the firm of Business in May 2008 and is an adjunct professor at Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey, where she teaches in the M.B.A. program. The family lives in Hoboken.

If you are not a reader of BioTech Business Week, you might have missed this from the October 19 edition: “Sidley Austin announced that Gail Javitt has joined the firm’s Washington, D.C., office as a counsel in the F.D.A. regulatory practice. Ms. Javitt joins the firm after seven years at the Genetics & Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. In her most recent position as law and policy director at the center, Ms. Javitt was responsible for developing policy options to guide the use of reproductive technologies and also led an initiative to improve oversight of genetic testing quality. Ms. Javitt is a research scholar in the Berman Institute of Bioethics at Johns Hopkins and an adjunct professor at the Georgetown University Law Center, where she has taught genetics and law. She has served as an adjunct professor of law at the University of Maryland School of Law, where she taught food and drug law and genetics law, and at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, where she co-taught health law and regulation. Ms. Javitt was a Greenwall Fellow in Bioethics and Health Policy at Johns Hopkins and Georgetown Universities.”

My faithful readers also might recall that Gail released her first CD in 2008 (where did she find that time to do that?!), available here: www.cfdbaby.com/gailjavitt.

In October, Clay J. Pierce joined Reed Smith as a partner in the firm’s Financial Industry Group, resident in the New York office. Clay was formerly a partner in the New York office of Patterson Belknap Webb & Tylor.
Beth Kissileff has received a fellowship from Yaddo in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., to work on her second novel. She recently finished a fellowship from Yaddo in Saratoga and taught Jewish studies at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn., last year and loved being at a small liberal arts college where she got to know students and faculty. She lives in Minneapolis with her husband and daughters (ages 20 and 21) and is on leave in New York Jewish Week.

Margie Kim
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Hope everyone had a good holiday season. As we start the new year, I have a few updates from CC ’91 friends to share with you.

Rachel Rosen Blakeman wrote: “I am a psychoanalyst in private practice. I started another company with Denise Apicella ’92 Barnard, Reality in Style. The Web site is www.realityinstyle.com.” From the Web site: “Reality in Style cloth line was created in 2009 by college best friends Denise Apicella and Rachel Blakeman. After several decades of working in fashion, Denise and Rachel were continuously frustrated by the lack of comfortable, stylish and high quality clothing. Unsure if they were alone in their dissatisfaction, Denise and Rachel researched what women looked for when buying clothing. They did not review the latest fashion trends, interview retail buyers or attend fashion shows; instead, they interviewed real women: professional women working in offices, women working from home, their socially active mothers who finally have the freedom to pursue their interests, women they met on airplanes, in restaurants and at charity events. As suspected, they found that all of these real women were experiencing the same frustrations. Wearable clothing of high quality had somehow, over the years, gotten lost in the world of high fashion or was pushed off the racks to make more room for denim. Repeatedly, women indi- cated that it was not the economy that kept them from purchasing new clothing, but rather the available selection or lack thereof. After picking up too many backless shirts, Denise and Rachel decided to create an affordable clothing line emphasizing comfortable fabrics and styles designed to flatter different body types.”

Best of luck to you, Rachel!

Susie Wood has been living in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia, for more than three years with her husband and daughter (ages 3 and 3 months). Susie is on maternity leave, working part-time as an English teacher at a business school there and enjoying taking a break. Last summer, Susie and her family hosted Matt Freedman, who was on a round-the-world trip and stopped by Georgia in between stints in Turkey and India. Susie would love to hear from any Columbians who happen to come to Georgia.

Stephen Jansen sent in this update: “I am busy at Vinciana Capital Partners, most recently coordinating the fit-out of a new office in Mayfair to which we moved at the beginning of October. We hired an analyst who started at the beginning of November, thereby increasing our headcount by 50 percent. I regret to say that as a result of this growth, I have spent the past 10 days in Bulgaria (Sofia, Sandanski, Ognianovo, Devins, Plovdiv and points between) in May, seeing monasteries, mountains, Roman ruins and Bulgarian Revival houses. I had a few chances to use my college Russian (which is surprisingly not that rusty, even though it is rarely used), as older Bulgarians learned Russian and are generally happy to speak it, unlike citizens in some parts of the former Wartime Pact. I was also able to understand most Bulgarian signs, given the overlap between the languages. The country is increasingly welcoming to tourists and one I would highly recommend people visit even if they don’t speak Russian or read Cyrillic, given how much there is to see and to do. Plus, the food was great.”

“Taw had coffee with Seth Goldsamt, a fellow resident on Carman 9, in NYC in late October. Seth is a partner at McDermott Will & Emery, and he and his wife, Nina, have a daughter and a son. Like Lynne Lipkind, another fellow resident on Carman 9, I wish I had been more consistent at keeping in touch with classmates and had more news on other CC ’91ers.”

Britta Gooding wrote: “After college and medical school, I did my radiology residency and body imaging fellowship at Stanford. I moved to New Zealand and worked at a big county hospital in Auckland, and then moved to Sydney, Australia, where I became medical director for NightHawk Radiology Services, a U.S. company that provides teleradiology for 24 percent of the hospitals in the United States (which means I read CT scans and MRIs for hospitals from Maine to Hawaii).”

“I lived in Sydney for about three years, spent a few months traveling through the islands of the South Pacific and then spent some time at our office in Zurich, Switzerland. I recently moved back to San Francisco (where I am from) and still work for the same company, but have resigned from my director to have more time to spend with family and friends. I’d love to hear from classmates living in the Bay Area or if anyone has plans to travel in Australia, New Zealand or the South Pacific — I know the area well.”

I had dinner a few months ago with Vijay Sud, who was in Dallas on business. Vijay got his M.B.A. from University of Cincinnati and works for Deloitte Consulting. He and his wife and two children live in Wisconsin and said to look for him on Facebook. I’m looking forward to seeing him next year’s end while he continues his work building cell phone towers in the Midwest.

Jeremy Feinberg
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Hello out there! Anyone at all spooked by the fact that we were sophomores, perhaps living in Wien Hall, or if we were lucky, Hartley / Wallach, 20 years ago? Something about tempests fugit comes to mind. So right to the news.

First-time correspondent Eric Rosenberg wrote in just before my deadline with news on himself and the beginnings of updates on nearly a dozen other classmates. Those partial items won’t run here. No doubt Eric will be updating me on them for future issues. How’s that for a tease? Eric moved to Somerville, Mass., to be near his wife, Eric Coffin, while she attended medical school, and so he could most easily work with his business partners for his new startup, a holiday gift registry, www.giftagift.com. Eric also wrote that Greg Ford is director of prospect development at Columbia’s Office of Alumni and Development. According to Eric, Greg and his wife, Aimee, adopted a girl, Estrella Sofia, now almost 6 months old.

One of the best pieces of news I’ve heard lately came from Quinn Kaysor-Cochran and his wife, Carrie ’92 Barnard. The two welcomed Cullen James Kaysor-Cochran on September 30, weighing in at 8 lbs., 15 oz. and measuring 20 3/4 in. Quinn related that Cullen was a little smaller than his sister, Keira, who was born in August, but he’s gained 4 lbs. and 2 in., so he may catch her. Quinn said that Carrie is taking time off from Cisco Systems until year’s end while he continues his work building cell phone towers in the Midwest.

Quinn saw John Endacott ’91, Behar Cami ’91 and Scott Hill ’91
this summer and told me he keeps
in touch with Frank Cicero, Mario
Loya, Chris Bakkila ’87, Kerry
Lunz ’93, Darren Finestone ’91 and
Bob Paschall ’93. Finally, Quinn of¬
ered that he and Carrie (and Keira
and Cullen) are happy to host
Colorado ski trips—“it’s shaping
up to be a good season.”

While attending the Centennial
Celebration of the Society of Co¬
lumbia Graduates in Low Library
on October 22, I was pleased to see
Channing Stave and his wife in
attendance. They were there to
support Channing’s father, Bruce
Stave ’59, who was inducted into
the society. Congratulations!
That’s all for now. Please keep
that news coming. Till next time!

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CLASS NOTES

It is hard to believe fall 2009 has
already passed, and by the time
everyone reads this, it will be 2010.
During the fall, I caught up with
two classmates in person and was
hoping to see a few more when I
traveled to New York before the
end of the year. My husband and I
enjoyed a beautiful afternoon in
September with Thad Sheedy and
his wife, Gabby, as we watched
our beloved New England Patriots
play their more beloved New York
Jets. This year, it was a tough game
for the Pats as the Jets pulled out the
win, making New England fans
concerned that even with Tom Brady back, it was going to be a
long road back to where we were a
few years ago. For Thad, however,
it was the start of a new era for the
Jets with a new coach and QB, and
a new stadium to call home after
the Giants moved to New Jersey.
Thad is in his ninth season with
the Jets and last year was named
ev.p. of stadium development
and finance. He is the team’s point
person for the new stadium on
everything from construction to
development and sales.
I also visited with Sandi John¬
sen, who recently finished her
residency in emergency medicine
at the University of Connecticut
Health Center, where she was the
chief resident in the emergency
department. After completing her
residency at the end of June, Sandi
took two weeks off before having a
baby! Sandi and her husband,
Rob Murray, welcomed a second
son, Cole Emslie Murray, in July to
join brother Drusheen (8). When I saw
Sandi in October, she was adjust¬
ning well to life with two boys and
was getting ready to start working
again.
I heard from Dallas DeLuca,
who is a civil litigator at Markow¬
itz, Herbold, Glade & Mehlhaff in
Portland, Ore. Dallas received a
master’s from SIPA in 1994 and a
J.D. from NYU in 2005. Dallas and
his wife, Sara, have a daughter,
Sofie (4), and their family expanded
in March 2009 when they welcomed
a son, Julian. Amy Longo wrote to
share the news that she and her
husband, Steve Pesce, welcomed
their second son, Lorenzo (Renzi)
Benjamin Pesce, on September 14,
jointing brother Leonardo (Leo)
Nicholas (16 months). Amy and her
family live in Santa Monica, Calif.
She is a partner in the securities
litigation practice at O’Melveny &
Myers and is co-chair of its Elec-
tronic Discovery and Document
Retention Practice.

I heard that Kyriakos Tsakopo-
lou 94 recently was named presi-
dent, CEO and principal of AKT
Development Corp. and its various
affiliated entities. AKT is a diversi-
fied, family-owned land develop-
ment company headquartered in
Sacramento, Calif., operating real
estate, farming, ranching, water,
and minerals, building, and land
development projects throughout
north and central California.
Kyriakos remains devoted to Colum-
bia and is a member of the Univer-
sity Board of Trustees, sits on the
College’s Board of Visitors and, in
2004, founded the Kyriakos Tsako-
poulos Chair in Hellenic Studies
in honor of his grandfather, as well
as an annual lecture series, “Aristote-
les and the Moderns.”

Please continue to send me your
news!

Karthik Ramanathan is in
the news quite a bit. As the U.S.
Treasury Department’s acting assistant
secretary for financial markets, he
oversees such issues as Treasury
financing, public debt manage-
ment, federal regulation of financial
markets and related economic
matters. Prior to taking on this role,
Karthik served as director of the
Office of Debt Management. He
joined the Treasury Department in
July 2005. Before that, he worked in
the New York and London offices
of Goldman Sachs as a dealer in the
foreign exchange market. He lives
in Washington, D.C., with his wife
and their three sons.

Shawn Landres participated in a
fellowship program at Columbia last
summer that brought Jewish and
Muslim social entrepreneurs togeth-
er to explore business ideas they had
developed to help bridge cultural
divides. The Ariane de Rothschild
Fellow Program: Dialogue & Social
Entrepreneurship, co-sponsored by
the Business School and Cambridge,
was designed to help fellows turn
their ideas into business plans they
could put into practice when they
got home.

Shawn, who lives in Los Ange-
les, is the co-founder and CEO of
Jumpstart (www.jewishbjsjumpstart.
org), an incubator, or “philanthropic
think tank for sustainable Jewish
innovation. Jumpstart recently
launched the first full-service turn-
key fiscal sponsorship platform for
Jewish nonprofit projects, in a
unique Jewish-secular collabora-
tion with Community Partners, a
well-established fiscal sponsor in
Los Angeles.

I had the pleasure of once again
catching up with Elliot Regenstein
while he was in St. Paul to work on
a project with Minnesota’s’s
Department of Education. Fun
times chatting about life, work and
kids (“Yo Gabba Gabba” anyone?),
Elliot is in Chicago, is a partner with
EducationCounsel and travels
frequently to exotic locations like
the Twin Cities and Atlanta.

Thanks everyone for the news!
Look forward to hearing more of
your stories.

Leyla Kokmen
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leyak@emailink.net

Millie Niss and Martha Deed (Millie’s co-author and mother) pre-
sented a digital multimedia project,
“Erewhon 2.0,” in October at the
fourth &Now Conference on Inno-
native Writing & the Literary Arts in
Buffalo, N.Y. For more information
on Millie’s projects, see her Web site,
www.sporkworld.org, or her blog,

Millie writes that this conference
was her first extensive opportunity
to use her power wheelchair in a
public place. As a result, she learned
the difference between Civil Rights
in theory (as taught by Professor
Alan Westin in a Law School course
she audited) and in practice. Millie
is grateful that curb cuts and ramps
exist but hopes ultimately not to
need them.

Stephen Fischer spent a month
in Egypt with the U.S. Naval Medi-
cal Research Unit #3, which got its
start during WWII as the 1942 U.S.
Typhus Commission.

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Greetings, classmates! Many apolo-
gies for the lack of notes in last
issue. It was first time in the more
than 13 years since we’ve graduated
that our class column was empty.
Where are you all? I am happy to
report that I do have a decent
amount of notes to share with you
all this time.
I’ll begin by congratulating a
couple of classmates who recently
celebrated their weddings. David
Gray was married in June in Abing-
don, Va., to Hannah St. Legor. David
and Hannah live in Richmond, Va.,
where David is with the private
client group of Scott & Stringfellow
and Hannah works for the Justice
Department. In attendance at their
wedding were Joseph McCoin, who
works at the U.S. Justice Department
in Brooklyn; Johnny Greenfield ’95;
and Adam Beshara. David writes
that Adam, who works with J.P.
Morgan in NYC, got married in
April to Caroline Portny. In addition
to David and Joseph, other Fiji in
attendance were Carter Burwell, Dave
Mullins, Brendan Mullins, Eric

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010
Hopp ’98 and Simon Joory ’99. Congratulations also are in order for Andy Brooks and his wife, Maggi Brooks ’99, who welcomed twins Jack and Teddy. Maggi finished her program at the Yale School of Medicine in May, and the couple has moved back to the Bay Area for her residency.

Stephanie Andre has been appointed v.p. and treasurer of BRE Properties. Prior to this appointment, Stephanie worked at Bank of America as a v.p., real estate investment banking and principal, real estate investment banking. In these positions, she completed more than $5 billion in mergers and acquisitions and debt and equity transactions. Stephanie earned an M.B.A. from the Walter A. Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley.

I recently had dinner with Matt Lasner, Dan Cole, Bekah Burgess and Amanda Cox, and they had a bit of news to report. They shared that Cecilia Cabello is the primary deputy and chief liaison to Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti ’92. Cecilia helps Eric with a wide range of policy initiatives, including those related to immigration, domestic violence, gender issues, the Latino community, human trafficking, the LGBTQI community, domestic violence, gender issues, and those related to immigration, human trafficking, the LGBTQI community, domestic violence, gender issues, the Latino community, human trafficking, the LGBTQI community, domestic violence, and those related to immigration, human trafficking, the LGBTQI community, domestic violence.

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Charles Saliba ’00 and the Punk Rockers of China

By Katherine Reedy ’09

It's not what one expects to hear shouted at a bar in Beijing: “Another Columbian!” But it's likely what you'll be greeted with if you step into D-22, the preeminent rock and punk venue in China's capital. It's how Stephanie Chou ’09 was welcomed when she met Charles Saliba ’00, the club's co-founder, in summer 2008. Chou and Saliba chatted about campus 7,000 miles away from alma mater. “He excitedly told me all about his time at CU, how he ended up as the manager of D-22 and what he’d been up to in Beijing,” she says.

On the phone from Beijing, Saliba laughs when asked if he gives special treatment to Columbians. “Well, I always felt that we should promote D-22 as the Columbia Club of Beijing,” he says.

In fact, D-22 likely wouldn't exist without a Columbia connection. While taking a course at SIPA as an undergraduate, Saliba reconnected with Mike Pettis ’81 SIPA, ’84 Business, whom he knew from their common hometown of Malaga, Spain. Pettis now is a professor of business at the prestigious Tsinghua University in Beijing and a leading expert on Chinese finance. He had started a rock club while living in gritty 1980s New York, and hatched the idea of D-22 when he took his teaching position in China.

Saliba, seeking a break from his post-graduation job in technology consulting in New York and London, was intrigued by Pettis’ description of the thriving scene and change of pace in Beijing. Saliba recalls his leap of faith: “Why not? I'll give it a try.”

Without any knowledge of Mandarin, Saliba took a job teaching English in Beijing and met up with Pettis in 2004. Together, they laid the groundwork for a rock club, D-22, and record label, Maybe Mars. They scoped out locations in the hip university district, Wudaokou, far away from the expatriate hangouts, in order to ground their project in the authentic tastes of Chinese students.

"Most of the expat bars are clustered in one area, and we had no desire to be a part of that. We wanted to promote the local music here,” Saliba says.

Pettis, who claims he initially convinced Saliba to attend Columbia, says he always assumed he and Saliba would work together on the project. From the beginning, Pettis says, the two friends "took Chinese artists very seriously, much more seriously than we took the foreign artists who often visit, and placed them firmly at the center of the music scene.”

As for the difficulties of foreigners starting a business in China, Saliba contends that it was easier than it seemed. “People assume there’s a lot of red tape, but in some ways it's easier to start a business here. You go ahead and do things, and then worry about the details later.” Pettis noted that investors who understood the burgeoning scene helped them get their record label off the ground.

Since it opened its doors in May 2006, D-22 — Pettis says the name is a play on Detroit, which he wanted to use to con-note a hard, urban sensibility — has launched the careers of several major rock bands, and its presence among ambitious young Beijing rockers is unparalleled. The club enjoys significant appeal for tourists as well; it appeared in the travel section of The New York Times in 2007 as a must-do for “younger, and more adventurous” visitors to China. The bands it helped foster appear regularly in Western entertainment-focused media, and reviews of the venue’s acts have cropped up in the Atlantic Monthly, The New Yorker and elsewhere.

Saliba, who is studying for his master's in international development at Tsinghua University, says he doesn’t have concrete goals for D-22 and Maybe Mars, the record label he now manages full-time, but that he wants to see how far they can go. After all, he explains, the Chinese rock scene "is moving in tandem with a youth culture explosion happening here.” Pettis writes that, "Gao Ming, one of the Peking University students who works here, once told a journalist that we never make money but we do make history, and I think that pretty nicely sums up our ambitions.”

Saliba explains that the influence of recent Chinese cultural history is apparent in which bands influence young rockers. “The kids here haven't grown up being able to pick up just any CD,” he says. As a result, contemporary rock music contains decades of influences combined. “It's a random and interesting mixture. Bands here don't sound alike,” he says. The Ramones-Influenced Carsick Cars, whose most famous song is a double-entendre called Zhongnanhai — both a popular cigarette brand and the home base of the Communist Party of China — jostle against the jangly folk of Xiao He, and still other bands play music that recalls New Wave and a gamut of pop and rock styles.

In November, Saliba led a tour of Maybe Mars bands across the United States. Carsick Cars, P.K. 14, Xiao He and White played shows from New York to Chicago, with stops in Richmond, Va., and Washington, D.C., and both the tour and a discussion on Chinese music
were partly sponsored by the CU Arts Initiative. Gregory Mosher, director of the Arts Initiative and a fan of the "amazing" D-22, says the collaborations between the club and Columbia have long been in the works, and previously featured CU’s Louis Armstrong Ensemble playing at the Chinese venue. Mosher notes that the Arts Initiative operates to connect Columbia with global culture: "Most of us don’t know much about China. The astonishing richness and complexity of the country starts to be revealed when you see the films, hear the music, study the art," he says.

While D-22 may be the unofficial Columbia Club, Saliba also is v.p. of the official Columbia Alumni Association of Beijing, continuing his long, personal career of outsized school spirit. His College class' president for all four years, Saliba also was involved with student theater groups, Columbia Television, Columbia Community Outreach and CU Concerts, which brings bands to campus each fall and spring.

As for his equally varied academic career, Saliba switched majors multiple times, beginning with chemistry and crossing the finish line with political science. While Saliba is the first to admit he "truly embraced the liberal arts," he also made lasting connections to professors, such as Leonard Fine in chemistry and the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus, Provost Emeritus and Special Service Professor in East Asian Language and Culture, Wm. Theodore de Bary ’41. Whether Saliba’s club and label kick off a new Mandarin-language rock craze is unclear, but for Saliba, it’s just a matter of time. "We believe the music speaks for itself," he says.

Katherine Reedy ’09 lives in Clinton Hill, Brooklyn.
Jessica, live in Tribeca.

Josh Weinstein, Thomas Enright and their daughter, Jen, and their daughter, Isla Rose.

Megan is glad to be back in the city. She completed her Ph.D. in clinical and school psychology at the University of Virginia. Meanwhile, Nina Wasow writes from Berkeley, Calif., to tell us she flew east for one day last summer to attend the wedding of Cora’s roommate, Rabbi Lerner, to Dr. Adam Gregerman ’03 GSAS, ’07 GSAS. Nina reports, “Also representing Cora was Rabbi’s brother, Abby Goldberg (née Trooboff). It was quite a Columbia event. Rabbi’s father, Rabbi Stephen C. Lerner ’60, officiated with assistance from her brother, Rabbi David Lerner ’93. There was a strong turnout from the Class of ’60, as well as other classes, including Alyssa Klapper and Avery Samet (who left their baby daughter at home for the day).”

Emily Kurzwell, Sarah Grafman and Daniel Hoffman. Members of nearby classes included Andy Daltrop ’01, Rachel Mann ’98, Ellen Dinerstein Werlin ’99 and Melissa Schwab Wright ’99. And as you can guess from the photo, when graduates of other Columbia schools joined in, there was quite a rousing chorus of the Columbia fight song.”

Nina is a plaintiffs-side employment lawyer in Oakland and looks forward to getting married next spring.

Robert Cupepper is deployed to Bagram, Afghanistan, as a judge advocate with the 220th Special Forces Group. He would love to hear from any old friends from Columbia: rce21@columbia.edu. Robert will be home in time for the 10-year reunion and he hopes to see a lot of classmates there.

Speaking of reunion, we are only months away from our 10-year. I reconnected with Robert Reffkin, who also is on the Reunion Committee. He has completed 26 marathons as part of his effort to run 50 marathons, one in each U.S. state, to raise $1 million for nonprofits that supported him in his youth and on whose boards he serves. Please check out his Web site: www.runningsupportyoungdreams.com.

The Reunion Committee is growing, and if you’re interested in getting involved, please e-mail me at pb34@columbia.edu. Alumni Reunion Weekend will take place Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6.

Lee Schutzman ’03 and Kristen Kupchik ’03E were married in May in Totowa, N.J. In attendance were (back row, left to right) Karen Sagall ’03E, Jill Santopolo ’02, Eleanor Coufos ’03, Jon Zimmerman ’03, Christine Phillips ’03, Carey Gibbons ’03, Laura Anderson ’03, Rebeca Silver ’03, Susanna Epstein ’03 and Rob Hora ’99, and (front row, left to right) Ayesh-Abdul Quader ’03, the bride, the groom and Maria Wong ’02.

Photo: Creative Image Photography
see Rachel Solomon (doing her family practice residency at UCLA), Bram Alden and Zander Chemers (recent UCLA Law grads) and Kate Milten '03 Barnard (recently moved to Los Angeles) every once in awhile. In the last two years, I have been to six '03 weddings (Christi Lazo to husband Gustavo, Pat Holder to wife Kirsten, Jonathan White to Anna Maria Mannino, Kim Grant to husband Matt, Scott Tift to wife Nessim and Nirav Shah '03E to wife Arina) traveling me from Puerto Rico to Washington, D.C. to Nashville to Detroit to Lake Tahoe and to Huntington Beach, Calif. I recently went to an alumni event at J Lounge in downtown L.A. Very fun to meet Lions from different decades.

Ryan Smeek and Sarah Secules Smeek have moved to England, where Ryan has taken a three-year assignment with the U.S. government. Celine Goetz married Mark Tewfiik in New York last September. Celine is studying for a medical specialty at the University of Indianapolis. Afia Owusu writes, "I recently moved from D.C. to Indianapolis to rotate into a new position within my company. Eli Lilly. I now do consumer marketing for one of the company's blockbuster diabetes brands."

Adele Lack is clerking for Judge Kim R. Gibson in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Lee Mottard is a site acquisition specialist for Goodman Network, a telecommunication company in Ashland, Mass. He lives in Newton, Mass., with his girlfriend, Desine Reese; plays Division I men's soccer for the Bay State Soccer League; serves on the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission and on the Newton Farm Commission as a delegate from the P&R Commission; and volunteers for the Admissions Office as an ARC interviewer.

Daniel Timmons writes, "After four years in Arizona, I recently moved to Portland, Ore., to attend law school at Lewis and Clark College. I am particularly excited about the school's strong program in environmental law. I spent the last four years in Arizona and received a master's in environmental sciences and policy from Northern Arizona University in 2007. I have since been a water resources specialist, initially for the town of Chino Valley and then for Global Water Resources, a rapidly growing water consulting company based in the Phoenix area. My work has focused on complex issues related to water use, development and the interaction between surface water and groundwater. Upon completion of law school, I hope to pursue a career in water and environmental law."

Benjamin Kopit "is managing director of an opera company called Ardea Arts that commissions and develops new work. He organized a benefit for his company, 'Opera and BBQ' last June."

Lorraine Liang writes, "I'm doing well, living in Battery Park City, interviewing for a urology residency. I am engaged to Oleg Mironov '04E, who is applying to a residency in radiology (wish us luck!). Swimming and doing yoga, and trying to enjoy life."

04

Miklos C. Vasarhelyi 118 E. 62nd St.
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[Editor's note: CCT thanks Miklos Vasarhelyi for his five years of service as a class correspondent. This is his final column before turning the reins over to Angela Georgopoulos, who will be the new correspondent. Please send news to her at aeg90@columbia.edu.]

Happy New Year CC '04! I wish each of you the best in 2010. As many of you have no doubt heard, we need to offer congratulations to Jenny Slate, who recently joined the cast of Saturday Night Live. Since graduating, Jenny has been a commentator on VH1 and worked with the Upright Citizens Brigade, writing and recording a number of shorts with Gabe Liedman.

During the past several months, a number of Columbians have ventured overseas, including Mike Lee, who left sunny California to study medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. Mike recently had dinner with Gabe Liedman. And Novi recently had dinner with Dan Touff, who has been living in Beijing for five years. Dan works at a new firm focused on consulting sovereign wealth funds on how to make private equity investments.

Katrina Rouse recently started clerking for a judge in Washington, D.C., but will be moving to Austin, Texas, following her clerkship to work for another judge before returning to San Francisco. Katrina frequently meets up with Kelly Swanston, who clerks for a judge in her native Baltimore.

Here in New York, Catherine Yee is in her third year of medical school at Rochester, doing a clerkship in neurology. Also in school, Annie Pfeiffer divides her time between the East Village and New Haven, where she is pursuing a doctorate in English at Yale. After graduating from business school, Dan Goldman is finally back in New York, where he is working for a biotech-focused venture capital firm. Dan, along with Chris Melia, Mark Bhpaturi and Adam Kaufman, recently was on hand to support his fellow Lions Randy Berkowitz, Laila Shetty '03 Barnard and Miklos Vasarhelyi as they completed the 40th New York City Marathon.

Congratulations to Stephanie Lung, whose father, Conrad H. Lung '72, received the 2009 Alexander Hamilton Medal on November 19. As the recipient is a finalist for the Nobel Prize at Salas. In wedding news, congratulations to James Lee '04 and Susie Kim, who were recently engaged and are planning to get married this summer.

On a personal note, after five years as the CC '04 class correspondent, I am handing the baton to my good friend and our loyal classmate, Angela Georgopoulos. I have every confidence that Angela is going to do a wonderful job as our class correspondent and will make private equity investments. While I will no longer be our class correspondent, I am still an active and involved alumnus, so please don’t hesitate to reach out to me about anything Columbia-related.

05

Peter Kang
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Happy New Year! Last year brought exciting moments for many of our classmates, and what more exciting than an engagement, wedding or birth of a child?

Tracy Bucholski and John Reuter, who have been dating since sophomore year, were engaged in March. John proposed at one of their favorite wineries in Sonoma (they live in San Francisco). The wedding will take place outside of Philadelphia, where Tracy grew up. Congratulations!

Samantha Luk, now Samantha Coffino, married Jesse Coffino-Greenberg '04, now Jesse Robert Coffino, in August in Tiburon, Calif. They met at Columbia when Samantha was a sophomore and Jesse was a junior. They were both photographers for Spectator. There was a strong showing of classmates at the wedding: Daniel Fastenberg was their officiate, deputized by the State of California; Tori Preston and Hannah Coleman were bridesmaids; Jennifer Preisel gave a toast; John de Bary created signature drinks for the wedding; and Katherine Velas '05E threw the newlyweds an after-party. Other Columbians at the wedding: Chris Dubois '04, Alex Seggerman and Stephen Poellot (see their wedding announcement below) and Lindsey May '05E. Alex Seggerman and Stephen Poellot were married two weeks after Samantha and Jesse. Alex and Stephen are both residents at Carman 5 and were married in New York City. Several Columbians were in attendance: Lindsey May '05E, Rebecca Silberberg, Bridge (Giebel) Stefanski, Scott Hartman, Gwyneth McClendon, Ady Barkan '06, Rachael Scarborough-King '06, Kevin Lotery, Jeremy Dell '06, Rachel Lerman Levis '05 Barnard, Batya Rotter, Jennifer Preisel, Samantha Coffino, Jesse Robert Coffino '04, Jaime Schwartz, Abigail Rubenstein, Julie Elsky '06 Barnard, Scott Shaw, Tanya Eddy, Upton and Kavior Moon.

Also in August, Stuart Weinstock '09 Arts married Aliza Slosberg '05 Barnard, '05 JTS in Roslyn, N.Y. Columbians in attendance were Matt Carhart, Rena Kaufman '05 Barnard, '05 JTS; Craig Weinberg '05 GS, '05 JTS; Rivka Friedma '05 Barnard, '05 JTS; Leigh Abrams '05 GS, '05 JTS; Rachel Zisser '05 GS, '05 JTS; Matt Abrams '04; Shira Abraham '06 GS, '06 JTS and Ian Schwartz '06 GS, '06 JTS. The newlyweds live happily in New York, where Aliza teaches third grade at the Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan and Stuart is a freelance filmmaker.

Congratulations to all of our newlyweds!

Allison Sturm Miller writes: "My husband, Jeffery, and I announce the birth of my daughter, Anna Sophie Miller, on June 27. I had been teaching English at my high school, but I'm taking time off to be a stay-at-home mom. Congratulations to Allison and Jeffrey!"
I graduated from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) last September with an M.P.H. in health systems and policy. In May, I received the Bernard D. Goldstein, M.D., Award and was inducted into Delta Omega, the honorary society for public health. I also served on UMDNJ’s Institutional Review Board since the fall, I also have a photography business hard to believe that we’re at the end of another year. I’m looking forward to reuniting with Columbia friends.

As a freelance photojournalist, I have been working in Beijing for two years. I write for a variety of publications, including The New Yorker, Time magazine and The Guardian. My work has appeared in The New Yorker, Time magazine and The Guardian, among others. This fall, I also have a photography monograph being published by powerHouse Books, Sound Kaptial: Beijing’s Music Underground. It is a documentary project that comprises portraits and concert photography of China’s underground music scene. Visit the website for more information: www.soundkaptial.net.

You can download a PDF of Matthew’s book at mmdnphoto.com/download/sound_kaptial.zip. Best wishes to all of you in 2010!

Michelle Oh
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New York, NY 10038
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It’s hard to believe that we’re at the start of another year. I’m excited for all that this new year will bring for you and look forward to your contributions to this column.

I am not doing paid or volunteer work at UMDNJ, I spend my time riding my newly-rebuilt bike and volunteering for other organizations, though I seldom stray far from health care as a focus area.

During the year, I have been busy myself this year, completing trade school for his telecommunications apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers as well as continuing to manage a liquor store on weekends and realizing a lifelong dream by becoming a volunteer firefighter here in East Windsor, N.J.

Finally, I want to let everyone know about an initiative that I have an interest in health care, social action and/or entrepreneurship. We welcome anyone who wants to get involved or pursue funding opportunities!

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Here are the latest updates on our classmates:

Last October, Wayne Ting was featured in Time magazine for his leadership in organizing a march in Washington, D.C., held on October 11 and a protest aimed at encouraging the Obama administration and Congress to live up to promises made to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community to advance their rights. For more on the article, go to www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1929747,00.html#ixzz1W7yk3OUG.

McLaughlin was looking forward to spending Thanksgiving with family on Cape Cod. "It also gives me an excuse to visit one of my favorite antique bookshops, Parmaasus in Yarmouthport, Mass. Adam Zucker graduated from law school at American and is close to finishing his M.A. in international economies at AU’s School of International Service. After taking the New York and New Jersey bars this summer, he traveled to Israel and Egypt with his girlfriend, Marisa Harary, and then spent two weeks in the Philippines doing independent study field work along with Jake Teel, who is traveling the world writing a book on microfinance. Daniel Blau, who is wrapping up his final year at the Law School, joined up for a few days of vacationing in the South China Sea. Now back in N.Y.C. and working in the legal department of TRG Management, an investment bank that focuses on emerging markets, Adam is looking forward to reconnecting with Columbia friends.

Tze Chun recently returned to NYC after researching the Tango in Buenos Aires as a Jerome Foundation Fellow and continues to choreograph for Tze Chun Dance Company (www.tzechundance.com). The company, which includes Eileen Farrell, Tiffany Clarke and Alison Schechter ’08, has a number of shows this winter and spring, so come out and watch them dance!

Mark Xue was designated a naval aviator and will be flying Marine helicopters out of Hawaii. Sasha Katsnelson ’06, Marc Pimentel and Ani Ravi met up at the Columbia Alumni Center in Morningside. Sarah Maslin Nir returned to Columbia as a student at the Journalism School. She is now a freelance writer for The New York Times. Justin Hill writes, "First I have to say that for ’06ers who live in New York, it is indeed true the subway in telephone ads. Alexa Innes gets the photo credits; she is a great photographer so make sure to check out her work. On Labor Day weekend, Justin thoroughly enjoyed his 25th birthday. An ice sculpture, go-go dancers and his performance on stage made for a wonderful night. There were many ’06ers there but also many from ’05, ’07 and ’08. Recently, Justin helped put together the Black Alumni Council Homecoming event that had its most successful turnout in recent history. Ifill Events is still going strong and is here for your event needs.”

Victoria Diana Baranetsky spends her days consuming copious amounts of coffee and researching her eyesight in a poor man’s Butler Library. She additionally can be seen writing impassioned Facebook notes to her best friends from college, whom some of you might know from all the Internet hype as the Thuggettes. Thuggettes have been putting out feelers for other no-apologies women who want to strengthen the voices of women. Please contact Victoria (victoriabaranetsky@gmail.com) if you are interested. This summer, old pals Sam Kuntz, Matt Palmer ’07, Eric Amstutz and Dean Kinports ’07 convened to contemplate a nonprofit business venture. In the social entrepreneurial spirit, they are in the primary stages of forming a consortium (snorkelfart.com) to build a business that will be led by women that will have the potential of delivering tomorrow’s jobs. Like all good business ideas, it is based on a simple observation: women’s hair. The company, which includes Susan Caroline Bierbaum, who was married in October to James Tucker LeFrak in the Lilac Salon at Wynn Resort in Las Vegas. Mrs. LeFrak is a founding partner of Empire Athletics Management in New York, a sports management agency that represents NFL and field-and-racing athletes. She recently earned a law degree cum laude from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law of Yeshiva University.

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Columbia College Class of 2007: I hope that all of you had a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Ritwik Banerji is a teaching artist for the Chicago Park District. He writes, "I was basically a hip-hop producer for little kids last summer, and it has been one of the most meaningful musical experiences of my life, not to mention a very real way of using art for social change. You can see the videos on Facebook: www.facebook.com/home.php?l/
...after I left Cameroon before returning to the United States.

Escher Moss Gweon also lives in the Peace Corps and shares, "I'm in Mozambique. I started my time with the Peace Corps at the beginning of October. I went through training and start teaching English in January for two years. It's really exciting and has been so much fun already so just thought I'd drop a line. I have a blog as well: www.eschermoss.blogspot.com."

Aditi Sriram shares, "I spent two weeks in Egypt, from October 9–25. I visited Nancy Linthicum '05 Barrand (who is doing an intensive Arabic program in Cairo) and also spent time in Aswan, Luxor, Bahariya, the Black and White Desert, and the Sinai Peninsula. I took a cruise along the Nile, went swimming in the Red Sea, spent a night under the stars of the Nile with some very interesting people, and befriended Australians, Americans, Sri Lankans and Argentines along the way and on overnight train rides, which were consistently delayed! I saw mummies, went into mosques, was inside a pyramid and even did a Susan G. Komen breast cancer walk on the pyramids on my last day. It was fantastic!"

David Berlin writes, "I teach fifth and sixth grade problem solving at Excellence Charter School in Brooklyn. I also ran for the first time this year at the Business School. Cathleen Shure lives with Tranny Lievers outside of Cambridge, Mass. When asked, "Oh, Cathleen, did you get into Harvard?" she responded, "Ha. No. still unemployed ... hire me!

Marco Zappacosta "helped found Asia Week America: A Final Night with George Bush and the Tony Award-winning God of Carnage. To escape the summer city crowds, he traveled to New Orleans, Nantucket and the southern Caribbean. And when he's not running around the World Trade Center, Geo spends his time cooking themed meals with Olivia Gorvy '08, seeing many of his fellow CC '07ers on a regular basis and chatting daily with Alexandra Epstein, with whom he will travel to Israel this year.

Kasia Nikhamina's play, Redbud & Domicelo, recently was read (and well-received) at Hearn Gods at Jimmy's. She describes the play as "the story of a marriage, i.e., two people interrupting each other." Asia Week is working on a one-act set in Central Park during the 1968 protests at Columbia. For news about performances and to read her latest work, check into a student in the diploma program of Le Cordon Bleu in London.

Calvin Sun got into his first medical school! He still has to hear back from 15 others, "but I know for now I'm going to be a doctor!" Calvin is planning a three-month backpacking trip across Southeast Asia next summer with a few friends from Columbia (Todd Spitz '08, Brian Foo, Rahul Jain and Christian Stadler)."

C. Lauren Arnold is going into her second year of the Peace Corps in Cambodia. She is developing a University's Girls Leadership Development Program in her rural town that will involve giving girls from the high school a chance to create and implement their own development projects. Lauren also is working with a group of students on health education development; they are going to be going out into the rice fields and educating community members about important childhood vaccines for their first project. Her girls' soccer team is still kicking (literally), and in October she'll start her second year of teaching English at the local high school.

Carmen Jo (CJ) Fonce has been busy with her second year at law school. It is true what they say: "Second year, they work you to death! While the first part of the semester was filled with a dreadful job search, I am proud to report that I will be an associate this summer at Baker Botts law firm in Houston. The icing on the cake for this semester, however, is that I was accepted into an externship program that will allow me to work on federal policy issues on Capitol Hill next semester. Washington, here I come!"
The view from the Press Box

Tom Hauser '67, '70L's "The View from the Press Box" ("Alumni Corner," November/December) was a delight to read. Winning seasons for the Columbia Lions have, indeed, been few. Hauser stated that on the plus side, the Lions are student-athletes. That is all well and good, but that the sport is an extracurricular activity and not an obsession is hardly a plus. What must be remembered is that football, unlike any other game, is of prime importance for the morale on campus. It mirrors one of our most basic instincts — the defense and control of territory where inches and yards mean everything. No sport digs deeper into our inner being as does football, and that is what generates not an obsession but the passion that so many fans experience at each contest. It is the territorial imperative of Desmond Morris. It is Theromypylae, Cemetery Ridge, Verdun and Wake Island. What other sport conjures up these epic stands at their own 1-yard line?

"The big kahunas in Columbia's athletics department should not hide behind the college's prestige as an academic institution to excuse the losses or dismiss the sport as merely an "extracurricular activity." There are many other prestigious schools that have done quite well with their gridiron programs. They also have student-athletes. No effort to develop a winning team can succeed if it is equated to a class trip to the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. With that attitude, it would be better for Columbia to stick to fencing, rowing and the like.

Dr. Alfred Hunsady '44
BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Class Notes Online?
I read the September/October issue on the train today and noted with interest the online-only experiment (so that's what happened to my July/August issue!). The train is quiet time for me to catch up on my reading, so you might then guess that I'm in favor of keeping the print version. Yet I understand that everyone is looking to reduce costs these days. So I suggest a compromise. In the September/October issue, almost half the pages were devoted to Class Notes. I generally read my class' notes and maybe glance through one or two before and after. Why not make these online only and leave the rest in print? If we really wanted to bring the "notes" into the 21st century, we could create "class blogs" (perhaps with a less clumsy name).

Martin Prince '88
Fairfield, Conn.

Editor's note: There are a growing number of class blogs, and several class newsletters as well.

Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 50)

"The guide who took me down there had never been there," Lipsky said. Very few had, the longtime employee said.
The door's hinges were rusted over. They had to take them off with a wrench.
The guides illuminated the cellar with mine shaft lights, and Lipsky saw walls with peeling paint. Rustied wagons sat among the crude pantries.
Lipsky saw a rusted old chute coming down from the kitchen, and moved beneath it.
"He would have stood there under the potato chute," he said. "Some SS guard, or maybe another prisoner, would have thrown down a bag of potatoes and he would have had to catch it."
"That's the moment when I knew I was standing in my grandfather's place."
He said Kaddish, a Jewish mourning prayer.

When he went back to preparing for the president's visit, he felt that his grandfather was with him.

He did the final walk-through of the path the president would follow. On the morning of the visit, he greeted the busload of reporters and moved them to their positions near the gates of the camp.
When Obama took his place — beneath the clock proclaiming the time to be 3:15 — Lipsky knew the exact number of paces between Obama and the bank of cameras, where he also stood. He listened there, 21 steps from the president. He did not check his watch as the president spoke of a song written by Buchenwald prisoners with lyrics that pledge, "We will say yes to life."
"These individuals never could have known the world would one day speak of this place," Obama said. "They could not have known that some of them would live to have children and grandchildren who would grow up hearing their stories and would return here so many years later to find a museum and memorials and the clock tower set permanently to 3:15, the moment of liberation."
"They could not have known how the nation of Israel would rise out of the destruction of the Holocaust and the strong, enduring bonds between that great nation and my own."

"And they could not have known that one day an American president would visit this place and speak of them and that he would do so standing side by side with the German chancellor in a Germany that is now a vibrant democracy and a valued American ally."
"They could not have known these things," he said. "But still, surrounded by death, they willed themselves to hold fast to life."

After the speech, friends saw Obama pull Lipsky into a hug. Asked about it, Lipsky said he didn't want to disclose the details of the private moment.
He packed his bags and flew back to Washington on Saturday. He wanted to see his mother in suburban Maryland right away. He wanted to fill in the gaps of the story for her. He wanted her to know what it meant to him.
"He worked in the kitchen," he said before he left Germany for home. "I am his grandson. And I came here working for the president of the United States, and that's a powerful thing for me."

This article was originally published in the Chicago Tribune on June 7, 2009. Reprinted with permission.
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A Journey of Discovery

By Christi Parsons, Chicago Tribune

THE CLOCK AT BUCHENWALD WAS STUCK AT 3:15. THE White House advance guy noticed, and put it on the list of things to fix.

The 23-year-old laughed at himself when he learned the clock’s hands were deliberately frozen, marking the exact time the concentration camp was liberated in 1945.

During the week Josh Lipsky ’08 spent getting Buchenwald ready for his boss’ visit to the camp Friday, the clock would come to mark something other than schedule, precision, his own readiness.

He would live a little in that moment trapped in time alongside the grandfather he never knew — and would know himself better when he left.

Lipsky grew up knowing that his grandfather and grandmother had met and fallen in love somewhere in the network of Nazi camps near the Polish border. He also knew that they were separated when his grandfather was sent to Buchenwald.

“I knew they had met in the camps,” he said, “but I didn’t know the circumstances.”

When word spread around the White House that Obama would go to Buchenwald, Lipsky asked to go. Though he now works in the visitors’ office, helping to arrange official functions, he spent the campaign on the exacting task of advance work and still sometimes volunteers for big projects.

It seemed only right to visit Buchenwald, where more than 50,000 people were killed during the Nazi regime, and to finally delve into the family story. Lipsky — who graduated from Columbia University last year, then went out on the campaign trail — figured he’d just prepare like he prepares for any advance project.

On the flight to Germany, he listened for the first time to the oral history that his grandmother, Helena Langer, had recorded in it, she tells her story, of a young woman who fell in love with the camp cook, the man she would later marry.

In it, she tells her story, of a young woman who fell in love with the camp cook, the man she would later marry.

The cook, Samuel Smulowitz, was 26 when the Nazis took him from his home outside Krakow, Poland, and sent him to a camp near the border with Germany.

The young Helena was in another labor camp nearby. She was singing a song on the way to her barracks one day, and some SS guards were so angered by the sound that they attacked her with a German shepherd dog and beat her mercilessly.

Too badly injured to work, she was on her way to Auschwitz — and probably her death — when her train broke down. She ended up in the infirmary of Samuel’s camp.

Being a cook was a good thing in the hierarchy of the camp, his grandmother’s story goes on. He could move around the camp. He could bring food to the sick. He had access to the infirmary register, and a pen.

“He substituted the name of a dying woman with her name,” Lipsky said. The older woman went to Auschwitz in his grandmother’s place.

The two were parted when the cook was sent from the camp to Buchenwald, and they nearly lost each other.

After liberation in April 1945, Helena followed rumors about Samuel to several German and Polish cities, jumping from trolley to trolley with his picture.

At the back of a car in Munich, she finally found her cook. “I’m here. You don’t need to look any further,” he said, according to a family transcript of the grandmother’s tape.

They married, immigrated to the United States, opened a kosher butcher shop in Louisville, Ky., and raised three children. One of them is Miriam Gabriela Lipsky, Josh’s mother.

What had been lost in the story, though, were the details of Samuel Smulowitz’s time at Buchenwald. He died in 1975, 30 years after the clock at Buchenwald stopped moving but a decade before his grandson was born.

By the time Lipsky got to the camp last week, its caretakers already knew of his connection from other young staff members already there. Within hours of his arrival, the information began to flow.

A guide found a letter from a prisoner, telling of a camp cook in the later years of Buchenwald who used to line his clothing with wire, the zoo just outside the fence where Buchenwald guards brought their children to see the animals in one set of cages and the humans in another.

But it wasn’t until the end of the week that he stood in a long-hidden room in what was certainly his grandfather’s domain, the cellar below where the kitchen once stood.

(Continued on page 78)
Executive Branch Matching Game

We all know about Barack Obama ’83 in the Oval Office, but here are five other alumni who have gone on to work in the executive branch. Can you match the alumni photos with the proper clues? Bonus points if you can name their class years.

1
He divided his time between New York, Washington, D.C., and North Korea, working as a lawyer and the State Department’s special envoy for human rights under George W. Bush.

2
He is the first black attorney general and the second consecutive College alumnus to hold that position.

3
This National Security Council employee played a vital role in shaping George W. Bush’s policy toward our neighbors to the east as the director for Asian Affairs.

4
A student when Columbia was King’s College, this Founding Father served as Secretary of the Treasury under George Washington and helped found the precursor to the Philolexian Society.

5
He clerked for two Supreme Court justices and now heads the FCC.
Low Rotunda is resplendent in fall colors for the Alexander Hamilton Award dinner honoring Conrad H. Lung '72 on November 19. Full coverage is on pages 14-15.

Photo: Eileen Barroso
How To Survive Your Own Financial Crisis

Jonathan Dahl ’80, ’81J, editor of SmartMoney magazine and author of 1,001 Things They Won’t Tell You, helps readers by making business writing personal

PLUS

Columbia Forum:

1959: The Year Everything Changed,
by Fred Kaplan
Alumni Reunion Weekend
Columbia College

Come Celebrate Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010
— the reunion that everyone is looking forward to!

In addition to class-specific events throughout the weekend, you can join all Columbians celebrating their reunions on Friday at the “Back on Campus” sessions, including Core Curriculum mini-courses, engineering lectures, tours of the Morningside campus and its libraries and more. There even will be unique opportunities to engage deeply with the city’s arts community with theater, ballet, music and gallery options.

Columbians will be dispersed throughout the Heights and greater Gotham all weekend long, but Saturday is everyone’s day on campus. This year’s Saturday programming will invite all alumni back to celebrate and learn together from some of Columbia’s best-known faculty in a series of public lectures, at the Decades BBQs and affinity receptions. The night wraps up with the reunion classes’ tri-college wine tasting on Low Plaza, followed by our biggest line-up of class dinners ever and a final tri-college gathering for champagne, dancing and good times on Low Plaza.

Dates and Registration Information

* Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6, 2010

* REGISTER TODAY! For more information or to register online, please visit http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

* If you register before Monday, May 3, you’ll receive a 10% discount on all events, excluding South Pacific, West Side Story, Next to Normal, American Ballet Theatre and New York Philharmonic tickets.
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The SmartMoney editor helps readers weather their own financial crises by providing practical, accessible information in print and online.

By Yelena Shuster ’09

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As Los Angeles City Council President, Garcetti uses a soft-spoken style to help create a greener, more livable city.

By Justin Clark ’04J

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By Nick Kelly ’09

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5 More Minutes

Watch Stuart Firestein discuss his life and his work studying humans’ sense of smell.

Don’t Say We Didn’t Warn You

Read an excerpt from Jonathan Dahl ’80, ’81J’s 1,001 Things They Won’t Tell You: An Insider’s Guide to Spending, Saving, and Living Wisely.

Children of All Ages

Watch juggling twins Jake and Marty LaSalle ’07 perform magnificent feats.

Meet Eric Garcetti ’92

View a video biography of Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti ’92, ’93 SIPA.
Letters to the Editor

The Road Less Traveled

I liked the January/February 2010 cover story, “The Road Less Traveled,” and enjoyed reading about Columbia grads who followed unusual career paths. As an Armenian-American jazz pianist and composer (see 1972 Class Notes, same issue), my career path also has been unusual as well as enlightening, and perhaps the best post-graduate education I could have hoped for.

Armen Donelian '72
Hudson, N.Y.

Thank you for the focus on the “road less traveled.” It was a choice a lot of us made many years ago. It’s interesting how the same alma mater could have such divergent offspring. I think that’s the sign of good parenting.

Tim Krupa '63
Cannon Beach, Ore.

Molly Ivins '67

The mention of Molly Ivins: A Rebel Life by Bill Minutaglio ’76 and W. Michael Smith in the January/February “Bookshelf” failed to mention that Molly, a former Texas Observer editor and nationally syndicated columnist, also was a Columbia graduate. Molly, who is remembered by her beloved Texas Observer with “The MOLLY National Journalism Prize” awarded each June, was in the Graduate School of Journalism Class of 1967. We miss her.

Carlton Carl ’67, ’68
Austin, Texas

[The writer is CEO/publisher of The Texas Observer.]

Going Green?

Pleased for your euphoria in using recycled paper. Totally distressed, however, as are tens of thousands of technically trained people, that there is no open review of the “managed perception” that carbon dioxide causes global warming. We consider this the scam of the millennium! In a nutshell:

1. Alternate warm and cool periods have occurred every 1,500 years for a million years.
2. Previous Roman and Medieval warm periods were warmer than the present warm period: A thousand years ago, it was about three degrees warmer than now; Greenland grew crops; wine grapes were raised in Scotland; and London was not under water!
3. The earth’s average temperature does not correlate with CO₂, but is correlated with solar activity. When Pennsylvania’s coal fields were being formed, the temperature was similar to now, and the CO₂ was 14 times the current concentration. If you liked Gore’s erroneous film [An Inconvenient Truth], watch McAllee/McElhinney’s Not Evil, Just Wrong. Since 2007, the Arctic ice has grown by 20 percent.
4. CO₂ is beneficial to plant life and therefore beneficial to animals and humans.
5. Subsidizing uneconomical forms of energy to minimize warming from CO₂ is fruitless. The physics show limitations on “greenhouse” energy storage as CO₂ concentrations rise, anyhow.

This writer is unsubsidized by oil, coal or utility companies!

Fred DeVries ’49, ’50E ’51E
Chadds Ford, Pa.

The Rule of Law

In his letter to the editor (January/February), James E. O’Brien ’66 asserts that CCT’s article on Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr.’s ’73, ’76L, “is rather biased in that it suggests repeatedly that some terrorists were too harshly treated during the Bush years.” Mr. O’Brien then attempts to make a case for what he calls “enhanced interrogation” — i.e., waterboarding and other forms of torture. It has been repeatedly demonstrated that torture doesn’t yield anything in the way of useful intelligence, but what might be called the “pragmatic” case against torture pales by comparison with the legal and moral arguments against it. Torture is a crime against humanity. When the United States tortures, it violates international treaties and established American law. Torture won’t make us safer, but it will most assuredly corrupt its advocates and practitioners.

Alan Wallach ’63, ’65 GSAS, ’73 GSAS
Washington, D.C.
How To Survive a College Shopping Trip

Within the Family

It’s Presidents Week as I write this, and since many high schools are on vacation, this affords an opportunity for students and their parents to go college shopping. A year ago, my wife, daughter and I mapped out a five-day trip that had us visiting eight schools from western Massachusetts to Boston and then down through Connecticut before we headed home. Snow forced us to drop one visit, but we still managed to hit seven of our targets. Hectic as that sounds, a year later we look back on the week as a fun vacation, so we must have done something right.

We didn’t have college shopping trips when I was growing up. I went to a conference of high school newspaper editors at Columbia when I was a junior, fell in love with the campus and the idea of going to college in the city, and that was that. But times have changed, so here are a few words of advice for parents who may be contemplating college visits in the near future:

Stay in an Embassy Suites-type hotel. Your teenager needs his/her space, and being able to shut the bedroom door is nice. So is the free breakfast. Look for a hotel that is centrally located, within a reasonable drive from several schools so you don’t have to move every night, and one that offers free parking. And if you find one with an indoor pool and hot tub, so much the better.

Pack light. You are going to be on the move, and you don’t want to be constantly nagging your teenager over packing. If you can teach him/her to live out of a suitcase for a week, you’ll be teaching a valuable lesson.

Wear comfortable shoes. Every school offers a campus tour led by a cheerful undergrad, and that walking can add up. As you might suspect, the student tour leader can go a long way in shaping your impression of the school. If he/she sincerely likes the place, has taken advantage of the opportunities it affords and would make the same decision if he/she had it to do over again, you’ll feel a lot better about the school than if you get a tour leader who is just going through the motions.

Bring a notebook, and use it. Make that two notebooks, one for the teenager and one for Mom/Dad. If you don’t, you’ll be amazed how easily colleges can blend into one another — was it BU or Northeastern that had the great internship plan, and which school was it that had the nice dorms?

Take information sessions with a grain of salt. Every school offers one, usually led by an admissions officer, often accompanied by a campus video. For all the time, effort and money schools spend on these, they tend to be remarkably similar. A friend of ours went so far as to eliminate information sessions from his family’s visits. On the other hand, some sessions incorporate current students or faculty into the presentation, and these can stand out.

Go while classes are in session. A campus devoid of students does not give you an accurate representation of the school.

Linger on campus. Grab lunch or a snack in the student center and sit for awhile, observing the students and what they’re up to. You’ll get a feel for the place you won’t get on the formal, programmed part of your visit.

Remember that this shopping trip is only one component of the process, and an early one at that. Think of it as a first round of interviews. After your teenager narrows his/her choice — region; city, suburban or rural; large, medium or small; private or state; rah-rah or laid-back — you will have a second, more manageable list. All schools have special follow-up visiting days for prospects, when students can sit in on classes and special sessions are run for parents, and these will give you a much better feel for the school than the initial whirlwind visit.

A wise woman at Smith College said on one such VIP day, “The college selection process is not about the sticker in the rear window of your car.” In other words, don’t limit yourself to the “name” schools. Be open to schools you may not have heard much about, but may be better for your teenager than the prestigious schools.

That same woman also said, “Keep in mind that this is your child’s college, not yours.” In other words, it ultimately must be his/her decision.

Most importantly, don’t stress out on these trips. Have fun. Remember that there are hundreds of fine schools out there, and any number of them would be a great fit for your teenager. Our daughter was fortunate enough to be accepted at her first choice on early decision, but on our trips we discovered several other schools at which I know she would have been happy, too.

Alex Sachare
Reconstructing Haiti

Young alumni visit island nation ravaged by earthquake and look for signs of hope

PHOTOS: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

Joshua Robinson '08 is a freelance writer and Daniella Zalcman '09 is a freelance photographer. They live in Manhattan, and their work has appeared in Columbia College Today as students and as young alumni. After reading many touching stories and seeing countless heart-wrenching images following the earthquake that struck Haiti, they traveled to Port-au-Prince to document not the destruction but the first steps of reconstruction.

DZ: We arrived in Haiti on January 24, 12 days after a 7.0 earthquake flattened three of the country's densest cities. Footage from Port-au-Prince (the capital), Léogâne and Jacmel had saturated news outlets for more than a week. As journalists, we were clearly late to the scene. But for every story that had been unearthed by CNN or the Associated Press or the BBC, we knew there were dozens more waiting to be told by the 1.2 million Haitians who had lost their homes and were living in makeshift tents. And so we decided to make our way to Port-au-Prince and report on Haitians taking stock and facing the future, finding hope where there seemed to be none.

JR: When the time came for us to actually start reporting, we thought, "Where do we even start?" So many iconic images and momentous stories had already gushed out of Haiti, how were we, with so little local knowledge, going to find something new and meaningful? But with the help of a guide and a broken-down Toyota with cracks in the windshield and a "Merci Jésus" sticker across the back, we began by exploring as much of Port-au-Prince as possible. We spoke to everyone we could find — tent city residents, doctors, aid workers, Marines, Haitian officials. The idea was to expose ourselves to everything.

DZ: It didn't take long for us to realize that the stories were there. A woman named Marie, who was on the plane with us from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was rushing to Port-au-Prince to find her brother, the youngest of her six siblings. The other five had died on January 12, along with their spouses and children. Darlande, a medical student we spoke to, had already returned from Haiti, that the stench of death was everywhere. But I had no idea what that meant. I'd barely encountered a corpse, except for under a white sheet and behind plenty of police tape. So when we stepped off the bus and the sticky, acrid smell filled my nostrils, it took me far too long to realize what it meant. That odor followed us for the entire week — in collapsed churches, near the destroyed National Palace, in the fringes of tent cities. It was a terrible reminder of just how much we hadn't seen.

JR: Because the airport there had been commandeered by American troops and aid organizations, getting to Port-au-Prince became a 30-hour ordeal. It meant flying into Santiago in the Dominican Republic, taking a taxi to Santo Domingo and then embarking on what turned into an eight-hour bus ride to Port-au-Prince. We arrived at our destination as night was falling. Everything we had read about and seen on television hit us immediately: the collapsed buildings where the second floor seemed to have consumed the ground floor, the people lining the streets where they would spend the night, and the pungent smell of garbage and death.

DZ: I'd heard, from colleagues and peers who had already returned from Haiti, that the stench of death was everywhere. But I had no idea what that meant. I'd barely encountered a corpse, except for...
without a U.S. passport she wouldn’t be permitted to even speak with an embassy official. Robert had lost his parents, his two younger sisters and his girlfriend to the earthquake and was living in a two-person tent with 11 friends from his high school soccer team, taking care of one classmate’s infant brother. The struggles, and stories, were everywhere we looked.

JR: Of all the tent cities, all the piles of rubble and all the devastated neighborhoods we saw, the slum of Cité Soleil will stay seared in my memory. In the area surrounding Haiti’s former state prison, a vile hole that witnessed more than 30 years of untold horrors under the Duvalier dictatorship, some of Haiti’s poorest live amid rotting fruit, broken glass and feces. Pigs run free through the mounds of garbage. Women make food out of dried mud.

Realizing that the area had hardly been affected by the earthquake only made the scene more upsetting. This was the same abject poverty the people of Cité Soleil had always known, and little was going to change that, especially now. No aid organizations had come through, and in all likelihood, they weren’t planning on it.

DZ: The most powerful images for me were the relics of life before the earthquake. Toward the end of the week, I’d begun to worry that I had been desensitized to much of the devastation. Seeing so much ruin on such a large scale had made it almost impossible for me to comprehend the earthquake’s effects on a human scale.

And then, one morning, I visited the remnants of the Sacré Cœur church in Turgeau. Most of the walls had collapsed, and the space was filled with rubble, but the pews had survived. I walked into one of the last rows to take a shot of the altar, and lying in the middle of a pew was an abandoned bridal magazine. Had a young woman, soon to be married, been looking over white dresses in this spot on January 12? The thought absolutely shook me.

JR: Whenever people heard that we had come from New York, they immediately told us about their relatives in the United States — in places like Miami, Boston and Queens. And now, in their family’s time of need, many of those relatives were frantically trying to circumvent the aid process and send money to them directly. So when the wire remittance offices like Western Union began reopening some two weeks after the quake, the lines were endless.

On the steps of a Unitransfer office in downtown Port-au-Prince one Saturday, Laurrette Maitre crouched in a sliver of shade. Her parents and two siblings in the Bronx had promised to send her $150 to help with food. For days, she had been surviving on insufficient aid handouts.

A woman makes food from dried clay in Cité Soleil, one of Haiti’s poorest slums.

A bridal magazine on a pew in Sacré Cœur church in Turgeau.
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Around the Quads

Even before the earthquake wreaked its devastation, Haiti was the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere.

She hoped to restart her small business selling drinks. “It’s enough to eat a little, and maybe even begin working again,” she said of the expected funds.

A few yards behind her, Pierrette Longuefosse had come from a nearby tent city with her sister and husband. She had three children to feed, so she waited for five hours to collect $100 from her younger sister in New York, even though she knew that it would not get them far. Price-gouging had spiraled out of control. Gas, for instance, was going for $8 a gallon. In places, a loaf of bread reached $10.

“It’s still better than nothing,” Longuefosse said, exasperated. “But it will only last two days, maybe three.”

DZ: I think a widespread misconception was that there were no resources to be found in all of Port-au-Prince. We certainly thought so. We brought enough protein bars from New York and almost enough water from the Dominican Republic to sustain ourselves for those nine days, expecting not to be able to find supplies anywhere in the city. But on our second day in Haiti, our guide stopped at a bustling supermarket and asked us if we needed anything. I was shocked — the shelves were well-stocked and the aisles were bustling with customers. But few of them were Haitian. The food was available, but the prices were far from affordable for most of Port-au-Prince’s residents.

JR: And yet, it was impossible for us to share our resources with the people who truly needed them. Several United Nations workers strongly warned us against handing out anything because it could be enough to spark a riot — the aid organizations had all experienced it themselves. It meant that we were rarely welcome when we visited tent cities. “We weren’t waiting for journalists,” one man told me. “We were waiting for help.”

DZ: Many people didn’t want to discuss what had become the worst two weeks of their lives, and they certainly didn’t want to be photographed. Josh had an advantage in that he speaks French fluently; all I could do was point at my camera and hope it was understood that I wasn’t trying to capture their shame but rather document a crisis and the beginnings of rebuilding.

JR: When I first drove by the tent cities and saw people living under four posts and a bed-sheet, I’d wrongly assumed that many of them had been poor before the earthquake. Cheap, poorly built housing, I thought, was hit hardest, and those with the means to leave had done so.

It wasn’t until I began wandering through the tents that I understood two things. First, the disaster didn’t
discriminate. There were middle-class professionals, teachers and businessmen assembling shelter from cardboard boxes alongside people who had evacuated slums. And second, not everyone wanted to leave — Port-au-Prince was still their home, even without a house.

DZ: It wasn’t long before shadows of those homes started springing up in tent cities all over Port-au-Prince. The evolution of those communities during the course of the week that we spent in Haiti was stunning. One in particular, the St. Louis community, changed tremendously in just a few days. The first time I explored the 10-acre tract, there was nothing more than sheets and plastic tarps fashioned into makeshift tents.

But by our last day in Port-au-Prince, St. Louis had progressed to a growing shantytown with street signs (named after American states) and an address system, grocery stores selling canned and dried produce, and salons offering a trim and a shave. Children clustered around a generator-powered television, watching cartoons. Women gave each other manicures. Men wove branches and straw into panels to create walls and thatching for more permanent housing. Reconstruction was underway.

JR: Nowhere was this clearer than in Léogâne, a town about 18 miles up the coast from Port-au-Prince where the earthquake had torn down 85 percent of the structures, according to official figures. Its main street had none of the desperation of sprawling Port-au-Prince. In this smaller, closer community, every pile of rubble was as busy as an anthill, with dozens of people clearing debris. They dug out whole bricks and steel cables, things that would become construction materials in a new Léogâne. Even small businesses seemed to have been revived. Of course, people knew it would be years before they recognized their hometown. But more quickly than anywhere else we visited, they had sprung into action.
Reactions from a Medical Mission to Haiti

BY SALLIE WILSON ’11

Late last summer, my dad and I planned a weekend medical volunteer trip to Haiti for the first week of January. Little did we know that we would narrowly be avoiding death, or at least tragedy, by leaving just two days before the earthquake of January 12.

Why did we choose Haiti? We had found a group in Gastonia, N.C., not too far from my hometown of Charlotte, with a strikingly pure medical mission statement and established ties in Haiti. When we first visited Lumière Medical Missions, I was struck by their genuine altruism. They were not working for media attention and certainly not for money, which was refreshing.

My dad, a cardiologist, had always wanted to do medical mission work, and Haiti appealed to us because it is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. I had studied Haiti in passing during the course of my French studies, and its culture had intrigued me. I was excited to see the practice of medicine in a less formal setting—a general clinic—where I could be more participatory in patient diagnosis under a doctor’s instruction.

We stayed with Haitian-born doctors Hubert Morquette and Junie Hyacinthe in their newly built mission hospital, King’s Hospital, in Port-au-Prince. Their complex includes a six-story hospital, an orphanage of 64 children and a school of 108 children.

The most eye-opening part of the trip was not the sight of the shantytowns or the size of the stomach of a malnourished child, but the repetition of these sights. We drove to the beach on the Friday of our weekend trip. Again and again we passed young children with stomachs the size of the stomach of a malnourished child, but the repetition of these sights. That ballooned out due to malnourishment. They were not working for media attention and certainly not for money, which was refreshing.

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The top of King’s Hospital had a commanding view of Delmas, a suburb of Port-au-Prince, and the valley leading to the coast. Few buildings were more than one-story high with a few rooms; the hospital was the tallest building within the 360-degree view. Everything seemed to be falling apart except the mountains.

This is not to say Haiti is not beautiful. The white-sand beaches of Jacmel could be mistaken for beaches in the Caribbean on which world-class resorts build their reputations. The mountains were lush, green and terraced.

When I found out that the earthquake had hit, I was shell-shocked, stunned, speechless, what have you. I learned that the Presidential Palace had been damaged and no longer looked like the image I had in the packet of developed photos I had just brought home from the drugstore. I felt that all of the memories and stimulation that had painted my experience—the sights, the people, the sounds, the smells—that had ruptured along with Haiti. This kind of heartbreak was new to me.

A day after the earthquake I heard from Lumière Medical Missions; I found out that Hubert had called at 5:30 p.m. after the earthquake to say no one had died and the hospital was one of the few in Port-au-Prince still intact. Up until the earthquake, King’s Hospital was not open to patients due to lack of funds, supplies and staff. Afterward, it was filled beyond capacity, with Hubert and Junie performing surgeries. I was told they were in desperate need of both doctors and supplies.

My main concerns for Haiti are first, the thousands of homeless Haitians who now will have an even harder time finding the food, water and shelter we take for granted. Second, the escape of inmates from the prison in downtown Port-au-Prince means some of those responsible for the 2003-08 violence now are free. Third, the country itself had so far to go with its medicine before the earthquake. King’s Hospital was in need of fundraising to establish a fund to support the many Haitian patients who could not pay full price for their necessary medical attention. Now the attention of the world is on earthquake relief (as it should be). Thankfully, Haitian causes have become the focus of charities nationwide, but to what end will Haiti be restored?

My hope is that aid and disaster relief efforts will establish a greater infrastructure rather than merely restore the recent but tenuous stability Haiti had, which was due to an increase in police force and the recent capture by President René Préval’s forces of the leader of the gang responsible for the revolts.

Haiti is not just a disaster-torn, third-world country to be pitied or patronized. Participate in the restoration process for the sake of its people and potential. A great place to start is by donating to the Helping Hands for Haiti campaign organized by the Haitian and Caribbean Students’ Associations. At the very least, resist becoming desensitized to the issue as the images of disaster become redundant and the passage of time and stress of daily life make it easy to tune out this crisis. What the earthquake has not changed is Haiti’s potential to be a thriving island nation with an intriguing identity. Now, more than ever, it needs help to get there.

Editor’s note: A version of this story first appeared in The Columbia Daily Spectator on January 25.

Sallie Wilson ’11 is from Charlotte, N.C. She is majoring in French with a premedical concentration and plans to continue volunteering in Haiti as she pursues a career in medicine.
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15 West 43 St. New York, NY 10036
Professor Stuart Firestein teaches biology and the popular "Ignorance," a course that invites professors to speak to students about what they don't know and what they question in their field. He earned his bachelor's in biology from San Francisco State University and his Ph.D. from UC Berkeley. A theater director before entering academia, Firestein did post-doctoral research at the Yale School of Medicine before coming to Columbia.

Where did you grow up? Philadelphia.

What did you want to be growing up? I started out with the usual childhood things — cowboy, fireman. My first interests were in science. I wanted to be an astronaut. That lasted until the middle of high school when I got involved in the drama club. Then I became interested in the theater. I think it was in part because I went to an all-boys school. There was an all-girls school down the street and the only interaction between them was in the theater because we needed girls to play the female roles.

How did you become a biologist? I worked in the theater for almost 20 years. I did not go into science until rather late in life. I didn’t go to college [straight from high school]. Instead, I was an apprentice and worked my way up, eventually directing, which I did for a number of years, both on the East Coast at rep companies and on the West Coast in San Francisco, and a little bit in Los Angeles. When I was 30, I decided to go back to school. In those days, one could go to San Francisco State and be a full-time student for $106 a semester. I took a class in animal communication from a professor named Hal Markowitz, who was a wonderful mentor and remains a good friend. It may have been the most important thing that happened to me in life. I finished a graduate degree by my 40th birthday, which was my goal. I was hoping there’d be some time between tenure and emeritus.

How did you end up at Columbia? I came down and gave a talk to the department, and they liked me, and I liked them. I could have stayed at a medical school, but I always really wanted to return to a university situation. I like undergraduates, and I like teaching. This sounds terribly corny, but I feel a sense of responsibility to return what I was given, and I believe there’s a better chance to do that at an undergraduate campus. Plus I liked hanging out with philosophers and classicists and language people.

"Frontiers of Science" is up for its five-year review. Where do you see it going? This is not a trivial issue. There are parts of it that work and parts that don’t. The part that seems to work is the big lectures. You get Columbia’s world-renowned faculty to put together two, three or four lectures in their field, but making their field accessible. I think that alone, aside from what it does for the students, which is the primary thing, is important because you actually enlist faculty who usually

call a model system. The brain is too hard to understand all by itself. One looks for simpler systems along the idea that fundamental mechanisms in the brain are going to be found on simpler levels, possibly in simpler organisms, like worms or flies, or subsystems of complicated organisms. The sense of smell is a good subsystem of the brain to learn a lot about important issues in the brain.

What are you teaching this semester? I teach a course I slapped together myself called "Ignorance." It comes out of this notion that the one mistake that we make unavoidably in teaching science is that we teach them a bunch of facts. That’s important, but it’s not what science is about. When I meet up with scientists, we never talk about what we know; we talk about what we don’t know. It’s the only thing that’s of interest to a scientist. I was worried that we weren’t giving our students any sense of that at all. They thought science was just a big fact book.

Are you married? Do you have children? My wife is a professor of animal behavior at Hunter. My daughter entered the College in the fall.

How do you recharge? I like to hang out in coffee shops and bars, and I have friends who are not in the sciences or academia. I know some actors and singers, and I think spending time with them is useful. I recharge by being social.

To watch Firestein talk more about his work and life, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen '04
**ALUMNI IN THE NEWS**

- **George Stephanopoulos '82**. In December, the former ABC News Washington Bureau Chief and host of *This Week* took over the reins co-anchoring *Good Morning America* with Robin Roberts, replacing Diane Sawyer. Stephanopoulos also became ABC’s chief political correspondent. One of the powerhouses of political television journalism, he has conducted extensive interviews with President Barack Obama '83, Vice President Joe Biden, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and many other high-ranking members of the administration.

- The U.S. Senate voted 84-0 on February 9 to confirm Joseph A. Greenaway Jr. '78 to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, which hears cases from New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. President Barack Obama '83 had nominated Greenaway in June, and he won the Senate Judiciary Committee’s approval in October. Greenaway, who is an adjunct professor of English and comparative literature, received the University Medal of Excellence in 1997, the Black Heritage Award from the Alumni of Color Outreach Program in 1997 and the College’s John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2003.

- It isn’t often that a public offering can make the business world’s collective jaw drop, but Lisa Landau Carnoy ’89 raised $19.29 billion for Bank of America in December, shattering records and allowing the bank to pay back its TARP loan. The deal may “be seen as a turning point in the fate of one of the most important financial institutions still standing,” according to *The New York Observer*, which went on to say, “Those billions will define the career of Ms. Carnoy, quietly one of the most powerful women on Wall Street.”

- Ezra Koenig ’06, Chris Tomson ’06, Rostam Batmanglij ’06 and Chris Baio ’07, who make up the indie rock band Vampire Weekend, reached the top of the Billboard charts in January with their second album, *Contra*. The album sold 124,000 copies in its first week, easily beating out the shivery Susan Boyle, whose album sold 77,000 copies, for the top spot. Vampire Weekend, which was formed while the members were at Columbia, also was the subject of a lengthy profile in *The New Yorker* in December.

- The publishing industry may be suffering, but that hasn’t stopped Jodi Kantor ’96 from scoring a huge advance for a book about President Barack Obama ‘83 and his family. Kantor, a Washington, D.C., correspondent for *The New York Times*, has written extensively about Obama and his closest allies, including pieces on his time at Harvard, his basketball games and a *New York Times Magazine* cover story on his marriage. The book was purchased by Little, Brown following a heated auction, according to *The New York Observer*.

- Shawn Landres ’94 was named by *Forward* as one of the 50 most influential leaders in American Jewish life. He is the co-founder and CEO of Jumpstart, a nonprofit organization that works with organizations to create “an inclusive, diverse and dynamic Jewish future.” Calling Landres a “primary evangelist of innovation,” *Forward* wrote that he “emerged this year as an essential thinker in explaining the new Jewish spirituality and culture to the Jewish establishment.”

- **Donald Krim ’67** and Richard Lorber ’67, stars in the independent and foreign film release world, have combined their resources to form one company that will be “the biggest of the little guys” in the film world, according to *The New York Times*. Krim’s Kino International, which has introduced numerous foreign filmmakers to American audiences, merged with Lorber HT Digital, of which Lorber is CEO, to form Kino-Lorber, Inc. Although both divisions will continue to handle their own releases, the combined company will manage a list of about 600 titles. Lorber and Krim met during their freshman year at the College.

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Victor Suarez ’11 Explores the Art of Filmmaking

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

In his short but forward-moving career, filmmaker Victor Suarez ’11 already has experimented with several genres and modes of storytelling.

In January, he directed a music video in Brooklyn for independent rock musician and Yale student Laura Zax.

"It includes a giant cardboard machine that turns bottles into humans. It’s about a dual Zax — one in the normal world and one in this colorful absurd world — who eventually switch places," says Suarez, who approached Zax about making a video after hearing her song "Doctor, Doctor."

Laura LaPerche ’10 and Charlotte Kaufman ’10 produced the video through King Cub Productions, a Columbia undergraduate production company, and helped raise funds for the project. Suarez also received a grant from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation through the Columbia Arts Initiative.

Suarez’s interest in film has evolved gradually since he was a child, when he would entertain himself by playing with his parents’ video camera. His childhood pastime eventually became a passion fueled by his involvement in theater during high school.

“I now had a bunch of friends who were also actors and were always game for making a movie. Writing and directing became so fun and we were so rewarded that I wanted to do more and more,” says Suarez, the only child of a Spanish father and a Japanese mother.

Accompanied by five fellow Colombians, Suarez headed to Spain in July 2008 to carry out his most ambitious cinematic endeavor to date: the filming of a short movie, Nel Reinu, aka The Kingdom, that he wrote and directed.

The 13-minute film, shot against the scenic backdrop of the province of Asturias, is a story about familial estrangement and reconciliation. Its logline (one-sentence summary or pitch) reads: “Following the death of his father, a man returns to his family in Spain, bringing his young American daughter who discovers an enduring connection to his past and family that transcends the politics that tore them apart decades ago.”

Suarez also reached out to Spanish producer Carlos Navarro and was rewarded for his initiative, as Navarro agreed to co-produce the film. He received funding from the Gatsby Charitable Foundation as well. In total, Nel Reinu boasted a $15,000 budget, which Suarez points out is a huge sum for an undergraduate film.

Nel Reinu is set in Oviedo, the capital of Asturias, and was filmed in Grao, a rural village just outside the city. The dialogue is in English and Bable, the local language in Asturias. Suarez, who speaks Spanish but not Bable, wrote the script in English and worked with one of the local actors hired by Navarro’s production company to have certain lines spoken in the provincial language.

Molina and Schwartz traveled to Spain with Suarez for the filming, as did LaPerche and Kaufman, who were production managers. Nessa Norich ’08 Bar¬nard played Julia, the American daughter. All had their expenses paid for but did not receive additional compensation.

“Victor was a joy to work with. He knows what he wants from a shot,” says Norich, who was nominated for Best Actress at the 2009 SoCal International Film Festival for her performance in Nel Reinu. “He also relied a lot on the actors’ interpretation of text. He trusted my choices and my opinion, so it was a nice collaboration.”

Nel Reinu has been screened at film festivals throughout the United States and abroad. It was named “Best of Festival” at the 2009 Open APPerture Film Festival, which is run by students at the Appalachian State University in North Carolina. It also won a Silver Palm Award in the Student Film category at the 2009 Mexico International Film Festival.

Suarez has co-written another movie script, a dark comedy about a teenage couple about to fulfill a suicide pact, titled Date and produced in 2008 by Amalgamated Dynamics, the production company of Academy Award-winning visual effects artist Alec Gillis.

Born in California, Suarez lived in Connecticut before moving to Chicago as a third-grader. Fond recollections of day trips to the Big Apple eventually drew him back to the tri-state area and to the College.

“I really wanted to live in New York,” says Suarez. “All my childhood memories are from New York.”

Suarez has chosen not to study film as an undergraduate and is instead majoring in economics and philosophy with a concentration in history.

“I plan on going into film after I graduate,” he explains. “I’m going to be doing that for the rest of my life, hopefully, so I don’t really want to study just film. I want to learn other things.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08 is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer of LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s Spanish language Web site.
CAMPUS NEWS

■ RELAY FOR LIFE: The seventh annual Relay For Life, a walk-a-thon style fundraiser held by Columbia’s Colleges Against Cancer chapter to benefit the American Cancer Society, will take place on April 17 from 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. in the Blue Gym in the Dodge Physical Fitness Center. Members of the Columbia and Morningside communities as well as cancer survivors will once again come together to celebrate those who are surviving, remember those who have been lost, and fight back against the disease that affects one in every three people worldwide.

After six years of being held on the Low Library steps, this year’s relay will take place indoors. As a result, this year’s traditional luminaria ceremony will feature colored glowsticks instead of candles.

For more information about this event or how you can contribute to the fight against cancer, please visit www.relayforlife.org/columbiauniversity.

■ LIBRARIES: Columbia University Libraries has joined HathiTrust (www.hathitrust.org), a shared repository for the digitized content from academic and research libraries. Columbia plans to contribute public domain volumes digitized through its partnerships with Google, Microsoft and the Internet Archive. HathiTrust’s repository currently includes the member libraries of the Committee on Institutional Cooperation, the University of California system and the University of Virginia.

IN LUMINE TUO

■ FELLOWS: Don J. Melnick, Thomas Hunt Morgan Professor of Conservation Biology in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology and professor of anthropology and biological sciences; Robert Y. Shapiro, professor of political science; and Liang Tong, professor of biological sciences, are among seven Columbia professors who have been elected fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a prestigious scientific society established in 1848. Also selected were Jeffrey A. Lieberman, the Lieber Professor of Psychiatry; W. Ian Lipkin, the John Snow Professor of Epidemiology and professor of neurology and pathology; Stephen S. Morse, professor of clinical epidemiology; and Lorraine S. Symington, professor of microbiology and immunology. The seven new fellows are among 531 inductees from across the nation.

■ GERRARD: Michael Gerrard ’72, director of the Law School’s Center for Climate Change Law, has been selected as the first Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice. This new endowed professorship is the first at any law school in the world devoted exclusively to the study of climate change law.

SAVE THE DATE

Columbia College and the Columbia College Alumni Association are proud to sponsor Dean’s Day 2010. Scheduled for Saturday, June 5, the program provides the opportunity for alumni and parents to participate in thought-provoking lectures and discussions with some of Columbia’s finest faculty.

Dean’s Day 2010 is particularly noteworthy, as it is Dean Michele Moody-Adams’ first Dean’s Day as Dean of the College. Additionally, Dean’s Day 2010 coincides with Alumni Reunion Weekend. With even more alumni on campus, this year’s event should be the most exciting and well-attended yet.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:00 a.m. — Registration Opens — Alfred Lerner Hall
8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. — Dean’s Continental Breakfast with Opening Address by Michele Moody-Adams, Dean of Columbia College
9:30 a.m. — Camp Columbia for Kids
10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. — Public Intellectual Lectures
Noon – 1:30 p.m. — Lunch
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. — Core Curriculum Lectures
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. — WKCR, Columbia Daily Spectator and Columbia University Marching Band Affinity Receptions and a special performance by the Glee Club and other singing groups

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010 • NEW YORK CITY
IN MEMORIAM

C. Lowell Harriss ’40 GSAS, professor emeritus of economics, died on December 14, 2009, at his home in Bronxville, N.Y. He was 97.

Born in Fairbury, Neb., on August 2, 1912, Harriss graduated summa cum laude from Harvard on December 14, 2009, at his home in Bronxville, N.Y. He was 97.

In Memoriam

C. Lowell Harriss ’40 GSAS, professor emeritus of economics, died on December 14, 2009, at his home in Bronxville, N.Y. He was 97.

Harriss served as an officer in the Army Air Corps from 1943–46, working on aircraft and manpower procurement, on the economic problems of the shift of fighting to the Pacific, and finally on the problems of economic demobilization and the postwar aircraft industry. He began teaching at Columbia in 1938 while pursuing a Ph.D. in economics at GSAS and remained at Columbia until retiring from teaching in 1981.

University Trustee Mark E. Kingdon endowed, in 1998, the C. Lowell Harriss Professorship of Economics in honor of “my teacher, mentor and friend.”

“I took Professor Harriss’ public speaking immigrant, Yerushalmi developed a seminal work on taxation of land, property tax, finance reform, land values and planning land use. Harriss also had advised state, federal and foreign governments on tax policy including the Department of Treasury; the City of New York; New York State; the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; the Federal District of Venezuela; the Ministry of Finance, Republic of China; the United Nations; and the Agency of International Development of the U.S. Department of State.

Harriss met and married Agnes Bennett Murphy in 1936. She predeceased him in 1992. Harriss is survived by his children, L. Gordon ’68, Patricia, Martha and Brian; five grandchildren; and sister, Marion Engelhart.

Karl Kroebel ’56 GSAS, the Mellon Professor Emeritus in the Humanities, died on November 8, 2009, at his home in Brooklyn. He was 82.

Kroebel earned a bachelor’s from UC Berkeley in 1947 and a Ph.D. from Columbia in 1956. After teaching at the University of Wisconsin for 14 years, he returned to Columbia in 1970 and taught in the English and Comparative Literature Department until his retirement in June 2000.

A prolific scholar who published a wide variety of books, Kroebel was well-recognized for his work on Romantic poetry but also wrote on narrative theory, Native American literature and ecology; among other subjects.

Kroebel was known for being a demanding but compassionate professor who relentlessly challenged his students. “He’s somebody who was always there to provoke and to counsel,” said James Shapiro ’77, the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature and a longtime colleague of Kroebel’s, in an interview with Spectator. “He was never comfortable with easy answers.”

Kroebel was survived by his wife Jean, sons, Paul and Arthur; daughter, Katharine K. Wiley; four grandchildren; brothers, Clifton and Theodore; and sister, Ursula K. LeGuin. There will be a memorial service at Columbia last fall at Harriss’ invitation — in an e-mail. Also, “He served as a huge inspiration to me. I never heard him complain,” noted Stephan Vencenzo ’12, who had been friends with Harriss for two years.

Class of 2012 Student Passes Away

John David “JD” Fernandez ’12, known by classmates and peers for his optimism and political convictions, died from pneumonia on January 16.

Fernandez was vice president of the Columbia University Libertarians and contributed to the Web site of the Ludwig von Mises Institute, which works on “advancing the scholarship of liberty in the tradition of the Austrian school of economic thought. Fernandez was planning to major in economics and philosophy. On his personal blog, The Liberty Review, he described himself as “a stormtrooper of the Yankee Universe and a classic liberal of the Misesian strain.”

Fernandez attended a weeklong program at Mises University last summer. Eric Staib, a senior at the University of Oklahoma, attended the program with Fernandez and noted in Spectator that money is being raised to create an award in his name.

The Spectator article included a number of tributes, including: “He was a whirlwind of energy confined to a wheelchair. Every time I'm on the grounds of Columbia, I’ll think of JD,” wrote CJ Maloney — a blogger for Mises who spoke at Columbia last fall at Fernandez’ invitation — in an e-mail. Also, “He served as a huge inspiration to me. I never heard him complain,” noted Stephen Vencenzo ’12, who had been friends with Fernandez for two years.

Jesse Thiessen ’11 Arts
**Update from Kabul**

**By Laura Butchy ’04 Arts**

Much has changed at Tarsian & Blinkley since 2005, when
*Columbia College Today* first reported on the
women’s clothing business founded by Sarah Takesh ’95 in Kabul, Afghanistan ([www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/nov05](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/nov05)).

Started in 2003, Takesh’s company employed Afghan women to embroider women’s apparel in a central Kabul workshop. Today, her enterprise has transformed into a locally owned business that operates in a three-floor facility on the outskirts of Kabul. Employing 500 people, including 350 women, the expanded Tarsian & Blinkley has shifted focus to include goods for the local market, such as sweaters, t-shirts, socks and uniforms. In addition, the company operates a smaller facility near the Pakistan border, and a second building three times the size of the Kabul facility should open next to it by the summer.

Takesh (far right on cover) began shifting control of the company to her business partner, an Afghan tailor, in 2006, when the challenges of operating a local business as a foreigner became increasingly difficult to manage. Now Takesh resides in Dubai with her husband, Saad Mohseni, an Afghan national who owns a regional media organization with television stations in Afghanistan and Iran. She continues to fly to Afghanistan to assist with the business but has turned over control to the local owner as she prepares to have her first child. She also is thinking about her next venture, which may include designing furniture.

“It’s a strange feeling I never expected to have in middle age,” Takesh says, “but I am convinced that the big thing I was supposed to do in life hasn’t happened yet!”

Laura Butchy ’04 Arts is a freelance writer, teaching artist and dramaturg in New York City.
Nearly 100 women (and three men) gathered on campus at The Italian Academy on January 26 to hear ABC news correspondent Claire Shipman ’86, ’94 SIPA talk about the research in her new book, Womenomics: Write Your Own Rules for Success, cowritten with BBC World News America correspondent Katty Kay.

Womenomics argues that giving women greater flexibility in the workforce—to make schedules and even choose locations that work well with their lifestyles—both furthers their careers and is more profitable for businesses.

Shipman recounted her experiences “working nonstop” in Moscow and covering the White House, and said after she had her son several years ago, she started to feel differently. “I became a ‘difficult person’ for ABC, someone who was ‘complicated,’ and would say ‘no,’” she said.

She has negotiated more flexible work arrangements and a four-day work week, but says women should not have to work out individual arrangements and that companies should be eager to accommodate them more formally, to prevent the “brain drain” of women leaving the workforce for family reasons.

Shipman now has two children and Kay has four children. “At cocktail parties, instead of figuring out how to be on TV tomorrow, we were trying to figure out how not to be on TV,” Shipman said.

While the women were negotiating their own more flexible work arrangements with their employers, they discovered research about how businesses profit from women’s involvement at all levels.

“The argument of the book is: giving people flexibility and letting them work how they want to work is not a favor or a p.c. thing to do. It’s a very good business strategy,” Shipman said. “The more senior women you have in a company, the more money it makes.”

After her talk, Shipman answered questions from the audience and signed copies of the book.

Columbia will celebrate its vocal past with the first Glee Club reunion, a chance for alumni to see old friends and “lift voices” once again. Plans, which are still being finalized, call for a little rehearsing, some post-rehearsal socializing and a performance in Lerner Hall, followed by a reception for singers and audience. The reunion will even include news of today’s Glee Club and a discussion on how Glee Club alumni might stay in touch.

Band alumni, meanwhile, are expected to gather on Hamilton lawn on Saturday morning to rehearse before making their grand entrance to the lunchtime barbecue tents on South Field, where they will play Columbia classics and other tunes for reunion attendees.

Alumni interested in attending any of these affinity-based reunions should log on to these special Web sites for more information:

- Marching band: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu/band
- Singing groups: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu/singing
- Spectator: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu/spectator
- WKCR: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu/wkcr

Photo: Char Smullyan

Claire Shipman ’86, ’94 SIPA advocates greater flexibility for women in the workplace.

Among those attending Shipman’s talk were (left to right) Dean Michele Moody-Adams, Student Council President Sue Yang ’10 and Isabel Broer ’10.

Photos: Char Smullyan

More Affinity-Based Gatherings Slated for Alumni Reunion Weekend

Building on the popularity of last year’s gatherings of former WKCR and Spectator staffers during Alumni Reunion Weekend, the program is being expanded this year to include the Glee Club, other singing groups and the Marching Band. Alumni Reunion Weekend is scheduled for Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6.

“We enjoyed such success last year with our launch of affinity-based receptions, the College and our partners at SEAS and Barnard thought it made sense to expand the program,” said Ken Catandella, executive director of Alumni Affairs.

“More important than the increase in the number of receptions is the interactive nature of this year’s program. Whether it is oral histories at WKCR, rehearsal for the Glee Club and singing groups, a tour of the Spectator offices or the Marching Band stomping through the Reunion and Dean’s Day barbecue on Saturday, the entire program feels more robust.”

WKCR and Spectator held successful alumni gatherings last year, giving alumni a chance to reconnect and also visit with some of today’s staffers, as well as tour the current offices. Similar events are planned for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010.
Jonathan Dahl '80, '81J
Makes Business Writing Personal

Editor of SmartMoney magazine and author of
1,001 Things They Won’t Tell You
helps readers survive the financial crisis

By Yelena Shuster '09

Since he was a child, Jonathan Dahl '80, '81J has known that he would spend his professional life fighting for a cause. He has been protecting people with ink and paper ever since.

Dahl's father, Theodore Dahl '49, '50J, instilled in him the concept of journalism serving as the fourth estate — a term for the press that dates to the 19th century and implies a duty to effect change. Whether reporting on homelessness for The Houston Chronicle or on asbestos danger for The Wall Street Journal, Jonathan Dahl has followed this belief in a successful career that has spanned more than 20 years.

"I am the cliché," Dahl says. "I wrote for my elementary school paper. Journalism is all I've ever done."

Since 2006, Dahl has been advising 800,000 print readers and two million Web readers on all matters of personal finance as editor-in-chief of SmartMoney magazine. Last May, he established his expertise to the general public as author of 1,001 Things They Won’t Tell You: An Insider's Guide to Spending, Saving, and Living Wisely, which now has 25,000 copies in print. The book was an extension of SmartMoney's popular "Ten Things They Won’t Tell You" column, which has been enlightening consumers since 1992 on everything from tax preparation scandals to purposely misleading movie ads.

At SmartMoney, Dahl continues in the tradition of serving his readers.

"Whether Jonathan was covering travel as a reporter or running the Journal's Weekend Section, what's always driven him as a journalist is to be the proxy for the reader. It's a real challenge for a journalist to ask the question for the average reader and get to the bottom line: 'How is this really going to affect people?'" says Tom Weber, who has worked with Dahl since the '90s when both were at the Journal. Weber became SmartMoney's Web editor in 2008.

For Dahl, SmartMoney is a safeguard against consumer exploitation.

"We are there to question not only government policy but also Wall Street mutual fund industry policies," Dahl says. "That's where we stand out. We're the self-appointed watchdog over the investment side of the business.

"To me, testing a million-dollar portfolio or gas tank should be equally important to covering the White House," Dahl continues. "This is your money, this is your life. It's remarkable how little attention has been paid to that. Personal finance reporting was not where newspapers put their resources."

PHOTO: COURTESY HEARST CORP.
he crash of 2008, however, quickly shifted everyone's attention. And Dahl found SmartMoney in the center of the spotlight. As the financial crisis was unfolding, Dahl saw an opportunity to increase the magazine's relevance and online presence (www.smartmoney.com). He had a two-pronged approach: On the production side, redesign the magazine for a broader interest beyond wealthy hedge fund analysts; on the editorial side, re-focus the content so that stories have a personal appeal past the statistics.

With clarity in mind, Dahl led a major redesign in October 2008 to appeal to non-investors by staying away from a "stodgy, heavy-print" look. This redesign included larger art, funnier photo illustrations, shorter stories, more sidebars and a layman-friendly "Term of the Month" section that explained obscure financial terminology.

The first cover story after the crash, "Rebuild Your Wealth," which ran in the December 2008 issue, showed Dahl's editorial approach: what to do now to earn back money that was lost. Rebuilding your wealth has remained the editorial focus of the magazine.

Another approach included more personal interest stories to complement the magazine's coverage of statistic-based stock picking. Dahl's eye for stories such as "Parents in Crisis," about a reporter's mother's financial ruin, and "When Trouble Trickles Down," about families coping with the older generation's financial woes, helped bring in new readers.

On the Web side, Dahl created a financial help line that invited readers to send their questions via e-mail and an 800 number. Reporters and editors then answered the questions online or with a Webcast. In spring 2009, Dahl also provided a free, 40-page downloadable tax guide, researched and written by SmartMoney's tax expert, Bill Bischoff, meant to clarify how the new administration's policy affects the consumer's tax report. With 30,000 downloads in a week, the guide was a hit. The Web site also received some industry buzz after Weber launched @relivethecrash on Twitter, which featured daily news recaps of how the financial crisis unfolded from one year ago. Both strategies worked: Web site traffic has been up 20 percent since the crash, now averaging two million unique visitors a month and generating 19 million monthly page views.

Dahl has gained a bit of celebrity since the crash. "I didn't get the attention at cocktail parties that I do now," he deadpans. But his path to success was not easy. Like the Class of 2009, Dahl also graduated in the middle of a recession. He did not have any luck finding a job with traditional methods, so he got creative. On the day of the Pulitzer Prize deliberations, held on the Columbia campus, Dahl prepared a resume, clips and spiel with which he accosted every editor he could find.

Dahl decided to wait for Pulitzer jurors in the hallway during their deliberations and grabbed Don Pickles, then-managing editor of The Houston Chronicle, on his way out. Dahl told Pickles, "I need two minutes of your time to tell you about my life and why I think journalism is an important calling. You probably get a lot of candidates, but you probably don't have any who have been doing it so religiously for so many years." Then Dahl showed him a lede page, a sheet that contained the first paragraph of six or seven stories Dahl had written, ranging from an expose about Vietnam veterans not getting any medical coverage to a personal essay about being beaten by the top junior girl tennis player. The boldness paid off. By the time they had left the building, Pickles offered Dahl a position covering the night police beat Wednesday through Saturday from midnight to noon. Despite the night hours, Dahl couldn't wait and drove to Texas the Monday after graduation.

At the Chronicle, Dahl worked in the "cop shop," a tiny room at the Houston police department where reporters covering the beat hung out, listening to scanners and phoning in scoops in an old telephone booth in the middle of the room. At the same time, Dahl began serving as a freelance correspondent (known as a "stringer") in the newspaper business, because in the old days they were paid based on the length of the string of clippings they would compile) for The New York Times. He would leave his shift at noon and go straight to the Times bureau office. For the Times and the Chronicle, Dahl covered everything from nursing home scandals to Hurricane Alicia. After three years, he got a job in the Dallas bureau of The Wall Street Journal, where he delved into business reporting and began covering topics such as asbestos and bankruptcy.

In 1986, Dahl transferred to the Chicago bureau of WSJ and began developing the travel beat. Two years later, he moved to the New York bureau of WSJ and started a travel column, which focused on the headaches consumers faced in the first years of airline deregulation. From there, Dahl was promoted to travel editor and later became one of the founding editors of WSJ's Weekend section.

Dahl's rise through the ranks is no surprise to his coworkers, many of whom view him as a valuable teacher. Staff Writer Neil Parmar, who has worked for Dahl since 2005, acknowledges that Dahl can be "very intense, no matter if you're working with him for the first time or millionth time." Parmar began as an intern at SmartMoney before transitioning to staff writer. He considers Dahl a mentor.

"He's involved in everyone's stories, whether you're the intern, staff writer or a columnist. As an intern, I found that very surprising. I just assumed there was a huge chain of command and I would never see him," Parmar says. "Instead, he often walked by and asked me, 'How's it going? What ideas do you have? What are you working on?' He's known all of the interns on a similar basis. You never get coffee, never check personal e-mail. He gives the interns a lot of reporting.'"

WSJ reporter Nancy Keates worked for Dahl at the Weekend Journal for a decade, and also considers him a mentor. Keates
began pitching to Dahl while working for the Dow Jones news-wires, and under his editing helm contributed stories ranging from hotel room service to water quality on airplanes (back when they had water fountains). “He put time into teaching me how to transition from a wire service reporter to a newspaper feature reporter,” Keates says. “I think his greatest strength as an editor is that he teaches reporters not to stop. He pushes you to keep looking and keep finding. He really made an effort to help reporters learn how to write a better story.”

Many coworkers agree: Dahl’s pursuit of the perfect story is one of the things that drives his success.

“With a monthly magazine, you have the problem of a relatively long lead time. What we write today has to hold up and not be out of date a few weeks down the road when people buy it at the newsstand,” says Executive Editor Bob Rose, who has worked intermittently with Dahl since the ‘80s when both were reporters in WSJ’s Chicago bureau. “Jonathan is very smart with story ideas. Give him a fully edited story and he can find a problem with it quicker than anyone I’ve seen.”

Parmar cites a similar strength. “Whenever I figure out a story, he always spins it around and asks the questions I haven’t found the answers to yet: ‘How can you make this anecdote funnier? How can you get a more recent statistic? How can you get the story shorter while making the same impact?’” Parmar says. “Until it’s shipped, he’s always on it to make sure it’s as fresh and up-to-date as possible. He’s not content letting a story sit around for a week or even half a week if he knows it can be tweaked.”

Dahl credits SmartMoney’s staying power to “staying one step ahead of the curve—what’s next, what’s beyond Twitter and Facebook,” he says. “I think print media will have a smaller place out there. We’re not going to have large magazines down the road, you may have a Kindle-type of experience. It’s a matter of trying to anticipate what readers will want.

“If you’re a good journalist, you’re always looking for trends,” Dahl continues. “From day one, whether writing for the high school paper or the Journal, I was trying to put together patterns. To take it to Columbia, what helps you be a good student when you’re asked to do a whole reading of books is to find trends in the books you’re reading.”

Columbia has been a part of Dahl’s life since he was a child. His father and his mother, Sheila Larkin, met at a Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji) fraternity party. Dahl’s house was filled with CU paraphernalia from large beer mugs to jerseys. The family had been going to Columbia football games since Jonathan was 8. “I’ll never forget my dad weeping when Columbia beat Princeton in the ’70s at what was then called Baker Field,” Dahl says. When it was time for Jonathan to apply to college, his father told him he had a choice of two schools: Columbia or Columbia.

He credits the College for inspiring the work ethic that enabled him to succeed. “At Columbia, you were really rewarded if you worked hard. I got used to that habit that the College had really instilled,” says Dahl, a summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate. “You have to be street smart from day one. I couldn’t have been a journalist otherwise. I wouldn’t have learned to think on my feet.”

At Columbia, Dahl wrote for Spectator for three years and was a sports associate for a semester, learning how to write on deadline and other aspects of journalism. “I learned by doing at Spectator,” he says. “One time a sports editor told me, ‘You’re not using verbs. That’s the most important tool.’” He was right, and I never forgot it.”

Asked about favorite courses at Columbia, Dahl cites American history with Henry Graff ’49 GSAS, which gave him a sense of perspective that is a “great tool for a journalist to have,” and English with Carl F. Hovde ’50, which helped him with long-form journalism. And he still appreciates the texts of the Core. “When I give speeches today, I might pull out a quote from Ovid,” the American history major says.

Dwayne Dahl ’72, an art history major who now is manager of operations for a computer company, is not surprised his brother became the editor-in-chief of SmartMoney. The two would share anecdotes when the younger Dahl had his travel column at WSJ and Dwayne was traveling 100,000 miles a year while working for General Electric.

All three Dahls — Jonathan, Dwayne and their father — were members of the Fiji fraternity, and both sons lived in Carman. “He was a skinny little kid, but grew up and made it big,” Dwayne says of his brother. “And that was a big dream that our father had for him.” Theodore kept every clip that Jonathan wrote in a book, which Jonathan found after his father’s death in 1988.

Most of Dahl’s friends from college became doctors or lawyers, but Dahl says he would never trade in his experience for more money or stability. “I think I’ve had a lot more fun in my career than a lot of my classmates. Many of the lawyers I know complain about their field,” Dahl says. “I wake up every day bursting out of bed. It never gets boring.”

Yelena Shuster ’09 is a freelance writer living in New York. She has written for Time Out New York, New York magazine and The Huffington Post.
Making Tinseltown Green

Los Angeles City Council president Eric Garcetti '92, '93 SIPA gets things done with cool conviction and a soft-spoken style

By Justin Clark '04J

Always an activist, Eric Garcetti '92, '93 SIPA is more than a "pothole politician" who focuses only on short-term problems; his goal is nothing less than to reform urban culture in Los Angeles, starting with the area he represents, District 13.

PHOTO: MICHAEL POWERS

ERIC GARCETTI '92, '93 SIPA remembers the time he stayed up late with a broken heart in his dorm room at Furnald Hall. The future president of the Los Angeles City Council wasn’t recovering from a break-up or a bad grade. The problem was more serious than that.

“I was watching my city burn,” he recalls.

It was April 29, 1992, and like many other Americans, Garcetti sat in front of the television through much of the night and the following days, watching the skies above Los Angeles turn a hellish shade of ochre. Having flown back to New York the day before, Garcetti had physically avoided the riots that rocked Los Angeles in the wake of the infamous Rodney King verdict. Mentally and emotionally, however, he was back in Los Angeles. His father, Gil Garcetti, was successfully campaigning to replace his boss at the district attorney’s office, Ira Reiner, whose failed prosecution of the King case had sparked the riots. Seeing the mess his father was going to inherit was sobering for the urban planning and political science major.

“I felt at that moment I had to do something,” he says with cool conviction.

At the time, Garcetti had no idea that doing something would mean running for office. He had already cut his activist teeth at Columbia, however, helping to build housing in Harlem through the Harlem Restoration Project and Habitat for Humanity; running Columbia Area Resource Exchange, a program that allowed New Yorkers to buy food vouchers for the homeless; and serving as president of the National Student Coalition Against Harassment. Garcetti had co-founded the Columbia Urban Experience, a program that took incoming Columbia students on tours of the neighborhoods near campus.

“All those years at Columbia, I had been trying to effect change in New York City,” Garcetti remembers. “I suddenly realized it was needed in Los Angeles as well.”

After studying in the United Kingdom and returning to Los Angeles to teach public policy at Occidental College, Garcetti ran for city council in 2001 and was elected president in 2005. Since then, he has represented the quarter-million residents of District...
Clockwise from top: Garcetti surrounded by children at the 2007 opening of Seily Rodriguez Park, the 20th park created in his district since he took office. Garcetti, outside his office, has represented one of Los Angeles’ most densely populated districts since 2001 and says, “The constituents are starved for green space.” Garcetti’s popular UNTAG program has greatly reduced the amount of graffiti in the area by having the city and community work together to immediately paint over fresh graffiti.

PHOTOS: COURTESY ERIC GARCETTI ’92, ’93 SIPA
I chose to be at Columbia, to be in the midst of things passionatesly spoke out for its electric brethren in the 2006 documentary Who Killed the Electric Car?

But is it possible to survive without a car in Los Angeles? In certain areas, Garcetti says, it is. “In a year or two, Hollywood will be that,” he offers.

To accomplish that goal, Garcetti organized the Great Hollywood Walkabout. Armed with tape measures and surveying equipment, he and 126 volunteers took to the streets of Hollywood in 2006, measuring sidewalks, timing intersections and observing on a minute level how the neighborhood functioned. The resulting observations helped develop the Hollywood Community Plan, a pedestrian-friendly vision of the neighborhood’s future that is light on parking lots and heavy on shopping and retail centers in walking distance of existing residences.

Garcetti is frequently called a “pothole politician” — one who focuses on more immediate problems, sometimes at the expense of larger, longer-term issues. But his ambitions go deeper than simply eliminating graffiti and reducing congestion. He wants to do nothing less than reform urban culture in Los Angeles. As the car is an article of faith to most Angelenos, so is the backyard; the love affair with private green space has deprived public green space of political and economic support. Even so, Garcetti has managed to double the number of parks in his district.

“My district is one of the most densely populated in the city,” he says, explaining why he pursued the traditionally neglected issue so aggressively. “The constituents are starved for green space.”

The toughest of Garcetti’s environmental ambitions isrestoring Los Angeles’ polluted waterways. Garcetti helped author Proposition O, a 2004 bill that set aside $500 million to clean up L.A.’s storm-drain system and reduce the 10,000 tons of trash that wash up on the city’s beaches each year. Well-known environmentalist Laurie David, a National Resource Defense Council Member who produced the movie An Inconvenient Truth, has called Prop O “one of the greatest environmental opportunities in L.A.’s history; a once in a generation opportunity.” With Prop O funds, the city has already installed tens of thousands of storm drain screens, expected to reduce the volume of trash dumped into the L.A. River by twenty percent. One of the most ambitious projects, a $76 million rehabilitation of the Machado Lake Ecosystem, is now a quarter done.

Garcetti’s willingness to take on global environmental issues from his current office is either quixotic or visionary, depending on whom you ask. “When I think about women’s rights or global warming, when the national government won’t take action, our ability to [take] action at the local level is imperative,” he says. When he talks about the Bush administration’s refusal to support the Kyoto Protocol, for instance, Garcetti speaks with obvious passion but maintains his well-known composure.

In fact, says District 13 legislative deputy Cecilia Cabello ’96, Garcetti’s secret weapon is that he always keeps his cool.

“He handles really difficult situations with the most grace and patience and understanding,” says Cabello, an art history major and former political adviser to the Israeli Consul General who attributes to Garcetti a trait all but extinct in today’s politicians. “He never raises his voice,” she says.

Friend Brian Yorkey ’93, a musical lyricist whose work includes a Broadway adaptation of Nick Hornby’s novel High Fidelity and the current Broadway show Next to Normal, has a similar opinion
as opposed to being sequestered from the world."

of Garcetti. “He’s incredibly smart and aware and knowledgeable and yet it never makes him forbidding or hard to know,” says Yorkey. “That combination is rare.”

That sense of approachability has helped Garcetti in politics. At the beginning of her boss’ tenure, Cabello recalls, three constituents who were angry about an issue attempted to disrupt City Council meetings with racial slurs and inflammatory language. As with his graffiti-abatement program, Garcetti proved that patience can be a powerful weapon. Simply by keeping his calm, Garcetti managed to convince his visitors to adopt a more civil discourse, without resorting to threats himself.

Garcetti’s remedy for L.A.’s urban tension, his profound calm, is stereotypically Californian, yet he is quick to credit much of his political vision to his time at Columbia.

“L.A. doesn’t admit it’s a city, but in Manhattan the city hits you squarely in the face from the first moment you’re there,” says Garcetti. “It was one of the reasons I chose to be at Columbia, to be in the midst of things as opposed to being sequestered from the world.”

There was another reason Garcetti chose Columbia over Harvard, however: the theater. An aspiring jazz pianist, he’d originally come to Columbia to pursue a stage career and quickly became involved as the composer for the Varsity Show.

“It’s funny, because I hate musicals,” he says with a laugh, “but I really enjoyed writing them.”

Yorkey got to know Garcetti when Yorkey answered an ad in Spectator seeking a new artistic director for the Varsity Show. Yorkey’s friends were impressed to hear that he was collaborating with one of the best-known figures on campus. Yorkey was impressed with Garcetti’s restless energy and musical ability.

One of their first songs together, “Always A Protest,” chronicled the romance of an anti-war liberal feminist woman with a Republican football player. Yorkey says the tune was inspired by the political culture on campus during the run-up to the Gulf War. Later, Garcetti worked on another topical project: a musical called Random Access.

“It chronicled four people after college involved in different industries, starting with the riots and ending with the (1994 Northridge) earthquake,” says Garcetti. “It was the story of Los Angeles in those years that the Presidential elections were happening.”

It was yet another sign that Garcetti’s theater wasn’t going to be on Broadway but rather at L.A.’s City Hall. “Eric could have been Richard Rodgers [’23] if he’d wanted to, but he’s destined for something much more important,” says Yorkey.

Fortunately for District 13 (and perhaps unfortunately for music lovers everywhere), Garcetti had to set aside Random Access unfinished — he was off to England. He’d been rejected for a Rhodes Scholarship during his senior year, but his urban politics professor, Carlton Long ’84, himself a Rhodes Scholar, told Garcetti not to quit.

“Carlton told me he was in the same class as George Stephanopoulos ’82, who didn’t win until he applied a second time,” says Garcetti. “So I was encouraged to submit again.”

This time, Garcetti was accepted.

“I’m convinced to this day the reason I got the scholarship was because, unlike the other candidates flying in from around the country to New York for the interview, I knew the city and was comfortable there,” he says. “I guess I was lucky to have been at Columbia for that reason, too.”

Garcetti spent 4½ years across the Atlantic, first at Oxford and then at the London School of Economics, where he began work on a Ph.D. in ethnicity and nationalism. It was while abroad that he met his future wife and fellow Rhodes Scholar, Amy Elaine Wakeland. Wakeland, who is from Indiana, was the California political adviser for Howard Dean’s 2004 Presidential campaign. Wakeland’s time is now taken up with a more important client: her husband — they were married in January 2009.

That job is likely to prove only more challenging as time passes. Garcetti prefers to speak in present terms, but rumors are already circulating about a future in mayoral and possibly national politics. His background in international affairs makes him, in the eyes of many observers, an ideal candidate for Congress. In 2007, Garcetti received Harvard’s prestigious John F. Kennedy New Frontier Award, offered to one elected official under 40 who best represents Kennedy’s legacy of public service. But Garcetti is nothing if not methodical in his approach to politics, and for now he is content to build his appeal by filling potholes.

“[Eric’s] biggest challenge is to keep that reputation at a high level, especially in light of what’s going on in L.A. with a number of our other leaders,” says Magnabosco, referring in part to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa’s admission of adultery in July 2007. “But if you have a reputation like Eric does, people aren’t going to be taking that for granted.”

Justin Clark ’04 is a Los Angeles-based freelance writer who has written for the San Francisco Chronicle, LA Weekly, nerve and other publications. He is working on a Ph.D. in U.S. history at USC.
Beat legends Jack Kerouac '44 (left) and Allen Ginsberg '48 read a book together in 1959, the year in which author Fred Kaplan contends “everything changed.”

PHOTO: JOHN COHEN/GETTY IMAGES
Is 1959 the year when our own age was born? In Fred Kaplan’s book 1959: The Year Everything Changed, the dawn of the Space Age seems to usher in breakthroughs and liftoffs of all kinds. The Soviets’ space capsule Lunik 1 blasts off on January 2, and as it leaves the atmosphere, all sorts of barriers seem to rattle and crumble. Texas Instruments announces the invention of the microchip. The birth control pill is submitted to the FDA for approval. The Motown sound is born. The U.S. Civil Rights Commission makes its first report, which leads to an overhaul of segregation laws. As Kaplan once wrote in an essay for Slate (where he is a columnist), 1959 really is “a pivotal year — not only in culture but also in politics, society, science, sex: everything.”

In the cultural events of this critical year, Columbia plays a pivotal part. Years earlier, in the mid-’40s, a small group of Columbia students and their like-minded friends — Jack Kerouac ’44, Allen Ginsberg ’48, William S. Burroughs and others — had coalesced around the Morningside Heights campus. The soon-to-be Beats took in the rhythms of Harlem jazz; they traded ideas and influences. A new literary movement took shape. By the end of the ’50s, major works such as Kerouac’s On the Road, Ginsberg’s Howl and Other Poems and Burroughs’ The Naked Lunch had established the friends as groundbreaking new voices. In this excerpt, Kaplan tells the story of the Columbians whose Beat writings, in 1959, were changing the face of the culture.

Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard

On the night of February 5, 1959, Allen Ginsberg [’48] gave a poetry reading in the McMillin Theater [now the Miller Theatre] at Columbia University before fourteen hundred spectators, nearly all of them students, with hundreds more turned away for lack of space. It was a triumphant night for Ginsberg, his first return to the college that had suspended him a decade earlier under sordid circumstances, and he was returning as a literary celebrity, almost a pop star.

A few years earlier, Ginsberg had been living in the Bay Area of California. Kenneth Rexroth, a local poet-improvisario, sponsored weekly poetry readings at art galleries and coffee shops in San Francisco’s North Beach district, a scruffy neighborhood that was attracting a growing number of young bohemians. On October 7, 1955, Ginsberg appeared at one of these readings, at the Six Gallery on Fillmore Street, and recited the first part of a poem, which he’d started writing two weeks earlier, called Howl.

It was a brash, profane, apocalyptic meditation, with long, syncopated lines and turbulent imagery (“I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness, starving hysterical naked /... angelheaded hipsters burning for the ancient heavenly connection to the starry dynamo in the machinery of night.”), and Ginsberg read it with what even he later described as “a strange ecstatic intensity.” The event caused an instant sensation. It was widely written up, hailed (though in some quarters mocked) as a new kind of poem and, more, as the cry of a new generation alienated by crass materialism and conformity.

Ginsberg publicly credited Jack Kerouac [’44] with coining the poem’s title and inspiring its style of phrasing — “a spontaneous bop prosody,” as Ginsberg put it, referring to the cadences of Charlie Parker’s bebop jazz. As a result, Howl made Kerouac famous, too, and Viking Publishers, which had laid aside a proposal that he’d submitted months earlier, gave him a contract for On the Road, the most ambitious of eleven novels that he’d written in the previous six years, only one of which, The Town and the City, had ever been published (and it was largely forgotten).
To the extent Kerouac was known at all until then, it was for a remark that he'd made back in the early fifties to a friend and fellow writer named John Clellon Holmes. They were talking about contemporary parallels with the “Lost Generation” after World War I and the philosophy of existentialism that followed. Kerouac said, “You know, this is a really beat generation.” Holmes leapt up and said, “That’s it, that’s right!” Inspired by the line, Holmes wrote an article in 1952 for the New York Times Magazine, called “This Is the Beat Generation,” in which he credited “John Kerouac” for the phrase.

Soon after the reading at the Six Gallery — at which Kerouac passed around jugs of wine — the “Beat” label was applied to a whole group of North Beach poets, including Rexroth, Michael McClure, Gary Snyder, and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, who also owned the City Lights Bookstore and had just started an imprint to publish many of these poets’ works, including Howl.

When On the Road appeared in bookstores in September 1957, a review in The New York Times declared it an “authentic work of art,” a “major novel,” even a “historic occasion,” proclaiming, “Just as Hemingway’s The Sun Also Rises came to be regarded as the testament of the Lost Generation, so it seems certain that On the Road will come to be known as that of the ‘Beat Generation.’”

The review was a fluke. The Times’ regular book critic, a thorough square named Orville Prescott, was on vacation when Kerouac’s novel came in. An editor assigned it to a staff writer named Gilbert Millstein because he seemed to know something about the subject. Five years earlier, Millstein was the editor who’d commissioned Clellon Holmes to write the Times Magazine article about the “Beat Generation.” Millstein had favorably reviewed Holmes’s novel, called Go, whose main characters were based in large part on Kerouac and Ginsberg, whom Holmes had known when they all lived in New York. And so the links came full circle.

When Prescott returned from vacation, he penned Kerouac’s novel in the Sunday Book Review section, as expected. But Millstein’s rave in the daily paper had made its impact. On the Road was the book of the moment; it climbed the best-seller charts, and attracted a vast following among restless young men for decades to come.

Ferlinghetti had published Ginsberg’s Howl and Other Poems a year earlier, but Customs officials declared it “obscene” and seized copies. (One official was quoted in the press as saying, “You wouldn’t want your children to come across it.”) The U.S. Attorney’s office in San Francisco declined to pursue the case. So the feds tried again, this time sending undercover agents into the City Lights Bookstore to buy a copy and then to arrest Ferlinghetti for publishing, and his poor cash-register clerk for selling, obscene materials.

At the ensuing trial, which was heavily publicized, provocative passages from the poem were read aloud, and a stream of eminent critics testified that it was a masterpiece. The federal judge, Clayton Horn, ruled that the book was not obscene. Before the trial, only a thousand or so copies of Howl had been in print. After the ruling, Ferlinghetti couldn’t print copies quickly enough to sate the mass hunger for this once-forbidden fruit.

Judge Horn’s ruling came down on October 3, 1957, just a few weeks after Millstein’s rave review of Kerouac’s novel. To most of the book-buying public, then, Howl and On the Road appeared at the same time. And so, the two works, along with Kerouac and Ginsberg themselves, were forever linked as the essential artifacts and heroic figures of the Beat movement.

Then came another wrinkle. On October 4, the day after Ginsberg’s legal victory, the Soviets launched Sputnik, the first satellite, into orbit. Herb Caen, a prominent columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle, wrote that the bohemians hanging out on the North Beach were as “far out” as Sputnik—and so dubbed them “beatniks.” The term stuck.

By 1959, newspapers and magazines were filled with stories about beatniks, who tended to be portrayed as either morally dangerous or eccentrically dismitten. Hollywood B-movies, like High School Confidential, The Wild Party, The Subterraneans, and The Beatiniks, hit screens across the country. The Dobie Gillis Show premiered on television that year, with Bob Denver playing Dobie’s bongos-slapping beatnik friend, Maynard G. Krebs. Life magazine published a story called “Squaresville U.S.A. vs. Beatsville,” about three teenage girls in the small town of Hutchinson, Kansas, who wrote a letter to Lawrence Lipton, self-described leader of the beatniks in Venice, California, inviting him and his friends to come visit. “This town is Squaresville itself,” the letter read, “so we as its future citizens want to be cooled in.” The plan was squelched when Hutchinson’s police chief put out the word that any beatniks would be arrested on sight. A “beatnik doesn’t like work,” the officer said. “Any man that doesn’t like work is a vagrant, and a vagrant goes to jail around here.”

The beatnik craze annoyed Kerouac, who had always been shy and now retreated to isolation. The term angered Ginsberg, too, who publicly called it “a foul word.” But Ginsberg was also a flamboyant showman — he declared his poems with high drama, sometimes gleefully disrobing in his passion, as if to bare his body along with his soul — and he played on the PR possibilities. He scribbled, in a letter to Kerouac, “The general public image of beatniks built up from movies, Time, TV, Daily News, Post, etc., is among the hep a fake and among the mass Evil and among the liberal intellectuals a mess — but that is weirdly good, I dig that we are still so purely obscure to philistines that it’s inevitable that it be misunderstood... Mockery is inevitable compliment.”

But the Beats were getting at something disturbingly stagnant about American society, and mockery was the easiest way to dismiss the messengers out of hand.

Kerouac and Ginsberg met in 1944, when they were studying literature at Columbia. Kerouac had started college as a football player but injured his leg during the first semester and, with some relief, rekindled his longtime love of books. Ginsberg started out wanting to be a labor lawyer, but turned to poetry after taking Columbia’s mandatory freshman Humanities course. The university’s English department valued high modern poetry with irony, tight stanzas, and clear meters, usually iambic pentameter. Ginsberg was very good at this form. He won several college prizes for his poems and often discussed his work with his professor, the famous critic and novelist Lionel Trilling [25].

That same year, through a mutual friend, Ginsberg and Kerouac met William Burroughs, who was doing postgraduate work in psychology. Burroughs was a decade older and had an aristocratic bearing. He came from a wealthy St. Louis family — his grandfather had invented the adding machine — and he was living on a trust fund, which allowed him to get by well enough without working. Burroughs also had a broad grasp of literature and a penchant for authors that no one was teaching at Columbia — romantic poets, like William Blake, Arthur Rimbaud and Hart Crane, who glorified individual expressiveness above obedi­ence to formal rules. The two students spent many hours in Burroughs’ living room, discussing ideas and books.
Burroughs had a very dark streak and a cynical detachment. He once told Kerouac, “I'm apparently some kind of agent from another planet, but I haven't got my orders decoded yet.”

When Burroughs was an adolescent, one concerned neighbor called him "a walking corpse." Burroughs agreed, wondering only whose corpse it was. A classic problem child, extremely bookish but anti-social, he was fascinated by con men. His parents sent him to the Los Alamos Ranch School in New Mexico, where the government later built the atom bomb — a connection (Burroughs didn't believe in coincidences) that haunted him the rest of his life. In the thirties, an uncle named Ivy Lee had worked as Hitler's publicist in America — another blood tie to death and sin.

By the time Ginsberg and Kerouac met him, Burroughs was experimenting with drugs and hanging out with thieves and hustlers from Times Square. The fascination rubbed off on the impressionable students. In August 1944, a fellow student named Lucien Carr, who was also a member of this circle, got into horrible trouble. A friend of Burroughs named Dave Kammerer was infatuated with Carr (everyone in this group had at least leanings toward homosexuality), stalked him incessantly and one day followed him into Riverside Park, demanding sex. Carr stabbed him repeatedly with a pocketknife. Carr confessed to Burroughs, who advised him to go to the police. Instead he went to Kerouac, who helped him dispose of the weapon. The next day, both were arrested, Kerouac as a material witness to homicide. They were also expelled from Columbia. The crime made the front pages of local papers. Kerouac was bailed out of jail by his girlfriend, and the two fled to Michigan.*

Several months later, Kerouac returned to New York and stayed in Ginsberg’s dorm room, spending all his time reading. Ginsberg then caused a campus scandal. As a prankish protest, he traced the words “Fuck the Jews” on his dusty windowpane. A maid reported the deed to the dean of students, along with the tidbit that, when she entered Ginsberg’s room, he was in bed with Kerouac. Some took Ginsberg’s scribbling as self-hatred (he was Jewish), others as homoerotic double-entendre. In any case, he was suspended.

At that point, Ginsberg worked at a few menial jobs, to get a taste for ordinary life, then took a seven-month voyage as a merchant marine on a freighter ship. Meanwhile, Burroughs and his wife moved to Texas. Kerouac went home to Lowell, Massachusetts, where his father, a French-Canadian immigrant who owned a small printing press, was dying. He was rescued the following summer by a call from a friend named Neal Cassady, who asked him to come along for a car ride across the country, the first of several such journeys that would provide the material for On the Road. (Cassady was the real-life model for the character Dean Moriarty.)

Ginsberg came back to Columbia in the spring of 1947 and resumed writing the stiff poetry that his professors encouraged. One day in the spring of 1948, he was sitting on his bed, reading “Ah! Sun - flower” by William Blake, one of the romantic poets that he'd learned about from Burroughs, and suddenly he had a mystical vision, an out-of-body experience, a touch of Nirvana. He later interpreted the sensation as a psychological revelation, a message from his inner self that this was the kind of poetry — intensely personal, nakedly emotional, magically prophetic — that he should be writing.

Around this time, Ginsberg found himself attracted to the outlaw derring-do of a hustler, and another friend of Burroughs, named Herbert Huncke. One night, Huncke enticed Ginsberg to join him and his pals for a cruise through the city in a stolen car. The pal who was driving took a wrong turn on a one-way street, sped away from an approaching police car, and crashed into a telephone pole. They were all arrested. Ginsberg was saved by the intervention of Lionel Trilling, who brought in a professor from Columbia Law School, who in turn convinced prosecutors to commit the young poet to the Columbia Presbyterian Psychiatric Institute, free of charge, instead of sentencing him to prison.

After eight months in the hospital, Ginsberg went home to his father, a high-school teacher and poet, in Paterson, New Jersey. (His mother, who had gone insane when he was in high school, lived in an asylum up in the Bronx.) Allen wrote some articles for a local labor newspaper and asked for an assignment to interview the poet William Carlos Williams.

Williams, who was in his sixties, lived in Paterson, toiling in relative obscurity. Certainly nobody at Columbia, or most other colleges, was teaching his work. Williams took a liking to Ginsberg, and met with him several times after their first talk. Williams came out of the Black Mountain school of poets, former teachers or students at Black Mountain College, an avant-garde school set up in the thirties in Asheville, North Carolina, where artists and writers were encouraged to take their inspiration from materials and objects found in their surroundings.

Once, when Ginsberg and Williams went for a walk through the woods, they sat and wrote poems about things lying on the ground — a sliver of tin, a chunk of concrete, a hairpin.

Williams also felt strongly that a poet shouldn’t be confined by arbitrary rules about the length of a line or regularity of a meter. He should write in his natural voice, constructing phrases that matched the rhythms of his own breath. This wasn’t easy. In fact, done well, it was harder than conventional poetry. You couldn’t just fill in the blank spaces of the metronome’s ticktocks. You had to listen to your voice, very carefully, and devise ways to capture that rhythm, a rhythm that might not ever have been written down before.

Kerouac was thinking along the same lines; he and Ginsberg remained in frequent contact, either in person or through correspondence. But they both needed a voice before they could figure out how to transcribe it, and the voice they aimed for, the voice that most appealed to their desire for speed and risk and transcendence, a sound at once hot and cool, was modern jazz — "a spontaneous bop prosody," as Ginsberg described Kerouac’s phrasing.

While they were studying at Columbia, the two often went to the jazz clubs in nearby Harlem and got to know some of the musicians, including the trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie, who along with Charlie Parker invented the style of bebop. At one set, which a fellow Columbia student was recording, Gillespie improvised a
melody, based on the popular song “Exactly Like You,” and titled it “Kerouac.” (He thought about calling it “Ginsberg,” but that wasn’t as jazzy a name.)

Kerouac set down the idea of his poetic phrasing in a short essay called “The Essentials of Spontaneous Prose,” in which he likened the act of writing to playing jazz. Sentences should be punctuated not by periods but only by “the vigorous space dash separating rhetorical breathing (as jazz musicians drawing breath between outblown phrases).” This was how he wrote the original draft of On the Road, all of it in one unindented paragraph, typed on sixteen-foot rolls of Japanese drawing paper, which he taped together as a massive scroll. That was the ideal way to capture the vista of the landscape, the whoosh of motion, the immediacy of experience.

To Kerouac, it was cheating even to revise a first impulse (though he did rewrite On the Road, adding punctuation, to make the book publishable). Ginsberg wasn’t such a purist. He sought to convey the impression of spontaneity, but he relied on craft and artistry to get there.

A year before he wrote Howl, Ginsberg wrote to a friend, “I have been looking at early blues forms and think will apply this form of elliptical semisurrealist imagery to rhymed blues type lyrics. . . . Blues forms also provide a real varied syncopated meter, with many internal variants and changes of form in midstream like conversational thought.” He later told a critic that Howl’s cadences were inspired in part by a recording of Dizzy Gillespie’s trumpet solo on “I Can’t Get Started.”

Ginsberg and Kerouac were inspired, then, by several diverse influences: Burroughs’ reading list of romantic visionaries like Whitman, Blake, and Rimbaud; William Carlos Williams’ veneration of natural objects over lofty ideals and human breath over preset meter; and the frantic, jagged cadences of blues and bebop.

Jazz inspired Ginsberg to extend his lines much longer than any poet — even Whitman — had ever attempted. He explained later to one critic that his earlier attempts at free verse were “not expressionistic enough, not swinging enough,” adding, “I have to let off steam by building a longer climactic line . . . a jazzy ride . . . to ride out on the break-rhythm without any artificial built-in guides or poles or diving boards . . . no forcing the thoughts into a straitjacket—sort of a search for the rhythm of the thoughts and their natural occurrence . . . . It’s a jump up forward into life, unknown future.”

The poem’s long, jangling lines were what gave Howl its drive and power. But they were also what led many writers and critics of the day to dismiss it as unserious, not a real poem.

Not least among those who dismissed it was Lionel Trilling. Ginsberg had stayed in touch with his former mentor and savior from Columbia days. When Howl was published, he sent Trilling a copy, along with a cover note. “I think what is coming is a romantic period . . . . a reassessment of naked personal subjective truth,” he wrote. “Perhaps Whitman will be seen to have set the example,” after having “been bypassed for half a century.”

Though the letter was cordial, Trilling no doubt read it as a personal jab, and correctly so. (He wrote back, saying that he didn’t like the poems at all.) Trilling had never regarded Whitman or any of Ginsberg’s other idols as great writers. He distrusted literature that celebrated passion, transcendence, or the liberation of the self from society. Like most members of his intellectual circle, who lived in New York and wrote for the Partisan Review, Trilling was an ex-Marxist (some were still Marxists but anti-Stalinists) who cherished the tradition of high modernism — with its canons of works, formalist theory, and critical method — as a civilizing tool, grounded in a sense of history, to ward off the pressures of ideology and totalitarianism.

Strict form was important because it represented the elevation of rationality, which Trilling saw as “a principle of control.” Back when Ginsberg first met Burroughs, and especially after his mystical experience while reading Blake, he urged his teacher to reconsider Rimbaud in particular. Trilling gave him a read, but he was repelled. Rimbaud’s “rejection of the ordinary social values,” he told Ginsberg, amounted to “an absolutism which is foreign to my nature and which I combat.”

Later, Trilling wrote an essay, perhaps with Ginsberg in mind, noting that he understood why some of his students “have become excited over their discovery of the old animosity which Ezra Pound and William Carlos Williams bear to the lamb, and have come to feel that they but break the iambic shackles, the whole of modern culture could find a true expression.” But, Trilling went on, he found this notion illusory—and, more than that, dangerous, because unshackling formal structure could unravel the underlying social thread. In a sense, Trilling was right. Ginsberg, too, saw the connection between freedom from structures in poetry and freedom from structures in all of life. The difference was that Ginsberg yearned for both freedoms.

Back when Ginsberg was a student, Burroughs advised him to veer away from Trilling, warning, “He’s got no orgones, no mana, no charge to him.”

The irony was that, deep inside, Trilling might have agreed, if not in those terms. In 1985, a decade after Trilling’s death, Partisan Review published excerpts from his private journals, which revealed a very unhappy man who loathed his own sense of seriousness and responsibility, and who envied those capable of cutting loose and expressing themselves openly.

He appeared to feel this inadequacy as far back as 1933, when his friend Clifton Fadiman [25] showed Trilling a letter that he’d received from Ernest Hemingway. It was “a crazy letter,” Trilling recounted, “written when he was drunk — self-revealing, arrogant, scared, trivial, absurd: yet I felt from reading it how right such a man is compared to the ‘good minds’ of my university life — how he will produce and mean something to the world . . . . how his life which he could expose without dignity and which is anarchic and ‘childish’ is a better life than anyone I know could live. . . . And how far-far-far I am going from being a writer — how less and less I have the material and the mind and the will.”

Similarly, in 1948, around the time Ginsberg urged him to read Rimbaud, Trilling wrote in his journal of coming back from a din-
ner party where someone had praised him for leading a life of “equilibrium,” a comment that gave him “a twinge of pain” and “the sense of some awful doom” that, at age forty-two, he had “no more time, no more time” to do something creative. Not long after, he wrote, “I have only a gift of dealing rather sensibly with literature,” which he regarded as “a great hoax.”

In 1949, while still convalescing at the psychiatric institute, Ginsberg came to see Trilling and told him that Harcourt, Brace was about to publish Kerouac’s first novel, The Town and the City. “I predicted that it would not be good & insisted,” Trilling wrote afterward in his journal. “But later I saw with what bitterness I had made the prediction — not wanting K’s book to be good because if the book of an accessory to a murder is good, how can one of mine be?”

Trilling despised the notion, popular in some avant-garde circles, that an artist had to be pathological. But he also wanted to believe in the opposite idea — that a real artist couldn’t have a streak of “wickedness” — and he feared that he might be wrong.

The tensions between institutional order and instinctual gratification racked many among the generation that came to maturity after the war, but Trilling’s sense of decorum and dignity — his ideas about the moral grounding of literature — kept his inner bohemian under wraps.

Diana Trilling, his wife and fellow critic, would later wonder, in her memoir of their marriage, whether any of Lionel’s friends knew “how deeply he scorned the very qualities of character — his quiet, his moderation, his gentle reasonableness — for which he was most admired in his lifetime and which have been most celebrated since his death.”

As Mrs. Trilling walked into the already-packed auditorium, she noticed that the audience was “crazily young.” She sighed at the girls with their “blackest black stockings” and the boys in their checked shirts and blue jeans (“standard uniforms in the best nursery schools,” she would chuck). But she was also surprised. She’d expected the kids to smell bad, but they didn’t. “These people may think they’re dirty inside and dress up to it,” she wrote in her essay, but they were “clean” — as, it turned out when they came onstage, were Ginsberg and his friends.

Ginsberg read a long poem, called “Kaddish,” about his mother, who had died three years ago; he choked and cried as he read it, yet, Trilling wrote, no one “tittered or showed embarrassment at this public display of emotion.” Then he read “Lion in the Room,” after announcing that it was “dedicated to Lionel Trilling.” She misinterpreted the poem. It was about Ginsberg’s vision while reading Blake back in 1948. His dedication was ironic, as he’d criticized his old teacher for failing to see the lion himself, for resisting sensory experience.

Perhaps because of her misunderstanding, Trilling found herself liking the poem. “I was much moved by it, in some part unaccountably,” she wrote. “It was also a decent poem, and I am willing to admit this surprised me.” She was also struck that all of Ginsberg’s poems dealt with “serious subjects” and that he read them in a poetic meter. It seemed he was a poet after all. During the question-and-answer period, he even led a discussion of the meaning of prosody and the influence of William Carlos Williams. Suddenly, she saw that Ginsberg and his friends had “earned . . . their right to be heard in the university” — not because of “their whackiness and beat-upness,” but by “their energy of poetic impulse . . . their studious devotion to their art.”

When Diana Trilling arrived back home, her husband’s meeting was still going on. It was a meeting, she wrote, “of the pleasant professional sort,” like “the comfortable living room” in which such meetings usually take place “at a certain point in a successful modern literary career,” confirming the writer’s “sense of disciplined achievement and well-earned reward.” This comfort was “not ever to be spoken of except with elaborate irony,” she continued, “lest it propose a life without risk and therefore without virtue.”

W. H. Auden, the legendary poet, and the only one of the men at the meeting who was not dressed in a suit (he wore an old brown leather jacket), asked her what she thought of the reading.

She replied that she’d been moved by it.

“I’m ashamed of you,” Auden said.

“It’s different,” she responded, “when it’s human beings and not just a sociological phenomenon.”

She left the men with their drinks and their discussion. She concluded her Partisan Review essay by noting an “unfathomable gap that was all so quickly and meaningfully opening up between the evening that had been and the evening that was now so surely reclaiming me.”

For an inkling, she sensed that Ginsberg’s poetry reading at Columbia and the intellectual establishment’s hostile indifference to it, both on campus and now in her living room, marked the first crack in a sociocultural breakup that would grip the coming decade — the opening fissure of the Generation Gap.

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Music in the Head: Living at the Brain-Mind Border by Dr. Leo Rangell '33; foreword by Oliver Sacks, professor of neurology, psychiatry and the arts. Rangell, a psychoanalyst, explains the neurological and psychological mechanisms that produce the human experience of music (Karnac Books, $24.95).

Chronicles of My Life: An American in the Heart of Japan by Donald Keene '42, the Shinho Professor Emeritus of Japanese Literature and University Professor Emeritus. Keene’s autobiography places emphasis on his years in Japan (Columbia University Press, $19.95).

Franz Kafka: The Office Writings edited by Jack Greenberg '45 et al. The editors present a selection of his essays Kafka wrote during his years as an insurance lawyer and offer commentary about the relationship between his legal career and his literary work (Princeton University Press, $45).

Why Are Jews Liberals by Norman Podhoretz '50. Podhoretz analyzes the historical appeal of political liberalism for American Jews (Doubleday, $27).

Explaining Human Actions and Environmental Changes by Andrew P. Vayda ’52. In a selection of his essays from the last two decades, Vayda stresses the value of explanation-oriented research in the social and environmental sciences (AltaMira Press, $75).

What Darwin Got Wrong by Jerry Fodor ’56 and Massimo Piattelli-Palmarini. The authors point out the limitations of Darwin’s belief in natural selection as the underlying mechanism of evolution (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, $25).


Louis D. Brandeis: A Life by Melvin I. Urofsky ’61. A biography of Jewish activist and Supreme Court Justice Brandeis (Pantheon, $40).


A Force for Change: African American Art and the Julius Rosenwald Fund edited by Daniel Schulman ’82. Schulman celebrates the work made possible by grants from the Julius Rosenwald Fund, an organization established in 1928 to benefit African-American writers, artists and scholars (Northwestern University Press, $39.95).

Remembrance: Roots, Rituals, and Reverence in Vodou by Jerry M. Gilles ’85 et al. The authors describe the history of vodou and examine its relationship with other religious traditions (Bookmanlit, $37.74).

The Seven Rays by Jessica Bendiger ’88. Bendiger’s protagonist, Beth Michaels, is a high school student whose life is disrupted when she begins having clairvoyant visions (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, $16.99).

The Whole Island: Six Decades of Cuban Poetry edited by Mark Weiss ’88. An anthology of modern Cuban poetry presented in the original Spanish with accompanying English translations (University of California Press, $70).

Modernism after Wagner by Juliet Koss ’90. Koss examines the effects of Wagner’s career on German aesthetic ideals and political philosophy (University of Minnesota Press, $29.50).

Guadalupe in New York: Devotion and the Struggle for Citizenship Rights among Mexican Immigrants by Alyshia Galvez ’95. The author states that religious observance has political significance for Mexican immigrants living in New York City (New York University Press, $23).

Between the Assassinations by Aravind Adiga ’97. Adiga’s latest collection of short stories explores issues of caste, religion and economic stratification in Kitur, a village on the south-western border of India’s Karnataka state [see January/February “Columbia Forum”] (Free Press, $24).

Andy Warhol by Arthur C. Danto, the Johnsenian Professor Emeritus of Philosophy. Danto discusses the philosophical implications of Warhol’s work (Yale University Press, $24).
A Witch and Her Descendent
Katherine Howe '99's novel uses her ancestors' stories

If you stroll through the seaside town of Marblehead, Mass., you'll see house after plain New England house, their old faces prim and bleak as Puritan portraits. In the 1800s, Marblehead's neighbor, Salem (of witchcraft fame), grew rich from Far Eastern trade. But Marblehead stayed poor — and so it has one of the country's largest collections of 18th-century architecture, says Katherine Howe '99. It's an easy place to think about history, she says, to mentally erase today's power lines and cars and imagine one's self in an earlier century.

In summer 2005, as Howe strolled with her dog around Salem and Marblehead, she began to muse about the towns' colonial past. Summer turned into autumn, but the walks continued; Howe, a graduate student in American and New England studies at Boston University, was tense about her upcoming orals. Her musings assumed the shape of what she calls a "thought experiment." What if Salem's witches really had been practicing magic? What would it look like? How would it happen? As the "thought experiment" turned into a plan for a novel, Howe imagined a heroine — like herself, a modern-day grad student who had moved to Marblehead — whose research would uncover a book of working spells from old Salem, a potent "shadow book." Ultimately, she would name the novel she wrote after that original book of magic: The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane (Voice, $25.99).

Quite apart from showing a historian's natural interest, Howe had good reason to feel connected to the territory. On her father's side, the family's roots in Essex County stretch back 300 years. She is related to not one but two of the women accused as witches in the Salem witch trials. One, Elizabeth Howe, was executed by hanging. The other, Elizabeth Proctor, survived because of a pregnancy. Her tale was later woven into the austere fabric of Arthur Miller's The Crucible.

The book Howe eventually wrote is a suspenseful supernatural bestseller. Flashing back and forth between the late 1600s and 1991, the story follows the persecution of an accused Salem witch, Deliverance Dane, and the increasingly dangerous researches of the witch's modern-day descendant. Scouring archives, libraries and even a venerable auction house, Harvard student Connie Goodwin tries to trace Dane's powerful "receipt books," which could be a history-changing find. Howe has both a scholar's in-depth knowledge of period (and academic politics) and a novelist's gift for atmosphere. The result is a riveting read: "Harry Potter meets The Da Vinci Code," enthused Northern Virginia Magazine.

No less exciting was Howe's route to bestsellerdom. The book is being developed as a CBS series and in 2015, has an occult element. It's another chance for her to teach her how to think and write and revise, all skills she needs now as she readies another two books for publication. "There actually is such a thing as a Columbia education," she says firmly — something she feels isn't true at every school.

Then there's the personal side: Howe met her husband, Louis Hyman '99, at the College. In the Columbia version of "meet cute," they shared a senior-year class on Nietzsche, Marx and Freud. He was a "hard-line Marxist in vegan jackboots," she remembers; he recalls her "stunning feminist critique of Freud." ("I'm a nerd, so I'm a sucker for that kind of thing," he remarked in their New York Times wedding writeup.) Hyman, having finished an American history Ph.D. at Harvard, is starting work at McKinsey in early 2010.

Post-bestsellerdom, Howe is keeping busy. There's the forthcoming paperback of Deliverance Dane (April 2010). There are the virtual "visits" she makes to her readers' book clubs to arrange a Skype or conference call, contact her at www.katherinehowe.com/bookclubs. She's also editing a book of primary sources on witchcraft for Penguin Classics. Then there's the new novel she's writing, The Scrying Glass, set in Boston in 1915, in the twilight of the Spiritualist movement. Howe is cryptic about it, a little mysterious, though she admits that her story, once again, has an occult element. It's another chance for her to erase the present and immerse herself in the dense, captivating atmosphere of the past.

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

Dangerous Citizens: The Greek Left and the Terror of the State by Neni Panourgial, associate professor of anthropology. Panourgial chronicles the historical roots and aftermath of the Greek Civil War (1946-49) (Fordham University Press, $80).

Field Notes from Elsewhere: Reflections on Dying and Living by Mark C. Taylor, professor and department chair of religion. Taylor looks back on his life, focusing on the ways in which a recent near-death experience has led him to think differently about past events (see January / February "Bookshelf" feature) (Columbia University Press, $26).

Grace Laidlaw '11

MARCH/APRIL 2010
Robert C. Plumb, retired, Southbury, Conn., formerly of Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., on June 16, 2009. Plumb attended business school and retired in 1979 after 25 years with American Cyanamid. An avid skier and golfer, he was active in both sports well into his 90s. Plumb is survived by his wife, Eleanor Powers; son, Robert; daughters, Sally Haun, Catherine Croft and Margaret Karel; and seven grandchildren. Plumb was predeceased by his first wife, Carol Durham Plumb, in 1996.

Donald R. Thompson, retired math teacher and track coach, Sea Cliff, N.Y., on June 25, 2009. Thompson grew up in Valhalla, N.Y. He attended Furman University and the College, where he majored in education. Thompson served in the Army Air Corps during WWII; he was a sergeant working in enlistment and classification of recruits. In 1947, he got a job teaching mathematics at Sea Cliff Senior High School. He and his wife, Virginia, bought a home in Sea Cliff in 1952, where they lived the rest of their lives. When the local high schools were consolidated into North Shore H.S., Thompson taught and coached track until his 1975 retirement. After retiring, the couple traveled extensively around the United States, visiting the 48 contiguous states. Thompson was an avid bird watcher, eventually identifying more than 500 birds in his travels. For many years after his retirement, he and his wife volunteered at Muttontown Preserve, where they shared their knowledge of nature with groups of school children. He also enjoyed camping, sailing on Long Island Sound, collecting stamps, gardening, painting watercolors, and playing bridge and Rummikub. Thompson was predeceased by his wife in 2002 and is survived by his children, Jeanne and Norman.

Philip D. Wiedel, surgeon, Redding, Conn., on July 26, 2009. Wiedel earned a degree in 1941 from P'S & later worked and taught there as an associate professor of surgery. He was a naval officer in the Pacific during WWII. Wiedel is survived by his wife, Monique; daughters, Suzanne and Janine; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Danbury Land Trust, PO Box 32, Danbury, CT 06813 or the Philip D. Wiedel M.D. Fund for Humanitarian and the Surgeon, CUMC Development, 100 Haven Ave., Ste 29D, New York, NY 10032.

Kermit "Kim" Easton, retired CPA and firm partner, Redding, Conn., on June 29, 2009. Formerly of Westport, Conn., Easton was born, raised and educated in New York City. He earned a B.A. from the College, an M.B.A. from the Business School (1964) and a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School. Easton served in the Navy in WWII and was assigned to the Japanese Language School as a naval intelligence officer. He became a senior partner of SD Leidesdorf & Co. when that firm merged with and became part of what is now Ernst & Young, from which he retired as a senior partner in 1980. Easton is survived by his wife of 64 years, Freda; son, Richard and his wife, Denise; daughter, Judith Shaw; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Friends of the Westport Land Trust, 100 Haven Ave., Ste 29D, New York, NY 10032.

Oswald Bradland, former bank president, Delray Beach, Fla., on May 30, 2009. Bradland was born in Charleston, N.D. He was an Army veteran of WWII and was awarded the Bronze Star. The former president of the Mass Bank and Trust of Brockton, where he spent more than 30 years, Bradland moved to Florida a few years before his death. He was predeceased by his wife, I. Helen (Tratford) Bradland, in 2007, and is survived by his children, Peter, Suzanna Duquette and her husband, George, and three grandchildren.

Charles E. "Chuck" Newlon, retired engineer, Knoxville, Tenn., on October 20, 2009. Newlon entered with the Class of 1941 but earned a B.S. and a Ph.D. both in chemical engineering, in 1942 from the Engineering School. Newlon was born on July 14, 1919, and was raised in Point Marion, Pa. He became known at the College as "Tuba Charlie" and was consistently a finalist in state band competitions. Newlon was a class valedictorian and, as manager of the marching band, received the Gold King's Crown. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta. Newlon joined DuPont in Charleston, W.Va., and after enlisting in the Army was assigned to the Manhattan District Project in Oak Ridge, Tenn. After being discharged, he joined Union Carbide's nuclear division. Later in life, Newlon competed in USTA tournaments, and he and his wife entertained nursing home residents with a music and poetry show. They established the Charles E. and Dorothy Newlon Scholarship at the College and established a chair for Oriental studies at Hausersee Junior College. Newlon is survived by his sons, Charles and his wife, Donna Stephens, and Lisle and his wife, Janet; daughters, Jeanne L. Haynes and her husband, Stephen, and Louise N. Irwin and her husband, Ray; five grandchildren; a step-grandson; a step-great-grandson; and brother John and his wife, Jan. Newlon's wife of 65 years, Dorothy Jean Craumer, passed away five weeks after he did. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary's Hospice, 7447 Andersonville Pike, Knoxville, TN 37938.

Harold Rogers '41

Harold Rogers, teacher, Tokyo, on July 12, 2009. Born in New York City, Rogers attended the Navy Japanese/Oriental Language School at the University of Colorado with a number of other Columbia alumni, including Donald Keene '42, James Di Crocco '43, Paul Hauck '42, Gene Som '41, Bill Voelcker '42 and Owen Zurhellen '43. Rogers earned a degree from Teachers College in 1942. After being honorably discharged from the Navy, he went to California to teach French and Spanish to Japanese-American internees at Manzanar H.S. During the military occupation of Japan, Rogers became a teacher there and stayed from 1946-2009. Upon arrival, he went to Sendai to teach illiterate American soldiers to read and write English; he also worked in Fukushima and Tokyo, where he taught French, Spanish and occasionally Latin at various De-
Connie S. Maniatty ’43, Trustee Emeritus and Generous Benefactor

Connie S. Maniatty ’43, a Wall Street executive, University trustee emeritus and generous donor, particularly to Columbia athletics, died on January 8, 2010, at his home in Westport, Conn. He was 90.

Born in Greenfield, Mass., Maniatty attended Deerfield Academy before matriculating at the College. After graduation, he joined the Wall Street firm of Salomon Brothers (now a subsidiary of Citigroup), where he became a partner in 1960 and stayed until 1979, holding the titles of partner and managing director. “Connie was my first boss at Salomon Brothers in 1966, and I was lucky to land under him,” said New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, in a Westport News obituary. “He was a great mentor and a true gentleman.”

A former football player, three-year letter winner in baseball and avid tennis player later in life, Maniatty’s support for Columbia and its athletics programs was legendary, particularly his work raising millions of dollars for the construction of Lawrence A. Wien ’25 Stadium. The Maniatty-Remmer Alumni Lounge, which he also helped fund, bears his name as well as that of his late friend Eugene Remmer ’43, ’43E.

Maniatty was a University Trustee from 1973–85. He also served on the College Board of Advisors from 1975–83, was Permanent President of his class and was the 1943 CCT class correspondent from 2006–09.

In addition, Maniatty served for 35 years on both the Football Advisory Alumni Committee and the President’s Advisory Committee on Athletics. In 2006, he was inducted to the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame as a member of its inaugural class in the Special Category for individual Achievement. The category was created to honor those “who have brought honor and distinction to Columbia athletics through significant involvement and support of the intercollegiate athletics program.”

“The Columbia Athletics family has lost one of its true pioneers,” said Athletics Director M. Dianne Murphy. “Connie’s contributions to Columbia athletics are immeasurable, and thousands of student-athletes benefited from his leadership.”

Maniatty’s support was not limited to football, however. Throughout the decades he had raised money for every male and female athletics team. “He believed strongly in women’s athletics, and when we began them in the early 1980s, he contributed to them,” said Al Paul, athletics director from 1974–91, in an article on the Athletics Web site. “The NCAA limits recruiting budgets to funds contributed by alumni, and we would never have been able to recruit for women’s teams, which of course had no alumnies, if he hadn’t been supportive.”

Maniatty was honored in 1974 with the Varsity ‘C’ Club Alumni Athletic Award. In 1994, the Connie S. Maniatty Award was established to recognize the leading male and female athletes among the senior student-athlete class. Presented at the annual Varsity ‘C’ Awards Celebration, it is among Columbia Athletics’ most prized awards.

The University honored Maniatty with an Alumni Medal in 1975, and the College honored him with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 1982.

Outside of Columbia, Maniatty’s philanthropy was similarly unfettered, most extensively reflected in his work for Norwalk Hospital in Norwalk, Conn. He served on the hospital’s Board of Trustees from 1979–95 and founded the Norwalk Hospital Foundation in 1989, serving as chairman from its inception to 2006. During his tenure, Maniatty raised more than $55 million for the hospital. He also co-founded the New York City Police and Firefighters Widows and Children’s Benevolent Foundation.

“We have lost our true lion, a great man, a great friend, a great trustee,” said Bill Campbell ’62, “64 TC, current Board of Trustees chairman and Columbia’s head football coach from 1974–79. “I can honestly say that I have never known anyone whom I respected more.”

Maniatty is survived by his wife, Betty; daughters, Margaret Maniatty Fullington and Anne Maniatty Walker; son, Philip; five grandchildren; and five brothers.

Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia Athletics in memory of Connie S. Maniatty. Gifts may be sent to Columbia Athletics, Attn.: Katie Day, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., 2nd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Lisa Palladino and Jesse Thiessen ’11 Arts

Sophie Fumie; brother George; daughter Paula Radetzky ’91; and son-in-law William.

1943

George H. Bissell, retired architect, Putney, Vt., on June 18, 2009. Bissell entered with the Class of 1943 but earned a degree from the Architecture School in 1951. He was born on June 12, 1922, in New York City and served with the Marines during WWII from 1942–46, participating in the landing on Okinawa on Easter Sunday 1945. Bissell was with American forces in Sing Tao, China, when America accepted the surrender of the Japanese at the end of the war. He was an architect in New York City until 1975, then in Cambridge, Mass., until his retirement. At the end of his career, Bissell was working for Benjamin Thompson & Associates in Cambridge. Bissell’s career as an architect was heavily influenced by the “Modern” school. Bissell is survived by his wife since 1942, Elvira; daughters, Annette Woodcock Abel and her husband, Jonathan, and Beatrice; sister, Ophelia Louise Bissell Molla; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Putney General Store Building Fund or Brattleboro Area Hospice.

Martin J. Klein, professor emeritus, Chapel Hill, N.C., on March 28, 2009. Klein was born in New York City on June 25, 1924. He earned a M.A. in physics in 1944 from GSAS and a Ph.D. in physics from MIT in 1948. Klein joined the physics department at Case Institute of Technology (now Case Western Reserve University) in 1949. In 1967, he joined Yale, where he chaired the Department of History of Science and Medicine from 1971–74. Klein won the first Abraham Pais Prize, the first major award for the history of physics, in 2005. He was elected to the Academie Internationale d’Histoire des Sciences (1971), the National Academy of Sciences (1977) and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1979) At the time of his death, Klein was the Eugene Higgins Professor Emeritus of History of Physics and Professor Emeritus of Physics at Yale. He also was the former senior editor of The Collected Papers of Albert Einstein. Klein was predeceased by his wife, Joan Blewett, and is survived by his daughters, Rona, Sarah Zaino and her husband, Joseph, Nancy Klein and her husband, Paul Dailey, and Abby; and former wives, Miriam Klein and Linda Booz Klein.

1948

Benjamin J. Immerman, ob/gyn, Great Barrington, Mass., on May 27, 2009. Immerman was born in 1924 and was a 26-year resident of Great Barrington. He was a decorated WWII Air Force veteran who flew dozens of missions over Germany as a bombardier in the legendary B-17 Flying Fortress. Immerman graduated from SUNY Downstate Medical Center and became an eminent ob/gyn who practiced for nearly 40 years in Forest Hills, N.Y. He is survived by his wife of 18 years, Agnes; son, Bruce ’79; stepdaughter, Jennifer; brother, David; and eight nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice, 5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238.
1955

Donald M. Schappert, retired executive, Stuart, Fla., on November 30, 2009. Schappert was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on March 25, 1933, grew up in New Jersey and lived in East Greenwich, R.I., and Stuart, Fla., for the past 22 years. He earned multiple recognitions for his athletic accomplishments in baseball, basketball and football at Westwood H.S. and recently was inducted into the Westwood H.S. Sports Hall of Fame. At Columbia, Schappert was the first recipient of the Lou Gehrig [23] Scholarship. Upon graduation, he entered the military as a 1st lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He had a 30-year career in sales and management with IBM, from which he retired in 1987. Schappert was an avid boater, sailor and fisherman, and enjoyed playing cribbage and reading. He is survived by his wife of 54 years Joan (Moseley) Schappert, children, Mike and his wife, Helen, Jim and his wife, Kathy, Rob and his wife, Cathy, and Ann, and an son and Ann Asadorian and her husband, Guy; brothers, Richard and his wife Sue, and H. Robert and his wife, Nancy; and 10 grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

1956

Garrett W. "Digger" DeGroff, Amsterdam, N.Y., on June 30, 2009. Born on April 6, 1934, DeGroff was a graduate of the former Wilbur H. Lynch H.S. After the College, he served in the Army in San Antonio, Texas, where he resided for eight years. DeGroff returned to Amsterdam in 1965 and was employed at General Electric in Schenectady, and IBM in the Bronx, until March 2009. DeGroff was a member of St. Ann's Episcopal Church, coached Cinderella softball and church league basketball, and was an avid gardener, stamp collector, New York Yankees and Amsterdam H.S. Rams football fan. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially their summer vacations on Cape Cod. DeGroff is survived by his wife of almost 53 years, Anne; daughters, Elizabeth A. "Betsy" Capel and her husband, Joseph, Karen L. Ressel and her husband, Scott, and Allison D. Bussence; son, Thomas and his wife, Amy; sister-in-law, Nancy Bebb and her husband, Warren; and nine grandchildren.

1973

John R. Eckel Jr., chairman and CEO, Houston, on November 13, 2009. Eckel was born on October 22, 1931, in Houston. Following his College graduation, he joined the securities investment department of The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York as an investment analyst and subsequently was an assistant director of investments (energy and minerals). In 1977, Eckel joined Lehman Brothers as an associate in corporate finance and in 1978 was elected assistant v.p. in energy finance. Eckel then became involved in the energy industry, founding drilling, service, and exploration and production companies before founding Copano Energy in 1992, where he was president and CEO until April 2003, when he became chairman of the board of directors and CEO. Eckel was a member of the Director's Counsel at the Whitney Museum of American Art and a member of the Director's Circle and on the American Painting and Sculpture subcommittee: for the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. He is survived by his father, John Sr.; brother David and his wife, Sandra; sister Anne Lowery and her husband, Greg; and a niece. Memorial contributions may be made to the Whitney Museum of American Art, Attn: Michele Snyder, 945 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10021, or to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (American Painting and Sculpture), Attn: Tammy Largent, PO Box 6826, Houston, TX 77265.

1988

Daniel J. Selmonosky, financial executive, Bedford, N.Y., on May 16, 2009. Selmonosky was a partner at BC Partners of New York City. He is survived by his wife, Lisa; daughters, Olivia and Isabella; parents, Carlos and Sonia Selmonosky; sisters, Deborah, Monica, and Arlene Miller; in-laws, Kathy and Richard Smith; brothers-in-law, Josh and Jeffrey Smith; and sister-in-law, Allison Fisher.

Linda Palladino
Richard Silberstein ’29, ’30E passed away in September, shortly after his 103rd birthday. After earning a degree in electrical engineering, Richard did graduate work at Penn. He held various jobs in the radio industry until WWII, when he joined the radio section of the National Bureau of Standards. After the war, Richard administered high-frequency propagation experiments for the bureau in Washington, D.C., and Boulder, Colo., where he lived with his wife and among many friends until his death. [Editor’s note: An obituary is scheduled for a subsequent issue.]


Howard N. Meyer ’34, ’36L, writes, “I rejoice in the filing at age 95 of my final brief and service as counsel of record for the Hon. Charles Gittings Jr., amicus curiae in the case of Tygena et al v. Obama. The story of a group of Moslem Chinese, dragged to Guantanmo to spend a dozen years in America’s dungeon, is one of incredibly un-American cruelty well beyond the usual repression of civil liberties.”

Richard Silberstein, designated Combat Team C, were deployed to Cape Gloucester, New Britain. The mission: to capture the enemy-held airfield so that we could establish a base from which to bomb the air and naval stronghold of Rabaul at the eastern end of the island.

“For this three-month campaign, I served as operations officer for the Seventh Marine Regiment. One morning, as I was busy with tactical planning for the following day, the phone rang. I recognized the voice; it was a good friend of mine at division HQ.

‘Hey Vic, we have a Japanese prisoner. Congratulations,’ I replied, but why are you calling me? ‘My friend said, ‘He says he knows you.’ ‘C’mon Joe,’ I said. ‘I’m really very busy, and ...’

‘Wait a minute, Vic. This prisoner, a major, says he knows you as a classmate at Columbia University.’ I said, ‘I do remember the name, but never met the man. I have a lot of work to do, but if you think I might do better at interrogating him, I’ll come to HQ right away.’

‘Joe said, ‘It won’t be necessary; he’s been very cooperative.’ Before I hung up, I said, ‘Good, and thanks for the call.’

‘Never saw the man and do not know what became of him. The moral of the story is that even war can produce strange bedfellows.”

Howard N. Meyer ’34, ’36L, writes, “I rejoice in the filing at age 95 of my final brief and service as counsel of record for the Hon. Charles Gittings Jr., amicus curiae in the case of Tygena et al v. Obama. The story of a group of Moslem Chinese, dragged to Guantanmo to spend a dozen years in America’s dungeon, is one of incredibly un-American cruelty well beyond the usual repression of civil liberties.”

Robert Zucker 29 The Birches Roslyn, NY 11576 rzucker@optonline.net

Leonard Shaye is busy completing his personal humanities program. He writes: “In my 85th year, I set out to read, in detail, the following, which I had read in my college years: the Old Testament, the New Testament, the Koran, the Book of Mormon, Das Kapital, Meir Kahane and a commentary about Buddhism, after which I would permit myself the easy luxury of reading the popular literature of our day.

“Unfortunately, in my 89th year, I have been hung up about one third of the way through Das Kapital, not because I have any strong feelings about it one way or the other, but simply because I want to understand it well and that is proving to be slow going for me. The fact is, honestly, when I was in college, I used to read economic textbooks like other people read novels. But not this time, not this one.

“Something I have found in Marx that I thought very interesting, and which I was not aware of, was that he thought Benjamin Franklin was a great economist. This from a man who seemed to have read the works of every other economist from the beginning of time and who criticized every one of them!”

“If I live to finish Karl, then I can go on to try to understand Adolph.”

Alice and Jack Mullins were among the regular Arden House reunion attendees. Alice wrote that Jack passed away in July. He and I had been classmates for eight years at Horace Mann and Columbia. He will be missed by many of us.

Dr. Sherwin Kaufman, immigrant, musician and physician, sent a short and interesting biography about his successful careers as a fertility specialist and songwriter.

One of his songs, “Sing America,” was played at the Ellis Island Medals of Honor Gala in 2001.

Melvin Hershkowitz 3 Regency Plaza, Apt. 1001-E Providence, RI 02903 DRMEL23@cox.net

On November 6, I received a warm letter from Judge Leonard Garth reporting that he and his wife, Sarah, had left their home in New Jersey and were now settled into an adult residence community in Warwick, Conn. Len had been struggling with the effects of multiple spinal surgeries and was no longer able to navigate around his original home. On the brighter side, he reported that he was functioning well with a motorized scooter and cane, and moreover, the federal government had refused to let him retire as a senior judge on the Third Circuit (New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia), and had provided him with an office and chambers from which he continues to work and sit on the Court. Len reminded me (and himself) that in January, he had served on the Federal Court for 40 years, an extraordinary record of distinguished service and a tribute to Len’s longevity and the great respect he has earned from colleagues in the legal profession. Len’s leadership and accomplishments on the Third Circuit are exceeded only by his notable modesty (never a boast has emerged from the Garth lips). Among the young lawyers who served under Len as law clerks and in other capacities, one now sits on the Supreme Court of the United States: Judge Samuel Alito. Len tells me that his North Branford domicile, which is close to New Haven, is full of Yale people. I reminded Len that this gave him an opportunity to remind them of the advantages of attending a really excellent college like Columbia, which has recently produced a few talented alumni such as President Barack Obama ’83; Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, ’76L; and F.C.C. Chairman Julius Genachowski ’85; as well as Len himself in another era. [Editor’s note: An obituary is scheduled for a subsequent issue.]

In the September/October CCT, I reported that Professor John Smith, an ordained Presbyterian minister, held a faculty appointment at the Yale Divinity School. John, who retired after a long and distinguished career at Yale, graciously reminded me in an e-mail message on November 17 that, although he did have some Yale Divinity students in his classes, his faculty appointment at Yale was not in the Divinity School but in Yale College and The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Mea culpa, John, and thanks for keeping in touch. (See toward the end of the column for more on John.)

Morris Grossman, whose work and career I discussed in the November/December CCT (he was a professor of philosophy at Fairfield University) reported on November 19 that he had received an invitation to attend several opera performances and to see some of the exhibits at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Despite his walking difficulties, Morris remains mobile and pursues his interests in art and music, as well as working on his promised book.

On November 21, your correspondent, who lives in Providence, R.I., listened to the entire Columbia-Brown football game on our local sports station. A year prior, I sat in Brown Stadium on a freezing late-November day and watched Brown defeat us 40-10 on a thoroughly miserable afternoon. This time, I was astounded and elated as I followed the account of Columbia’s victory, 28-14, in Wien Stadium. Dr. Gerald Klimong, a loyal financial supporter and astute analyst of our football program, was at the game with our old friend Ray Robinson ’41. Gerry told me that our freshman quarterback, Sean Brackett ’13, who had a spectacular performance with his running and passing,
already was the best quarterback in the Ivy League. If true, Columbia should win a lot more games in the next three years, and might even win the League Championship. Our hopes are up! Roar Lions!

Ben Senitzky returned to Columbia to complete his studies for the Varsity 'C' Club Executive Association, the Pre-Theological Club of coach Carl Memer, he became a strong runner, and with the approval of the coach, he was made captain of the varsity cross-country team. He was also a member of the Undergraduate Committee on Athletics, the University Christian Association, the Pre-Theological Club and the Varsity 'C' Club Executive Committee. John was predeceased by his wife, Marilyn, in 2006. He is survived by his daughters, Diana, and Robin Smith Swanberg, and a grandchild. John was a modest man with a wry sense of humor, a great scholar and philosopher, and one of the finest members of our Great Class of 1942. We send condolences to his daughters and grandchild. (Look for John's obituary notice in a subsequent issue of CCT.)

As I write these notes, 2010 is upon us, and I send good wishes for good health, happiness and prosperity to all classmates. I welcome your e-mail messages, written notes and telephone calls (401-831-5464). Hail Columbia!

G.J. D'Angio
Department of Radiation Oncology
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Donner 2
3400 Spruce St.
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dango@xrt.upenn.edu

Henry Corey was shocked to learn of Gordon Billipp's death [September/October CCT]. They had been close friends. They both graduated from Mamaroneck H.S. and commuted together via train and shank's mare to Morningside Heights. Henry has retired as a founding trustee of a mutual savings bank and now enjoys the best of two worlds: Martha's Vineyard and Falmouth, Mass.

Herman Weck brings us up to date. He worked for Amoco Oil for 36 years, retiring in 1981. He and his wife traveled extensively in the United States and Europe, and he has continued his voyages after her death in 1996 to sail on cruise ships. Herman lives in an independent living facility in Geneva, Ill., where he is president of the board of directors. His many offspring are scattered across the U.S.

Andre L. Frayssé was a commuter from West New York, N.J., during his Columbia days and enlisted in the Army in 1942. He returned to Columbia after the war, enrolled a B.A. and rejoined the Army. After a military career that took him to Europe, Rwanda and Burundi, Col. Fraysse retired and worked in Germany for 36 years, retiring in 1981. He is himself a retired minister in the Presbyterian Church. One daughter of his seven children has followed him into the Presbyterian ministry. Living in Chicago, he notes that the societal problems of hunger and homelessness are due to inadequate incomes, high costs of housing and health care, and low skill levels.

With regret, we must report the passing of Dr. Thomas Tamlyn last April.

Before leaving Cambridge, Mass., for a Christmas stay on Maine's Mt. Desert Island, Dr. Bruce Mazlish reported that early 2009 saw the publication by Palgrave MacMillan of his book, The Idea of Humanity in a Global Era. His basic theme is that "humanity has come down from the clouds" as an abstract idea and "taken on actuality as a judicial entity" (e.g., Nuremberg, Yugoslavia, Rwanda). "The communication revolution has helped to open time and space . . . Humanity itself can now be appealed to as a sovereign power."

While Bruce's "health is not great" and he's slowly "losing mobility," he can happily count on
“four children and three grand¬
children [to] pick up where I am
losing strength.” Meantime, wife
“Neva Goodwin keeps flourishing
as an economist.” Bruce adds:
“Her real pleasure in life is a new
grandchild, her first.” Geneva,
born last summer, is beginning to
ing as an economist.”

Joe Lef and his wife of 42
years, Juanita, were, as usual,
hailedly ensconced in Boca Raton,
Fla., for the cold months, though
their chief residence remains
Purchase, N.Y. Joe “still [has] a
few business responsibilities” in
NYC and also remains “actively
engaged with the 92nd Street Y.”

A bad shoulder has forced Joe
to give up golf, but “otherwise,
A bad shoulder forced Joe to
give up golf, but “otherwise,
otherwise, Joe ‘still [has] a
few business responsibilities” in
NYC and also remains “actively
engaged with the 92nd Street Y.”

Her real pleasure in life is a new
baby, which he carried on in
Michigan State, for his service as
a botany teacher and scholar? That
would mean the retirement of his
title. Is he still an active
teacher and scholar? That would
mean the retirement of his
title. Is he still an active

Mai is the Centen¬
tennial Professor of Physics at Co-
lumbia, teaches graduate students
and continues to do research there
and in other parts of the world. Mai
awakens, spend a few worthwhile
years after year.

The sad fact is that we were, in
the main, not responsive. But in
no way, shape or form should that
be taken as criticism of George.
On the contrary, nothing could
be further from the mark. George

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 The 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

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS
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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cc@alumni.columbia.edu

Our 65th reunion is right around the
corner, Thursday, June 3-Sunday,
June 6. The weekend will be filled
with events around Columbia and
New York City, including opportuni-
ties to engage in cultural happenings
as well as a Saturday class dinner
with the Class of 1950 followed by
a champagne toast and dancing
under the stars on Low Plaza. Please
consider coming to catch up with
old friends and make new ones.

Albert J. Rothman, who served
with the class but graduated with
the Engineering Class of 1944, wrote
to tell about his book, A Brooklyn
Odyssey: Travails and Joys of a Boy’s
Early Life, and life in general: “At
the end of the book, I proudly told
of my Pulitzer Scholarship, without
which I would not have been able
to pay for tuition to our beloved
Columbia in 1941. Thanks for Hu-
dreds to engage in cultural happenings
with events around Columbia and
New York City, including opportuni-
ties to engage in cultural happenings
as well as a Saturday class dinner
with the Class of 1950 followed by
a champagne toast and dancing
under the stars on Low Plaza. Please
consider coming to catch up with
old friends and make new ones.

Bernard Sunshine
255 Overlook Rd.
New Rochelle, NY 10804
bsus@optonline.net

Burton Sapin reacted to this col-
umn’s recent note about Malvin
Ruderman and wrote: “Delighted
to hear about Mal’s academic suc-
cess. You did not have ‘Emeritus’
in his title. Is he still an active
teacher and scholar? That would
surely be impressive.”

Burt, the answer is in the affirma-
tive on both counts. Mal is the
Centennial Professor of Physics at Co-
lumbia, teaches graduate students
and continues to do research there
and in other parts of the world. Mal
awakens, spend a few worthwhile
years after year.

The sad fact is that we were, in
the main, not responsive. But in
no way, shape or form should that
be taken as criticism of George.
On the contrary, nothing could
be further from the mark. George

Times editor (November 9, 2009) that
rightwing extremists are gaining
strength and prominence in almost
all European countries from Britain
to Latvia and beyond. The specific
grievances may differ in different
countries, but the underlying mood
of anger, of implicit violence — in
short, of plain, ominous bloody-
mindedness couched in national-
istic rhetoric — is everywhere the
same; he contends, and is very bad
for the West.

Gentleman, mark your calendars.
On Thursday, May 6, the class is
meeting for lunch at Moran’s
Chelsea, 146 10th Ave. (at West 99th
Street) in Manhattan. It is conve-
nient to public transportation, and
drivers will find parking lots on 10th
Avenue near the restaurant. Moran’s
is an “American trip back in time”
and also features an amazingly large
collection of Waterford glass. It is
situated alongside New York’s most
recent attraction, the High Line, a
linear park with seasonal plantings
built on top of a derelict elevated
railway that transported danger-
ous freight. The High Line parallels
the Hudson River between 10th
and 11th Avenues, from West 20th
Street at the north end to Gansevoort
Street. A walk through the park with
a ranger will follow lunch. Notice of
the luncheon will be mailed.

In the last issue’s column, I
suggested that class luncheons be
held in centers outside New York,
for example, Washington, D.C.;
Los Angeles; Miami; and Hilton
Head. Combining ‘46 with ‘47 and
‘48 seems logical and will increase
turnout.

Contact information for the men
in these classes who live in your area
can be made available. I encourage
you to pick up the baton and get in
touch with me.

Bert Sussman
155 W. 68th St., Apt. 27D
New York, NY 10023
shibrit@nyc.rr.com

George Cooper kept this Class of
‘47 notes column alive for decades.
Unfortunately, his death robbed us
of a chance to say to him, “Thank
you, George. Well done.”

The Class of ‘47, scattered as it is
by WWII, presents a special chal-
lenge to someone trying to evoke
a common identification. Yet every
month, George sent out his mes-
sage to us to write. And despite
the paucity of replies, he persisted
optimistically month after month,
year after year.

The sad fact is that we were, in
the main, not responsive. But in
no way, shape or form should that
be taken as criticism of George.
On the contrary, nothing could
be further from the mark. George

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deserves nothing but praise for refusing to become discouraged. 

George was a man of quiet strength and gentle charm, and we are all in his debt for his keeping his faith in us.

I called Robert Weber in November and in response, he wrote the following: “I enjoyed our talk. It kindled many fond memories. Indeed, I met my wife of 62 years on campus when she was working at Low Library while pursuing her doctoral singing career in Manhattan.”

“Like many of us during those years, WWII clouded our class affiliations, and the timing of my College degree in 1947 was little more than a coincidence. Starting with the Class of 1944, I had been enrolled in the Professional Option Program. When I returned to the campus in June 1946, I resumed classes in the Engineering School, picking up enough points for my B.A. in October 1947. I received an Engineering B.S. in June 1948, and a few years later I returned on a part-time basis and received an M.S. in industrial and management engineering in June 1955.

“My management career included years with several Bell System companies and 25 years working on the AT&T corporate staff in Manhattan. I retired as industry relations manager at the end of 1985. A year or so later, we moved from our home in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., to Sun City West, Ariz. We enjoy active lives and savor visits from our three sons, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

“I cherish my years at Columbia and have kept in touch with my friends from the Engineering School and those in my fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta. Unfortimately, there are too few of us left.”

After talking and reading Robert’s notes, I regretted not having any memory of the brief time we were on the campus together. However, he joins the correspondents I have on this letter and the others are testimony to the Columbian contributions to our country and the world.

This column was written in December. A couple of months ago, I saw a letter to the editor in The New York Times, and feeling the issues addressed was crucial to us all, I wrote to the author, our almost-classmate, Fritz Stern ’46, University Professor Emeritus and a distinguished historian. I asked Fritz to add a little to the Times letter. This is his answer:

The Times’ account of the meeting is misleading. The Times sought to place American radicalism in a wider context. We need to be aware that illiberal movements are gaining strength in most of the countries we once confidently called the West; they differ in many specifics, but at bottom are waging culture wars, demeaning tolerance and reasoned argument. The vicious and mendacious campaign against health reform in our own country is a particularly ominous form of protest, usually confined to fringe groups, but at times when confidence in so much that holds society together, can herald the wish for a new authoritarianism.

“The civic passivity of the many and the fanatic activity of ideologues bolstered by vast money, bespeaks danger to open and liberal societies.”

48 Durham Caldwell 15 Ashland Ave. Springfield, MA 01119 durham-c@att.net

Retired physician Richard Calame, who has the distinction of having his listing in the 1948 Columbian just ahead of mine, has joined me as an Erasmus Hall graduate. Richard says, “After spending my entire life on Long Island, we sold our last property there in November and bought a house in Hingham, Mass.” A chief attraction: “Two of our three children have homes there.”

Despite his affection for the North, Richard still winters in Florida.

Richard also informs us, “I’ve recently spoken with Walt Henry and Harry Ekblom, and all things considered, we’re all doing quite well. Harry has now settled permanently on Cape Cod (Osterville, Mass.) while Walt still is in Port Jefferson on Long Island.” Walt also is a retired physician, Harry a retired banker.

The generally peripatetic Charlie Quigley has been breathing fresh air in Sarasota, Florida, for two years now at Bristol Village in Waverly, Ohio. Among his recent activities: credited with saving a neighbor’s life with quick and effective CPR, learning a new indoor tennis game called Pickleball and tending a 65-by-30-ft. vegetable garden (if it grows, it’s there). And to one to make his old Humanities instructors look down from above with a smile: During December, Charlie gave a lecture on the English poets Donne, Pope, Thomas, Keats, Byron and Shelley. Charlie admits to one disappointment: lack of duplicate bridge players.

Arthur Brindley has told us more about the Naval service that interrupted his undergraduate years at Columbia: “I spent half of my two years at the Academy and school. When I finally got assigned to a ship, the conflict was over. My vessel (LCS 95) docked near Tokyo, and I got to see the wreckage of one of their major airports. The Japanese people could hardly have been more accommodating. They were glad it was over and were more interested in acquiring cigarettes, soap and other sundries from us in return for badly inflated paper money. I bought a slide rule for 30 yen, and about three packs of Camels, which we could buy at 5 cents a pack. By the end of 1945, MacArthur had stabilized the currency. The new dollar-based yen looked more accommodating. They were glad it was over and were more interested in acquiring cigarettes, soap and other sundries from us in return for badly inflated paper money. I bought a slide rule for 30 yen, and about three packs of Camels, which we could buy at 5 cents a pack. By the end of 1945, MacArthur had stabilized the currency. The new dollar-based yen looked

49 John Weaver 2639 E. 11th St. Brooklyn, NY 11235 wudchpr@gmail.com

Here I sit with the luxury of a much later than usual deadline and no word from either the usual suspects or a formerly forgotten classmate who has found the time to emerge from the shadows long enough to write to me.

A short-lived opportunity to share some Christmas cheer with classmates was scuttled by a December blizzard. No chance to shovel my driveway in Sheepshead Bay and drive in to Bill Lubic’s Manhattan soiree. I’m certain braver souls with less of a traveling handicap made it. Lacking a word from any of you, I can tell a short story of my own. In the unexpected way that opens unanticipated doors, I found myself in the presence of fellow Columbian Paul Auster ’69. I have written before of my work with the nonprofit organization PortSide New York. Our home is abord the retired coastal tanker Mary Whalen, berthed in the Red Hook container port in Brooklyn. A documentary film director in Berlin knew of the ship and called from Berlin. She was making a documentary on the life and career of Charlotte Rampling, Paul, who lives in Brooklyn, is a friend of Ms. Rampling, and they wanted to find a location where they could film a conversation between Paul and Charlotte. It had to be somewhere in New York, and they thought the ship’s gallery would make an interesting and unique setting.

And so it came to pass that one Friday in early December, I met Paul Auster. At the end of the shooting day, we chatted awhile, and he reminisced about his undergraduate times, including the infamous student occupation of Hamilton Hall.

I had been missing, despite the CCT cover story featuring Paul (www. college.columbia.edu/cc/ct Archive/mar_apr06), I had never read any of his work. My son, CC ’05, has read everything and admires Paul’s work immensely. At this writing, I am halfway through The Brooklyn Follies. I can only say that if any of you have not discovered the pleasure of reading Paul’s work, this is a very good place to start, and you should waste no time getting started.

Perhaps, if this anecdote does serve to introduce some of you to this author, you will share your thoughts with us via this column. Let me hear from you.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Jennifer Freely jft2261@columbia.edu 212-851-7438 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2247@columbia.edu 212-851-7494

Before I get to some updates, I want to remind you that our 60th Reunion will be held on campus from Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. The weekend will be filled with cultural events, cocktail parties and enough goings on to keep us busy deep into the night. It will be a chance to catch up with classmates and meet fellow alumni from other classes as well. The weekend culminates on Saturday night with a champagne toast and dancing under the stars on the steps of Low Library. I urge you to attend what will certainly be a wonderful event.

Ray Annino has posted a new showing of his watercolors on his Web site (http://rayannino.com/jan2010show). There you can view a dozen of Ray’s latest works, which include arctic seascapes, winter landscapes and summer landscapes. You can also view previous showings by following the prompts.

John Rosenberg, who retired from the Columbia English Department in early 2009, has completed a book on Ceramics’ Don Quixote, a subject he had taught for nearly half a century in the Humanities course.

The title of the book is The View From Rocinante: Reflections on DON QUIXOTE. The themes in John’s book are appearance and reality in
the novel, and the remarkable close¬
ness among the four principals: the
Richard then moved to Washington, D.C., and
JFBN's world-trade and the ultimate threat of
communism to the free world.
Richard and his wife, Janet, have
daughter, Nadia, and his retire¬
ment has allowed him time to teach
English as a Second Language to
students in Montgomery County.
He has long admired Professor
William C. Carey and his sociology
classes at the College, noting the
influence on his life.
The Korean War touched many
members of the Class of 1951. Peter
E. DeBlasio had an active duty year
with the Navy before assignment
and was to the Naval Reserve program. In
1954, he earned a degree from the
Law School and began his career in
law. The biggest memory of his time will be the
time he spent four years in the New York
City office, where he met aspiring
attorney Elliot Wales. In 1958, Peter
joined the law firm of Reilly and
Reilly, and he was able to be one of
the best defense attorneys he ever
came across. After having his skills
as a trial lawyer, Peter established
his own law firm in 1961 and did
not retire until 2006. Married and
the father of two children, he lives
in Staten Island. Incidentally, Peter
played five sports at Columbia,
football, baseball, basketball, hand¬
ball and golf (not all on the varsity
level). As a sophomore, he sat on
the bench during Columbia’s great
victory over Army. Coach Lou Little
never played sports! Resulting from his relationship with the National
 Football League, Peter worked for
several handball championships.
Levon (Leo) Z. Boyajian is
admitted that only his grandmother
called him Levon. After his college
days, he earned an M.S. from
the University of Illinois and an M.D.
from Yale. When questioned about
why he went to Yale, Leo replied
(with tongue in cheek), “Because
that was the only place that would
take me?” The Navy was not reluct¬
ant to take him. In 1960, Leo was
assigned to Camp Lejeune, a major
training base for the Marine Corps.
His career in psychiatry began
there, and in 1962 he was released
from active duty with the rank of
lieutenant commander. Since then,
Leo has had a lifetime in commu¬
nity psychiatry and administration in
both Bronx and New Jersey. He dedicated himself
to those in need, many of whom
would have gone without help save
for his psychiatric care in the many
hospitals where he was accredited.
Leo and his wife, Gloria, have
been married since 1956, and they
live in Englewood, N.J. They have
two children: Lisa is a banking execu¬
tive in Charlotte, N.C., and Zach¬
ary is an environmental specialist
for the State of New Hampshire.

Please make a note that my e-mail
address has changed to desiah@
verizon.net. No change to my
telephone number, which remains
914-592-9023; or to my mailing
address, which remains the same as
above. My USPS letter carrier is in
great physical shape so there is no
danger that you will end up with
my mail pouch. Are you all catch¬
ing the drift?
The recent bad news from Flor¬
da, as reported by Stanley Schach¬
er, is about strawberries. Cold
weather killed the crop, so your
Wheaties are going to be lonesome.

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Island Historical Society in Brooklyn before becoming reference archivist for the NYC Municipal Archives and finishing up my local government time as the first archivist and records manager for the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission.

I retired early in 1991 to upstate New York to become an antiquarian book dealer specializing in South and Central Asian books based on the 7,000 titles I collected, an activity I still pursue with great pleasure at 81. Does it sound like the qualifications of genuine adventurer? I suspect so. How many other nearly full-time adventurers do we have in this or any other class? If you don’t care about making much money or want to take a big chance on making much while doing your own thing, I heartily recommend it.”

Jim Hoebel writes: “I reluctantly retired in 1999 from the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission. I had a great job, managing the dangerous products division of the consumer product safety standards in the fire safety field. My work contributed directly to the benefit of the public in an agency that took the responsibility of balancing benefits and costs seriously. I am very proud of the resulting standards, including [those for] children’s sleepwear, mattresses, upholstered furniture, child-resistant cigarette lighters and others. Since that time, I have served on the Science Advisory Committee of the National Association of State Fire Marshals and the ASTM committee developing new fire safety voluntary standards for candles. My wife, Arlene, and I have enjoyed our retirement by traveling and interacting with our five children and nine grandchildren. Arlene was a big help with the writing of my book. She has been a continuing inspiration and strength to me and our family both in the home and during our careers. The recent availability of a cruise port in Baltimore has made it much more convenient to cruise. Our family joined us in 2006 on a cruise to Bermuda to celebrate our 50th anniversary. And last August, we presided over our first Hoebel family reunion. My retirement project was to convert my extensive vinyl jazz record collection — accumulated by my wife and myself into CDs. I now have the entire collection housed in two coupled CD players, with a capacity of 800 CDs. I have more than 12,000 individual jazz selections that are catalogued and can be dialed up quickly. The problem is what to do with the old 78s and LPs. I doubt that there is much of a market for old, used jazz records, nor any institution interested in a donation. Any ideas? They are now gathering dust in our basement.

“When we retired, we decided to stay put in Fairfax County, Va. While it was the right choice, we are now considering the possibility (need?) to move to some sort of retirement community. We haven’t come to an agreement yet, and the prospect is very daunting. Wish us luck.”

It is with great sadness that we report the deaths of Gene Baraff and Frank Walzer, the results of different automobile accidents. The Class of ’52 sends its condolences to both families.

My apologies to Mort Freilicher and his many friends for an inadvertent error that appeared in the January / February issue of the CTC story “The Road Less Traveled,” about seven alumni who chose unconventional career paths. The section that described the software I had invented to enable adults who are no longer able to speak to use a computer to communicate using only one click per word. CTC reported, “Robins has been perfecting the system with Paul Sawyer, the law partner of Mort Freilicher ’53. Freilicher, who represented the astronauts during the moon landing, lost his ability to speak and was severely paralyzed after suffering a stroke, but he still has control of his left hand.”

By mistake, the article reversed Mort and Paul’s roles. Mort did not have a stroke. He was never severely paralyzed, nor did he ever lose his ability to speak. He did not represent the astronauts during the moon landing. However, he was faithful to Mort for having introduced me to his courageous law partner, Paul, who had been unable to speak for 17 years after suffering a severe stroke. During the course of my first afternoon teaching Paul to use the new technology, he pointed to an American flag mounted in a picture frame that hung on a wall in his Lincoln Center apartment. Below the American flag were the signatures of the astronauts with an inscription that indicated they brought the flag back from the moon as their way of thanking Paul for his work as their attorney during the moon landing.

Once again, I’m terribly sorry for any anguish the article may have caused Mort, his family, and many classmates and friends. [Editor’s note: A corrected version of the note is available at www.college.columbia.edu/cct/]

Robert Prendergast: At the time of our 50th reunion, Bob wrote, “My fondest recollections of Columbia College concern my interest in crew. That degree of interest was termed ‘too much’ by the dean of admissions at the College of Physicians and Surgeons.” P&ES’ loss was Boston University’s gain. After graduating from BU’s Medical School, Bob went on to become the chief resident of pathology at Sloan-Kettering. Later, after working at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, he earned his post-doc at Rockefeller University. Subsequently, Bob spent 40 years as a professor in the department of pathology and ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins, where he did basic research on the relationship between the body’s immune mechanism and disease. He is the author of more than 120 scientific papers. Bob is on the board of directors of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Mass., and is an adjunct senior scientist.

Talking to Bob by phone, I learned that he was the classmate who decided that it would be a good idea to paint a very large “C” on the great rock that’s opposite the boat house on the Harlem River. However, he enthusiastically suggested talking to Don Fagan to learn how they managed to use 20 gallons of white paint to paint the rock. Our common rock is not the round ing. He only regrets that there isn’t a rowing club in Massachusetts.

Don Fagan: Don and Diane have been married 51 years and have three children and five grandchildren. They spend most of their time living in Acworth, N.H., a quiet, friendly town of 850 people. In 1976, Don founded a pharmaceutical research company and was active until he retired in 2007. When I asked Don what was one of his most fascinating projects, he recounted how his research on dysphonia why many older men were not using a certain ‘erectile dysfunction’ medication. As a result of his research, the company began to promote the drug to younger men! As Bob predicted, Don eagerly remembered painting the Varsity “C” during our senior year. He recalled that Bob had written to the New York Central Railroad, which owned the property, for permission to paint the “C” on its rock. After they received an appropriate response, he and Bob sold the chief of building and grounds on providing them with 20 gallons of white paint. After enlisting the team’s rigger, “Pops” Johnson, who had been a sailor in Norway, to build a bosuns chair, they got 20 gallons of manila rope. They hooked the bosuns chair to a wire at the top of the rock and began painting the “C,” which is 60 ft. x 60 ft. Before winter set in, they completed about 80 percent of the “C” and finished their work in the spring. We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to Bob and Don for the Varsity “C” which, 57 years later, is still there.

Donald Taylor: In 1980, Don was married for the second time, to Charlene. They live in Upton, Mass. After medical school and completing an internship at Vanderbilt, Don returned to Montefiore Medical Center in New York, where he completed residencies in internal medicine and radiology. From 1963-66, he was associate professor of radiology at Columbia Medical Center. In 1966, Don joined a private practice in Brookline, Mass., and was assistant clinical professor of radiology at Boston University Medical Campus. In 1977, Don opened a solo radiology practice in Chestnut Hill, Mass., and became preeminent in the practice of mammography until he closed his office 25 years later, in 2007. Talking to Don by phone, I learned that he continues to be very vigorously active radiology. Don believes that women should have annual mammograms daily.

William Dick: Sad to report that after a courageous battle with Parkinson’s, Bill passed away in November. Bill earned a master’s from Oxford in 1956. However, his most important achievement at Oxford was meeting and marrying Esme Inglew. She survives him, as do sons Paul and Peter, and grandchildren Connor, Kelsey and Stephen. Amazingly, Bill was descended on his mother’s side from the founders of Haarssens Bergen, one of the original European settlers of the colony of New Amsterdam. From 1960-98, Bill taught Latin at the Brunswick School in Greenwich, Conn. He also was dean of coordination for Brunswick and the Greenwich Academy and developed a system that allowed students in the high school section of both schools to enroll in classes at either campus. Some of Bill’s poetry has appeared in anthologies and textbooks. He wrote the following for his sons.

“For Paul and Peter”

As children grow we do not stay the same each swiftly-wheeling day, but change with them, teach and learn, as a nervous lake inherits blue, yet gives the air a silver glow sparkling in return.

We learn to cheat the end of death, for whatever sphere God’s grace or wrath
Robert and Wide-Open: A Free Press for a New Century, in which he argues that while freedom of the press was a great 20th century achievement in the United States, an increasingly global society must have robust, uninterrupted, and broad-based media. The book makes for interesting and provocative discussion. A couple of interesting lectures were given recently at the Café Science and Café Social Science series of talks at the PicNic Café in the campus neighborhood: “The Birds and the Underwater Bees: Sex Education in Animal Societies” with behavioral ecologist Dustin Rubenstein, and “Sex and Death in the Galapagos” with science writer Jonathan Weiner. There was much give and take between the attendees and the faculty. It was definitely worth the price of admission.

We recently met up with the Class of 1955 Scholarship recipient. For the second consecutive year, Jin Izawa ’10 was the recipient of our class scholarship. Jin, a New Jersey native, was born in Hawaii, will be working in the Far East after he graduates.

What’s new with our class and specifically our classmates, you ask? Joe Vales, who we last saw at the Society of Columbia Graduates Great Bend Reunion last October, was ecstatic that his granddaughter had been accepted to the College. Stanley Lubman (from Berkeley) reports that The Wall Street Journal recently has initiated a blog on China, “China Real Time Report” (http://blogs.wsj.com/chinarealtime) and that he will be contributing his thoughts on Chinese law. Jim Hudson’s former roommate in John Jay and roommate in Hartley, Frank Pasquinieli ’56, has been trying to connect with me about old memories. From Washington, D.C., we heard from Lew Mendelson, who told us that he spent the end of 2009 living at the historic American Colony Hotel in East Jerusalem, consulting on a USAID West Bank/Gaza project with the Palestine Capital Market Authority in Ramallah. Lew has been in touch with Gerry Pomper, who, as a full-time surgeon, is working well.

Not only is Dean Michele Moody-Adams trying to meet with as many College students as possible, but she also is getting together with alumni, either on campus or across the country. In January, she went to the West Coast swing to Los Angeles and San Francisco, where she talked to an enthusiastic bunch of College alumni, students (on break) and parents about the state of the College, her goals and her thoughts about undergraduate education.

Remember the song (and movie), April in Athens? In late April, Deans Carol Becker (School of the Arts), Feniosky Pena-Mora (SEAS) and Mark Wigley (Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation) will join alumni for a visit to contemporary and ancient Greece. The experience will include special access to the Acropolis and the newly opened Acropolis Museum. Incorporated in this breathtaking tour will be a visit to the Parthenon and the Temple of Poseidon. Alumni might have to write a paper about their experiences on this tour. There is no shortage of new books being written by Columbia people. In fact, our own President Lee C. Bolinger recently finished Uninhibited,
www.college.columbia.edu/ CCT_archive/ sep05/]

We have started planning our 55th reunion enthusiastically, since our 50th was magnificent. The first meeting will be held in my apartment with a beautiful view of the West 113th Street and at various apartments—Ed Botwinick, please note. A number of the usual guys were down in the freezing South —could have stayed in NYC — or unavailable but said they will make future meetings. At one point, we had a Reunion Committee of almost 30. All are welcome to join us in this fun undertaking and offer ideas by whatever communication means preferred. At our first reunion meeting were Steve Easton, Lou Hemmings, John Brown, Al Franco ‘56, Ralph Kaslack, Maurice Klein, Ron Kapon and yours truly.

At the great 55th, we added 10 annual scholarships to the four permanent ones we set up decades ago. Please keep giving to the Columbia College Fund to keep the scholarships going (www.college. columbia.edu/ giveonline). It is marvelous meeting these impressive young people annually.

So guys and dolls, let me hear from you with news for CCT and ideas for our 55th reunion, scheduled for Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011. Don’t be bashful.

As usual, here is wishing us all health, happiness, longevity, and a rising stock market and positive financial overall. We continue to be asked to think differently about ordinary definitions of art.”

The Times reported the Web site for the exhibit was onassisusa.org, which noted that the exhibit included “approximately 46 exceptional works from public and private collections in Greece, Europe, the United States and Canada, many of which will be traveling for the first time.”

Paul Liberti ’58 received an award for “best medical technology” from Prix Galien USA for a blood-testing product he pioneered.

objects that lie outside and beyond ordinary definitions of art.”

The Times quoted Dave Rothman’s perspective. “It’s hard to believe what the costs are compared to our day. I hate to think what they will be for my five grandkids!”

In its ongoing series of articles on health care reform, The New York Times quoted Dave Rothman’s wife, Sheila, who said “People are being asked to think differently about risk. The public state of mind right now is that they’re frightened that evidence-based medicine is going to be equated with rationing. They don’t see it in a scientific perspective.” Sheila is a professor of public health at Columbia. Dave teaches at P&S.

The Class Luncheon 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, at aradin@radinglass.com.

Wednesday of every month. This happens to coincide with the posting of my monthly Social Security checks, certainly a notable occasion for this senior citizen. Fortunately, working full-time, I do not have to rely on this miserly sum to sustain me, particularly since my daughter, Rae (18), is in her freshman year at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. It’s hard to believe what the costs are compared to our day. I hate to think what they will be for my five grandkids!”

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and to the Columbia professionals whom I think executed this year’s event better than did any of their predecessors over the past half-century. As soon as I got in the front door of my house and put down my overnight bag, I made a point to see what messages had accumulated while I was in New York. Not surprisingly, Stanley Feld had already written to ask for commentary. I do not know what vitamins Stanley is taking but whatever they are, they are working. 

"Reflecting on those in attendance, two thoughts came to mind. With notable exceptions, we look healthier and younger than our parents did when they were 70. And I was struck at the continued intellectual as well as physical vitality that was apparent. Whether it was the active discussion about ROTC or [Bernard] Wi$t$y ‘48, [Norman] Gelfand and [David] Horowitz reflecting on the times we’ve lived through, we were all Columbia in the face of those online, opinionated and slightly quarrelsome, but in a good way. We are, of course, very different than those who will celebrate their 50th reunion five decades from now. First of all, I didn’t see a tattoo in the crowd, nor a nose ring; not even an earring. And surely in the future, as well. As a recovering university administrator, I can’t imagine anyone in my circle who are not yet contributed to the College to do so. These are daunting times for colleges, even Ivy League institutions, and these schools particularly need discretionary funds that they can use like the fingers of little Dutch boys to fill holes in holes. I thought the College was particularly gracious in not hampering us with this subject, but I am under no such diplomatic restraints. Give a little now and more in your estate planning.

“Our world seems to have broken down into two groups: those who have retired some successfully, some less so — and those continuing to work — some successfully, some less so. People asked me how I was enjoying retirement. I replied that I hadn’t retired. I had, after 38 years as a university administrator — dean, v.p. and president — given up administration and taken advantage of my tenured professorship to assume an academic chair at [The] George Washington University. I reinvented myself. "My wife has prompted me in this direction, pointing out that being a university president is a high wire act, all the more so in these daunting economic times, and underscoring the fact that we lived in Washington. She thought I ought to give it up before I got indeliced.

"Strange, I find that in some ways I am working harder now. Teaching is more daunting than I had given it credit for being, not withstanding all of my years in the academy. I have been scribbling madly: two books; a year-and-a-half of columns two or three times a week for the Chronicle of Higher Education; lecturing all over the country, indeed all over the world; and writing a book, Big Man on Campus: A University President Speaks Out on Higher Education. You can reach me at trachtenberg@gwu.edu. Hugs to you all." 

From Robin Motz: “When Paul Winick was my roommate in Liv- ing/learning in the late 60’s, he spoke memorably at our 25th class reunion, was our connecting-door roommate, and we had fascinating, all-night bull sessions. And does anyone remember Brian Ardisone, who competed with Ta-Kome by walking up and down the dormitory corridors with a shopping cart laden with bread, meats and cheeses? When their business fell off noticeably, Ta-Kome complained to Columbia that it was a zoning violation for a food sales operation to take place in dormitory halls. I also remember taking fencing with Archie Oldham as my contact sport, since he also was my tennis coach on the freshman team.”

I continue with the comments from my old friend Lucaccioni (at pacbell.net): "Unique education: The reunion awakened in me memories of the superor educations that Columbia provides — a function of its unique faculty and curriculum, not to mention the ongoing interaction with fellow students. Somehow the excellence of this process had dimmed in my consciousness during the last five decades.

"The discussion of Gandhi’s life led by Roosevelt Monts ’95 was a high point of his career. The discussion of the Core Curriculum we experienced 50-plus years ago, of the range of ideas we were forced to confront and engage. I believe that the quality of education I experienced at Columbia served me well, helping me think a little better and clearer, and sensitizing me to a world of issues beyond my own. It was great to see people I hadn’t seen in 50 years and catch up on how their lives had gone. It was quite important and even moving to talk with people who were very important to me at a very important time of my life. I don’t think I heard an unkind word during the four days. I am looking forward to the 55th reunion in 2015." 

"I teach at the University of Colorado. My big plans for [2010] are a 2,000-mile bike ride from Brainerd, Minn., to Bar Harbor, Maine. It is one-half of a Sea-to-Shining Sea ride." 

From Allan Franklin: “My attendance at our 50th class reunion was the first time I had attended a reunion. It was pure magic. Everything about the four days was marvelous. It was great to see people I hadn’t seen in 50 years and catch up on how their lives had gone. It was quite important and even moving to talk with people who were very important to me at a very important time of my life. I don’t think I heard an unkind word during the four days. I am looking forward to the 55th reunion in 2015." 

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M.J. Tannenbaum had quite a Thanksgiving. He was a guest at the ceremony for the awarding of the Ettore Majorana-ErcoScience for Peace Prize on November 25 at the Pontifical Academy of Sciences in The Vatican, and presented a short talk on "Fundamental Science and Improvement of the Quality of Life — Space Quantization to MRI" at the following discussion on "Why Science is Needed for the Culture of the Third Millennium." The talk was posted at www.phenix.bnl.gov/WWW/NPAC/Conferences/ErcoPrizeVatican/.

"By the way, the 12-minute talk went over very well," said M.J. "To be clear: I wasn’t a prize winner, only a guest (of Nino Zichichi). In fact there were six prizes awarded."
M.J. later had dinner at the Yale Club in New York.

Eric Jakobson wrote to us from Champaign-Urbana: “Hold fast to the spirit of youth, let years to come do what they may.”—Inscription on a plaque, John Jay Hall, Columbia University.

“Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution.” —Theodosius Dobzhansky.

“Not a whole lot to add for the last six months. I officially retired in August, but still am active in science. After a bit of soul searching, I decided to be one of those old professors who does not leave but just fades away, so I am redoubling my scientific efforts. I have several papers in the pipeline, am planning a couple of grant proposals and will travel in the next few months to both the East and West coasts as well as to India to speak and give papers.”

Reunion speaker David Rosand is to be honored on Wednesday, March 3, with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement.

Gil Wright has completed the monumental task of identifying the people in the class photo taken on the steps of Low Library during the reunion. Obviously not all of us were present for the picture. I will include in the group picture, via Photoshop, the picture of anyone who wishes to send me a picture of himself. If I have your e-mail address, I will send a copy of the modified picture along with the identifications. Since it is agreed that no one has changed the way we looked since 1959, the picture should be a good test of your memory. Send me a picture and something for Class Notes.

Karl Donfried ’60 was awarded an annual Mellon Foundation Emeritus Fellowship.

Universally, the name “Hiroshima” evokes an ineradicable set of images framed in a horrific fragment of time — August 6, 1945. The Potsdam Declaration was issued on July 26, calling for Japan’s unconditional surrender and having been immediately and publicly rejected, the response followed swiftly. On August 6, the B-29 Enola Gay released a uranium bomb over the city. The result was devastating: bodies incinerated and scarred; countless lives lost, maimed, forever changed; a city leveled and in ruin. Hiroshima, it was estimated, would be uninhabitable for 70 years. With these imbedded images, Bill stepped into a new and astonishing reality.

“I stepped off the ‘Shinkansen’ bullet train and viewed a flourishing city filled with high-rise office buildings, schools, parks, street cars, bridges, businesses, restaurants, traffic, ferry boats and museums. This was my new reality. August 6, 1945 is history.

“At the Peace Park, a Japanese woman approached and asked whether she could tell the story of her mother, a survivor of August 6. I said ‘yes.’ For 25 minutes, she told the story of her mother and showed me photos and drawings related to that historic day. There was no animosity in her voice. After she finished, I visited the Peace Museum, which is visited by approximately eight million Japanese a year. Some of the images were so moving and difficult to view — shredded clothing, photos of survivors and the city’s destruction, and stories by survivors. From the time of its defeat, Japan changed historically. The emperor abdicated his absolute power and today is merely a figurehead.

With that change, a new view of life emanated from the people, bringing their creativity and industry into the forefront of the world.”

Bill’s photographs are mesmerizing: Hiroshima illuminated at night, rivaling the brilliance and highrises of Paris and New York.

The people of Japan began rebuilding Hiroshima into a major metropolis in the mid-’50s, and the city was reborn as a “peace memorial city” dedicated to the sanctity of human life, personal dignity and the opportunity to live in tranquility. Today’s Hiroshima stands as a striking tribute to human resiliency and determination.

Two years retired as the Elizabeth A. Woodson Professor Emeritus of Religion and Biblical Literature at Smith College, Karl Donfried was awarded one of 20 annual Mellon Foundation Emeritus Fellowships. Karl will use the grant to study “Paul, Judaism and the Roman Empire,” visiting sites in the Near East, including a synagogue recently discovered during an archaeological excavation in Magdala on the Galilee Sea. This first-century synagogue from the Second Temple period contains the oldest-known engraving in stone of a menorah. As part of his work, Karl will lead a Society of Biblical Literature tour of Syria and southeast Turkey.

In the ’60s, the Cliffhors’ “Sweet Talkin’ Guy” hit the top of the charts, and its tight harmony and catchy tune were heard on every jukebox and radio station where disco jockeys played top 10 hits. Doug Morris, who co-wrote the music and lyrics, launched his stellar career as a songwriter and producer of hit records. He proceeded to find his own record label, which in 1968 was acquired by Atlantic Records.

Two years later, he was named president of Atlantic. Doug went on to be appointed president and COO of Warner Music, and in 1995, chairman and CEO of Universal Music Group, under his direction, evolved from a record company into the largest multimedia music entertainment company in the world.

On January 30, the evening preceding the annual Grammy Awards, the Recording Academy’s Pre-Grammy Gala honored Doug by presenting him the President’s Merit Award, in recognition of his singular contributions to the industry. The academy president, in presenting the award, gave this salute to Doug: “We are humbled to honor another music industry great in Doug Morris, who has had a profound impact on the music business throughout his dynamic and rich career. With his creative vision and digital strategies, he continues to explore and shape innovative new ways to bring great artists and their music to fans around the globe while being a staunch advocate of artists’ rights.”

Congratulations, Doug.

The class survey was distributed in November. Within weeks, 72 responses had been received by the Alumni Office, where the results are being tabulated. By now, that number undoubtedly is much larger.

A few comments regarding the survey: As the surveys were and are being returned anonymously, only two (the last being my own) have an attribution.

One classmate submitted several suggested additions to the questionnaire. The sequential response options to each question end with a humorous yet revealing possibility. The pattern is established in this year’s first question: “Since graduating from Columbia, I still have all my hair. I have lost some of my hair, I have lost most of my hair, I am not bald, I just have a very wide part.”

Now this is more than just a humorous confection. It is an acknowledgment that time in its passage may not have dealt kindly with our once luxuriant manes (and by extrapolation, with some of our vital organs) and seeks to elicit what percentage of our number make the best of things by taking refuge and finding comfort in denial. Furthermore, it is a quintessential Columbia question, as it has its roots in classical philosophy. It echoes the sorites paradoxes that arise when we make vague or imprecise resolutions.

“Nothing in biology makes sense except in the light of evolution.” —Theodosius Dobzhansky.

“Not a whole lot to add for the last six months. I officially retired in August, but still am active in science. After a bit of soul searching, I decided to be one of those old professors who does not leave but just fades away, so I am redoubling my scientific efforts. I have several papers in the pipeline, am planning a couple of grant proposals and will travel in the next few months to both the East and West coasts as well as to India to speak and give papers.”

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days for a family of four living modestly in a rented apartment on the Lower East Side or in Brooklyn or the Bronx. I’d guess that very few classmates who had attended public high schools in the city went home to parents who were not shopkeepers, professionals with relatively modest incomes and local practices (dentists, doctors), civil servants...

Not to put too fine a point on it, but I would supplement Nathan’s home to parents who were not

CLASS NOTES

were fewer in number and at

MODERATIONS during WWII, were in

Depression and rationing of com-

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was it intended after all?).

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from the apex of their careers. Dad

observation by noting that our par-

true (“This sentence is false.” Being

argued, is negated and of no value.

Those who

useful in this instance. Those who

responded to the survey honestly

would not be inclined to change

that pattern by responding to the

truth test that they had not. So ev-

ever negative answer to the test can be taken at face value as true, and

and the surveys of those so answering can be disregarded. The problem with the truth test arises when the

respondent has not answered the survey honestly but responds to the truth test that he has. His

statement, of course, is false; yet at the same time it is true for being consistent with the fact that all his responses to the survey are false. However he answers the truth test, his response is both true and false. Surely his survey responses should be disregarded; but then all the survey responses to which respondents are supposed to have answered the questions honestly are placed in doubt and might have to be disregarded unless we can distinguish the identical responses of those who were honest from those who were not. There being no way to extricate extraneous survey responses to themselves to evaluate the responses, and there being no way to assign a consistent truth value to the question, there is no way to tell.

Faced with this conundrum, the survey tabulators are trained to decide whether to accept as true, or reject as potentially tainted, all of the responses they’ve received.

The solution is simple. The tabulators are best advised to dismiss this commentary as if it had not been written, to proceed with their task of sketching a portrait of the Class of ’60 from all the received responses, and to urge members of the class to fill out and return the questionnaire.

The most famous of the seven paradoxes for which Eubulides is credited is the Liar Paradox, or pseudomenon. “A man says he is lying. Is what he says true or false?” In the case of the class survey, a respondent says that he has not answered the questions honestly (heavens forefend). If he has not answered the questions honestly, and responds that he has not, his answer to the truth test (being truthful) is not consistent with his confession of falsity: thus, the response to the truth test being true and false at the same time, the test, it might be argued, is negated and of no value. But, no, the test actually proves useful in this instance. Those who responded to the survey honestly would not be inclined to change
and funding for, obstetric fistula repair, prevention and educational programs worldwide. Recently, the documentary film A Walk to Beautiful, which the Fistula Foundation sponsored to increase awareness about this problem, was featured on NOVA, and subsequently won an Emmy. You may learn more about fistula at www.fistulafoundation.org, where you can also see photos.

Roger Staubach would have been a better choice. Bill’s daughter, Maggie, is a member of the Class of 2013. His son, Jim ‘04, ’08 SIPA, was a member of the football team.

Charles: “As a lifetime arbitrator, you can’t do it all. I’ve decided to define my legal work in terms of president of the American College of Psychoanalysts, an honorary organization for psychoanalysts who also are psychiatrists and who have demonstrated outstanding achievement during their careers. Phil presented a paper on ‘Houses as Self-Portraits: Architects Who Design Their Own Homes’ to a conference on creativity. He practices full-time and supervises psychoanalytic and psychiatric trainees.

Bennie Patten writes that some years ago, Ethel ’63 Barnard, his wife of 45 years, took a course at Rice on how to construct a hurricane-proof home. After Ethel completed the class, she and Bernie hired the architect who taught the class and designed a home for the couple on the Galveston coast. Last September, the great storm briefly visited them. Like destroyed the home to their right and the one to their left, the one in back of them and the beach in front of them, but their home was unscathed. They call it Callie’s Cove, after their first granddaughter, and it is indeed hurricane-proof. As a reward, Bernie and Ethel let the architect and his family stay in the home for a week.

On the book scene, Bernie’s latest, The Logic of Alice: Clear Thinking in Wonderland, was published after a two-year delay by Prometheus. His only commercially successful book, Truth, Knowledge, or Just Plain Bull: How To Tell the Difference: A Handbook of Practical Philosophy, in which he says, ‘I have become the best male tapper in the Silver Star Tappers. We have been featured on CNN several times, but I haven’t seen the show because I don’t watch TV. Tap dancing is an art form so deep, no one masters it, but we keep trying. ‘This has been a good year for collecting trophies at music festivals. So far, I have received five, including a first place at the Jazz Festival for my version of ‘Blues in the Night.’ The secret is simple: Play from the heart. The judges are just too bored with technically correct but essentially soulless performances.”

Allen Young, who enjoys retirement, writes a weekly column for his former employer, the Abih (Mass.) Daily News. Titled “Inside/Outside,” the column focuses on the environment and the outdoors of the North Quabbin Region, where Allen has lived since 1992. Allen writes about anything he wants.

Dick Schwartz checks in:

“Through the years, I have been in touch with many Columbians, and kudos to you who have inspired me. Particularly, I want to thank Stan Lupin, who helped me through a nasty divorce. It was your advice, Stan, that led me to a New York Bar Association program that guided me through stormy waters. Mike Charney and I got back in touch when I relocated to the West Coast in the late ’60s. We often played tennis near his peninsula home, where his gracious wife and boys entertained me. Paul Alter, thanks to you and your lovely wife for having us over to your place on Park Avenue and for the opportunity to rub elbows again (after our Arizona hotel days) with John Modell, Richard Kobrin and Armando Bartos, who inspired me to play Bay Area tennis and especially doubles with some U.S. Open champs. Finally, I want to thank Jerry Speyer and his charming lady, Katherine Farley, for entertaining us regally at their home. What a pleasure to give a bear hug to Sandy Greenberg, who looks great and is as upbeat as ever.”

November 2009 was the 20th anniversary of the passing of Dick’s older brother, Dr. Gabe Schwartz ’62 P&S (via Princeton), who died from Lou Gehrig’s disease. Gabe wrote more than 100 research papers on immunology, internal medicine, neurology and renal pathology. He left his mark on all who knew him — soft-spoken, a pool shark and nicknamed “the Chaz” at Princeton’s Hillel! "At his funeral in Chicago," Dick writes, “I was surprised to learn of Gabe’s gridiron genius and the reverence in which the Chicago Bears team held him. They called him ‘Dr. Gabe.’ Using Apple Computer technology, he had been able to signal Mike Ditka of their opponents’ plays. During Gabe’s bout with ALS in the mid-’80s, former Mike rolled up the best win-loss record of any coach of his era!”

Through Facebook, Dick has been in touch with Charlie Morrow, George Graff, Marty Erhdeim, Alan Harris, Bob Kaminsky, Bob Dobrish, Dave Saland, Mike Stone and John Freidin. “It’s great sharing our life experiences, milestones and photos,” Dick says. His daughter, Maya, recently graduated from Brooklyn College, is pursing a master’s in education at Hunter College and talks about getting a Ph.D. Daniela, Dick’s eldest, works in the real estate division of the Schubert Organization.

Samantha, adopted from an orphanage in Guangzhou, China, is pursuing involved in the everyday ops of each client. At heart, I am a salesman with lots of enthusiasm. In addition to basic Web design, we do blogging, Twittering, create Facebook pages and use YouTube to penetrate the ‘cloud’ for our clients. These tough economic times create many opportunities for those with savvy and guts to incubate, nurture and bring projects to fruition. And that’s what we do best. One of our clients is Mort Walker, the cartoonist and creator of Beetle Bailey, which appears in more than 1,800 daily newspapers. We’re developing his Best of Times Magazine here in Fairfield County with the intention of bringing on board associate publishers in as many as 100 American, Canadian and Scandinavian cities. See us at www.thebestoftimes.us.”

Dick would love to hear from you at rschwartz62@sbglobal.net.

Please write to tell us what is happening in your world.

Paul Neshamkin
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The small e-mail discussion list that has grown from the attendees of our various class lunches has a flurry of communication. I recently wished them a Happy New Year (which I now extend belatedly to all of you). I had asked for news or resolutions, and among the exchange of greetings from more than 20 of your classmates, I received the following: Joe Applebaum resolved “to stay in close touch with my friends and colleagues.” Harvey Schneider wrote that one of his resolutions was “to work less hard so I can attend the class luncheons regularly. Now that my twins (son at Quinnipiac, daughter at George Washington) are one semester away from finishing college, I’ll have less financial incentive to keep working this hard. What’s retirement like, guys?”

Which prompts me to ask all of you, “What’s your retirement like?” Not that I think I’ll ever be able to retire, but this seems like a good time to warn your working classmates of what’s in store. Please send me a note and let us all know how painting, and a guru to other professional papers, especially in Chinese and Korean and, Bemie assures us, is helping correct this country’s balance of payment deficit. Tap dancing, Bernie writes, “continues to be my passion and recently, due to the death of the other male dancer in the group (death cancels all appointments), I have become the best male tapper in the Silver Star Tappers. We have been featured on CNN several times, but I haven’t seen the show because I don’t watch TV. Tap dancing is an art form so deep, no one masters it, but we keep trying. ‘This has been a good year for collecting trophies at music festivals. So far, I have received five, including a first place at the Jazz Festival for my version of ‘Blues in the Night.’ The secret is simple: Play from the heart. The judges are just too bored with technically correct but essentially soulless performances.”

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retirement is treating you.

David Alpern writes, "In the last week of '09, a contractor began excavating for expansion and remodeling of the little ranch house in Sag Harbor on Long Island that I bought more than 30 years ago. Lots of memorabilia tossed out, but a great new home coming for me and the Mrs."

Bill Goebel shared that he "received a nice, handwritten note from my coach Joe thesis thanking me for my support to the Columbia basketball team. I am not a major contributor, but I really appreciated the gesture from him, along with a New Year's greeting card from the athletics department. It is great to see that Columbia, at least regarding the Athletics Department, is attempting to reach out to its alumni. It is a welcome change that I hope continues." Henry Black seconded this sentiment, and writes, "I, too, am pleased that the Athletics Department reached out and sent note cards and cards at Christmastime and that there is some tangible evidence that we are improving across the board."


Phil Satow's daughter, Julie '96, was married last May. Her husband, Stuart, is the editor-in-chief and a principal at The Real Deal, a successful real estate publication.

Frank Sipher's daughter, Jennifer, a board member of the St. James Church, New York, is in production, for publication in the spring: St. James' Church in the City of New York, 1810-2010.

Recent Class of '63 lunches have been well-attended. At the December lunch, a particularly happy group of 10 of us toasted the holidays and exchanged news. On a more sobering note, Dan Perl updated the group on his recent work on traumatic brain injury in the NFL.

Mark Zucker spent his sabbatical at LSU (Baton Rouge, La.) in New York City. Mark teaches art history; his specialty is the Renaissance. For many years he has taught a summer session in Innsbruck, Austria.

Harvey Weiss lives in Short Hills, N.J., where he is an independent computer consultant. He has three grown sons and three grandchildren.

Marty Isserlis has gone south from New York with his wife, Judy, for a month of sunshine in Naples, Florida.

Alan Tobias arrived at a recent lunch and reported that he is studying Moshe Isserlis, one of Marty's rabbinal ancestors.

Columbia's plans to expand north of 125th Street suffered a setback when an appellate court ruled 3-2 that the State of New York could not use the state's eminent domain authority to condemn private land in order to turn the land over to the University. A further appeal by the state is expected. Steve Case, a University trustee, was on hand at lunch to explain (and bemoan) the ruling.

After retiring from a law practice a few years ago, Danny Schechter gave up his Manhattan apartment to live in Dutchess County, N.Y. While it is cold in the winter, Danny extols the "joys of a warm fireplace." Danny's son, Matthew '93, joined us for lunch in January.

Steve Rodner's law firm has relocated closer to the Columbia Club in Manhattan. He plans to attend the class lunch more often.

Fred Kantor is a regular at the class lunch.

My wife, Jacqueline, and I had dinner at a Turkish restaurant in Manhattan with Ivan Weissman and his wife, Jane, and Gill Kahn and wife, Bernice. I learned a lot about Turkey in the last few years from Beril Lapson, who often travels there on business and then regales us with tales at the class lunch.

Barry Bley writes that since his retirement he has been active with the Alumni Representative Committee, interviewing high school seniors in the Denver area who have applied for admission to the College. In the past two years, he has interviewed more than 80 applicants. "I very much enjoy working with these talented young people," Barry writes, "and I know that the admissions officers have a job I don't envy."

Jonathan Cole, the John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, Provost Emeritus and Dean Emeritus of Faculties, has written The Great American University: Its Rise to Preeminence, Its Indispensable National Role, Why It Must be Protected.

Send news. Your classmates want to hear from you.

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6
ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS
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212-851-7846
DEVELOPMENT Heather Hunte
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Norman Olch
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Like the newly popular vampires, my thirst (in my case the news) is never slaked. One gambit I have been using lately is to ask 1965ers whether they have been in contact with classmates. Richard Kagan, a professor in the history department at The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, sent the following: "I have not seen, spoken to or been in contact with classmates for many years. Odd. I guess that my major news is the publication, in October, of my most recent book, Clio and the Crown: The Politics of History in Medieval and Early Modern Spain. This semester, I have been a visiting professor at the University of California in Irvine and I am writing a book on Barcelona but am scheduled, weather permitting, to return to Baltimore tomorrow. I expect to again be in Spain during the fall semester, but in Madrid rather than Barcelona."

Richard's e-mail address is kagan@hum.ucla.edu.

Charlie Schwartz sent the following: "In the 45th year since our graduation, I thought it was time to send you a note about me, and about meeting a fellow alumus [albeit from the Class of '77]."
Joseph Goldstein ’65: A Radically Examined Mind

By Joshua Summers ’97

In the more than four decades since graduating from Columbia College, Joseph Goldstein ’65 has played a significant role in transmitting the practice of mindfulness meditation to the West through his career as teacher, institution builder and author of numerous books on Buddhism, including The Experience of Insight: A Natural Unfolding (1976), One Dharma: The Emerging Western Buddhism (2002) and A Heart Full of Peace (2007).

Although mindfulness is at the heart of almost all Buddhist meditation, it has now spread in this country as a secular practice that trains the mind in moment to moment, non-judgmental awareness. Advocates say this training leads to various benefits, such as stress reduction, clarity of mind and a more compassionate connection with the world around us.

“Joseph has had a seminal influence on the mainstreaming of mindfulness in the world. Over the past 35-plus years, thousands of people have sat retreats with him in the United States and around the world and have had their lives transformed by his extremely clear, kind and insightful teaching and his love for the Dharma or the teachings of the Buddha,” wrote Jon Kabat-Zinn, founder of The Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care and Society at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, in an e-mail. “In his quiet, unassuming and transparent way, he exemplifies the power of non-doing and being ... nothing is forced, yet nothing important left undone. I sat my first insight, or vipassana, retreat with him in 1974 and continue to consider him one of my teachers, and a good friend.”

The word “vipassana” means “insight” in Pali, the original language of the Buddha. Vipassana is often used as shorthand for “insight meditation” or “mindfulness meditation” when speaking of Theravada Buddhism’s approach to the cultivation of insight into the nature of phenomena and the nature of the mind.

In 1975, with colleagues Sharon Salzberg and Jack Kornfield, Goldstein co-founded the Insight Meditation Society in Barre, Mass. As the first large residential center in the United States to offer seven-day to three-month retreats in mindfulness meditation, IMS annually attracts 2,700 retreatants from more than 80 countries. And while some people might question the relevance of spending even seven days in meditation, Goldstein speaks resolutely to its benefit: “The practice here [at IMS] revolves around what the Dalai Lama calls the art of happiness. It’s about understanding ourselves — our minds and our emotions — deeply enough so that we know for ourselves the causes of genuine happiness in our lives and the causes that perpetuate suffering and greed. This training in mindfulness gives people a direct experience of this, rather than simply an intellectual understanding. And what’s really key to the work we do is the understanding that our minds can be trained.”

The origins of Goldstein’s interest in meditation can be traced to his years at Columbia and to the years immediately thereafter. Although his extracurricular interests at Columbia were ordinary — he rowed crew, played saxophone and co-founded the Columbia Ski Club with Robert Jastrow ’44 — his major in philosophy cultivated his ontological interest. Goldstein still feels the influence from the Core Curriculum, his course in 20th-century literature with Lionel Trilling ’25, and his classes on Eastern religion and Western philosophy, especially the metaphysics of Descartes and Spinoza.

Graduating early, in January 1965, Goldstein embarked on one of the first Peace Corps missions to Thailand, where he taught English at the King’s School in Bangkok. It was during this time that he encountered Buddhist practice and philosophy. The King’s School was close to the well-known Marble Temple, where a British and an Indian monk hosted weekly discussions on Buddhism. Goldstein recalls arriving at these meetings “with my Spinoza in hand” and a relentless volley of questions. In the midst of a lively debate, one of the beleaguered monks politely suggested Goldstein actually “try meditation.” And so he did, and from his first attempt, Goldstein remembers how he was “continuously amazed at the systematic methodology for turning the attention inward to look at the mind itself — rather than always turning outward to look at the world.”

After the Peace Corps, following a brief stint of work back home in the Catskills and feeling the need for a teacher’s guidance, Goldstein ventured East again, this time to India. In Bodh Gaya, the town of the Buddha’s enlightenment, Goldstein met his first meditation teacher, Anagarika Munindra, a quirky iconoclast, an anti-guru of sorts, who possessed both exhaustive scholastic knowledge and a deep wisdom gained from nine years of intensive meditation and study in Burma. Goldstein worked closely with Munindra over the span of seven years, with long periods in silent meditation. Following this concentrated period of practice, Goldstein was poised as one of the few Westerners at the time who possessed such a depth of meditation training.

In 1974, Ram Das — another prominent figure in the nascent world of East-meets-West spirituality — invited Goldstein to teach meditation during a summer course at Naropa Institute, in Boulder, Colo. Ultimately, this experience proved to be the watershed moment in Goldstein’s career from which he began teaching grassroots retreats both in the United States and worldwide, a period of work that culminated in the founding of IMS. Goldstein’s work has influenced everything from Buddhist-informed psychotherapy to mindfulness-based stress reduction programs to cutting edge research on meditation and neuroscience. Columbia’s preeminent Tibetan Buddhist scholar, the Jey Tsong Khapa Professor of Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies in the Department of Religion Robert Thurman affirms, “Joseph has been a great teacher for many, many people, helping them enormously. His recent book, One Dharma, has been influential in reducing divisiveness and sectarianism in the extremely diverse American Buddhist community. The Insight Meditation Society has been an important force in American culture, and it is well positioned to carry on its work for generations. All in all, Joseph is an American Buddhist ‘Venerable.’”

Joshua Summers ’97 is strategist at Sati Solutions, a mindfulness-based strategy firm.
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“Returning to New York City after two decades of exile in Los Angeles has been better than I could have imagined,” wrote Jim Matison last year. He continues, “My wife, 5-year-old daughter and I moved to California for business purposes in 1989. I left believing we would be back in New York at the end of my five-year contract with a Fortune 500 company, but life got in the way. We made great friends in Los Angeles, but the pull of family, old friends and the life in New York was increasingly difficult to resist. Last December, my wife and I drove our two hybrids in tandem 50 miles per gallon. We arrived in New York on Christmas Eve, feeling as if we had finally arrived home. We live on Claremont Avenue and Montaigne. Part two is being offered this winter, featuring King Lear, Virginia Wolf and Toni Morrison. Christina Mercer, the professor, artfully weaves in touches of CC and Art Hum as we cuttin’ the literature in a broader cultural context. Class made me feel young again, tackling the issues presented by these texts, and I’m looking forward to the continuation. I hope to see you all on campus in a few months at reunion!”

Second Steve’s hope to see you all at our 45th reunion Thursday, June 3—Sunday, June 6. As stated in my last column, planning for our class’ 45th Alumni Reunion Weekend continues to accelerate. The current thinking includes a cocktail reception hosted by Michael Cook on Thursday, June 3, a Chelsea art gallery crawl led by A.G. Rosen on Friday afternoon, June 4, followed by a private tour and cocktail party reception at the Bloomberg headquarters; an on-campus class lunch on Saturday, June 5; and a cocktail reception and dinner for our class that evening.

If you have news about yourself that you would like to share before the reunion, CCT’s publication schedule requires that it be submitted by early March for publication in the May/June issue. Get your news to me as soon as you see this column!

Even at a Vermont Mozart festival, alumni were showing their school pride. Pictured (clockwise from top left) are David Blanchard ’67, Gerry Botha ’67, Robert Chapla ’68 and Bruce Chattman ’67.  
PHOTO: EVE PRANIS

(subletting an apartment from a couple of professors who are spending a year abroad) and are looking forward to finding a more permanent home next summer. There is something strange about going to the Dodge Fitness Center as an older alumnus, realizing that many of the sweating throngs could be my grandchildren (yes, where did the years go?), I have a daughter (25) who lives in New York and who created a successful Web site catering to New Yorkers and tourists who want to explore cultural, scenic, entertaining and novel places outside of Manhattan but who don’t have a car to get around. Every destination on www.often.com (fully accessible by public transportation, Smart idea and actually quite useful for anyone who is not afraid of stepping off the island to the outer boroughs and beyond.

“I recently was hired as the executive director of a not-for-profit that for nearly 120 years has been providing educational and social services to hundreds of young children in impoverished areas of Brooklyn. If anyone wants to do some good for kids in need, volunteer or simply write a check to the Brooklyn Kindergarten Society (www.bksny.org).

“The Columbia campus is changing slowly, but the old brick paths and the wonderful century-old buildings still look great. And the amount of stimulating cultural activities available every day and night are fantastic.

“I miss seeing Paul Hirsch and Ron Brookshire, who have lived in Los Angeles since the 1970s. Paul was nominated a year ago for an Academy Award for his brilliant film editing of Ray but couldn’t repeat by winning another Oscar, as he did for Star Wars. Brooks has kept his sense of humor (but not his waistline) and is living a comfortable, semi-retired existence near the Pacific, where he surfs regularly.

“My second my Southern California thing recently and made an appointment with a dermatologist who was highly recommended by my new internist. Dr. Herbert Hochman, former lightweight oarsman on the 1963 freshman team, walks into the office and more than 40 years of separation disappeared. There is something about old old friends. Is it being 65 that makes us nostalgic, or am I just getting more sentimental as I age? “Looking forward to seeing other classmates soon.”

Jim’s e-mail address is jimation@aol.com.

After a decade in magazine writing and editing, Stephen Steiner, former editor of CCT and sports editor of Spectator, has spent the past 28 years in public relations at Jewish organizations, the last eight as PR director of the Orthodox Union (the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America). During that time, he has had one wife (Joy), two children (Andrea and David) and three cats. Steve has lived in Briarwood, Queens, for 29 years. He can be contacted at steiners@ou.org.

Just in time before a major snowstorm, which had shrouded the entire Northeast on the eve of the winter solstice, Josh Gutman and his wife, Eva, managed to get out of Boston to fly south — way south — to Rio de Janeiro. They had three lovely days here (we ordered good weather for them) and also spent an evening with your correspondent and his wife, Gilda. We were delighted to renew acquaintances and hope to see them again. From Rio, Josh and Eva went on to Iguazu Falls and then to Buenos Aires. Josh can be reached at joshua.gutman@yahoo.com.

Our congratulations to Leean Lowin, whose daughter, Rebekah, has been accepted to the Class of 2014 via early decision. She is a senior at Greenwich Academy in Connecticut.

Stan Adelman, Dan Carlinsky ’65 and Steve Bachenheimer ’68 — took them on their first international hike, from Lubec, Maine, across to Campobello Island, New Brunswick, and back.

Diane and I welcomed Sadie, our third grandchild. All of our children, spouses and grandchildren, 11 in all, made it home for Christmas.

Please do write. As a member of the cleverest class, you must be up to something...

Arthur Spector  
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Happy belated New Year. I hope you all were warm somewhere, as it seems that anywhere you went, it was cold. I thought of Miami Beach for the weekend... So much for that idea. I recently had my regular, once-in-a-while lunch with Paul de Bary, and we were talking about Ivy League basketball. The Columbia team seems to have lots of potential, but injuries may slow this team’s progress. Football was great this year in many ways. For those of you who haven’t seen a game in a while, I predict this coming year’s team should be very good.

I received a wonderful e-mail Christmas card from Mas Taketomo and heard from Reid Feldman. I wonder when Reid will next be in from Paris. And Ken Tomecki (and his wife, Eileen) sent a card from the “tundra of Cleveland.” Dr. Tomecki, the vice-chairman of his department, seemed to be in grand humor at the reunion. I wonder how he does in cold weather.

There were many other cards and calls, and I should stop. This is not a “send me a card at holiday time” note.

Greg Winn left me a cheerful message. I called back with no luck but will try. She said he was retiring, but that is hard to believe.

The end of 2009 was a challenge for me, as my mom, almost 94, passed away. She always was an inspiration and had a photographic memory. She had ridden Malden H.S. to go to Portia Law School when she was 17 and had to wait a year to take the bar because she was too young when she graduated. I am sure many of us have had parents pass on, and moms are surely special.

Bo Oryshchak continues to help young folks from Ukraine come to America to go to college. I marvel at his persistence and his devotion to this cause. His efforts are sending students to the finest colleges and universities in America.

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Mark Schlesinger has retired after many years in higher education administration at UMass. He has lots of plans, including visits to old friends and getting out on his kayak. The annual renewal of FOGW (Four Old Guys Walking) — Mark,
Keep up the fabulous work!

Susan and Bob Carlson continue to send the most amazing pictures from Sitka, Alaska. Bob, thanks for them. I wonder if the whole class should receive them, and how we could do that. The pigeons out my window can’t vie with your eagles.

Bob Levine was in town from California, as was Phil Mandelker from Israel, during my mom’s last days, so I couldn’t see them, but I hope they will call again.

I received this note from Chris Friedrichs — we all need to visit him in British Columbia. He wrote: “I was pleased to get the latest copy of CCT. And I am very pleased that alumni outside the United States can continue to receive paper copies of CCT if they prefer [www.college.columbia.edu/cct/subscribe].”

“I am still at the University of British Columbia. It is neither British nor Columbia, but it’s a fine university, and I enjoy my job as much as ever. My wife and I became grandparents for the second time in May 2009. We now have a granddaughter (3) and a baby grandson in Brooklyn. I teach, my wife teaches, our daughter is a teacher (in Brooklyn) and our older son is a law student (in Vancouver). But our younger son has rebelled against the family tradition. After getting his B.A., he set his sights on a culinary career and is now a restaurant cook.”

“I wonder if Chris has views on Spectator today. I check its Web site once in a while (www.spectator.com). Chris, can you update me on where your Spectator team is now? I bet you know.”

I bumped into Ira McCown recently. He was, as always, charming, and is spending time (in Vancouver) — I think I have this right — in Los Angeles. He lives on the Upper West Side, and it looks like he can row faster than Tom Sanford.

One final note: I continue — at a high-gym to which I belong — to see Seth Weinstein, who refuses to age. He seems to be in grand humor, some of the time. And he likes to bike in Central Park even when it is quite cold.

So all the best to you and your families for a special and wonderful 2010, hopefully full of good health and peace.

Michael Oberman
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I just love it when news about classmates literally arrives at my doorstep. This happened twice during the current column cycle. First, The New York Times Book Review for November 15 carried a review of Paul Auster’s 13th novel, Invisible. It is as good a review as an author could want. The reviewer, a novelist — revealed at the outset that she was “not a fan of Auster’s last few books” but finished her summary of the book with these enlivening words: “It is the finest novel Paul Auster has ever written.” (I am sure we all wish this be true.) I enjoyed being told six times a year that “This is the best CCT column you have ever written.”). Despite the book’s title, Paul has hardly been invisible. He is well-known in literary circles around the world, he gives readings and lectures, and he is among our classmates having a Wikipedia posting devoted to him alone (where one is told that “[i]n the 2008 Russian film Писатели (Plus One), the main character is in the process of translating one of Auster’s books to Russian; it was a strange to films, having screenplay and director credits, and he also has written song lyrics. What he hasn’t written is a CCT item about himself, but he gets a pass, since news about him repeatedly shows up anyway. The second December 26 is Paul: I wonder if it would have been hard to overlook the news of Nick Weber’s latest book, The Bauhaus Group: Six Masters in Modernism. The Book Review section carried a mostly favorable review from John Simon (whose career has produced more criticism than praise for a variety of works), and the Arts & Leisure Section ran an article by Nick himself, “Deadly Style: Bauhaus’s Nazi Connection.” Nick’s book, as suggested by the title, is a group biography, covering architects Walter Gropius and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe; painters Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky and Josef Albers; and weaver and textile designer Anni Albers, Josef’s wife. The Bauhaus — as stated in the review — “was meant to reconcile beauty, simplicity, unity and mass production.” Nick’s article discusses new information about “how palpably” the Bauhaus influence lived on in the Third Reich (when most scholars had thought the school ended in 1933 “when its remaining faculty members shut it down rather than work with the Nazis”).

Nick is the director of the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation [editor’s note: See the alumni profile in March/April 2008: www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/ mar0708.html] and also has been the author of many previous books, among them The Texts of the Bauhaus, Thesaurus: A Guide to the Treasure House of Art, and The Art of Babar. The book review made reference to “Weber’s very pretty wife and gifted daughters,” which naturally prompted me to contact Nick for some personal news. Nick replied: “My wife Katharine’s fifth novel, True Confections, was published in January; daughter Lucy, who is working in fashion-related P.R. in New York; and daughter Charlotte is studying psychoanalysis and training to be a psychotherapist in London.” When I asked Nick which professors have had an influence on his career, he authorized me to copy the following tributes from his new book:

“When I was a senior at Columbia College in 1968–69, I took a semester-long course in the Bloomsbury group, which was then far less well-known than it has since become. Naturally, we read Woolf and Forster and Strachey and others, and discussed a large cast of characters and their work. At the end of the term, when we sat down for our three-hour exam with our blue books, Nick asked us to write the usual two or three mimo- grammed pages with a combination of short multiple-choice questions and complex essay topics. Instead, the brilliant young professor, Michael Rosenthal, went to the blackboard, picked up a piece of chalk, and wrote, in large letters, ‘What is Bloomsbury?’ He than faced the dozen or so students and said, ‘That is the exam question. You have three hours.’ I have never gotten over the brilliance of Professor Rosenthal and his directive. There was no right or wrong answer, what counted was our understanding of the underlying passions and goals of an artistic movement led by very different individuals. Forty years later, I remain extremely grateful to Professor Rosenthal, not simply to memorize facts, but to consider the real value and meaning of art and literature, and to appreciate the originality and bravery of creative pioneers. I am forever grateful.” (Note to Columbia College Fund executive director Paul Auster — ‘I see your点 to the point’ and the same group of words — for the fund solicitation.)

For those who are counting, so far this column has referred to 34 books, and it didn’t even mention Paul’s translations and other books beyond the novels.

As much as I love news about classmates just appearing in other media, I really appreciate those occasions when a classmate reads a column, is stopped by one of my pitiful prayers for news and actually responded after months of silence. This November/December appeared from Mike Schnipper: “This summer, Ann and Roger Walaszek (my freshman floormate and law school roommate) got together with my wife, Ida, and me on Cape Cod, after about 35 years. Roger has a terrific memory and reminded me of many things I had forgotten (like carrying his law school books from 122nd Street to the Law School for the several months his leg was in a cast). Roger looks exactly as he did in law school, only the mop of hair is gray.”

Steve Steindel also contacted me after reading November/December, largely to graciously comment on the news item about me that the column included. Knowing it was time for Steve to progress in his career, I asked him to do so. Steve writes: “It might be of interest to classmates that our 40th anniversary Alumni Reunion Weekend on campus had the entire Steindel clan together in Pittsburgh for a gala weekend and tribute dinner marking the conclusion of 23 years in the pulpit of Congregation Beth Shalom. In all, 33 years and 90 percent of my congregational rabbinate was in the city of Heinz, Warhol, Lemieux and Crosby. My wife, Lisa, and I have relocated to Boston to be within walking distance of our three young grandchildren, born to our two oldest daughters. Sara ‘99 is married to Andrew Dauber ‘99, and they came as newlyweds for his HMS career. Andrew received his M.D. in 2004, and Sara earned her J.D. in 2005. They made us grandparents with the birth of Boaz in 2007. Shirli graduated from Penn in ’01 and received her M.B.A. from Yale in ’09. She is married to Josh Friedman ’06 JTS, and they presented us with grandson No. 2, Niv, in August 2008. We live now within a mile of another in Brookline, and it is a blessing beyond words to have granddaughter Jordana, born in August 2009, in the mix. If only daughter Siwy ’04 GW and her husband, Keith Leventhal ’03 (Maryland, weren’t so far away in Paso, Wash., where he does TV sports every evening on CBS affiliate WKPR in the Tri-Cities. Our youngest, son Avi ’08 Haila University and Duquesne, is the only branch of the family still in Pittsburgh, serving as youth director of Congregation Beth Shalom and guiding the fortunes of his successful rock band, Vindell.

‘I am happily doing 30 hours a week as a chaplain intern in the Clinical Pastoral Education program of Brigham and Women’s...”

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I hope that many of you will return to campus for this important reunion, and I urge all who can to make a special contribution to the College in recognition of this milestone.

**Jim Shaw**

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A short column, but a lot to think about.

From an interview by Aaron Elstein in Crain's New York Business, December 14: "Turnaround expert Meyer Sandy Frucher faces one of his toughest projects in trying to revive New York City Off-Track Betting Corp., which operates 66 betting parlors and filed for bankruptcy earlier this month. He brings a wealth of experience, having served as the state's chief labor negotiator, chief executive of the Battery Park City Authority, and CEO of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange before selling the institution last year to Nasdaq, where he's a vice chairman. As chairman of the NYC OTB, he's working for free. "How did a gambling business ever get into such financial trouble? "Everyone likes to joke, 'How can a bookie operation lose money?' Well, the bookie didn't lose money. But this operation has been distributing its money to city and state governments and the racing industry. I would add to that this business, even in its current state, is still providing $100 million a year to the city, state and racing industry. I would add that there's no such thing as a free shutdown: We have $200 million in pension and benefit obligations to employees that's been built up over the years, and those pension benefits are constitutionally guaranteed. "How are you going to change the OTB works? "It will be difficult because there are so many interconnected interests, but it's doable. The racing industry supports 40,000 jobs directly or indirectly, and a lot of those jobs are upstate, where there are 500 farms that raise horses. We have to convince people that business as usual anymore. In the old days there was enough money, people would line up and go to legislature and come up with a solution. That's over."

**John Borek '71** is director of artist development at the Multi-Use Community Cultural Center in Rochester, N.Y.

"Why even bother trying to rescue the OTB business? "It's a good question, and my answer is that this business, even in its current state, is still providing $100 million a year to the city, state and racing industry. I would add that there's no such thing as a free shutdown: We have $200 million in pension and benefit obligations to employees that's been built up over the years, and those pension benefits are constitutionally guaranteed. "How are you going to change the OTB works? "It will be difficult because we met in 1969, while we were both at Columbia — she was at Teachers College. We were married in 1972 in Honolulu. Our children, Allison, Ken and Emilyn, survive her. Allison has put together a Web site, http://remembersandra.blogspot.com, which includes a video of the slideshow which was shown at the memorial service we held for her on December 22." (Look for the December 22 entry and then click the arrow to play it.)

Start thinking about our 40th reunion, scheduled for Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, 2011. You look forward to seeing Columbia and your classmates, and they look forward to seeing you.
of the 20th century. He also implied that his time was in the past: "I imagine myself in the New World with Columbus for the first time," he mused, "a symphony of sounds, of colors, of smells, of desires and of hopes. Then I imagine myself on the moon with the astronauts, and all I see is gray, dust and barren rocks, and the earth I long for is far out of reach." 

Alan Sheiner brings us up to date on his life since graduation and reflects on the Columbia experience. Sheiner was a Finch College grad, right after finals a few years ago. I married Dale, a Finch College grad, right after finals a few years ago. Sheiner was favorably reviewed in The RAND Corporation's book, Reasons for Action: The RAND Corporation and the Vietnam Policy (1971), when I was playing some really wild free-jazz, which included the long recorder solo, some musicians from the early music movement asked me to do with them the next day to meet Antoine Gérard-Raynaud, the musicologist and harpsichordist. "The artists combine two areas of hopes. Then I imagine myself on the New World with Columbus for the first time," he mused, the work combines two areas (the medical-psychiatric interface and teaching psychiatry) that I have loved and developed during the past thirty years." 

Angelo Falcon, through his work with the National Institute for Latino Policy, has been promoting the participation of Latinos in the 2010 census. Last year was the 27th
anniversary of the NiLP, which Angelo co-founded with Jose Sanchez (Jose teaches at LIU—Brooklyn). Some other high points of 2009 for the NiLP were participation in the campaign to get Sonia Sotomayor elected to the Supreme Court as well as the censure of Lou Dobbs from CNN “for his inflammatory anti-immigrant rants.”

Don Jensen married the former Nataliya Khyzniak on December 12 in Washington, D.C. Nataliya is the Washington, D.C., correspondent for the BBC and serves as host of “State of the Service.” Barry Kelner was best man. Don is resident fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins, where he specializes in the politics and economics of the former Soviet Union. He’s a consultant to various federal agencies and has a weekly blog on the Voice of America Web site (www.voanews.com) where he debates current foreign issues with his partner in Moscow. In his spare time, Don is a baseball historian, now working on his fourth book (on the New York Giants of the 1880s). He and his wife live in Alexandria, Va.

And, finally, the bad news; we regret the passing of John Eckel on November 13. John founded Copano Energy in 1992 and was most recently its chairman and CEO. He was a great supporter of many nonprofit and philanthropic organizations. He will be missed sorely. [Editor’s note: See Obituaries.]


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“The War on Fun: Barnard Cracks Down on Party Scene.” The recent Spectator headline caught my eye, not least of all because I don’t recall the great BHR (the Brooks, Hevitt and Reid dorms at Barnard) “party scene.” (Perhaps the garbage cans of sangria caused the brain cells with these memories to die.) Reading the article made me realize how different life has become on our campus and at most colleges across the nation.

No longer can you just flash a Columbia/Barnard ID and get into the dorms. Now the Barnard or Columbia hosts must come down and sign in their guests. At Barnard suites, residents are limited to two guests per resident. I guess we will have to add our list of “back in my day” tales how we used to “party-hardy” in a serious way!

And get this: The 21 drinking age has led to major changes in general. There are now fines and requirements of community service for alcohol use in the dorms, coming back to the dorms intoxicated or going to the hospital due to alcohol. The Class of ’74 would never have survived these Puritan times! (Just thinking of it makes me want to reach for a Singapore Sling.) Almost all of the news in this column comes from the two coasts. I hope to receive more from the midlands and from classmates abroad. I also have to admit that Facebook postings have helped to locate news on a number of classmates who have slipped off the radar. If you want to get in contact with classmates, try posting “Columbia College ’74” to the friend finder. At least 15 percent of the class is on Facebook. Seems nerdy at first — until you make contact with a long-lost friend.

As usual at this time of year, the column starts with congratulations for the children of classmates who have gained admission to the College. This year, the sole child admitted “early decision” was Leigh Colvin, daughter of Geoff Colvin. Leigh will be joining her brothers, Jeremy ’08 and Andrew ’10, as members of the Columbia College family. Welcome, Leigh!

A Twitter alert (or “tweet”) came in announcing that Vic Fortuno has been named the interim president of the Legal Services Corp. in Washington, D.C.

Vic Fortuno ’74 has been named the interim president of the Legal Services Corp. in Washington, D.C.

Close to the West Coast we find Dr. Christopher Puca living in Tucson and working for the Casas Adobes Physicians group. Despite a busy schedule, Chris does advocacy for those needling pain management patients.

An update to the recent note about the intimate dinner party (18 people) that Dr. Steve DeChernet had with HRH, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Phillip, at Buckingham Palace. Steve wrote, “I forgot to tell you a funny anecdote. The Prince asked me when I received my education, to which I proudly replied ‘Columbia College, along with other degrees.’ The Prince hesitated a moment, smiled, and said, ‘Ah, yes — Kings College in New York.’ I am not making this up, I guess the Empire lives on…”

There you have it. Classmates who have stayed at the same company for three decades, those switching responsibilities at the same organization and those starting a new career. Some show up on Facebook, while others are spending “face time” with a prince. Many different paths are being followed, and this column tries to report them all. Take a moment to send a letter or e-mail so your classmates can find out where your path has led.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA at LOS ANGELES

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Before I start reporting on other items, I want to pass on some good news of my own. I recently closed on a new home in the Canterwood area of Baltimore (see new address above). It’s beautiful and will be a great party house. Those of you in the Baltimore/Washington/Wilmington/Philadelphia area should expect to see invitations to Columbia (or any new home in the near future!)

After 19 years of service to New York’s Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Gary Dellaverson has retired and is now fighting for the right to keep MTA solvent.

After practicing for 16 years at Horne, Bistrow & Dubberg, Michael Dubberg joined the Phoenix law firm of Burch & Cracchiolo in 2000 as a shareholder. Before moving to Arizona, he served as an assistant district attorney in the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office, where he tried more than 40 felony cases. Since 1984, Mike’s practice has concentrated on construction law and commercial litigation, focusing primarily on helping clients resolve disputes that typically arise on the construction projects. He has represented the gamut within the construction industry, from property owners to design professionals, contractors, subcontractors and material suppliers, obtaining a jury verdict of more than $3 million in a business tort case arising out of a street improvement project and defending numerous multi-million-dollar construction claims. Mike is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, which is its highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards. He has lectured to the State Bar of Arizona and various construction industry groups on construction law issues.

Mike and his wife, Marcy, recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. Their older son, Adam, graduated from Penn in 2008 and is in his second year with Teach for America teaching social studies at William Penn H.S. in Philadelphia and has been accepted at Georgetown Law School
to begin this fall. Younger son, David, is a broadcast journalism major at the University of Southern California. Class of 2012.

Father C. John McCloskey III sent holiday greetings on the Feast of the Holy Innocents (December 28). He continues his writing and pastoral work from his home in Chicago.

Father Moses (né Michael Worchester) also sent holiday greetings, with the reminder that he and his monastery were gearing up for Christmas according to the Julian calendar on January 7. On December 25, they celebrated one of the feasts of St. Herman.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Business Valuation section awarded Robert F. Reilly, a managing director at Willamette Management Associates, a leading national independent financial valuation and financial advisory firm, its Volunteer of the Year Award. The announcement was made during the 2009 AICPA National Business Valuation Conference in San Francisco in November.

During the week between Christmas and New Year’s, I got a holiday call from my good buddy Bob Schneider. After giving best wishes from him and his wife, Regina, Bob passed some news. Of the 2,500 freshmen at Penn, 50 are selected for interviews and 12 are selected for the position of peer tutor in the Penn Writing/English Composition Program. As a proud father, he’s happy to report that his daughter, Meg, was selected.

Yes, it is time for another reunion. Plan to meet your classmates, their families and Columbians from other years and schools on campus Thursday, June 3-5 Sunday, June 6. We are planning an exciting program of tours, seminars, parties and dinners. You’ve heard some already (Dead Head or not, we’re in for a treat!) and will be receiving registration packets soon. Please do plan to join us. And, whether you can attend reunion or not, know that one of your classmates will be calling you to ask for a contribution to our anniversary gift to the Columbia College Fund. When you get that call, please be generous. Every dollar counts in supporting the young men and women who will build all of our futures as the leaders of tomorrow and the next generation.

Your Reunion Committee is working hard to plan a great reunion, as well as raise a substantial class gift. You should have received information on the matching challenge issued by one of our classmates: Any classmate who has never made a John Jay-level gift ($1,500 or more) and makes one this year will have his gift matched dollar for dollar from the donor’s matching pool. Anyone who was a John Jay donor in the last 10 years but who didn’t make a John Jay-level gift in fiscal year 2008–2009 can renew his John Jay gift at or above his last John Jay gift and have it matched dollar for dollar from the donor’s matching pool. Current $1,000–$2,500 level donors who increase to the Fellow level ($3,500–$4,999) will have their gifts matched dollar for dollar from the donor’s matching pool. And Sponsor-level donors ($5,000) who raise their giving to the John Jay level ($10,000) will have their gifts matched dollar for dollar from the donor’s matching pool.

One of the Reunion Gift Committee members may have called you already. If not, or if you have not yet made your gift, or you would like to make an additional gift to participate in the challenge, please go to www.columbia.edu/giveonline.

Not entirely related to reunion is the CC75 Network. At this point, more classmates there every month and will continue to use it to communicate in the years to come. If you have joined the network, please stop back and see what’s new. If you have not joined, you’re missing out. You can return or join by pointing your browser to cc75@ning.com. Several classmates report renewing friendships with long-lost classmates because of seeing them on the network. Who would you like to hear from or contact? He may be there!

76 Clyde Moneyhun Program in Writing and Rhetoric Serra Mall 450, Bldg. 460, Rm 223 Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305 cam131@columbia.edu

Bill Minutilagio is a professor of journalism at the University of Texas and a prolific author, most notably of First Son: George Bush and the Bush Family Dynasty, a biography of George W. Bush. Bill is married to Holly Williams ’80 Barnard, a professor of dance at UT. Ed Izzo ’77 reports that as president of the Florida Society of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, he persuaded Bill to deliver the keynote at the society’s annual meeting. “We’ve been friends since college, and it was terrific to spend time with them this summer. We have tremendously fond memories of our Columbia days, very few involving academics.”

George Freimark reports that he is “a) still employed; b) still making the house, car and now, college, payments; c) still happily married to Gratia Polliciotti ’80 Barnard; d) most pleased to be the father of two daughters, Olivia and Averyl.” After 21 years in the reinsurance business, George spent the last eight providing catastrophe modeling services to the insurance industry. Olivia is a first-year student in history at Victoria College at the University of Toronto, and Averyl is a sophomore at Glen Ridge H.S. near home in Essex County, N.J., juggling field hockey, drama club and rowing with lofty academic aspirations. Olivia, now active in real estate after a career in municipal finance interrupted by child rearing, is the women’s captain of the rowing club Nereid and assembled a crew of eight women averaging 40 years of age for Boston’s Head of the Charles for the fourth consecutive year. George also rowed in his umpteenth Head of the Charles with his doubles partner from Germany. “Speaking of rowing,” he says, “I am thrilled by the historic accomplishment of the men’s heavyweight crew in taking back the Child’s Cup (the oldest rowing cup in collegiate U.S. competition) from Princeton after 46 years and their outstanding performance during the last two seasons. I am ever hopeful for the football squad and witnessed their final game of the ’09 season, a well-executed victory over Brown, with fellow former oar Allan Cox ’78. I was saddened to learn of Carl Hovde ’50’s death, the witness to their final game of the ’98 season, a well-executed victory over Brown, and in that capacity persuaded Bill Minutilagio ’76 to be a guest speaker at the annual convention. “We’ve been friends since college,” Ed says, “and we have tremendously fond memories of our Columbia days, very few involving academics.”

Although Bart Holland has kept us posted on the years on such things as books he has published, I was gratified to receive a big-picture update from him. An associate professor of biostatistics and epidemiology at New Jersey Medical School, where he directs the school’s epidemiological consulting service and his department’s teaching program, Bart has been married for going on 25 years to Jean Donahue, whom he still thinks is “gorgeous and brilliant.” Daughter Alicia is a...
senior at the Bronx H.S. of Science and son Charlie is a junior at Regis H.S. in New York City.

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This column should not be empty. Please send me your news for a future issue.

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Joe Ferullo is a v.p. for programming and development at CBS Television Distribution, which produces syndicated television programs such as Entertainment Tonight, Judge Judy, Rachael Ray and others. Joe has been involved in the creation and production of a new syndicated show for CBS, Soft Justice with Nancy Grace, starring the outspoken CNN personality. It debuts in September. Joe also blogs for the National Catholic Reporter (http://ncronline.org), a biweekly publication that focuses on social justice issues. They pretty much let him write about whatever he wants, however. Joe’s blog topics include his hatred of his Black-Berry, various attempts to teach his 16-year-old daughter to drive and the pleasingly familiar Bronx accent of the newest Supreme Court justice, Sonia Sotomayor.

Tom Costigan (Falls Church, Va.) is a system configuration analyst with Online Resources Corp. (Chantilly, Va.), a leading provider of online banking, bill payment and credit management software systems. If your bank is not using ORCC on the back end for these services, change your bank now!

David Edward Bauer has “worked as an attorney for the State of Maine for more than 20 years and lives in Portland. I am an avid contradictor, enjoy playing the dia-tonic button accordion and recently became active in the 9-11 Truth Movement after waking up to the fact that the official story concerning the events of 9-11 is a monstrous fraud.

“My oldest son (08 Wesleyan) is an actor/writer in New York City, my second son is a freshman at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and my daughter is a freshman at Portland H.S. I can be found on Facebook as ‘Barry’ and would be happy to hear from classmates.”

Congratulations to Edward S. Barnes, Michael P. Kelly and Alan Seife, whose daughters and son have been accepted early admis-

Eric Goldstein’s son, Aryeh, will be in the Class of 2014 as well. Eric is a partner in the litigation department at Paul Weiss in New York City. He specializes in securities law, white collar crimes, corporate investigations and complex commercial disputes. Eric is active in many community and legal associations throughout New York.

Mark Schnitzer checked in from Seattle, where he is the general manager of MSN Money for Microsoft. He has served in a number of leadership positions with XBRL International and XBRL US since 1999. Mark led the development of Model Ware systems for Morgan Stanley and was the founder of Free EDGAR, which he sold to EDGAR in 1998.

The Reunion Committee is working hard to create a memorable event for our 30th. We all need to consider attending the event, especially the class dinner on Saturday night. In addition, there will be a bowling outing, a tour of the new Yankees High Line park, dancing on Low Plaza, Camp Columbia for kids 3-12 and other events to keep the party going all weekend. We look forward to seeing you there!

Our Columbia education may have prepared us for many things to come, but golf and recreation would rank fairly low on the list. And yet... and yet, four of our own have managed to earn actual money — 500 bucks among them — through a clever and apparently legal exploitation of these two sets of talents. Bob Haskins, Sean D’Arcy, Lou Casali and Clayton Jones rose above our humble beginnings to win the “low gross” (whatever that is) at the Frank McGuire Golf Tournament at the Andesky (N.Y.) Country Club last September. The foursome also won the 50-50 raffle for the house, as they were featured as the bet of the day. The question everyone but was how many children the four of them had sired. (The answer: 19. So I’m guessing that “low gross” does not relate to their collective sperm count.) These are, of course, some of the same characters in the picture accompanying this column: Marc Mazur, Sean D’Arcy, Scott Gresky, Clay Jones and Lou Casali are pictured here, a surprise 50th birthday party for Clay in Boston. Squint your eyes (a lot) and they could be 18-year-old freshmen. Marc resides in Pelham, N.Y., and is chairman of Elsworthy Capital Management. Sean resides in Bronxville, N.Y., and is s.v.p. of Northwestern Mutual Life. (His daughter, Margaret, was recently admitted early decision to the Class of 2014, as were the offspring of Theodore Johnson, Sani Maymeh, Orlando Ortiz and Allan Lefert.)

Also on the late-breaking birthday front, Kevin Fay reports that he helped celebrate Ed Klees’ 50th in Charlottesville, Va., with Ed, Bob Spoer and Jonathan Dahl ‘80. Kevin has managed to tamp down his famed zest for life: “My wife is teaching a class at the UVA Nursing School (great credential, lousy pay). Kids are healthy and still talking to me. One of our dogs has cancer — real bummer. I am one step ahead of my creditors and losing hair fast."

Erik Jacobs gets the last word on our birthday year: “As part of my demi-centennial celebration, I am letting all my slack and suit pants out and having my double-breasted jackets converted to single-breasted. Oh, and heli-skiing was still scheduled for January.” Erik and his wife, Laura Eberstein Jacobs ‘88, recently celebrated 15 years of marriage — to each other.

Barry Waldman manages to link my name with the term “gaping yawn”... something I usually hear only from my wife. Barry writes: “Jeff, I relate the following to fill the gaping yawn that might otherwise exist beneath your name in the Class Notes section, and not because I have any delusions of adequacy. I was named Outstanding Alumnus, Faculty Member at the College of Charleston, where I teach PR and marketing courses to unsuspecting upper-classmen, and Non-Profit Marketer of the Year (from the American Marketing Association) despite my work for United Way in Charleston, S.C. I was also voted ‘Most Likely To Get Hit Over The Head with a Le Creuset Pot Cover’ by my wife, although I am dubious of that honor because I’ve seen her try to lift those things.”

Jon Eisen joins the exodus from traditional journalism. He has taken a position at The Abernathy MacGregor Group, where he will advise executives on their communications strategies. For the last five years, Jon had been an editor at The New York Times. Prior to that, he worked with his friend and former Spectator colleague, Jim Schachter ‘80, and John Leoland. Before that, he was business editor at The New York Post after having worked at a variety of newspapers as a reporter.
and editor since college. Jon and his wife, Ellen, live in Rye, N.Y., with their children, Maggie (9), Benjamin (7) and Rebecca (4).

Jay Lee reports from the sidelines of Columbia’s Dick Savitt Tennis Center: “We are real proud of the CU tennis team for winning back the Ivy championship. One of our twins (both juniors at the College), Alex, is bragging about his Ivy championship ring but is still refusing to show me. Our youngest, Courtney, also is doing well on her high school varsity tennis team, with only one loss in three seasons.”

Manny Tirado writes in with some nice news: “I’m certainly thrilled to say that my marriage on October 3 was the highlight of my year. My best man was Ricardo Salaman, and the judge who officiated the wedding was Sheila Abdus-Salaam ’74 Barnard, ’77L. My lovely wife, Christine (maiden name Rickoff), is a 1983 NYU grad. The wedding was performed at the beautiful NYS Appellate Division First Department courthouse in Manhattan, where Justice Abdus-Salaam is one of the justices who serves on that bench.”

I received very sad news: James Eddinger passed away on Christmas Eve after a brief illness. James’ wife, Pam, writes: “James held fond memories of his days at Columbia. He and I met on campus as undergrads (I went to Barnard); we married shortly after graduation and had been together close to three decades.” James, 50, of Camarillo, Calif., was born in Seoul, Korea, and spent much of his youth in Maryland and Pennsylvania. His life’s work included architecture, fine arts photography and the visual arts. Also, he is survived by a son, Nicholas. And, finally, as you read this column, Brian Krisberg will be stepping up to the podium on March 3 to collect his John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement from the College. Through the years, Brian, a partner at Sidley Austin, has volunteered countless hours in many roles for the College. Among Brian’s fellow John Jay recipients is Julia Stiles ’05, who may not have served the College as long as Brian but is surely prettier than he.

As always, send updates and other unlikely pairings — real or imagined — to jpyndk@yahoo.com.

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Greetings, gentlemen. I trust the New Year so far finds you in good health. It is now nearly 28 years since graduation, and it recently dawned on me that our 30th reunion coincides with the end of the Mayan Calendar in 2012. I say this by way of warning, because that leaves but two years to make a contribution to this column! It appears that you were collectively overcome by l-tryptophan poisoning during a mass turkey-eating binge during the holidays. I will overlook it just this one time. I have some good news to report. Our esteemed classmates Gabriel Dugue, Edward Lopez and Victor Lopez-Balboa all have managed to keep their talented progeny on the straight and narrow path to Columbia College next fall. Andrew Dugue, Douglas Lopez and Andrew Lopez-Balboa all have been admitted and declared their intent to attend the College as members of the Class of 2014. Fantastic! I can’t help but remember Victor’s humorous comment made during our brief speech at our 25th reunion where he stated, “I would first like to acknowledge that none of us would get in here today.”

In other news (note the journalistic turn-of-phrase), our highly accomplished and valued hometown philosopher and pundit George Stephanopoulos was named co-anchor of Morning America in December. Aside from graduating summa cum laude from the College, attending Oxford on a Rhodes scholarship, serving as the senior advisor to President Clinton for policy and strategy, writing the New York Times No. 1 bestseller, All Too Human: A Political Education, being named chief Washington correspondent for ABC News, anchoring This Week for ABC News, winning the 2008 Shorenstein Prize, being named co-author of the famous “Morning America” in December. Aside from graduating summa cum laude from the College, attending Oxford on a Rhodes scholarship, serving as the senior advisor to President Clinton for policy and strategy, writing the New York Times No. 1 bestseller, All Too Human: A Political Education, being named chief Washington correspondent for ABC News, anchoring This Week for ABC News, winning the 2008 Shorenstein Prize, being named co-author of the famous “Morning America” in December.

Congratulations to Michael Pucker. His daughter, Abigail (Walter Payton H.S.), has been admitted early decision to the Class of 2014. Congratulations to my dear friends Marc Ripp, ’80, ’83L and Shari Ripp. Their daughter, Elena, was admitted early decision to The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and applied sciences at Columbia. She will join her sister, Brandi ’12, Marc’s father also graduated from CC (Joseph ’48). Marc remains a tireless supporter of the College, conducting countless alumni interviews.

Kevin Chapman: “In case you are looking for a good cause to which you can make a tax-deductible donation, the Tug McGraw Foundation is great, supporting brain cancer research and support for patients with brain injuries and illnesses. The foundation honors the late great New York Mets and Philadelphia Phillies pitcher, who died in 2004 from brain cancer. And, by coincidence, my wife, Sharon ’83 Barnard, is raising funds for the Tug McGraw Foundation in connection with her goal of running the New York City Marathon in November. The link to her fundraising page is www.active.com/donate/teammcgrawny2010/tmncyml05Chappa if you would like to donate $5 or $10 (every little bit helps) to help her reach her goal so that she gets an automatic entry to the race as part of Team McGraw.”

The New York Times reported that The Washington Post is to close three U.S. bureaus. It notes, “The Post’s executive editor, Marcus W. Brauchli, issued a memo to The Post’s staff Tuesday outlining the plan. He cited ‘limited resources and increased competitive pressure’ for the move. He said the paper’s ‘commitment to national news of interest to our readers is undiminished.’

George Bogdan wrote a letter to the editor, published in Craits’ November 23 issue as follows: “Is Goldman Sachs’ $500 million small business initiative a sincere effort or a PR ploy? It can be helpful at the margin if it can provide equity financing on a long-term basis and underwriting of reasonable terms. But not based upon the principles used by venture capitalists. Most promising small businesses will never go public and float shares on an exchange, nor should they contemplate doing so. VC’s only want the potential billion-dollar company that gives them a chance to cash out big. If Goldman partner Warren Buffett can create an entity that will hold shares long-term and just collect dividends, then that is really helpful. Few bankers like doing small business lending, and I’m not sure if you can do anything about that. But if micro-lenders can lend $100 per business to poor women in Bangladesh and make a profit, then certainly a micro-equity program can work in the U.S.”

George also writes: “Last September, I sold my house in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. It took a year, but the final price was palatable. I moved to Elmhurst in Queens.”

David Hershey-Webb has been with the tenant law firm of Himmelstein, McConnell, Gribben, Clay Jones ’81’s 50th birthday party included a big surprise when four classmates made the trip to Boston to join him. Celebrating half a century were (left to right) Marc Mazur ’81, Sean D’Arcy ’81, Scott Gresky ’81, Jones and Lou Caselli ’81.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF CLAYTON JONES ’81
Donoghue & Joseph for eight years, the last two as a partner. Along with his law partner William Gribben and associate Ronald Languedoc, David wrote an amicus curiae brief submitted on behalf of two tenant groups, New York State Tenants and Neighbors Coalition and Met Council, in the Court of Appeals case Roberts v. Tishman Speyer. The court’s recent decision was a big victory for tenants, finding that thousands of apartments at Stuyvesant Town and Peter Cooper Village had been unlawfully removed from rent regulation. The decision is expected to lead to deregulation of thousands of apartments throughout the city and substantial overcharge awards for tenants.

David and his wife, Amy Hershey-Webb (née Schwartz, ’84 Tufts), celebrated their 10th anniversary in Paris in October. David and Amy’s daughter, Lilly, turned 10 in November. She had the lead (male) role of Conchita in P.S. 158’s junior high musical production of Bye Bye Birdie. David’s second CD is expected to be released next June, in time for his 50th birthday. “I am writing because I know you love music, and I want to invite you to be part of something very special. Thirteen years ago, I released my first CD, Blue Heart. It was a collection of original songs that did not fit neatly into any one genre. The songs were country, folk, blues, rock, swing. You can still see a video for one of the songs, ‘Never Been A Cowboy,’ on YouTube (just search ‘Hershey-Webb’). Blue Heart was made possible by my good friends Paul Lindemulder (aka Paul Trudeau, a great singer-songwriter) and Debbie Edison (another great singer).

“Well, the last 10 years of working as a lawyer and being a husband and dad (raising a singing daughter) haven’t left me much time to write or to record. But last summer, I went back into the studio and recorded nine songs for what will be my second CD. (At this rate I should be able to put out another two or three CDs before I join that jukebox in the sky.) I am so excited about these recordings. Paul Trudeau arranged the session, sang harmonies and played guitar. Paul has recorded with Meredith Brooks and recently worked with Melissa Etheridge. On bass and harmonies, I was joined this time by John Troy, a veteran recording artist and performer who has worked with the Pousse-Dart Band, Joe Cocker, Jonathan Edwards and Troy. Matt was also among the electric guitars, played with Norman Carter (currently touring with Rick Springfield) played drums and provided the first-rate studio, Dog House Studios. Grammy Award winner Neil Citron engineered. Again, the songs are varied, a range of country, rock, blues.

“There is still a lot of work to do to finish the CD in time for my 50th birthday. We are looking to add pedal steel to several tracks and a horn section to two or three songs. One song cries out for a mariachi band and another will sound complete with a gospel choir. Finishing the CD is going to cost money, and that is where you come in. I am hoping that you will consider investing in my music career and helping me to complete this great project. Please contact David Hershey-Webb, New CD Project, 1700 York Ave., #10, New York, NY 10128. Thanks for your support. And check me out at myspace.com/davidhersheywebb.

I had the pleasure of sitting next to Dean Kavita Sharma of the Center for Career Education at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner. Interestingly, she said there are many, many job opportunities for seniors. Her biggest challenge is making students realize the many job offerings still available. Sharma noted that many students are applying to grad school, taking time off to travel or not even looking for jobs because they are falsely discouraged by the soft job market. Since we are so close to graduation, we are in the process of posting several job listings on the CC online recruiting system (at no cost). Anyone interested in listing employment opportunities at CC should contact me.

I also had a chance to spend time at the dinner with Michael Schmidtberger ’82, Doug Wolf ’88, Mark Amsterdam ’66, Gerald Sernin ’55, David Filosa ’82 and James McMenamin (director of principal gifts and senior adviser to the dean). Finishing the CD is going to cost money, and that is where you come in. I am hoping that you will consider investing in my music career and helping me to complete this great project. Please contact David Hershey-Webb, New CD Project, 1700 York Ave., #10, New York, NY 10128. Thanks for your support. And check me out at myspace.com/davidhersheywebb.

Matthew Cooper ’84 is senior adviser to the Congressional bipartisan Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. On October 12, Fortune Magazine published the article “Which Ivy Performed Best.” Four Ivy League endowments (June ‘08-June ‘09) were featured with results as follows: Harvard (27 percent), Yale (25 percent), Penn (-16 percent) and Columbia (-16 percent). The great pressure of receiving a telephone call from legendary Columbia swimmer Tony Corbiserio. Tony was inducted into the Columbia Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006. His sports prowess is summarized on the Go Columbia Lions Web site (www.gocolumbiana.com): ‘From 1981-1983, Corbiserio won Eastern Intercollegiate Swimming League titles in four different freestyle events. In 1981, he was the EISL champion in the 1650 freestyle; in 1982, he added the 500 free championship to another 1650 freestyle victory, and in 1983, he accomplished a rare triple win, taking home the laurels in the 200, 500 and 1500 freestyle events. A month later, on March 23, 1983, the boy from Bayside won the NCAA championship in the 1650 freestyle in an NCAA, American and world-record time of 14:46.29. An All-American and Ivy League champion the same season, he won seven EISL championships and set EISL records in the 500, 100 and 1650-yard freestyle events. Nearly 26 years later, he still holds the 1000-yard mark. Twice, in 1982 and 1984, he was the high point-scorer at the EISL Championships. Co-captain of his 1983 team, Corbiserio set Columbia records in four different events and still holds pool records at six league aquatic venues — Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Yale, Army and Navy. His name appears so many times on the pool record board at the Naval Academy, they should make him an admiral. A four-time AAU All-American, Corbiserio set the American record in the 800 freestyle (7:58.50) in July 1982 while attending Columbia, and was ranked in the top 15 in the world in the 1500 freestyle as an undergraduate. He was a member of the U.S. National Team from 1982-1984. His ability to swim several different distances was just one of the reasons why he was widely regarded as one of the top swimmers in the nation during his time at Columbia. A recipient of the prestigious Van Am Prize Medalion for his service and dedication to the University, Corbiserio has become a well-known figure in volunteer activities in the Astoria/Long Island City area. As chairman of the board of the Long Island City YMCA, he has played a principal role in raising the funds to build a new 30,000-square-foot facility for the youth of Long Island City. Tony and his wife, Janice Rae, whom he married in 1987, live in Monroe Township, NJ, with their two sons, Christian Michael (13) and Anthony Michael, Jr. (10). In his spare time, Tony is a devoted yachtsman. Incidentally, his induction to the Columbia Athletics Hall of Fame marks his third entrance into such an organization. In 2003, he was inducted into both the Metropolitan Swimming Hall of Fame and the New York City Public Schools Athletic League Hall of Fame. Tony is in contact with Andy Gershon, Lester Bofman and many of his swimming teammates. Tony’s brother, Richard ’80, was a CC Dass president.

I love hearing about classmates like Tony, who are successful entrepreneurs, job creators, risk takers and the backbone of our economy. Please send e-mails!

Welcome to the world, Jack Alan, born to Mark Stuart Gill, a writer in Maine, and his wife, Stella Wrae, to Adam Beloff, a TV writer/producer in Los Angeles, and his wife.

Having met Jack et famille several months ago, yours truly — an honorary member of the ’84 Los Angeles chapter of the Columbia College Legacy Committee (which includes L.A. denizens Michael Ackerman, Carr D’Angelo and Peter Lunenfeld) — was looking forward to meeting Stella and her mispocha.

Speaking about the left coast, Jim Weinstein and his family, and his sister, Ilene Weinstein Lederman ’87, and her family spent part of Christmas Eve at the San Francisco home of Larry Kane and his family, where the Weinstein and Lederman kids met Santa! Taking a page from Jim (who once served as an elected official of West Orange, NJ, and her family spent recently was elected a Tredyffrin Township Supervisor in Pennsylvania. Phil, his wife and their five children have lived in this area for more than 17 years. He is a community volunteer who has worked with groups such as the Valley
Forge Civic Association and the Boy Scouts. In his own words, "James D. Weinstein, financial and political wizard, inspired me to run. Of course, being a slow learner, it only took about 24 years for me to get around to it. We could really blow this out of proportion with national implications in that it was a grassroots Republican sweep in a really off-year election cycle."

Another L.A. TV guy, Peregrine Hopkins Beckman, checks in: "As a freelance TV editor and producer, I've had a remarkably steady gig at Original Productions in Burbank for the last two years. Latest hit is 1000 Ways to Die for Spike." As the son of Richard Beckman '53, husband of Elizabeth Leicester '87 and father of Julian (10) and Eleanor (16), Peregrine does Columbia proud by volunteering to conduct interviews of candidates for admission.

With regard to one early decision candidate cum acceptee, "The kid who was admitted is spectacularly qualified, I must say and since I've been asking advice on dorms. Offered a choice of John Jay or Carman, I told him that although freshman year in Carman is a trial, the best friendships seem to come from there. Seems like a good discussion to have online sometime - how important is your first dorm? Maybe I should start a Facebook page for the Class of '84. I'd like to include Barnard '84 as well since I have many friends from there.

The Third Coast? Imagine that... and Tom Dyja did! He sold a book proposal to Penguin Press called "The Third Coast," a cultural history of post-war Chicago, when a fascinating cast of characters — people like Hugh Hefner, Sun Ra, Richard Wright, and bedrooms — has been asking advice on dorms. Offered a choice of John Jay or Carman, I told him that although freshman year in Carman is a trial, the best friendships seem to come from there. Seems like a good discussion to have online sometime - how important is your first dorm? Maybe I should start a Facebook page for the Class of '84. I'd like to include Barnard '84 as well since I have many friends from there.

The Third Coast? Imagine that... and Tom Dyja did! He sold a book proposal to Penguin Press called "The Third Coast," a cultural history of post-war Chicago, when a fascinating cast of characters — people like Hugh Hefner, Sun Ra, Richard Wright, and Bogdanov, who was a talented writer and a close friend of Dyja's, has been asking advice on dorms. Offered a choice of John Jay or Carman, I told him that although freshman year in Carman is a trial, the best friendships seem to come from there. Seems like a good discussion to have online sometime - how important is your first dorm? Maybe I should start a Facebook page for the Class of '84. I'd like to include Barnard '84 as well since I have many friends from there.
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 212-851-1950.

Class Notes received by March 10 will be eligible for publication in the May/June CCT.

time, I wanted to note some of the highlights:

Thursday evening cocktails in the New York Times tower, followed by the opportunity to attend several theatre events.

Friday tours and lectures, highlighted by a family-friendly dinner at V&T and then cocktails with our Barnard and Engineering classmates.

Saturday Dean’s Day lectures, activities for the kids, reunions of various interest groups across the classes (WKC R, Spectator, music groups, etc.), followed by our class dinner at the Italian Academy and dancing on Low Plaza.

We would love to see as many of you as possible! Please let me know if you are coming so I can include this in my next column (as well as any updates). Hopefully, the updates we will get at reunion should fill this column for many months.

Eric Kanter lives in Short Hills, N.J., is married to Melissa and has three daughters, Hannah, Emily and Rachel. He is the managing partner of Retina Vitreous Consultants in Livingston and Morristown, N.J. Eric is involved in venture capital investment in medical device and pharmaceutical companies in the ophthalmic industry. He plays competitive squash when not running around to watch each of his kids’ soccer games.

Scott Tom is the president and principal in the Appraisal and Valuation Division of Gordon Brothers Group. Located in Boston, Tom oversees daily operations for the appraisal group. In addition, Tom calls on his extensive industry experience in asset-based lending and collateral monitoring to maintain and expand client relationships.

Prior to joining Gordon Brothers Group, Tom was a managing director of Fleet Retail Finance, where he was responsible for the due diligence and collateral monitoring functions of a high-risk commercial loan portfolio. Before Fleet, his experience included five years with Morse Shaw as the manager of financial analysis. In 2008, Rich’s current projects include the new Center City Building for the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, construction of a housing prototype for Brad Pitt’s Make It Right Foundation in New Orleans, a master plan to improve the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia; the redesign of Dilworth Plaza, also in Philadelphia; and the recently submitted competition entry for the new United States Embassy in London. Past projects include the Melvin J. and Claire Levine Hall at Penn; Atwater Commons at Middlebury College, the F. Otto Haas Stage at the Arden Theatre Company and the Philadelphia Theatre Company’s Suzanne Roberts Theatre.

Rich and his wife, Susan, have two sons (7 and 9) and live in an 1860s-era townhouse in Center City Philadelphia.

After working on Wall Street for a couple of years after graduation, Serge Ozorov earned an M.B.A. in 1989 from the Business School.

The last 25 years have been great, and I often attribute this in part to the excellent undergraduate and graduate education I received in Morningside Heights. At business school I was recruited by Ford Motor Co. After putting in five years in Michigan, I had the opportunity to ‘see the world,’ with my work assignments taking me to Mexico, the United Kingdom, Brazil and Russia, where I met and married Ludmila. We live in Moscow with our sons, Anthony and Maximilian. I am CEO of DeltaCredit Bank, where I have worked for 6½ years. DeltaCredit Bank is part of the French financial services group Société Générale.

“It is not likely that I will be able to make it to the reunion, so I am sending my congratulations to everybody for this important milestone and wish everybody much happiness and success.”

I am pleased to announce that three members of our class are about to have their “legacies” join the Class of 2014. David Avigan’s son, Zachary, and Len Genova’s son, Jerome, are the first two. As to the third, I can enthusiastically announce that I have added the “adopter” moniker to my Columbia credentials; our eldest son, Leon, will be entering the College this fall, a truly special moment for all of us in the White family. I could not be happier, and I look forward to navigating the freshman dorms again.

A hearty congratulations to Jane Brennan, daughter of Doug Brennan, who has been accepted early decision to the Class of 2014. Doug
is the first of our classmates — but I'm sure not the last — to make Columbia a family tradition.

Demetria Gallegos reports that after 15 years in Colorado, she has suddenly moved back to New York to start a new job as the society editor of The Wall Street Journal. Her husband and four daughters are staying in Colorado through the end of the school year, and then looking to relocate as well. Demetria said, "I am so thankful right now that I have our freshman orientation guidance to fall back on: 'Even streets run east west here!'"

Eli Kavon had a busy 2009, starting with his marriage to Mayra Hirsch of Chicago on March 1 in Weston, Fla. He then earned a master’s of Jewish studies from Spertus Institute in Chicago. Eli also has been writing essays for The Jerusalem Post and the Zionist journal, Midstream, which have been translated into Spanish, Italian and French.

Last year also was a year of nuptials for Melanie Hahn Roche, who married James Roche in October in Sedona, Ariz. Melanie is an energy healer in private practice and serves on the faculty at the Barbara Brennan School of Healing, a four-year college of energy healing. She has taught at the school's two campuses, in Miami and Tokyo, and has offered workshops worldwide. Her husband runs his own business as a marketing consultant to small business entrepreneurs and teaches online marketing with Ali Brown.

Shona Chakravartty, making her debut in Class Notes, announces that she and her husband, Andy Tepper, gave birth to a son, Kavi Selvon, on June 3 in New York. Shona works for a small family foundation, the Hill Snowdon Foundation, and Andy works at Vanity Fair. They live in Queens and see some classmates frequently. She reports, "So far, parenthood has been pretty smooth, albeit tiring!"

Garth Stein's novel, The Art of Racing in the Rain, has spent more than half a year and counting on The New York Times Trade Paperback Bestseller List. Garth reports that the novel has been translated into 28 languages and is being made into a movie with Patrick Dempsey. In more literary news, Keith Thomson's new novel, Once a Spy, is being published by Doubleday. Keith's link to check out, econonoclasts.com, for news about events, including readings around the country and links for what he calls "spy gizmos and related services."

Sandy Asirvatham wrote, "My modest career as a pianist and singer-songwriter chugs along down here at a mellow, Mommy-friendly pace, despite the atrocious economy. Although I still am working on bringing my own band to New York City, I had a Manhattan debut in another project, a free experimental jazz collective called KR Eaton, at the Shrine in Harlem and at ABC No Rio on the Lower East Side. I'm excited to enter the NYC music scene semi-softly and without the leadership pressure, for now."

"Meanwhile, my husband, Kevin Donovan '87E, and I are happily exhausted chasing after our sports-obsessed son, Miles (6), and coming up with various frisky reasons why we shouldn't a) get a puppy and b) let Miles start drum lessons. I have the feeling we'll be cratering on both matters before he reaches 8."

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Happy belated New Year, all! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and weathered the cold. Our big excitement was my daughter receiving an acceptance to college; I remember my excitement when I heard from Columbia! We are now back to routine life, at least as routine as life can be in a home with two teenagers. However, life sounds anything but routine for Aaron Stern, who works for the U.S. Agency for International Development in the Philippines. He relates, "Just like CNN reported, a typhoon in September caused a lot of damage. We ended up with a meter of nasty flood water in our house and had to move out. Our family did not experience any injuries, though Ying, my wife, had to brave flood waters up to her chest to get back to her mother, who was in the house at the time."

"My latest tasks at the U.S. Agency for International Development have focused on the Mayon volcano here. It was spewing lava for about two weeks, amazing to watch at night. I have worked on major storms, a volcano and major population displacements due to armed conflict since we arrived in March 2008. The resiliency of people here truly impresses me."

I touched base with Jessica Miller, who is a litigation partner at Skadden Arps in Washington, D.C., and has three kids. Her oldest, Claire, is a competitive gymnast, enmeshed in the rat race of middle school applications, and Jessica's twins, Nate and Sophia, are in first grade, where she reports that Nate spends all day cooking up trouble and Sophia chases after boys.

Sheryl Hoke Love and Thomas Love will celebrate their 20th anniversary in June. They live with their sons, Kevin (10) and Brian (7), in Shaker Heights, Ohio, where Sheryl is an intellectual property attorney at Jones Day, and Tom is an associate professor at Case Western Reserve and chair of the Health Policy section of the American Statistical Association. Tom is active in theater, recently as The Beadle in Sweeney Todd and The Pharaoh in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

I also had the pleasure of hearing from several other classmates, who sent brief updates. Robert Monaco writes, "I was on the witness team at Columbia! I went to medical school and now am director of sports medicine at Rutgers in New Brunswick. I am married, have two kids and live in Hunterdon County, N.J."

Sharon Koren shared, "I married Matthew Cohen for graduation! He now is an infertility specialist at North Shore Hospital, and I teach medieval studies at Hebrew Union College. We have three daughters: Atara (17), Tali (13) and Tamar (10). We live in Riverdale, N.Y."

"Susan and Dixon McCammon lives in Galveston, Texas, where she is on the faculty of the medical school and practices head and neck surgery. Europe in 2009 and riding almost 200 new roller coasters over the course of the year. We have an even bigger 2010 planned."

I hope everyone has great plans for 2010. Enjoy the spring.

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I recently heard from Brian Domitrovic, who helped me remember a part of my time at Columbia I hadn’t thought of in, well, too long. Brian recently wrote Econonoclasts: The Rebels Who Sparked the Supply-Side Revolution and Restored American Prosperity, which features the work of Professor Robert Mundell, whose classes I attended in Hamilton. Professor Mundell, who received the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1999, introduced foreign trade, capital movements and currency swings into formal economic analysis. As an undergraduate, I hardly appreciated Professor Mundell’s greatness, but fortunately I can read about his work in Brian’s book. Brian wrote to me, "The biggest mistake I made at Columbia (aside from tolerating 1 Carman as dorm space) was not taking economics professor Robert Mundell, now a Nobelist and University Professor. So I guess I had to half make it up for it by writing a book where he’s the central hero. The book is a history, based on primary sources, of the genesis and implementation of supply-side economics, aka Reaganomics. Supply-side economics is the most consequential revolution in economic policy since the New Deal, first hatched as it was from the mind of enfant terrible Mundell in the ‘50s and put into practice in the ‘70s and ‘80s. Professor Mundell came to Columbia in 1974 and is still there."

Brian’s book’s release was well-timed, as it is a history of how the United States has dealt with economic crises. He has been widely interviewed. Brian’s conclusion: "The policy mix as best articulated by Mundell of stable money and tax cuts is the only thing that has worked in response to economic crises since 1913." In addition to The Wall Street Journal and Investor’s Daily, you can find Brian’s writing on his blog, www.econonoclasts.net.

Of our last reunion, Brian writes, "Had a great time, palling around with Pete Siegel, Barbara Rosen- than, Jamie Neubek, 98, Duchesne Drew, Gene Lee, Leslie Feld, Marc Lobel-Eising... Ah, college days."

Andy Cheng was appointed a judge of the San Francisco Superior Court.

Andy Cheng ’89 was appointed a judge of the San Francisco Superior Court.
Chris Petrovic ’91 is s.v.p. and general manager of the newly created Digital Ventures division of GameStop.

I received this update from Chris Petrovic: “Early last year, I left my post as v.p., digital media, for Flagship after more than three memorable years there. I took a much needed mini-sabbatical to spend time with the family and watch my daughter, Remy, turn 1 this past April. In August, I took a job as s.v.p. and general manager of the newly created Digital Ventures division of GameStop, the world’s largest videogame retailer. I’m lucky in that even though the company is based in the Dallas area (nothing against the big D!), it allowed me to stay in Los Angeles and open a satellite corporate office there. My team and I are responsible for helping move GameStop into the digital future via strategic initiatives and acquisitions of digitally-focused companies and businesses in the games space globally. And on a related note, my wife Jen’s company recently was acquired by Apple, so we’re looking forward to a fun 2010.”

Andrew Stone is a gastroenterologist in private practice in southeastern Massachusetts. He lives in Providence, R.I., with his wife, Mindy, son, Ben (5) and daughter, Lili (2). Andrew keeps in touch with Darren Finestone, Chris Antillon, Peter Cole, Daryl Colden, Joel Barron, Michael Cohen and Steve Weinstein.

Hi everybody.

I was all set to write to you that this was one of those columns where the mailbag ran nearly dry. But, almost “at the buzzer,” I got a beautiful “assist” from my CCT neighbor, the Class of 1991 correspondent, Margie Kim. Even I could make the “layup” from there. Can you tell it’s basketball season? (Thanks, Margie!)

Let me start with some news I received directly. There’s no greater treat to an alumni magazine columnist reporting on others’ news than to be able to share the good news of one’s college roommate.

To that end, congratulations to Alex Oberweiger and his wife, Caroline, on the birth of Natalie Tania on December 7. Alex is the associate athletics director for strategic communications at Columbia and told me he hopes to see plenty of our classmates at Columbia sporting events this year.

Margie’s e-mail forwarded a communication from Dr. Sandra Lora Cremer, who started with our class but finished with the Class of 1991. Sandra understandably keeps up with both CC ’91 and CC ’92 and was kind enough to forward news of several of our classmates.

According to Sandra, Alessandra Cazzagini Soares lives in Worcester, Mass., with her husband, David ’91E, who earned a master’s in engineering, and their six children.
According to Sandra, “they are busy but very happy.” Sandra also reported that Maria Master, who is the godmother of Sandra’s first son, decided to go to medical school after being a lawyer for years. Maria completed her schooling at Cornell and is now doing her residency in psychiatry. Sandra added that Patrick Lannon ’91, a lawyer, lives in Aventura, Fla., with his wife, Valerie, and three children.

Finally, Sandra wrote that Ruben Hernandez lives in Miami, where he is married with two children and working in finance, and that Mike Tarbutton lives near Manhattan with his wife, Joan, and their three children.

Thank you again, Margie and Sandra, for providing news on so many of our classmates.

Although I am sorry that I don’t have more to report this time, you do know how to fix that. Touch base. Let me know how you’re doing and what you’d like to share. I can take care of the rest.

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I hope you all enjoyed the holiday season (though by the time you read this column, it will be springtime). I ran into Sara Niego at my husband Mike’s high school reunion over Thanksgiving. Mike and Sara grew up together and were prom dates (talk about a small world!). It was great to catch up with her, especially since I had not seen her since last year. Sara is married to J.M., who graduated from P&S in 2001 and is a psychiatrist in private practice in West Hartford, Conn. She also is the program psychiatrist for the eating disorders program at the Institute of Living at Hartford Hospital.

Sara Niego ’93 is the program psychiatrist for the eating disorders program at the Institute of Living at Hartford Hospital.

Finally, I heard from Rachel Mintz during the holidays. She was on her way to India for a five-week trip as part of her M.B.A. studies at NYU’s Stern School of Business. Rachel took a winter course in global business at the Indian School of Business in Hyderabad, and she was looking forward to traveling the country while there. Rachel is getting her M.B.A. part-time and spends her days working in the Office of the Auditor General in the New York City Department of Education.

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Amit Bose writes about his exciting new Presidential appointment as director of congressional affairs for the Federal Railroad Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation. He’ll be working for FRA Administrator Joe Szabo, and with DOT Secretary Ray LaHood. Before joining FRA, Amit was New Jersey Senator Robert Menendez’s senior policy adviser on transportation and infrastructure issues.

In other professional news, Tim McCutcheon has been named CEO of Ovoca Gold, an international gold exploration company based in Russia. Tim has been a director of Ovoca since January 2009 and has lived and worked in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States since 1994. Prior to working for Ovoca, Tim worked in multiple financial institutions such as Bear Stearns, Aton Capital and Pioneer Investments as an award-winning metals and mining sector analyst and as an investment banker. Tim was one of the first analysts in Russia to write about its gold mining sector, and he has advised numerous international gold mining companies on mergers and acquisitions, business development and Russian business practices.

Sergio LaPorta has become the Haig and Isabel Berberian endowed chair in Armenian Studies at California State University, Fresno. He arrived at Fresno State in fall 2009 after teaching at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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And finally, Mary Killacky writes with happy news of the birth of her son, William (Will) John DeCell, on November 16. He arrived a few weeks early, but both mom and baby are doing well in New Orleans. Thanks for all the news. I look forward to more updates!

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REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6
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I hope you will attend our 15-year Alumni Reunion Weekend on Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. Adair Garcia, reunion chair, said the program is all set and advises you to watch for information in the mail. The event will be packed with activities for the whole family. There will be dinners, cocktail parties, lectures, dancing on the Low Plaza and Camp Columbia for kids.

Join the Columbia College Class of 1995 Facebook group to view the current schedule and see who is coming to reunion. Raymond Chan is reunion gift chair. The class set a goal of $150,000. We already have more than $75,000 in gifts and pledges, and we encourage classmates to make gifts soon to reach the goal.

Daniel Petroski will be supplying our class dinner with wine from his Massican Winery. Other alumni helping with reunion are Jamie Bennett, Franklin Chiu, Maria Cellis, Amanda Kahn-Kirby, Mike Stanton and Jason Rosen. Contact Adair at adair-garcia@kellogg.northwestern.edu

This couldn’t be a Class Notes column without baby news.

Christine Senft Callahan, wife of Fletcher Callahan, sent an e-mail about the birth of their son, Fletcher-Maximilian, born on November 16 in New York. He weighed 7 lbs., 1 oz. and measured 20 in. long. The Callahans live in the city, where Fletcher is a bond salesman at Barclays Capital.

Giles Giovinazzi and his wife, Jolynn Shoemaker, welcomed their first child, Kathryn (“Kate”) Marie, on October 5 in Alexandria, Va. A lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve, Giles returned to his job on Capitol Hill in January after a year on active duty, including nine months serving as an intelligence officer in Afghanistan. In July, he was promoted to staff director of the House Aviation Subcommittee.

Giles, Jolynn and Kate live on Huntsman Lake in Springfield, Va.

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Greetings, classmates.

Gabriella “Biella” Coleman is in her third year as an assistant professor in the Department of Media, Culture, and Communication at NYU. A few years after majoring in religious studies at Columbia, Biella got a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Chicago. She notes that at Chicago, she did

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Maya Gupta ’99 Aids Victims of Domestic Violence, Human and Animal

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

The New York City subway may seem like an unlikely place to discover one’s calling, yet Maya Gupta ’99 first pondered the connection between domestic violence and animal cruelty — the crux of her career and research — while riding the 1 line as a College senior. “I was idly looking at the posters at the top of the car when my eyes lit on an ad for a domestic violence crisis hotline. It asked about a number of warning signs of domestic violence, including if your partner had ever threatened or hurt your pet. That was kind of my ‘light bulb’ moment,” explains Gupta, who since 2007 has been president of Ahimsa House (www.ahimsahouse.org), an Atlanta-based non-profit dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence and their pets reach safety.

Gupta oversees the organization’s three main programs, which include a 24-hour hotline for Georgia residents, an emergency safe house network to hold animal victims until they can be reunited with their owners and outreach aimed at raising awareness about the ways in which pets are often implicated in domestic violence. According to Gupta, pet owners often are hesitant to escape violent situations if they cannot take their pets with them to a shelter.

“Nationwide, fewer than one in eight domestic violence shelters allow animals, so it’s a real problem,” she says. “A lot of time the abuser will retaliate against the pet if the human victim escapes, or will use the pet to coerce the human victim into returning.”

It is difficult to imagine a more fitting role for Gupta, who majored in psychology and French in the College and earned a master’s and doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Georgia in 2003 and 2006, respectively. Her dissertation, inspired by her subterranean epiphany, explored the links between intimate partner violence and animal abuse.

“One of the take-home messages was that there do seem to be subtypes in cruelty to animals in the same way we think there are subtypes in patterns of shelters where they might otherwise be euthanized and placing them in foster homes until a permanent adopter is found. As a graduate student, she also helped rehabilitate and retrain a pair of former racetrack horses to become event horses. “It was really a rewarding pursuit because these animals were getting a second chance,”

Maya Gupta ’99, shown here with her cat Biskle, fostered kittens in her off-campus apartment during her senior year at the College. PHOTO: GEORGE CARLESS

explains Gupta, who still keeps the horses, Luther and Norman, as well as a pony named Dennis the Menace. She also shares her home with four cats: Biskle, Sterling, Fred and Chitlin’. Gupta became involved in animal rescue during her senior year at the College, when she fostered cats in her off-campus apartment. During her time at Columbia, she also was a member of the cheerleading squad and the sorority Alpha Chi Omega, whose national cause is working to end domestic violence. As a senior, the West Lafayette, Ind., native also escaped Morningside Heights several times a week by venturing to Brentwood, Long Island, to ride horses at Knoll Farm. Kerri Bauchner Stone ’97, one of Gupta’s sorority sisters and a fellow cheerleader, recalls her friend’s enthusiasm for the endeavors she pursued.

“I was always aware of Maya’s love for animals. She spoke passionately about the causes in which she was interested,” says Stone, a professor at the Florida International College of Law in Miami. “I loved that we could talk about shopping and music like typical college students one minute, but also discuss human nature or art the next.”

It was precisely that balance that Gupta sought when she decided to attend the College, drawn in part by the Core Curriculum, which she credits in retrospect for allowing her to explore the interests that have shaped her career.

She explains, “The Major Cultures requirement was fantastic. Studying ancient Indian texts and Jainism really fit right in with my developing interest in non-violence and violence prevention, sort of linking the philosophical with the applied.” Location also played a role in Gupta’s decision. “Growing up in a fairly small town in the Midwest, I really wanted to be at the center of everything, not just for the active off-campus life that New York offers, but also for the career enrichment opportunities it affords,” says Gupta.

She never could have predicted however, that years later one of her fondest recollections of the Big Apple would be of an experience she had while commuting.

“I have, among other things, the ‘L train to thank for helping me get started on this path,” says Gupta. “That always stands out as a good memory of Columbia and of how New York helped me get where I am now.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is an editorial producer of and contributing writer to LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language Web site.
her research “among free software geeks and hackers.”

New York Times Washington correspondent Jodi Kantor has secured a seven-figure book deal with Little, Brown to write a volume on the Obamas. Jodi’s book will draw on the three years of reporting she has done since giving up the editorship of the Times’ Arts & Leisure section in 2005. During President Obama’s campaign, Jodi produced a number of biographical stories about the President and his inner circle, including one on his wife, Michelle, that was published in the June 21, 2008, issue of the Harvard Law Review. One on his career as a law professor, one on his basketball playing and one on how his friends were bracing themselves for his presidency. The book deal comes on the heels of Jodi’s New York Times Magazine cover story on the Obamas’ marriage, which argued that “the Obamas mix politics and romance in a way that no first couple quite have before.”

Congratulations on this wonderful accomplishment, Jodi!

That’s it for this issue. Please send in more news. You know the drill. I leave you with this thought:

“I tore myself away from the safe comfort of certainties through my love for truth; and truth rewarded me.”

—Simone de Beauvoir

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A December article in The News-Press of Fort Myers, FL., profiled the company Impact Education, which was founded and is run by CEO Adam Hall. The business-section piece praised Adam’s education company, which provides online instructional software for students K-college. Adam, who reportedly bought Community Rowing, counts among his loyal clients a diverse roster of public schools, community colleges, prisons and special-education programs throughout the country. Congratulations, Adam, on your company, which is obviously meeting a real need.

In baby news, I accidentally left off a belated birth announcement in my January/February column. Elana Sinensky Blumenthal wrote in last fall to announce that she and her husband, Adam, welcomed their first child, Jonah, on October 25, 2008. Jonah weighed 8 lbs, 1 oz, and was 20.5 in. Columbia in attendance at Jonah’s bris was the Jewish Center on the Upper West Side included Max Strongin, Sarah Green Spatz ’00, Eleanor Assa Bertrand ’98 Barnard and Polly Blitzer Wolkstein, who, along with her husband, Mark, and Jonah’s godparents. Elana is on hiatus from her practice of matrimonial and family law while she raises her now 20-plus-lb. toddler.

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Hello, and welcome to my third column. So far I have received one piece of actual Class Notes mail! It’s from my mom in Kansas City, and it reads, “Hi Lauren, Diane, and another former co-worker took me to see Farragut North on Sunday. Noticed that the playwright is a ’99 CC alumnus and M.F.A. Columbia grad, so here’s the program in case you are interested for your Class Notes column. Diane says this may be made into a movie — per her Google search. Love you, Mom.” Via phone, my mom also revealed that she and her former co-workers really enjoyed Beau Willimon’s play and were not surprised at all to learn he’s from Saint Louis, since KC is forever in awe of that classy town. [Editor’s note: See the alumni profile of Willimon in May/June 2009: www.college.columbia.edu/cct/may_jun09.]

Also reporting from the weather-battered middle section of the country, Esther Chak, now a reluctant Chicagoan, sent me one heck of an update but failed to mention that she saw Avatar in 3D with Ben Kaufman, who moved back there last year with his husband, William, and dog, Anderson. In light of the following A+ Class Notes contribution, I will forgive this oversight. On top of being a super-talented graphic designer who picked up an M.F.A. from RISD like it was an hors d’oeuvre, Esther writes newsy e-mails like a bandit. Witness: “Kevin Aptowicz ’99E and Katie Ayer ’99 Nursing now have two sons, Cian and Lucas, and Katie recently won her first trial. Kevin is up for tenure review at West Chester University near Philly. They both work at Penn. David Mleshoulam ’00 and his wife, Beca, now have two daughters, Ella and Hannah. David is finishing his coursework for a Ph.D. in the history of science at Madison and is going to start his dissertation soon. Kamryn Eddy recently married Cathryn (Freid), whom she met at University of Chicago, now living in Boston. Bryan Carlson married Amy Wilk on New Year’s.”

After some gentle prodding from Sahil Godiwala and Jay Coles, good old Slatin Bickford has stepped into the fray and tries to account for himself as follows: “Slatin Bickford and Lara Yanovsky were married October 17 in New Orleans. In attendance were Sahil Godiwala, Ian Kell, Chris Harriss, Jay Coles, Nihal Godiwala ’02, Blaine Bell ’96, Ommeed Sathe ’00 and Carrie Vandenberge (née Ballantine) ’00 Barnard. Sadly, we have reached the age where almost everyone arrived coupled up, so despite our best efforts to re-create The West End circa 1997, there were no scandalous hook-ups to report. Also, James Boyle was unable to attend.

Slatin has spent the majority of his time since 2004 consulting along the Gulf Coast, fighting insurance companies on behalf of his clients to get their hurricane claims paid. The first couple years were mainly in smaller towns and cities, where he lived like a local, swilling copious amounts of domestic beer, cheering SEC football and dating cocktail waitresses.

Fortunately, he met his wife, Lara, through her employer in New Orleans, where she now is finishing her final year at Tulane Medical School. Their first kiss was at the med school prom. I wish I were making this up, and they have been together ever since. The two are currently crisscrossing the country for Lara’s emergency medicine residency interviews and will learn in March where they will spend the next three to four years.”

Class Notes are troubling in that people seem to think that the only noteworthy items are those about work, marriage, advanced degrees, parenthood and other adult kinds of things. I, for one, don’t have a baby or a house. I’m not married. And I don’t have a job — I live in a sublet and have been unencumbered by stuff like responsibilities and ambitions — so it’s nice to get a low-key, non-life-changing update like this, from Kristina Kaufman: “Susan Harlan, Ania Wajnberg and I went to Nick Anderer’s new restaurant, M. Austin Ripley ’01 married Oliver Eslinger at her parents’ house in Rhode Island. Joining the party were (left to right) Karen Maier ’01, Aimee Silverman Horowitz ’01, the bride, Myvonwynn Hopton ’01, Maggie Roman Mintzberg ’01, Ellen Shofner Bolotin ’01 and Michael Bolotin ’01.”
Anna Martinez '02 (center) married Gamal Kader (left) at the Masjid al-Nur in Denver in October. Tizoc Brenes '02 (right) flew in from Los Angeles to serve as Martinez's best man.

Maialino. It’s the latest Danny Meyer restaurant in the Gramercy Park Hotel. Nick is the executive chef and doing well, but tired. He works 7 a.m.–1 a.m. every day. The restaurant serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Google it for more info. It’s a big deal!” (N.B.: Mike “epicurean” Erman hasn’t yet weighed in on Maialino, but I will be sure to let you know when he does.) Kristina continues, “Not sure if this is interesting enough, but Sara (Wilson) Frajnd is moving back to Israel with her husband, Amos, and their daughter, Ella (2), but first they are traveling in South America (Brazil and Argentina) for five weeks. They recently had a goodbye party that I, Ania and Jenn Alzona went to.”

That’s beyond “interesting enough,” Kristina — it’s the kind of material that makes Columbia College Today a must-read. As is this interjection from Sarah: “You forgot the part about our dog, Henry Benz, who has dual citizenship!”

Many thanks to Kristina for her tireless efforts and to Sara for giving us the full scoop.

Finally, since Ruth Altchek ’00 asked to be mentioned in the ‘99 column, I’m pleased to tell you less, it was a nice way to kick off the teens.

That’s all for now; many thanks to all those who wrote in! And please, everyone, be sure to keep me posted on all the things you’re doing, not doing or maybe even avoiding.

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Dan Hoffman lives in Huntington Woods, Mich., with his partner, Ariel, and their children, Michael and Shiloh (both 3). Dan has a year left of his dermatology residency at Henry Ford Hospital and is on the job hunt. He and his family miss New York a lot — he lived there from 1995 when he started at Columbia until 2008. He notes, however, with the kids, life in Manhattan is probably not in their future. Dan reports that Michelle Lokitz ’96 was one of his dermatology attending physicians at Henry Ford until she moved to North Carolina in August with her husband and two children.

Columbia tennis sensation Salil Seshadri lives on the Upper West Side with his wife, Jennifer, and their daughter, Mia Sissun Seshadri (1). Mia apparently already owns a tennis racket, which is of great concern to Jennifer. But I can’t find my fellow J12 floormate Salil!

Omosede Iidehen and Grigor Lcul were married in a gorgeous, mountain-top ceremony in Lovran, Croatia, in September. Several friends flew in from all over the world for the wedding, including myself. Other guests included courses. The last course — a traditional Croatian soup — was served well after 2 a.m. The happy couple resides on the Upper West Side.

Make sure you mark your calendars for our 10th (you read that right) reunion, Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. The Reunion Committee has been working hard to put together a fantastic program of private tours, cocktail hours, dinners and other Columbia and NYC events. There will also be a class dinner and wine tasting Saturday night, followed by dancing and champagne on Low Plaza.

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At the close of my last column, I promised I’d provide details about Nancy Perl’s "star-studded" wedding in Arizona to Matt Miller and I like to deliver on my promises. The stars were, of course, all the Columbia and Barnard alumni in attendance, including John Balzano, Andrea Cherkrezian, Joyce Chou, Dina Epstein, Billy Kingsland, Annie Lainer, Patricia Martinoff ’02, Dr. Sarah Palestrant ’02, Joe Rezek, Jamie Rubin ’01 Barnard, Chelsea Scott ’01 Barnard, Victoria Spodek (née Vinsanky) ’01 Barnard, Melissa Tominac ’02, Brandon Winer, Tobel ’02, Susan Wilsey (née Pereira) and myself. It was an incredibly festive affair held at the Arizona Biltmore, and I was honored to help celebrate with Nancy and Matt.

Jorge Herrera wrote in with an update on his daughter, Mia Sullivan, who was born in August. Jorge notes, however, that because of Mia’s birth, their family life is not as fun as it used to be.


Nick Schifrín is ABC News’ Pakistan-based reporter. He covers Pakistan and Afghanistan for all ABC News broadcasts, including World News with Diane Sawyer, Good Morning America and other affiliated networks.

Sydney Rose Cicchillo and her husband gave birth to a daughter at the beginning of the year. Cristina Pippa’s first child, Francesca Perry Price, was born in August. Cristina teaches playwriting at Buffalo State College and is an artist in residence in the Arts in Healthcare Program at the Center for the Arts. Her play, Cell Cycle, is set to be produced at Russell Sage College this spring.

Kyla Pavlina writes, “My husband and I had a gorgeous son on January 29, 2009. His name is Beck- ett Pavlina Hayden, and he will be taller than me before he is 5. LOL. He is tall like his father, an absolute dream and the most fun job I have ever had.”

Anna Balthz continues her work as a lecturer and organizer for Palestinian human rights and is touring internationally with her book, Witness in Palestine: A Jewish Woman in the Occupied Territories. She recently appeared on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart alongside Palestinian political leader Dr. Mustafa Barghouti to talk about her book and joint Jewish and Palestinian nonviolent resistance to the Israeli occupation. View the interview and more at www.AnnaInTheMiddleEast.com.

Andy Cheung and his wife, Karen, recently celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary, as well as their one-year anniversary of living in the Netherlands. Please e-mail him at andrew.k.cheung@gmail.com.

that I saw her at a really delightful and slightly ritzy party on New Year’s Eve. John Bennett was there, as were Andrew Dennington ’01, Matt Foindecker ’01, Kitty Greenwald ’00 Barnard and various people who attended other colleges. Late in the evening/early in the decade, Konrad Fiedler arrived in high-flying California style. Konrad likes to make mournful pronouncements about our extended adolescence, but regard-
Lisa Petterson '03 recently launched the New York-based nonprofit Scandinavian American Theater Company.

westward journey by ending up in Seattle. Stephanie has been at the University of Washington for two years and will be there for a
 Rutgers and completed her
stories, will be the featured performance of this year’s festival of the Theater of the American South in Wilson, NC. The show will run for three weeks in May. Jonathan Schwartz writes, “I’m an editor on Modern Family (a film editor, not an editor of text). Our first season has seen great reviews, high ratings numbers and best-series nominations from the Writers Guild, Screen Actors Guild and the Golden Globes. Everyone, please tune in to ABC on Wednesdays at 9 p.m.”

Robyn Schwartz writes, “Dan Hammerman ’02 and I are staying in Italy another year (we’ll be here at least through September; after that, who knows?). I keep busy through a variety of remote non-profit consulting gigs and our blog (http://martelloretrofit甯.exists.blogspot.com). We try to travel as Dan’s vacation time permits and were thrilled to ring in the New Year on the Champs Elysees in Paris.”

Adeline Yao writes, “I finished my government scholarship at the end of 2009 and am taking a sabbatical from my job to figure out what I want to do next. I am spending six months in Tokyo, from February to July, working at an art gallery and wandering around the city.”

Daniel Shamah writes, “In September, I finished a clerkship for the bankruptcy court in the Southern District of New York, where I witnessed history with the Lehman Brothers, GM and Chrysler bankruptcies. I recently returned to private practice at O’Melveny & Myers in the city, where I’ve been practicing bankruptcy law. Danielle Shamah (née Schieber) ’03 Barnard and I also had our second child and first daughter, Marlena Marie, just before Thanksgiving.”

Lisa Petterson writes, “I live in New York and recently launched (Erik Moss), Columbia Hot Bagels (Stephanie Peng) and frozen margaritas and a burger at The West End on a hot summer day (Lorraine Wu).

Jacob Danziger ’04 and Phoebe (Day Connell) Danziger ’05 were married on June 14, 2008, at Bear Flag Farm in Winters, Calif. Celebrating with them were (left to right) Sandy Naylor ’03, Julia Shannon ’03, Scott Tift ’03, the bride, the groom, Melanie Mier ’03, Simon Fischer-Baum ’03 and Greg Ferguson ’03. Not in attendance was the couple’s daughter, Hazel, who was born on May 15, 2009.

Angela Georgopoulos 200 Water St., Apt. 1711 New York, NY 10038 aeg90@columbia.edu

Hello fellow alumni!

I hope you are all well. For those of you who do not know (or remember) me, allow me to introduce myself: My name is Angela. I studied biochemistry and Spanish, and my favorite Columbia memory is an amalgamation of the countless hours spent on the steps talking with friends or “studying” (read: talking with friends). Currently, I am at RICOCHET Public Relations working in the healthcare division and loving every minute of it. I am excited to become your Class Notes reporter and have to thank my good friend Miklos Vasarhelyi for doing such a commendable job for the past five years. He has left some pretty large shoes to fill, but I am determined to try. Please don’t be shy. Send me any and all updates!

On a somber note, it is with a very heavy heart that I report the passing of Garland English ’04E in January. He was a second lieutenant in the Army and served one tour of duty in Iraq, where he commanded a platoon. He died in a rock-climbing accident in Hawaii, where he was stationed

Mischa Byruck writes, “Through the eyes of my classmates at Columbia, Garland was the archetypal character of the Western Canon: as physically superior as Nietzsche’s superman, as fascinatingly engaged as Kerouac’s Dean Moriarty, as radically self-reliant as Thoreau at Walden and as beautiful and poised as Michelangelo’s David. To Garland, every edifice was a challenge to be surmounted, every discussion a life lesson, every day a potential adventure. Calmly and lovingly, he dragged both friends and family into this heightened and invigorating world. Through him our perspectives shifted, our horizons expanded and our compasses expanded.”

a new year is in full swing. How has 2010 been for you so far? Some updates from our classmates: Elizabeth Segran is traveling a great deal as she writes her doctoral dissertation. She has been dividing her time evenly between the United Kingdom, the United States and India as she does research, writes articles, participates in conferences and generally plows through her dissertation. Last summer, Elizabeth collaborated with

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

CLASS NOTES

REUNION JUNE 3-6

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a colleague from UC Berkeley to translate a series of ancient Tamil poems about love and a river. These poems, which have never been translated into English, will be published by Penguin Classics in 2011.

Andy Rios writes: “I am in Dallas helping to grow a clothing manufacturer into a nationally recognizable brand. Always looking for good people, so if anyone is interested, send me a note.”

Alex Rolfe is moving to Dublin this year to trade energy. He would love to hear from people who are there.

Jenn Handorf began production on her first feature film, Isle of Dogs, in February.

Eliana Meirowitz Nelson writes: “40 great! On November 8 I married Lev Nelson in Brookline, Mass. We moved together from Morningside Heights ½ years ago and have a happy life in Brookline. I work at Boston University Medical Campus at the Institutional Review Board while also pursuing a master’s in public health at BU part-time. Lev is studying to be a rabbi at Hebrew College. He’s a proud alumnus of Brown, but we seem to like each other anyway.”

Eliana also noted that about 30 Columbians were present at the wedding, including Steve Melzer, James Bondarchuk, Rachel Grant Meyer and Suzanne Schneider.

Phil Sandick writes: “My girlfriend and I will be in Botswana from the time this issue hits press until the start of law school in the fall. (Some may remember that I lived there for 2½ years.) If anyone plans to hit the World Cup, drop me a line.”

Jeanelle Folkes: “I’ll finish my M.A. program in higher and postsecondary education at Teachers College in May. I’m also taking advantage of the extended first-time homeowner’s tax credit. By June, I’ll be a homeowner. It’s a daunting yet exciting process. I’ve been watching a lot of HGTV. During the holiday season, I met up with Charlotte Jacobs, Kyleo Carraro, Joyce Liu, Tara Coleman ‘05 Barnard, Nick Burke ‘07 and Emil Diaz ‘09E. I’m looking forward to what this new year brings.”

Correspondence to Julia Stiles, who will be honored by the College on March 3 with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. Watch for a follow-up article in the May /June issue with photos from the black-tie gala.

And lastly, Melanie Lee writes: “I’m newly engaged to our class correspondent. After more than four years together, Peter Kang proposed to me in front of my entire family! We are planning a summer 2011 wedding.”

It almost has been five years since the gates at Morningside opened and released us into the world. Now it’s time to party like it’s 2000 again. Alumni Reunion Weekend will be held Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. There will be tons of events all week culminating with the Saturday wine tasting, class dinner and dancing on the steps of Low Plaza. So come on up (or down, or over the ocean) to celebrate.

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Jose Montero recently was promoted to director of market research at Bloomingdales and is studying to take the GMAT this spring. Andrew Liebowitz is facing the snow, ice and cold of Syracuse, N.Y., bravely as he works toward his master’s in public administration. He spent his brief winter break reconnecting with friends and family, and welcomed in 2010 with his sophomore year roommate, Matthew Disney ‘06E, and his significant other, Christina Sardinas ‘06 Barnard. Andrew looks forward to joining the blogosphere soon with a non-partisan journal dedicated to analysis of public affairs and hopefully working for the federal government or in a government consulting role by the summer. Please reconnect with him at aliebowitz@gmail.com.

Mike Townsend recently was leaving the investment arm of Virgin Group (Richard Branson Investments) to join AOL Ventures. He will primarily be responsible for building out the venture fund and platform as well as making seed and Series A investments in early stage technology businesses in the United States, United Kingdom, Israel and India. Emily Tang moved to Baltimore. Monica Betancourt is in her second year at the University of Chicago Law School. Last summer, she worked at the Gilbert & Tobin Centre of Public Law at The University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia, on constitutional law and human rights issues. Teddy Diezenbach lives in Los Angeles and is studying game design for his M.F.A. in interactive media at USC’s School of Cinematic Arts.

Justin Hill writes, “Recently, for Homecoming, Justin helped put together the Black Alumni Council Homecoming event, which had its most successful turnout in recent history. Hill Events is going strong and is here for your event needs.”

A warm congratulations to all those who recently tied the knot.

Joe Winters married Angela Sack in Rochester, Fla., on December 19. Mike McAndrew, Wade Fletcher ‘05, Alex Ehrlhart and Shay Murphy were grooms- men. Other CU alumni who attended were Matt Kaplan, Brooks Hansen ’03, Brandon Bowser, Colby Birn ‘06E, Andrew Storlachio ‘06E and Jeff Coles.

David Ribner, also a grooms- man, writes, “Evan Marlin married Arvia Androphy on New Year’s Eve in East Meadow, N.Y. Attending the wedding were many Columbians, including Sarah Marlin Swartz ‘08, Jessica Levi Ribner ‘06 Barnard, Joshua Berliner, Benjamin Silver, Dobr Sebrov ‘07, Yonatan Braffman ‘07, Ariela Rosenbaum Braffman ‘09, Montgomery Wilensky ‘06E, Barry Weih ‘06E, Keir Diefenbach, Julie Moldenhauer ‘06 Barnard and Dr. Hillel Ribner ‘67.”

Elizabeth Ruddle and Ross Gabrielson were married on September 5 near her home in Carversville, Pa. A reception followed at the Water Works Restaurant and Lounge in Philadelphia. It was an amazing day, made all the more memorable by the 16 Columbia alumni in attendance.

Danny Concepcion was the best man. Nick Jennings ‘06E, Tyler Boyd and Paasha Mahdavi were groomsmen. “It was a fantastic day and a great start to our new life together,” Ross writes. “Our honeymoon on the Greek Isles also was pretty amazing.”

Jennifer Jae-Yeon Kim is engaged to Nathaniel Sangooyoon Park ‘07L. She recently married at the Paul’s Chapel in June. Siham Sobhan is engaged to be married this June and is completing a master’s in traditional Chinese acupuncture and herbology in San Diego, Calif.

Congratulations to all.
Jake and Marty LaSalle ’07 Juggle Pins and Possibilities

By Gordon Chenoweth Sauer ’11 Arts

watching them during a performance of what they call "athletic artistry," identical twins Jake LaSalle ’07 and Marty LaSalle ’07 appear as different as apples and, well, apples. Fitting, since at 9 their juggling career was sparked by apples in an apple orchard. "I remember seeing the apples and thinking, 'Oh, it'd be cool to juggle those apples.' And I don't remember not being able to do it. I started juggling them, and I taught my brother," says Jake.

Born less than a minute apart (Marty is older) in Kennett Square, Pa., the brothers, currently performing with the Big Apple Circus, showed an early propensity for performance: The two began formal gymnastics training at 8. Flashing forward 10 years—a decade including summer performances for the Holland America Cruise Line off the coast of Alaska; first place at the 2001 International Juggling Association Championships in Madison, Wis.; and a performance in the fall 2002 International Cirque de Demain Circus Arts Festival in Paris—Jake and Marty arrived at the College to begin their academic tenure. They chose Columbia because they wanted to be in a big city, one that would, as Marty says, "allow us to continue working a little bit, even though we'd be full-time students."

Born less than a minute apart (Marty is older) in Kennett Square, Pa., the brothers, currently performing with the Big Apple Circus, showed an early propensity for performance: The two began formal gymnastics training at 8. Flashing forward 10 years—a decade including summer performances for the Holland America Cruise Line off the coast of Alaska; first place at the 2001 International Juggling Association Championships in Madison, Wis.; and a performance in the fall 2002 International Cirque de Demain Circus Arts Festival in Paris—Jake and Marty arrived at the College to begin their academic tenure. They chose Columbia because they wanted to be in a big city, one that would, as Marty says, "allow us to continue working a little bit, even though we'd be full-time students."

"We visited the campus and both fell in love with the space up there. It was good to be around the energy of New York, and to be able to have some exposure to creative communities," Jake says.

But despite the academic rigors of the College, the two kept practicing—not as often as they had in high school, but enough to enter the Big Apple Circus following graduation. "We decided at the College that we wanted to keep performing, so the Big Apple Circus was one of the first companies we contacted. It's one of the best circuses in America, and it has a really nice energy to it," says Marty.

David Donner Chait ’07, a first-year dormmate of Marty's, recently attended a performance. He says, "Going to the Big Apple Circus with five Columbia friends was an amazing experience. Despite years of friendship with Marty and Jake and an intense knowledge of their technique, this was the first time I'd seen them perform. Their act was unbelievable, and their talent is unmatched."

So when it comes to performing, what about the twin factor? "I think, without a doubt, being twins helps us stay in sync while performing," says Jake. "A body has its innate internal rhythm, and there's a fluidity that Marty and I have that is innate. Of course, practicing together since we were kids has helped." Marty says, "There is a natural advantage to being twins, but most of the seamless qualities in our performance don't come from that as much as they come from just practicing a lot."

It was at the College that they began to fully contextualize their performances. Jake says, "Having the opportunity to engage proactively with actual texts, historical texts in Contemporary Civilization, was really eye-opening. I was able to situate what we do, how I live and what we do on stage within a historical and cultural context. Columbia really encouraged me to think more about what I was doing for the circus community as a whole and by corollary, what the circus community was contributing to the artistic community and even the value of art.” Marty says, "What I do now is in a lot of ways different from the Columbia experience, because you're just in a totally different world. What Columbia does, what the objective of the liberal arts education really is, is it gets you to think on your own. It gives you the confidence and the ability to think about your problems. I think I'm more confident in the creative process as a result of being at Columbia."

Marty studied international economics, completing his junior year abroad at Lady Margaret Hall at Oxford. "My college experience was divided in two," he says. "The first two years I was a normal student, and then I went to Oxford. When I came back, I had already decided I was going to start performing after I graduated." Jake condensed the pre-med curriculum, essentially completing it by the end of his sophomore year. This led him to a course of study concentrating in anthropology. He says, "I feel like I have a great base of knowledge because of what I was able to study at Columbia. My studies weren't super-specialized. I was all over the place, in a good way though."

Now, with the end of their contract with the Big Apple Circus approaching, Jake and Marty intend to go their separate ways professionally. Jake begins medical school in the fall, most likely at Columbia. "I am not quite done with New York yet," he says. "I definitely want to do some form of surgery. I bounce back and forth between most types, but I like the intensity of an operating room and the tangibility of it."

Marty is planning a career in the entertainment industry—ultimately, he thinks, on the production side—and considering business school for next year. "I'd really like to head the creative development of big entertainment projects," he says. "Not necessarily be the creative voice, but sort of manage creative talent." Marty's performance days, however, may not be over just yet. He's considering performing solo for a couple more years, as a generalist—someone who performs various acrobatic feats on circus apparatus.

Gordon Chenoweth Sauer ’11 Arts is a freelance writer, instructor in Columbia's University Writing Program and M.F.A. in fiction candidate.
You Gregory. It is a tribute to the legends of tap. I live in Washington Heights and teach dance and perform around the city when I’m not on tour. Living the life of a dancer, constantly hustling!

After a year in "the real world" (aka retail), Kirsten Andersen started her first semester of graduate school at the University of Virginia in the fall. She is working on a Ph.D. in English literature, focusing on Victorian and Modernist novels. The faculty and students at Virginia are amazing, and Kirsten is happy to be back in school. Boyfriend Matt Steiner '08E is enrolled in the Ph.D. program at Virginia’s School of Engineering and Applied Science.

As winter wears on and we approach warmer days, members of the Class of 2009 who live in colder regions are beginning to get excited for the spring. Others like me, who migrated to warmer pastures, are starting to get nostalgic for that feeling you have on the first warm spring day when you can take off your coat and sit on the steps. In California, you just don’t get that feeling since it is always warm.

As the weather brightens up, our classmates continue to have all sorts of exciting adventures.

We start off with life updates from volunteering at the Mexican Consulate to taking a tour with a show called "Strategic Writer" for Send Word Now, an on-demand emergency notification company. She writes papers, case studies and (soon) a book for the software company, and is starting to enjoy being the lone liberal artist among her people and engineers. Stephanie lives in an apartment on the LES with Amanda Karl and is really excited to see direct sunlight again.

Rickle Siegel lives in Hamburg, Germany, and works for ITDP Europe (Institute for Transportation and Development Policy). She recently ended a three-month stint at the Regional Planning Association of Greater Stuttgart, a placement she earned through the Transatlantic Renewable Energy Fellowship. On the weekends, Rickie took advantage of her fantasic central location in Europe to visit cities such as Vienna, Munich, Paris, Berlin and Copenhagen. She writes about innovative planning issues around Europe in her blog, Europlanning (www.europlanning.blogspot.com).

Sumaiya Ahmed ’09 now takes the train one more stop, up to 125th Street, where she is a paralegal at African Services Committee, a social services organization that focuses on providing French-speaking African immigrants with HIV care and advocacy. The firm takes on all kinds of cases, including housing, public benefits, asylum and domestic violence. Sumaiya lives in Astoria and loves it! Yelena Shuster has been mastering the art of unemployment since graduating. When not fulfilling every parent’s dream of having a jobless English major for a daughter, she blogs at ivyleagueandunemployed.com. To survive and ensure sufficient caloric intake, she lives off free cheese samples at Westside Market. I must say that the blog provides an interesting and real perspective into the consequences of the recession that many of our peers face.

**Sumaiya Ahmed ’09 is a paralegal at African Services Committee.**
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Tales from a Lapsed Slacker
How I learned to stop whining and love reading (again)

By Nick Kelly ’09

I began with newspapers. These only required brief bouts of attention, and could be abandoned, guilt-free, at any moment. But soon I found myself reading them front to back. Newspapers then gave way to full blown magazines. And though I still regarded them with a distrustful eye, I gradually started to become interested in opening books again — and even reading a few. My friends from Columbia felt the same way. In a summer when vampire movies and TV shows were seemingly everywhere, my friends and I joked about our vampiric needs for reading, as if it were some blood-like substance we needed for our mental health.

More than a habit, reading had become a daily necessity. That may sound unremarkable: Most Columbia grads probably attest to a deep love of reading. But I was never one of those who really loved reading. I enjoyed it, sure, but I never threw myself into novels between semesters. It was at Columbia that I became a reader, even if I didn’t realize it until after the fact.

I thought all these things, and then I got a white-collar job. As my days became an endless parade of phone calls and e-mails, I started to feel mentally vacant. Not because my job wasn’t interesting, but rather because, like most jobs liberal arts majors get out of college, it just doesn’t involve a lot of reading. I also felt myself slipping into the typical yuppie cycle of never-ending happy hours. And so I drifted back toward reading again — slowly, cautiously. My former sworn enemy wouldn’t make it back into my life without a fight.

Nick Kelly ’09 finds much to read in the main branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.

PHOTO: NORA SCHAEFFER ’09 BARNARD
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http://fund.college.columbia.edu/annualreport

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Gareth Williams’ Core Principles

For more than 16 years, the Violin Family Professor of Classics has been breathing life into ancient languages and texts for thousands of students.
Come Celebrate Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010
— the reunion that everyone is looking forward to!

In addition to class-specific events throughout the weekend, you can join all Columbians celebrating their reunions on Friday at the “Back on Campus” sessions, including Core Curriculum mini-courses, engineering lectures, tours of the Morningside campus and its libraries and more. There even will be unique opportunities to engage deeply with the city’s arts community with theater, ballet, music and gallery options.

Columbians will be dispersed throughout the Heights and greater Gotham all weekend long, but Saturday is everyone’s day on campus. This year’s Saturday programming will invite all alumni back to celebrate and learn together from some of Columbia’s best-known faculty in a series of public lectures, at the Decades BBQs and affinity receptions. The night wraps up with the reunion classes’ tri-college wine tasting on Low Plaza, followed by our biggest line-up of class dinners ever and a final tri-college gathering for champagne, dancing and good times on Low Plaza.

Dates and Registration Information

* Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6, 2010

* REGISTER TODAY!
For more information or to register online, please visit http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.
COVER STORY

Gareth Williams' Core Principles
The Violin Family Professor of Classics Gareth Williams breathes life into the Core's ancient texts, making them lively and relevant to students.
By Ethan Rouen '04

FEATURES

John Jay Dinner Honors Five Alumni
The College celebrated five alumni for their distinguished professional achievements at a black-tie dinner in midtown in March.
By Lisa Palladino; photos by Eileen Barroso

Watching the Watchdogs at The New York Times
Times public editor Clark Hoyt '64 takes on readers' complaints and responds thoughtfully and with an infusion of facts.
By David McKay Wilson

Columbia Forum
Nobel Laureate and University Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz argues in his new book, Freefall: America, Free Markets, and the Sinking of the World Economy, that GDP is not the right way to assess standard of living.

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Web Exclusives at www.college.columbia.edu/cct

Williams' Core Principles
Watch excerpts from an interview with Professor Gareth Williams.

Koren's Big Show
Edward Koren '57 and curators David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS and Diane Fane '93 GSAS discuss aspects of the exhibit of Koren's work, on display now at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery.

Four Minutes, One Mile
Watch Kyle Merber '12 become the first person wearing Columbia blue to run a mile in under four minutes.

Five More Minutes
See part of CCT's discussion with German Languages Professor Stefan Andriopoulos.
Letters to the Editor

Professor Karl Kroebuer

I and no doubt countless other Columbia College alumni read with sadness the news of Professor Karl Kroebuer’s death in the March/April issue (“Around the Quads”). Over the years, when people have asked me, “Who was your favorite professor at Columbia?” I have immediately replied, “Karl Kroebuer, Romantic poetry.” CCT’s description of him as a “demanding but compassionate professor who relentlessly challenged his students” is apt, but I would add that he was a gentle, kindly man, erudite, regal but not overbearing, and oh-so-well-versed in and passionate about his field. He wanted the Romantic poets and his students to be the stars of the class rather than himself, but it was sheer magic when he read aloud the poetry of Browning and Tennyson, holding our small class enthralled. I would think that the greatest reward of teaching is knowing that one had a relatively brief interaction with one’s students, but gave them a gift for a lifetime; some 38 years later, this is how I remember this great professor.

Joshua J. Wiener ’75
Jackson, Miss.

Going Green

In the March/April “Letters to the Editor,” Fred DeVries ’49, ’50E, ’51E complains about the focus on carbon emissions and global climate change. I’m curious about his sources. Certainly his claim about the Arctic sea ice seems dubious, given the maps and graphs available from Cryosphere Today (arcticatmos.uiuc.edu/cryosphere), I’m baffled by his claim that there’s a limit on the greenhouse effect. While carbon dioxide may become inefficient at retaining heat if the temperature rises too much (and I haven’t done the calculations to show what temperature that might be), other molecules with higher vaporization temperatures will absorb heat we’d rather the Earth could shed.

Mr. DeVries also claims that the greenhouse gas concentration was higher than current levels when the Pennsylvania coal fields formed, but provides no source for this information. The Stanford Solar Center provides a graph showing the run-up in three significant greenhouse gases (http://solar-center.stanford.edu/sun-on-earth/glob-warm.html), all of which show sharp changes in scope around the industrial revolution. A related source (www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/temp-analysis-2009.html) points out that we are currently in a deep solar minimum, with a corresponding decrease in the amount of energy Earth gets from the sun, but global warming continues.

While the Earth has experienced warm periods, those were before the invention of the modern city. During both the Roman and medieval warm periods, the vast majority of the human population could walk to where their food was grown. Today, we consider 500 miles “local” for food production purposes. I wonder just how healthy the American economy will be if the grain belt (and the Texas desert south of it) moves north. Depending on imports for both energy and food has not historically been a recipe for economic and political stability.

Jennifer Broekman ’93
Fair Lawn, N. J.

Despite my great affection for my classmate Fred DeVries ’49, ’50E, ’51E, I am distressed by his attempt in a recent letter to CCT to debunk the notion of global warming. I hate to say this, but reading it reminded me of one of my favorite cartoons, published in Punch many years ago, that shows a living room with a man kneeling in front of its bookshelves and holding an open book, while a woman (apparently his wife) sitting nearby and knitting under a floor lamp is quoted as saying, “Surely you don’t expect mere facts to sway my opinion!”

With the greatest respect, may I suggest that Mr. DeVries consider the facts and arguments set forth by James Hansen, head of NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies and an adjunct professor of physics at Columbia, in his recent book, Storms of My Grandchildren: The Truth About the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity, reviewed in the American Chemical Society’s newsmagazine Chemical and Engineering News, March 22. Very few educated people, and still fewer scientifically trained folks, believe global warming to be anything other than a truly serious threat that must be dealt with in a serious fashion.

Joseph B. Russell ’49, ’52L
New York City

I just read the latest CCT (March/April). It is very distressing that you published, (Continued on page 78)
Joe Jones' decision to resign as men's head basketball coach at Columbia to become an assistant under Steve Donahue at Boston College provides a chance to reflect on the nature of coaching and the Columbia program.

Jones has been there, done that when it comes to being an assistant to an on-the-rise young head coach in a major conference. Prior to coming to Columbia, he was Jay Wright's top assistant at Villanova of the Big East Conference. So why, after running his own show for seven years, would Jones choose to go back to being an assistant, this time to Donahue, the former Cornell coach, in the Atlantic Coast Conference? And what, if anything, does it say about the Columbia program?

Keep two things in mind. First, coaches tend to be vagabonds, moving from job to job. Of the remaining Ivy head coaches following Donahue's departure, only one had been in the position longer than Jones — his brother James, who just completed his 11th season at Yale. Second, sports programs are never static. A program that is not moving forward, however that is measured by the powers that be, is considered to be sliding backward.

Columbia was 0-14 in the Ivy League and 2-25 overall the year before Jones arrived. It showed immediate improvement with Jones' first recruiting class, and by the time those players were seniors, including stars Ryan Wittman, Jeff Foote and Louis Dale, so Donahue's 11th season at Yale. Second, sports programs are never static. A program that is not moving forward, however that is measured by the powers that be, is considered to be sliding backward.

Columbia was 0-14 in the Ivy League and 2-25 overall the year before Jones arrived. It showed immediate improvement with Jones' first recruiting class, and by the time those players were seniors, including stars Ryan Wittman, Jeff Foote and Louis Dale, so Donahue had made his team a part of campus life and elevated its place in alumni consciousness. These factors all go into how a coach, especially an Ivy League coach, should be measured.

Winning in the Ivy League, and winning consistently, is not easy. That's why Donahue left Ithaca after a 13-1 Ivy season and a 29-5 mark overall, including a pair of NCAA tournament wins that garnered national attention. His Cornell team was loaded with leaders and scoring. That team won the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden when the tourney really meant something, was ranked in the nation's top 10, won the 1968 Ivy championship in a one-game playoff against Princeton and provided a positive rallying point at a time when campus unrest was about to bubble over.

Such success can happen again. Cornell had won exactly one Ivy championship in half a century before dominating the league the last three years. With the right coach and commitment, Columbia can do the same.
Alumni Reunion Weekend for class years ending in 0 and 5 will take place Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. Dean’s Day, which is open to all alumni and parents, will be held during the same weekend, on Saturday, June 5.

Reunion events include class-specific lunches, dinners, cocktail parties/receptions, discussion panels and tours. All-class events include the always-popular wine tasting and Starlight Reception on Saturday evening as well as learning opportunities, campus tours, and dance and Broadway performances.

Dean’s Day, one of the College’s most popular events, features lectures by some of Columbia’s most prominent faculty on a variety of topics.

The Class of 1960 starts Alumni Reunion Weekend early with a special reception on Wednesday, June 2. The weekend officially kicks off on Thursday, June 3, with class-specific events such as cocktail parties/receptions and tours, as well as a choice of the American Ballet Theater, New York Philharmonic or Broadway shows. These performances are open to all reunion attendees, but tickets must be purchased in advance, as seating is limited.

Friday morning and afternoon feature campus tours, “Back on Campus” learning opportunities and an “Essentials of Estate Planning” breakfast that is open to all. That evening, join classmates at class-specific cocktail parties/receptions and dinners. Those who observe the Sabbath may participate in a Tri-College (College, SEAS, Barnard) Shabbat Service and Dinner.

New this year for young alumni (Classes 2000–2010) is a party on Friday night aboard the recently restored Intrepid. Join SEAS, Barnard and GS friends and classmates, and revive those Intrepid parties of old! There will be dancing, flight simulation, food and limited open bar. Tickets will be available for $25 at the door.

Starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, attendees with children ages 3–12 may sign them up for Saturday’s all-day supervised Camp Columbia for Kids. Also on Saturday morning, all alumni, including Dean’s Day participants, may sign up for the Dean’s Continental Breakfast in Alfred Lerner Hall. Dean Michele Moody-Adams will give an update on the College.

After breakfast, events continue for all alumni with Public Intellectual Lectures, and class-specific lunches or group class barbecues. After lunch, choose from more learning opportunities, attend the annual Admissions Presentation/Alumni Representative Committee reception for members and those who wish to join ARC or attend a Center for Career Education presentation.

Also new this year is a Glee Club alumni gathering, which will include two rehearsals (Friday and Saturday) and a performance on Saturday. Building on the success of last year’s affinity group gatherings, alumni from WKCR, Spectator, Marching Band and the Glee Club and other singing groups also will gather. All alumni, not just those celebrating reunion, are welcome at these Saturday afternoon receptions. Also on Saturday afternoon, all alumni are invited to a tour of cartoonist Edward Koren ‘57’s exhibit “The Capricious Line” in the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery (see page 16).
Reunion classes will continue the celebration on Saturday evening with the all-class wine tasting, elegant class-specific dinners and the all-class Starlight Reception. The weekend wraps up on Sunday morning with a bagel, cream cheese and lox brunch.

To register for reunion and learn more, go to http://reunion.college.columbia.edu. To register for Dean's Day and select lectures, go to www.college.columbia.edu/deansday.

For more information or assistance with either event, please contact the Alumni Office: 212-851-7488 or 866-CCALUMNI.

Alumni from all classes have a chance to participate in Class Day festivities by marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes, carrying their class year banners in the procession that also includes graduating students, faculty and administrators. This parade underscores the transition the graduates will be making from students to alumni, and emphasizes that their Columbia connection is lifelong.

Alumni marching in the parade are invited to a champagne breakfast in John Jay Dining Hall that begins at 8:30 a.m. The parade is scheduled to begin at 9:45 a.m. Alumni interested in participating should contact Stella Miele-Zanedis, assistant director of alumni affairs: 212-851-7846 or mf2413@columbia.edu.
**LENFEST AWARDS:** Seven faculty members were honored on February 16 as recipients of this year’s Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards, which were established in 2005 by University Trustee Gerry Lenfest ’87L to make sure faculty members are recognized and rewarded for attributes beyond their scholarship and research. “Columbia has a tradition of great teachers, and although it’s important how many books they publish, what’s more important is the connections they establish with their students,” Lenfest said. This year’s winners were Stefan Andriopoulos, associate professor of Germanic languages and literature (see “5 Minutes with…”, page 10); Harmen Bussemaker, associate professor of biological sciences; Julie Crawford, associate professor of English and comparative literature; Lydia Goehr, professor of philosophy; Steven Goldstein ’76, ’81 GSAS, ’86 GSAS, professor of earth and environmental sciences; Ruben Gonzalez, assistant professor of chemistry; and David Scott, professor of anthropology. The seven, who were feted at a dinner in Faculty House, will receive an award of $25,000 apiece for three consecutive years.

**SLOAN FELLOWS:** Five Columbia faculty members were named research fellows by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, which awards two-year, $50,000 grants to support the work of exceptional young researchers early in their academic careers. The five were among 118 scientists, mathematicians and economists honored. Columbia’s new Sloan Fellows are Navin Kartik, associate professor of economics; Eitan Grinspun, associate professor of computer science; Tristan Lambert, assistant professor of chemistry; Scott Snyder, assistant professor of chemistry; and Tanya Zelevinsky, assistant professor of physics.

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Four students and one alumnus — Shlomo Bolts ‘10, Max Horlbeck ‘11, Hannah Peris ‘11, Todd Nelson ‘12 and Colin Felsman ‘09 — have received prestigious scholarships that will allow them to pursue graduate coursework in a variety of fields.

Bolts, a political science and sociology major from Miami Beach, Fla., has been awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, beating out more than 800 applicants for one of just 29 slots. The award will fund Bolts’ work at England’s Cambridge University for two years.

Bolts plans to pursue an M.Phil. in modern society and global transformations. His areas of interest include globalization, peace studies and denationalization, and he hopes to pursue a career in diplomacy and conflict resolution, according to Michael Pippenger, associate dean of fellowship programs and study abroad.

Bolts has been a leader in several campus organizations including the Progressive Jewish Alliance and Amnesty International. He also co-founded Common Ground, a Jewish-Muslim dialogue program.

Horlbeck, a Rabi Scholar from New York City who is majoring in biochemistry and computer science, won a Goldwater Scholarship, which provides about $7,500 to students who plan to pursue a Ph.D. in science, math or engineering. Horlbeck plans to apply to a dual M.D. / Ph.D. program so that he can conduct biomedical research to develop gene-targeted therapies, treat patients and teach at the university level.

Ilya Belopolski ‘12, a double major in physics and mathematics and also a Rabi Scholar, received honorable mention in the Goldwater Scholarship competition. Perls and Nelson won Udall Scholarships, the most prestigious award given to undergraduates in the field of environmental science. It was the first time that two Columbia students won the $5,000 grant in the same year.

Perls, an environmental science major from Weston, Mass., plans to become a climate scientist, creating improved mechanisms to forecast how climate change affects water, agriculture and human health.

Nelson is double majoring in environmental science and history. The Winston-Salem, N.C., native hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in environmental public health, which will allow him to pursue policy work at the national level on health risks associated with climate change.

Felsman received a Luce Foundation grant, which provides money and training to about 16 young Americans every year so they can work in Asia. A Dulles, Va., native, Felsman majored in anthropology and political science. Since graduation, he has been working at a non-profit development agency in Harare, Zimbabwe. He will focus on entrepreneurial aid and development in Shanghai next year at the Non-Profit Incubator.

Shira Millikowsky ‘07 Arts also received a Luce grant.

The Fellowship Office, which assists students in applying for awards, assisted the students through mock interviews, essay assistance and other help. The office also worked with Raphael Graybill ‘10, who won a Rhodes Scholarship earlier this academic year (go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb10).
Academics Gather To Honor Belknap

Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages and Director of University Seminars Robert L. Belknap has instilled a love of Russian literature in several generations of students, and many of those he influenced to become scholars and teachers returned to campus on February 12–13 for a conference in his honor. Participants in “A Conference in Honor of Robert L. Belknap, Formulations: Teaching Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature” were (back row, left to right) Robin Feuer Miller, Brandeis; Robert Louis Jackson, emeritus Yale; Richard F. Gustafson, emeritus Barnard and Columbia; Marcia A. Morris, Georgetown; Liza Knapp, Columbia; Ellen Chances, Princeton; and Belknap, and (front row, left to right) Jefferson Gatrall, Montclair State; Rebecca Stanton ’94, Barnard and Columbia; Hilde Hoogenboom, SUNY Albany; Cathy Popkin, Columbia; Cathy Nepomnyashchy, Barnard and Columbia; Deborah A. Martinsen, Columbia; Irina Reyfman, Columbia; Andrew Durkin, emeritus Indiana; and William Mills Todd III, Harvard. All but Jackson, Chances, Popkin and Reyfman earned their Ph.D. from Columbia.

Ethan Rouen ’04

Dozens of alumni braved a blizzard on February 25 to listen to five heavyweights from the business world discuss the future of private equity. The event was hosted by Everett Weinberger ’86 at Merrill Lynch’s Manhattan office. Lisa Landau Carnoy ’89 (far left) moderated the discussion while (left to right) Michael Behringer ’89, Alex Margolies ’89, Manu Rana ’92 and Alexander Nevab ’87 shared their insights and expertise with the audience.

PHOTO: ETHAN ROUEN ’04J

DEAN’S DAY • SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010 • NEW YORK CITY

Columbia College and the Columbia College Alumni Association are proud to sponsor Dean’s Day 2010. Scheduled for Saturday, June 5, the program provides the opportunity for alumni and parents to participate in thought-provoking lectures and discussions with some of Columbia’s finest faculty.

Dean’s Day 2010 is particularly noteworthy, as it is Dean Michele Moody-Adams’ first Dean’s Day as Dean of the College. Additionally, Dean’s Day 2010 coincides with Alumni Reunion Weekend. With even more alumni on campus, this year’s event should be the most exciting and well-attended yet.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Registration Opens — Alfred Lerner Hall</td>
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<td>8:30–10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Dean’s Continental Breakfast with Opening Address by Michele Moody-Adams, Dean of Columbia College</td>
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<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Camp Columbia for Kids</td>
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<td>10:30–11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Public Intellectual Lectures</td>
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<td>Noon–1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>2:00–3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Core Curriculum Lectures</td>
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<td>3:30–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>WKCR, Columbia Daily Spectator and Columbia University Marching Band Affinity Receptions and a special performance by the Glee Club and other singing groups</td>
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Stefan Andriopoulos is an associate professor in the Department of Germanic Languages and one of the recipients of this year’s Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards, aka the Lenfest Awards (so named in honor of their creator, trustee Gerry Lenfest ’58). Andriopoulos’ research focuses on media history and interrelations of literature and science. The author of three books, he earned his Ph.D. from the University of Hamburg and studied at UC Irvine and UC Berkeley before coming to Columbia.

Where did you grow up? I grew up in Germany, in a small town a half-hour from Frankfurt.

What did you want to be when you were growing up? I have to admit, I always wanted to be a professor. I don’t remember what I wanted to be when I was very young, but I do remember in high school, I wanted to become a professor of German literature.

How did that happen at such a young age? I read a lot as a child. My mother was a teacher of German literature, so there was always a lot of literary fiction around me. Whenever I wanted a book, I just needed to say, “I want that book,” and I would get it.

What were the books that got you into literature? I started with children’s literature. When I was 14 or 15, I started reading serious fiction.

How did you end up at Columbia? I was visiting New York, and I met the woman who is now my wife. I stayed with a friend, and she was a friend of that friend. Soon after that, there was an opening for a beginning assistant professorship in the German department at Columbia, and I applied and I got the job.

What were your initial impressions of New York? It’s very fast and very global. I do think that makes it easier to be an immigrant here. Nearly 40 percent of New Yorkers are born abroad, so arriving in New York City is very different from arriving in the rest of the United States. It’s very normal to have an accent. People come from all over the world.

What will you be teaching in the fall? I will be teaching a class on Weimar Cinema, German silent film from the 1920s. I also will be teaching a class on German intellectual history called “Spirit and Ghosts from Kant to Marx.” That is a class about how philosophical notions of spirit overlap with ghostly metaphors, and how canonical philosophical texts intersect with the Gothic novel and contemporaneous optical media.

What are you working on? My current book project is about ghosts and apparitions around 1800. It looks at Kant, Hegel and Schopenhauer. Kant wrote a book about spirit visions; one wouldn’t expect that. I look at these philosophical texts and I focus on how they intersect with contemporaneous optical technologies, specifically the magic lantern that was used to stage ghost shows in dark rooms, an early version of cinema, as it were. I also examine Gothic novels from the same period. There you also have ghostly apparitions that are terrifying and shocking.

Ghost shows? Etienne Robertson staged his phantasmagorias in a completely dark vault where he would project magic lantern slides on hidden screens, or even on smoke. There is no clear boundary between screen and audience. In the middle of the room, there’s a cloud of smoke, and there’s a projection on that. The highlights were sudden magnifications that were terrifying to the audience because it seemed as if the figures were looming out at the viewer.

Do you travel to Germany often? I go back two or three times a year for conferences and to visit family, but I never stay long.

Do you have any children? My wife, Lisa Chang, and I are expecting our first child in August.

Where do you live? I live on Claremont Avenue in Morningside Heights.

What’s something your students would never guess about you? I listen to electronic music and drum and bass.

What’s the last great book you read for pleasure?

If you could be anywhere in the world, where would you be? A Greek Island in September when the tourists are gone and it’s still beautiful. My father is Greek. As a child, I’d spend every summer in Greece.

How do you recharge? I have to get out of the city sometime, which isn’t the easiest. I also recharge by reading crime novels. It’s a way of distracting myself.

What is your favorite place out of the city? The Berkshires are really beautiful. They remind me of a German landscape.

What’s your favorite food? I’m too young to answer that question.

To watch excerpts from this interview, go to www.college.columbia.edu/ct.

Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen ’04
ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

The financial crisis seemed to strike every corner of the economy, but at Florida-based Heico Corp., the last two years have been business as usual. The company, run by Laurans Mendelson ’60, ’61 Business, and his sons, Eric ’87, ’89 Business, and Victor ’89, does not make or sell the hottest new product. Instead, it supplies components used in defense, space, medicine and homeland security. “This is a very boring company,” Laurans, who served on Columbia’s Board of Trustees, told The Miami Herald in a lengthy profile of the publicly traded company, published in January. It also is a company making high-margin products in several recession-proof industries. Victor first noticed Heico while he was a College student, and the family thought that taking control would be an ideal way to achieve their dream of running a company together. Since the Mendelsons took control in the early ’90s, Heico’s stock has outperformed that of Berkshire Hathaway, run by investment guru Warren Buffet ’51.Business.

Tom Kitt ’96 and Brian Yorkey ’93’s Tony Award-winning musical, Next to Normal, has earned another prestigious trophy — the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for drama. Given by the Journalism School, the $10,000 award is one of the most highly regarded American playwrights can receive. The Pulitzer Board said the musical, with book and lyrics by Yorkey and music by Kitt, is “a powerful rock musical that grapples with mental illness in a suburban family and expands the scope of subject matter for musicals.”

Tze Chun ’02’s Children of Invention was one of five movies used to launch YouTube Rentals, the online video company’s experiment in online video-on-demand rentals. Unlike so many other options for at-home movie watching, the new site allows viewers to interact with artists. Chun posted video blogs during the festival, answering questions posed by viewers in the site’s comments section.

A managing director at Lazard, Mark Chachas, a Columbia College alumnus, quit his job as of the United States’ most powerful senators. Chachas took his job as an investment banker in New York and returned to his native Nevada to run in the Republican primary for that state’s Senate seat. If he wins, he will face off against Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid in November. A managing director at Lazard Freres and Co., Chachas grew up in Ely, Nev., and found success helping media and entertainment companies such as Disney, Heart and Clear Channel.

The Hollywood Walk of Fame. Morris is one of the most influential people in the music world, and his label has produced hits by superstars such as Rihanna, Kanye West, U2, Lady Gaga and the Black Eyed Peas. Joining Morris at the unveiling of the star were two of his musicians, R&B legend Mary J. Blige and will.i.am of the Black Eyed Peas. Both spoke about Morris’ role in their success.

Katori Hall ’03’s The Mountaintop was the surprise winner of the Best New Play award at the 2010 Olivier Awards, the top prizes in British theater and the equivalent of the Tony Awards on Broadway. The play, about Martin Luther King’s last night before he was assassinated, debuted in London in 2009 and ran at two theaters, including Trafalgar Studios in the West End, receiving much critical acclaim. Producers there said they plan to bring The Mountaintop back to the theater and are discussing a Broadway run. CCT profiled Hall in its March/April 2008 issue (www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/ mar_apr08).

John Chachas ’86 has thrown his hat in the ring to take on one of the United States’ most powerful senators. Chachas quit his job as an investment banker in New York and returned to his native Nevada to run in the Republican primary for that state’s Senate seat. If he wins, he will face off against Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid in November. A managing director at Lazard Freres and Co., Chachas grew up in Ely, Nev., and found success helping media and entertainment companies such as Disney, Heart and Clear Channel.

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MAY/JUNE 2010

11
Rebecca Chan ’12 and Jordan Hollarsmith ’12 Raise Awareness About Climate Change

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

A shared concern about environmental issues and the effects of climate change has led Rebecca Chan ’12 and Jordan Hollarsmith ’12 down converging paths. In March 2008, Chan and Hollarsmith were among 15 high school students named California Climate Champions in a competition sponsored by the California Air Resources Board in conjunction with the British Council’s broader International Climate Champions Program. Both initiatives seek to create a network of young adults equipped to educate their communities about the impacts of climate change and ways in which individuals can reduce their carbon emissions. Winners, selected based on communication skills and knowledge of and enthusiasm for the topic, engaged in online networking with peers and attended a "climate camp" where they met and learned from experts.

"There was a big emphasis on media training and getting to know how environmental policy works at different levels of government," explains Hollarsmith, who hails from San Francisco.

As California Climate Champions, Chan and Hollarsmith also were expected to undertake individual projects to raise awareness about climate change. They chose to get involved with CU Earth Tutors, an afterschool program for middle school students at the Urban Science Academy in the Bronx and the Future Leaders Institute in Harlem. The program, designed to educate youth about environmental issues, meets on Fridays throughout the school year and is run entirely by Columbia students.

"We would direct science experiments and have the students develop a hypothesis, perform tests and discuss the results. Then we would bring that discussion to the larger scale of what they can do in their everyday lives," explains Hollarsmith, who was involved with the program as a first-year student.

Chan, still an active member of Earth Tutors, adds, "It’s not just a tutoring program but also a mentoring program. It’s about exposure to college and college students as well as learning about the environment."

Chan, from Encinitas, was one of three California Climate Champions selected to represent the United States at the G8 Summit Environment Ministers Meeting in London in March to develop a series of goals, three of which were to be presented in Kobe. In an effort to achieve a broader representation, the three most popular goals — education about climate change through school curricula and a government-funded mass media campaign, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and humanitarian aid for developing nations most affected by changes in global climate — were selected through an online ballot that had more than 20,000 votes.

"The idea was really to draw attention not only to the issue of climate change but also to point out that the younger generation needs to be involved," says Chan.

Chan also was one of two American students selected to attend a climate camp in Okinawa, Japan, in August 2009, during which she studied the effects of climate change on the local coral reef.

After these enriching experiences, Chan has a clearer idea regarding the career path she’d like to pursue.

"My goal is to bridge the gap between science and policy," says Chan, who majors in chemistry and political science and plans to attend law school. "I’m hoping that with a scientific background, I will be able to understand what’s going on well enough to help implement policy."

Like Chan, Hollarsmith’s passion has taken her far — literally. As a junior in high school, she spent three weeks in Bangladesh, which experts predict would be among the countries most affected by rising sea levels as a result of changes in global temperatures. During her time in Bangladesh, Hollarsmith met with numerous humanitarian and environmental NGOs and became familiar with local grassroots environmental movements. She lodged in a hotel in Dhaka for part of the time and also stayed on a boathouse on the Bay of Bengal.

The trip was an exchange program organized by the nonprofit Relief International as part of the U.S. Department of State’s Linking Individuals, Knowledge and Culture initiative, which provided all the funding. The second leg of the trip was a stop in New Orleans, where participants stayed at Tulane to learn about disaster relief in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

"We learned a lot about disaster relief in Bangladesh, and then we got to hear Tulane professors speak about the science behind the hurricane and how changes in the local environment made the consequences of the storm even worse. The depletion of the low wetlands led to a greater storm surge," explains Hollarsmith, who is an editor of Catalyst: the Undergraduate Journal of Energy and Environmental Policy, which is affiliated with the Roosevelt Institute, a national, student-run policy research group.

After exploring both the policy and scientific aspects of climate change, Hollarsmith discovered that she prefers the latter and has decided to major in environmental biology.

"I would rather be in the dirt collecting the data for the policy makers," says Hollarsmith, whose childhood hero was Captain Planet. "It’s extremely important to have the strong science to back up the issues. Without that science, nothing would get passed.”

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer of LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language Web site.
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believable feeling,” Merber said in an e-mail interview with Heps-Track.com. “That moment was everything that I could have dreamed of and more . . . beyond my wildest dreams. Running at our home meet in front of all my teammates and my parents made this experience that much more valuable.”

For another perspective on Merber’s race, see “Alumni Corner” in this issue. To watch a video of the historic run, go to www.college.columbia.edu/ct, “Web Exclusives.”

Meanwhile, at the same meet, the women’s 4x400m relay team of Kyra Caldwell ’12, Yamira Bell ’13, Kristen Houpt ’12 and Sharay Hale ’12 set an Ivy record with a time of 3:38.04. Two other Columbia women set school records, Serita Lachesis ’10 running 800m in 2:09.01 and Jacqueline Drouin ’11 running the mile in 4:45.35.

NCAA CHAMPION: Nicole Ross ’11 won the women’s foil individual championship by capturing 21 of her 23 bouts at the NCAA Fencing Championships in Cambridge, Mass., on March 26. It was Columbia’s first women’s foil title since Tru Moy ’91, ’02 P&S, in 1990.

Ross earned first-team All-America honors in her career. Sammy Roberts ’12E and Jackie Jacobson ’11 received honorable mention All-America honors in sabre.

On the men’s side, Dwight Smith ’10 finished third in epee to earn first-team All-America honors and Jeff Spear ’10 was seventh in sabre to earn second-team honors.

LOMAX: Judie Lomax ’11 Barnard became the first Columbia women’s basketball player to achieve All-America status when she was named an honorable mention All-American by the Associated Press on March 30. The 5-foot-11 forward, the first woman to lead the nation in rebounding in consecutive seasons, also became the first Lion to receive Ivy League Women’s Basketball Player of the Year honors.

Lomax led the Ivy League in scoring (18.6 ppg), rebounding (14.2 rpg), steals (2.6 spg) and minutes played (37.6 mpg) and ranked second in field goal percentage (.542) and eighth in assists (2.7 apg). She was the league’s Player of the Week six times and saved her best for last, getting 21 points and 21 rebounds against Yale and 20 points and a school-record 27 rebounds in the final weekend of the season.

The women finished the season with an 18–10 record overall and a 9–5 mark in Ivy competition, both school records for victories. Sara Yee ’10E was named the Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive season.

FOLEY: Patrick Foley ’10 was named to ESPN The Magazine’s Academic All-America first team, the first Columbia men’s basketball player to be so honored. Foley, a two-time co-captain who missed 12 games due to injury as a senior, was Columbia’s third-leading scorer this season at 8.5 ppg and led the Lions with 2.4 apg. A third team Academic All-America last season, Foley carried a 3.87 GPA as a history major at the time the award was announced in February.

WINTER ALL-IVY: Judie Lomax ’11 Barnard was the only unanimous selection to the women’s basketball All-Ivy first team, while Kathleen Berry ’11 and Sara Yee ’10E received honorable mention. In men’s basketball, No-ruwa Agho ’12, who led the Lions in scoring at 16.3 ppg, was chosen for the All-Ivy second team.

Several other Columbia student-athletes received All-Ivy recognition in winter sports:

First team: Kyra Caldwell ’12 (women’s track and field, 60m hur-
COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY
AROUND THE QUADS

Dies), Sharay Hale '12 (women's track and field, 200m and 400m), Lydia Kopecky '13 (women's fencing, epee), Kyle Merber '12 (men's track and field, 3,000m), Adam Powell '11 (men's swimming, 50 free and 100 free), Sammy Roberts '12E (women's fencing, sabre), Daria Schneider '10 (women's fencing, sabre) and Jeff Spear '10 (men's fencing, sabre).

Second team: Erin Cyvan '11 (wrestling, 165 lbs.), Mariele Dunn '11 (women's swimming, 200y breaststroke), D'Meca Homer '13 Barnard (women's fencing, foil), Jackie Jacobson '12 (women's fencing, sabre), Melesa Johnson '11 (women's track and field, 60m hurdles), Kevin Lester '12 (wrestling, 285 lbs.), Katie Melli '13 (women's swimming, 100y breaststroke), Nnenna Okwara '13 (women's track and field, weight throw) and Monique Roberts '12 Barnard (women's track and field, pentathlon). The men's swimming 200y freestyle relay team of Powell, Darren Pagan '10E, Jordan Kobb '10 and Patrick Dougherty '13E and the 200y and 400y medley relay teams of Powell, Johnny Bailey '12, Eric Tang '10E and Bruno Esquen '12 also won second team honors.

Honorable mention: Lou Miller '10 (wrestling, 197 lbs.).

CAMPUS NEWS

■ APPLICATIONS: Columbia College once again received a record number of applications, with 21,747 students applying for places in the Class of 2014, up from 21,274 a year ago. Applications have risen each year since 1995, when 8,713 applications were received.

A total of 1,805 students were admitted to the Class of 2014 for an admit rate of 8.30 percent, making this the most selective class in school history. The admit rate was 8.92 percent last year, when the targeted class size was increased from 1,020 to 1,070 students, and 8.71 percent the year before.

SEAS accepted 592 of 4,431 applicants, an admit rate of 13.36 percent. Overall, the two schools received 26,178 applicants and admitted 2,397 students for an admit rate of 9.02 percent.

"The Undergraduate Admissions staff and I take great pride in admitting the Class of 2014," Jessica Marinaccio, dean of undergraduate admissions, said in a statement. "Chosen from among 26,178 applicants in the most selective admissions cycle in our history, admitted students hail from 75 countries, all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

The Class of 2014 is the second whose size is targeted at 1,070 as the College grows by 200 students across four years.

Columbia announced that next year it will begin accepting the Common Application, although like many selective schools, it also will require a supplemental form with school-specific questions. The "common app," as it is known, is a standardized application that was accepted by 392 colleges and universities in 2009–10 and allows students to fill out one form and have it sent to several schools at one time.

■ JOHN JAY: The Rare Book & Manuscript Library announced in early March the publication of The Selected Papers of John Jay (Class of 1764), Volume 1, 1760–1779. This will be the first volume of seven in a new, annotated edition of Jay's correspondence and comprises a wide-ranging selection of the most significant and interesting public and private documents and letters that Jay wrote or received. Volume 1 covers Jay's education at King's College, his early legal career, his growing political awareness, marriage to Sarah (Sally) Van Brugh Livingston and his increasing involvement in the Revolutionary cause. The volume ends with his presidency of Congress and his appointment as minister to Spain.

The volumes also will serve as a gateway to the Papers of John Jay Web site, which has more than 20,000 pages of Jay and Jay-related documents (www.columbia.edu/cu/web/digital/jay).
The works of famed cartoonist Edward Koren '57 are returning to the place where he began drawing the creatures that led to his immense success in the art world.

An exhibit of Koren’s cartoons is being shown through Saturday, June 12, at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery (www.columbia.edu/cu/wallach).

“Having my work shown at Columbia is a special kind of homecoming,” Koren writes in the exhibit’s catalogue. “Columbia has been the rootstock of all I’ve done since graduating and moving on, and this exhibition is like bringing all my family- and friends on paper back to show them where they came from — a trip to the old country for the next generation.”

Koren began drawing cartoons for Jester while a student and was editor-in-chief of the humor magazine his senior year.

“He was always the star,” says David Rosand ’59, ’65 GSAS, the Meyer Shapiro Professor of Art History, Koren’s successor as editor of Jester and curator of the exhibit. “We all hung around waiting for his first New Yorker submission to be accepted.”

That acceptance came in 1962, and for almost five decades, Koren has been dazzing his erudite audience with playful make-believe, serving as a Dr. Seuss for grown-ups. His work has been published in newspapers and magazines around the world, with nearly 1,000 of his drawings enlivening the pages of The New Yorker.

While the exhibit is the first full show of Koren’s work at Columbia, it also serves as a conclusion for his friend Rosand, who is retiring from Columbia a few weeks after the show is completed.

“It’s very personal,” Rosand says. “It’s a reaching back to my most glorious days at Columbia when I was a freshman and drawing for Jester.”

To see video of Edward Koren ’57 and curators David Rosand ’59, ’65 GSAS and Diana Fane ’93 GSAS discuss aspects of the exhibition, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.
Columbia College Young Alumni invites the Classes of 2000–2010 to attend the Young Alumni Party on the USS Intrepid.

The USS Intrepid is the young alumni port-of-call for College sailors and mates. Join SEAS, Barnard and GS friends and classmates, and revive those Intrepid parties of old! We have charted a course of dancing, flight simulation, food and limited open bar.

Friday, June 4, 2010 • 10 p.m.–1 a.m.

* Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum
  West 46th Street and 12th Avenue, Pier 86 • New York City

* Tickets will be available for purchase at the Intrepid the night of the event or in advance at www.college.columbia.edu/intrepid.

* Admission: $25

* Questions? Call 212-851-7977.
Five accomplished College alumni were honored on March 3 at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City with 2010 John Jay Awards for distinguished professional achievement.

Brian C. Krisberg ’81, ’84L, an attorney; Frank Lopez-Balboa ’82 and Tracy V. Maitland ’82, both from the finance sector; David Rosand ’59, ’65 GSAS, the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History; and Julia Stiles ’05, a stage and film actress, were joined by alumni, faculty, students, family and friends at the black-tie event, which drew more than 600 attendees and raised more than $1 million for the John Jay Scholars Program.

The Scholars Program provides outstanding first-year College students the opportunity to participate in special programs such as panels, discussions and outings, all designed to promote intellectual growth, leadership development and global awareness.

Board of Trustees Chair William V. Campbell ’62, ’64 TC welcomed the guests and introduced Columbia College Alumni Association President Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74, ’77L, ’78 Business, who introduced and thanked the dinner’s co-chairs. One of the co-chairs, Louis De Chiara ’82, introduced the keynote speaker, Marit Perlman Shapiro ’10, a John Jay Scholar, who spoke on behalf of all John Jay Scholars.

Shapiro, a Los Angeles native, said how thankful she was that Columbia “took a chance” on her and spoke of how the Scholars Program has impacted her career choice. After working in a hospital in Madagascar “finding [herself] in a delivery room,” she decided she wanted to be an obstetrician and plans to focus her work either in developing countries or inner cities in the United States. Columbia and the Scholars Program, Shapiro said, “taught me flexibility, taught me the value of continued learning, taught me the importance of service to my community and taught me to have enthusiasm.”

Each of the honorees was introduced by a John Jay Scholar: Elizabeth Lamoste ’10, Krisberg; Salman Somjee ’10, Lopez-Balboa; Atanas Atanasov ’10, Maitland; Shalom Sokolow ’10, Rosand; and Aaron Krieger ’10, Stiles.

Dean Michele Moody-Adams, attending her first John Jay Awards Dinner, addressed the attendees and thanked the honorees for “setting such stellar examples of all a Columbia College education will allow one to achieve.” She quoted from a letter written in 1785 by John Jay [Class of 1764] about the importance of making a “proper degree of education” available to all and described the honorees as “people who have done extraordinary things with that ‘proper degree of education’ provided by this great institution.”

The evening concluded with the Clefhangers singing Sans Souci and Roar, Lion, Roar.
Clockwise, from top: Dean Michele Moody-Adams joins the honorees before the start of the 32nd John Jay Awards Dinner; President Lee C. Bollinger got a laugh when he remarked, "You know it's a quiet year on campus when the biggest story is a coyote sighting"; Tracy V. Maitland '82 told how his Columbia education "helped my ability to think and to solve problems"; David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS (with his wife, Ellen), the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History, said he "crossed the East River in 1955 and never looked back"; and Julia Stiles '05 (with her parents) quoted Sophocles, "All I know is that I know nothing," and said, "Columbia taught me that my career and studies were complementary. Your life is an education. You never stop learning."
Clockwise from top: John Jay Scholars (left to right) Atanas Atanasov '10, Marit Perlman Shapiro '10, Salman Somjee '10, Shalom Sokolow '10, Elizabeth Lamoste '10 and Aaron Kriger '10 played a prominent role in the program, introducing the honorees and explaining the impact of the John Jay Scholars Program; Brian Krisberg '81, '84L (with his family) said he received "a rigorous and extraordinary education" at Columbia that taught him how to think, write and explore, and also learned "the importance of giving back"; the Clefhangers closed the evening with renditions of Sans Souci and Roar, Lion, Roar; and Frank Lopez-Balboa '82 (left, with his brother, Victor '82) said he has "never taken for granted the amazing education I received at Columbia."
Gareth Williams' Core Principles

By Ethan Rouen '04J

On an icy February morning, 15 first-years stumbled into a mezzanine room in Fayerweather Hall for Literature Humanities. It was shortly before 11 a.m., and most of them looked like they had just rolled out of bed. Some pulled out their laptops and swapped YouTube videos, gradually increasing the volume on the speakers to drown out one another.

As Gareth Williams, the Violin Family Professor of Classics and chair of Literature Humanities, walked into the room, the noise ceased. Williams went over some administrative issues — the students requested no midterm but were overruled — before jumping into his lecture. The morning's topic was Saint Augustine's *Confessions*, originally published more than 1,600 years ago, but within 10 minutes the class discussion had covered Tony Blair's comments about the war in Iraq, Tiger Woods' infidelity and John Edwards' political career.

Williams' Ph.D. from Cambridge isn't the only thing that makes him a doctor. For more than 16 years, Williams has been resuscitating the dead, breathing life into ancient languages and texts for hundreds of students. Whether it is Greek, Latin or the books of Lit Hum, Williams provides a relevance and sense of immediacy that infuse in his young students powerful messages they can take with them to academia, law, finance or on any career path.

"As a classicist, I'm committed to relating ancient experience and knowledge to modern affairs," he says. "You can't just insist on the worthwhileness of learning. You have to grip students with an enthusiasm for ancient culture or with a sense of learning a language in a particular way. What I try to do is give students a sense of ownership."

At a young age, Williams was gripped by the same subjects he still teaches. The son of a Welsh pharmacist, he attended school during a time when Latin still was a compulsory subject.

"I was taught by a very energetic teacher. Corporal punishment was all the rage, and he had many techniques that worked," Williams jokes. "I just found the language fascinating as a form of verbal mathematics. I found the grammatical system very enticing. I learned Latin, and I came to understand the English language a whole lot better."

Williams threw himself into reading Latin and Greek, starting with *The Iliad* and going from there to whatever he could get his hands on. Although bookish, he also was an avid hiker and squash player, activities he still keeps up.

By the time he got to college, Williams was confident in both languages, although he refuses to call himself fluent.

"Latin and Greek are languages that need work constantly," he says. "They are extremely humbling subjects. I really want to resist the idea that I'm fluent. When you think that, you get..."
tripped up and complacent. I read some Latin and Greek every day. It’s like a car that needs constant maintenance.”

Williams received his bachelor’s and doctorate from Cambridge, completing all of his coursework in less than seven years. Entering into a dismal job market in the early 1990s, he was offered a job in Columbia’s Classics Department.

At the time, New York was a vastly different place. The city’s crime rate had just started its dramatic downward spiral. And the Yankees — Williams’ adopted team — were heading toward the end of their longest World Series drought, having not won the championship in 14 years.

The Core Curriculum, though, had remained largely unchanged for more than half a century, influencing the lives of world leaders, business moguls and leading academics.

Williams fits well into New York — he lives on Riverside Drive with his wife and 9-year-old daughter — and the pedagogy of the Core. As a classicist, he saw the Core as a way to recruit students to his field. More importantly, it serves as a tool to shape his teaching and the learning of young adults just becoming aware of what their minds are capable of.

“To see how the ancients use therapeutic techniques to think about the trauma of earthquakes and to try to recover gives a very moving take on modern reaction to the horrific images of the Haiti earthquake,” he says.

It’s not just the great events of our times that play a role in Williams’ teaching. During class, he makes a point of calling on every student, offering softball questions to encourage participation, then drawing out the students with engaging follow-ups.

During a class this semester, one student said of Confessions, “It was boring. I know why he did it. I just don’t really care.”

Williams saw this statement not as a rebuke but as a challenge, using the moment as a chance to proselytize without sounding preachy. With only a few words of encouragement from the professor, the students used Augustine’s intimate memoir to discuss this current time of so many public and humiliating confessions, and before they realized it, they were extracting valuable material from the text while avoiding the main character with whom some said they could not connect.

Although Williams refuses to claim any credit for influencing the Core, his colleagues tell a different story. He has been a tireless servant to Lit Hum and the Core, giving his teaching style reach beyond the students who sit in his class.

“Gareth has had a major role in the Core,” says Kathryn Yatrakis, dean of academic affairs. “We ask him to deliver the first Lit Hum lecture to the first-year class during orientation. It enthralls all the students. I couldn’t think of a better person for them to hear from.”

Williams organizes trips to museums, staged readings and lectures that provide students with a deeper understanding and another way to commune with what they are learning. He introduced the annual course-wide Core lecture, which has proven wildly successful.

“He’s a wonderful chair to work for,” says Deborah Martinson, associate dean of alumni education. “He is a model of grace and gratitude. He makes sure that people receive recognition for their services, which is wonderful. And the students think he’s a rock star.”

His dedication also shows in his work behind the scenes. Williams teaches the preceptor seminar for all graduate students teaching Lit Hum and organizes a weekly lecture for faculty. Dur-
ing the semester, he sits in on at least one class of each of his preceptors, about 30 classes a year.

"He’s extraordinarily supportive outside of class," says Karen Emmerich, a second-year preceptor and a graduate student in English and comparative literature. "He’s willing to meet with you any time. He shapes the way preceptors design their classroom experience. People tend to model how they interact in the classroom and how they interact with students on how he interacts with you."

Williams is rooted in a past that he is fighting to preserve while embracing new ways of learning that can add value. He is open to bringing new books into the Core Curriculum, but wants the debate to be positive and productive.

"Be it a contemporary writer, be it writers from different cultural backgrounds, we can always argue about exclusion and inclusion in the syllabus," he says. "We will never produce a satisfactory syllabus upon which everyone can agree. I feel that the challenge there is to turn debate about the syllabus into a productive conver-
sation and not a form of conversation that is attritional."

Williams still uses a paper organizer to write assignments and plans. He admits that new technologies that provide vast amounts of research material at the click of a mouse have been a boon for academia, but he laments the pace at which these advancements force people to move.

The Core, he believes, is a chance to capture what is lost in these new ways of communicating. Reading these texts forces students to slow down for a moment, to stop bouncing from one Web page to another and focus on the thousands of words that have been preserved through the ages for reasons that can only be realized with time and dedication.

The syllabus also offers a communal experience, a chance to meet face to face during a time when so much is accomplished face to screen. Analyzing these texts is a subjective process, and the tone of a response, the sigh of exasperation when trudging through The Iliad, cannot be preserved in an e-mail.

"We’re so automated, we’re so fast-paced, it’s a very good thing to slow our students down a bit so they have to pick up the book, read page by page and reflect page by page," Williams says. "We’re moving in ways that are so privatized in life, that the communal atmosphere of the Core Curriculum, the fact that we talk to each other, we debate, we hone skills and articulation and we actually take time to reflect upon the book and upon life in this high-paced age, that’s really important."

Two hours of Augustine were winding down. Even the students who had been dodging Williams’ glance had been forced to participate. While some did not connect with the text, they had at least realized its relevance in modern times.

Laptops remained opened, and some students had wandered away from lecture notes to Facebook pages. Suddenly, attention was again focused on the front of the classroom as Williams made his final point.

"Augustine envelops the Bible," he said. "He is in love, lost in something."

Williams offered his own example of watching passion uninhibited — a Picasso at the Metropolitan Museum of Art: "Do you see a picture, or do you get a sense that this is a man lost in his art, that this is him?"

It was as if the coffee had just kicked in. Hands shot up, everyone vying for a chance to share the witnessing of true love. Peppered with the "likes" and "ums" of nascent minds developing the confidence to explain their own thoughts was the eloquence of inspiration.

"It blew my mind," one shy student said of watching the Philadelphia Orchestra. "I saw emotion in every move they made. The true emotion of music came out."

Class came to an end, and it seemed a shame to let these students go at such a crescendo, but they’d be back in a couple days. Meanwhile, Williams sent them away with some parting advice: "Do something you get lost in," he said. "If you could find something to get lost in in your life, you will be incredibly lucky people."

Ethan Rouen ’04 is Columbia College Today’s associate editor.
Watching the Watchdogs

Journalists may be society’s watchdogs, but public editor Clark Hoyt ’64 is the man who watches over the watchdogs at The New York Times

By David McKay Wilson

Clark Hoyt ’64, who won a Pulitzer Prize in the 1970s and was for many years Washington bureau chief for the Knight Ridder chain, now finds himself on the front lines of journalism ethics, assessing the work of writers, editors and photographers at The New York Times.

As the Times’ public editor, Hoyt fields complaints from Times readers, investigates those inquiries and then writes a Sunday column in The Week in Review section that illuminates issues that touch many corners of journalism ethics. One recent subject was the use of anonymous sources in stories, another the conflict of interest that arises when freelance writers accept gifts from sources, another the paper’s response to rumors about a forthcoming Times investigation that had surfaced in other media and angered public officials.

“It’s a strange job,” says Hoyt, 67, one day in January during an interview in his office at the Times headquarters in midtown Manhattan. “You are called upon to pass judgment in a very public way. It’s not an easy job. But I find it fascinating. I’m allowed to think about issues I’ve dealt with for my entire career. And I hope it has been useful to the Times and the Times’ readers.”

Hoyt was hired in 2007 as the paper’s third public editor, a position known as ombudsman at many other dailies around the world. The position was established in 2003 after Times reporter Jayson Blair was caught fabricating quotes in several stories. An independent contractor, Hoyt works outside the normal reporting and editing structure at the Times.

Hoyt shares his stories before they are printed with those he has interviewed, to make sure his columns accurately reflect his
subjects’ positions. But top editors who aren’t in the column see it first when it appears on Sunday.

Hoyt has served in the position longer than his predecessors; he completed his two-year contract in 2009, and agreed to a third year that ends in June. Times executives have yet to announce a successor, or even whether they will keep the job in existence. Since 2008, 13 U.S. dailies have dropped that position, notes Jeffrey Dwarkin, executive director of the Organization of News Ombudsmen.

“I think Clark has set the standard,” says Dwarkin, who was ombudsman at National Public Radio from 2000–06. “He is fearless. He has taken on big issues, such as bias and fairness in coverage of the presidential campaign and the use of visuals from Haiti. He has cast a very clear eye on how they have done it—at times doing a great job, and at times, less than perfect. Through Clark, the Times has taken a hard look at itself to make sure its journalism is always at the highest level.”

On that visit in January, Hoyt was addressing reader concerns over provocative front-page pictures published from Haiti. Photographers had captured the deadly January 12 earthquake with powerful images, including a picture by Damon Winter ’97 of a dead man, covered in gray dust, who lay stiffly on a makeshift stretcher.

Some readers complained that the images were exploitative and disrespected the dead, and questioned whether the Times would publish photos of Americans who had died in a natural disaster. Others lauded the Times photographers for their courageous portrayal of one of the Western Hemisphere’s most destructive natural disasters.

Hoyt’s research was arrayed on his desk—full-color reproductions of front pages from the Times’ coverage of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the tsunami that struck Indonesia with such devastation in 2004. Both included pictures of dead victims. Hoyt had his own news judgment as well, developed from more than four decades in the daily newspaper business. It boiled down to six words: “You get it, you show it.”

To reach his conclusion, however, Hoyt had to report on the story. He interviewed photo editors about why they chose those images. He e-mailed Winter, who was still in Haiti. Winter told Hoyt how people had begged him to take pictures of their departed family members, so the world would truly understand their country’s plight. He interviewed Times Editor Bill Keller, who said that Winter’s picture of the solitary man, dead on the stretcher, helped humanize the tragedy. The next day, Hoyt wrote a dispassionate column, saying that the photos of disaster victims were in keeping with Times practice in the previous natural disasters of epic proportions.

“Where do you draw the line?” says Hoyt, who commutes to New York weekly from northern Virginia, where he lives with his wife, Linda Kauss, deputy managing editor at USA Today. “You need to respect the dead, but you also need to tell the world what has happened.”

Veteran Times reporter Joe Berger ’67J says Hoyt’s solid research and reporting has provided a strong foundation for his findings in various investigations.

“I haven’t agreed with him every time, but for the most part, the columns are good,” says Berger. “He has taken on some tough issues, articulated his reasoning clearly and backed it up with evidence.”

Taking on the public editor’s post has brought Hoyt back into the world of reporting, more than 30 years after he left writing about the Washington political scene for Knight Ridder to become one of the chain’s editors.

Some columns address issues of questionable reporting and editing, such as a story that appraised the career of CBS newsman Walter Cronkite following his death. That piece had seven errors that were subsequently corrected in a note to readers.

“It was horrifying,” recalls Hoyt. “Five editors had eyes on it. The appraisal was written before Cronkite’s death, and everyone thought someone else had edited it.”

Hoyt hopes that his columns provide a wake-up call for Times journalists who may have taken a short cut or failed to live up to the newspaper’s standards for fairness and accuracy.

“I want to talk about how something happened so we could learn from it, instead of wagging a finger and taking a holier-than-thou approach,” he says. “You also have to make sure you talk about the work, not the person. The New York Times is a great newspaper and it produces great journalism every day, under very trying circumstances. In certain cases, it doesn’t live up to those standards.”

On particularly thorny issues, Hoyt will consult with Kelly McBride, ethics group leader at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, Fla., who says those conversations can go on for an hour or two. For example, McBride recalls speaking to Hoyt at length about the question of whether it was proper for reporters to contact underage sources through the social-media site Facebook.

During the 2008 election, a reporter working on a profile of presidential candidate John McCain’s wife, Cindy, had reached out to high school students at private schools that McCain’s daughter, Bridget, had attended, asking for leads to adults who knew Mrs. McCain.

Hoyt suggested that reporters find other ways to find such information, urging them to be wary of contacting minors without knowledge of their parents. In that same column, however, he approved of the use of information from a 12-year-old concerning an assault by police. Hoyt argued that while the boy’s father had not given permission for the interview, he did not object after learning that a reporter had spoken to his son. The reporter had also confirmed what the boy had told law enforcement investigators.

“What I admire most about Clark is that he takes issues that aren’t black-and-white, and he explores them with a fair amount of nuance,” says McBride. “He treats the individuals involved with an incredible amount of dignity and respect, without being patronizing.”

Daniel Okrent, the Times’ first public editor, says Hoyt has benefitted from the fact that the Times’ staff has grown to expect the public criticism, after he and Byron “Barney” Calame, a former Wall Street Journal editor, had the job. Hoyt also came to the job with less to prove, Okrent adds.

“I think I had too much fun, Barney didn’t have enough fun, and Clark has it just about right,” says Okrent. “I showed off more, and I came in with a chip on my shoulder, so the reporters were gunning for me. Clark has a well-nuanced approach. He seems temperamentally suited for it.”

Calame agrees. “Clark knows how to deal with issues in a less obstreperous fashion than I did,” he says. “That doesn’t mean

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to be supported and infused with facts."

At Columbia, Hoyt was an English major, studying with professors such as Lionel Trilling ’25 and Jeffrey Hart. He considered entering the foreign service, having developed an interest in Latin American affairs, in part from his father’s stay at the Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Hoyt worked exactly one day on Spectator — he was assigned to read page proofs at the shop that printed the paper, which was a considerable subway ride downtown. It wasn’t for him.

“I just wasn’t motivated,” Hoyt says.

After graduating from Columbia, he landed a job in the office of Sen. George Smathers of Florida, writing speeches and researching policy issues. By 1966, however, Hoyt plunged into reporting, taking an entry-level job at The Ledger in Lakeland, Fla. His first assignment was covering a turkey shoot sponsored by the local Ku Klux Klan.

By 1968, Hoyt was in Detroit, reporting for the Detroit Free Press, one of the Knight chain’s top papers. Two years later, he’d moved to the Miami Herald as Washington correspondent, covering national politics at a time when journalists had extraordinary access to political candidates. When Henry “Scoop” Jackson was running for president in 1972, Hoyt was one of only two reporters traveling with Jackson in an old DC 3 prop plane, which Hoyt recalls had an engine with a tendency to leak oil.

“It’s different today,” says Hoyt. “Now it’s so heavily managed and scripted. There’s so little spontaneity, so little chance to lift the curtain and see the candidates.”

The early 1970s was the heyday of Washington journalism. Hoyt was in the trenches during the Watergate era and reported from federal district court, sitting through the famous 18-minute gap in the recording President Nixon made in his White House office. He also was in Washington, D.C., Superior Court when Watergate burglar James McCord was arraigned and told the judge that he worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. Hoyt was in the back of courtroom and didn’t hear the revelation. Washington Post reporter Bob Woodward had a better seat.

“The acoustics were terrible; Woodward heard it and I didn’t,” says Hoyt. “We walked back from the hearing, chatting about the hearing, and Bob never mentioned to me what he had heard.”

In 1972, Hoyt and his Knight Newspapers colleague Robert Boyd received a tip about Democratic vice presidential candidate Thomas Eagleton, regarding his history of treatment for mental illness, including electroshock therapy. They investigated, and it turned out to be true. But before publishing what they’d discovered, they had to confront Eagleton and his running mate, George McGovern, with what they had found.

Shortly thereafter, Eagleton held a press conference, disclosed his medical history and dropped out of the race. Hoyt and Boyd then wrote the story, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1973.

“We went to them with what we had, asking for comment,” says Hoyt. “They chose to announce it before we had published it.”

Hoyt went on to numerous posts within the chain, which became Knight Ridder in a 1974 merger. He was news editor for the Washington bureau, business editor in Detroit and managing editor of the Eagle-Beacon in Wichita, Kan. He returned to Washington in 1985, and was the chain’s bureau chief from 1987–93, when he moved to Knight Ridder’s corporate offices as v.p. for news.

Six years later, Hoyt was back in the nation’s capital as Washington editor with responsibility for the Knight Ridder Washington bureau and editorial operations of Knight Ridder Tribune News Services. He held that post until 2006, when Knight Ridder was purchased by The McClatchey Co. He was on a one-year consulting assignment with McClatchey when he received a call, asking if he was interested in the Times assignment.

Hoyt was about to spend a semester as the James K. Batten visiting professor of public policy at Davidson College but instead decided to take on the challenge at the Times. So for the past three years, he has spent three days at week in New York and worked two days from his home office in Virginia. That will end in June, but Hoyt looks forward to staying involved in the field, either through writing or teaching.

No matter which direction he takes, Hoyt will remain dedicated to a profession that he believes will continue to play a crucial role in how people view the world — either through print or digital media. He’ll do so by relying on what he considers the bedrock principles of good journalism.

“Everything needs to be supported and infused with facts,” he says. “You need fairness. A newspaper needs to tell the public whatever it needs to know, in stories that are told with honesty and truthfulness.”

Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor and the chair of Columbia’s Committee on Global Thought, received the 2001 Nobel Prize in economics. He has been chair of the Council on Economic Advisers and chief economist at the World Bank. Known to his peers as “an insanely great economist” (Paul Krugman), Stiglitz has made his influence known throughout his broad discipline. His work is cited by more economists than anyone else’s in the world, according to data compiled by the University of Connecticut.

In this excerpt from his latest book, Freefall: America, Free Markets, and the Sinking of the World Economy, Stiglitz argues for a concept that is currently gaining ground: the idea that GDP (gross domestic product), for so long the ne plus ultra of economic measurement, may in fact be a poor way to assess our standard of living. GDP, according to the Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought, is “a measure of the total flow of goods and services produced by the economy … over a specified period.” Too often, Stiglitz contends, GDP doesn’t measure the elements — tangible or intangible — that actually determine our quality of life. A more rounded sampling of data can better portray what Nic Marks, fellow at the New Economics Foundation, calls “the delivery of good lives rather than the delivery of more goods” (Time, January 30, 2010). Here, Stiglitz looks at the way that we measure American well-being.

Rose Kernochan ’82 Barnard
What You Measure Is What You Value, and Vice Versa

In a performance-oriented society such as ours, we strive to do well — but what we do is affected by what we measure. If students are tested on reading, teachers will teach reading — but will spend less time developing broader cognitive skills. So too, politicians, policymakers, and economists all strive to understand what causes better performance as measured by GDP. But if GDP is a bad measure of societal well-being, then we are striving to achieve the wrong objective. Indeed, what we do may be counterproductive in terms of our true objectives.

Measuring GDP in the United States didn’t really give a good picture of what was going on before the bubble burst. America thought it was doing better than it was, and so did others. Bubble prices inflated the value of investments in real estate and inflated profits. Many strived to imitate America. Economists did sophisticated studies relating success to different policies — but because their measure of success was flawed, the inferences they drew from the studies were often flawed.

The crisis shows how badly distorted market prices can be — with the result that our measure of performance is itself badly distorted. Even without the crisis, the prices of all goods are distorted because we have treated our atmosphere (and, too often, clean water) as if it were free, when in fact it is scarce. The extent of price distortion for any particular good depends on the amount of “carbon” that is contained in its production (including in the production of all the components that go into its production).

Some of the debates that we have concerning trade-offs between the environment and economic growth are off the mark: if we correctly measured output, there would be no trade-off. Correctly measured output will be higher with good environmental policies — and the environment will be better as well. We would realize that the seeming profits from the gas-guzzlers, like the Hummer (which, in any case, turned out to be ephemeral), are false: they are at the expense of the well-being of the future.

Our economic growth has been based too on borrowing from the future: we have been living beyond our means. So too, some of the growth has been based on the depletion of natural resources and the degradation of the environment — a kind of borrowing from the future, more invidious because the debts we owe are not so obvious. We are leaving future generations poorer as a result, but our GDP indicator doesn’t reflect this.

There are other problems with our measure of well-being. GDP per capita (per person) measures what we spend on health care, not the output — the status of our health reflected, for instance, in life expectancy. The result is that as our health care system gets more inefficient, GDP may appear to increase, even though health outcomes become worse. America’s GDP per capita appears higher than that of France and the United Kingdom partly because our health care system is less efficient. We spend far more to get far worse health outcomes.

As a final example (there are many more) of the misleading nature of our standard measures, average GDP per capita can be going up even when most individuals in our society not only feel that they are worse off, but actually are worse off. This happens when societies become more unequal (which has been happening in most countries around the world). A larger pie doesn’t mean that everyone — or even most people — gets a larger slice. As I noted in chapter 1, in the United States, by 2008, the median household income was some 4 percent lower than it was in 2000, adjusted for inflation, even though GDP per capita (a measure of what was happening on average) had increased by 10 percent.

The objective of societal production is an increase in the well-being of the members of society, however that is defined. Our standard measure is not a good one. There are alternatives. No single measure can capture the complexity of what is going on in a modern society, but the GDP measure fails in critical ways. We need measures that focus on how the typical individual is doing (measures of median income do a lot better than measures of average income), on sustainability (measures that take account, for instance, of resource depletion and the worsening of the environment, as well as the increase of indebtedness), and on health and education. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has devised a more comprehensive measure that includes education and health, as well as income. In these metrics, the Scandinavian countries do far better than the United States, which ranks thirteenth.

But even when economic measures are broadened to include health and education, they leave out much that affects our sense of well-being. Robert Putnam has emphasized the importance of our connectedness with others. In America, that sense of connectedness is weakening, and the way we have organized our economy may contribute.

The Himalayan Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan has attempted to carve out a different approach. It is trying to create a measure of GNH — gross national happiness. Happiness is only partly related to material goods. Some aspects, like spiritual values, can’t and probably shouldn’t be quantified. But there are others that can be (like social connectedness). Even without quantification, though, focusing on these values highlights some ways that we should be thinking about redirecting our economy and our society.

Security and Rights

One important dimension of societal well-being is security. Most Americans’ standards of living, their sense of well-being, have declined more than the national income statistics (“median household income”) might suggest, partly because of the increase in insecurity. They feel less secure about their job, knowing that if they lose their job they will also lose their health insurance. With soaring tuition costs, they feel less secure that they will be able to provide their children with an education that will enable them to fulfill their aspirations. With retirement accounts diminished, they feel less secure that they will spend their old age in comfort. Today, a large fraction of Americans are also worried about whether they will be able to keep their home. The cushion of home equity, the difference between the value of the home and the mortgage, has disappeared. Some 15 million homes, representing about one-third of all mortgages nationwide, carry mortgages that exceed the value of the property. In this recession, 2.4 million people have lost their health insurance because they lost their job. For these Americans, life is on a precipice.

Greater security can even have an indirect effect of promoting
growth: it allows individuals to undertake greater risk, knowing that if things don’t work out as hoped, there is some level of social protection. Programs that assist people in moving from one job to another help ensure that one of our most important resources — our human talent — is better used. These kinds of social protection also have a political dimension: if workers feel more secure, there will be fewer demands for protectionism. Social protection without protectionism can thus contribute to a more dynamic society. And a more dynamic economy and society — with the appropriate degree of social protection — can provide greater satisfaction for both workers and consumers.

Of course, there can be excessive job protection — with no discipline for bad performance, there can be too little incentive for good performance. But again, ironically, we have worried more about these moral hazard/incentive effects among individuals than among corporations, and this has vastly distorted responses to the current crisis. It hampered the willingness of the Bush administration to respond to the millions of Americans losing their homes or jobs. The administration didn’t want to seem to be “rewarding” those who had engaged in irresponsible borrowing. It didn’t want to increase unemployment insurance because that would diminish incentives to look for a job. It should have worried less about these problems and more about the perverse incentives of the newly established corporate safety net.

Well-off American corporations also talk about the importance of security. They emphasize the importance of security of property rights, and how without such security, they won’t undertake investment. They — like ordinary Americans — are “risk averse.” Public policy, especially among the Right, has paid a great deal of attention to these concerns about security of property. But ironically, many have argued that individual security should be reduced, cutting back Social Security and job security for ordinary citizens. It is a curious contradiction, and it is paralleled by recent discussions of human rights.

For decades after the beginning of the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union were engaged in a battle over human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights listed both basic economic and political rights. The United States only wanted to talk about political rights, the Soviet Union about economic rights. Many of those in the Third World, while noting the importance of political rights, gave greater weight to economic rights: What good does the right to vote mean to a person starving to death? They questioned whether someone without any education could meaningfully exercise the right to vote when there are complex issues in dispute.

Finally, under the Bush administration, the United States began to recognize the importance of economic rights — but the recognition was lopsided: it recognized the right of capital to move freely in and out of countries, capital market liberalization. Intellectual property rights and property rights more generally are other economic rights that have been emphasized. But why should these economic rights — rights of corporations — have precedence over the more basic economic rights of individuals, such as the rights of access to health care or to housing or to education? Or the right to a certain minimal level of security?

These are basic issues that all societies have to face. A full discussion of the issues would take us beyond the scope of this short book. What should be clear, however, is that these matters of rights are not God-given. They are social constructs. We can think of them as part of the social contract that governs how we live together as a community.
Average GDP per capita can be going up even when most individuals in our society not only feel that they are worse off, but actually are worse off. ... A larger pie doesn’t mean that everyone—or even most people—gets a larger slice.
Viva Journalism!: The Triumph of Print in the Media Revolution by John C. Merrill and Ralph L. Lowenstein ‘51. The authors offer insight into the future of journalistic writing and journalism education (AuthorHouse, $14.99).

Blessings for You from Head to Toe by Jack H. Bloom ’54. Bloom, a rabbi and clinical psychologist, presents a collection of original, freeform poems (Two Harbors Press, $13.95).

Conquering Fear: Living Boldly in an Uncertain World by Harold S. Kushner ’55. Kushner counsels by using art as both a subject of study and a teaching tool (Teachers College Press, $23.95).

Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain, and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness by Alan Noé ’86. Noé describes consciousness as an active, interactive process rather than a passive experience confined to the brain (Hill and Wang, $15).

Once a Spy: A Novel by Keith Thomson ’87. Thomson’s satirical thriller follows a retired appliance salesman and his ne’er-do-well son as they attempt to evade CIA assassins (Doubleday, $25.95).

Econoclasts: The Rebels Who Sparked the Supply-Side Revolution and Restored American Prosperity by Brian Domitrovic ’89. The author outlines the history and philosophy of supply-side economics, a macroeconomic theory that favors low taxes and limited regulation as a means of encouraging production and competition (Intercollegiate Studies Institute, $27.95).

Once a Spy: A Professional Card Counter’s Chronicle of the Blackjack Wars by Josh Axelrad ’96. Axelrad gives readers a nonfiction account of his four-year stint as a professional card counter (The Penguin Press, $25.95).


Cute Yummy Time: 70 Recipes for the Cutest Food You’ll Ever Eat by Lourdes de Carrera. Written under a pseudonym by Carmen Yuen ’05, this illustrated cookbook provides step-by-step instructions for creating dishes that are aesthetically appealing as well as delicious (Perigee, $16.95).

Franklin Delano Roosevelt by Alan Brinkley, the Allan Nevins Professor of American History and Provost Emeritus. Brinkley’s biography calls attention to Roosevelt’s limitations as well as his successes (Oxford University Press, $12.95).

Words in Motion: Toward a Global Lexicon edited by Carol Gluck, the George Sasom Professor of History and professor of East Asian languages and cultures, and Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing. Gluck and Tsing explore the relationship between globalization and language by tracing the
When Technology and Design Merge on the Roof

Aerial views of cities across the nation are revealing something rather unconventional — small patches of green on an otherwise lackluster urban canvas.

It's not altogether uncommon to look up at towering buildings, from the vantage of a bustling sidewalk, and observe stalks of bamboo swaying in a rooftop breeze or crabapple trees showering down pink blossoms. In order to navigate these rooftops gardens, landscape architect Steven L. Cantor '73 is aiming to assist students, professionals and the general public with his book, *Green Roofs in Landscape Design* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2008).

Cantor works at Stantec Consulting in New York, but his green thumb propensity took root in Atlanta, where he grew up and where gardening was considered a family affair, with the most handsome gardens becoming a source of neighborhood pride. He came to Columbia to study music and recounts being influenced by composers such as Charles Dodge '66 GSAS, '70 Arch. and Charles Wuorinen '61, '63 GSAS. Cantor enrolled in an urban biology course at Barnard taught by James Schmidt, who led his students on field trips to Morningside Park and to New Jersey's Pine Barrens and Ullswell Park. Inspired by a hands-on approach to learning, Cantor studied under landscape architect Arthur E. Bye Jr., who taught at the Architecture School. Cantor earned an M.L.A. in landscape architecture from Amherst in 1976, but his passion for music remained, and he earned an M.A. in piano accompaniment from the University of Colorado in 1986.

The idea for *Green Roofs* came about somewhat serendipitously. In 2003, Cantor was teaching a community education course, "Roof Gardens and Brownstone Gardens," jointly sponsored by Cooper Union and The New York Botanical Garden, when after class, a student approached him and inquired about his knowledge of green roofs, which at the time he confessed was limited. She handed him a brochure for an annual conference in Chicago, a city that boasts the most green roofs in the country, and the range of topics covered fascinated him. In particular, Cantor was interested in the rapidly evolving vocabulary pertaining to green roofs.

After securing the interest of his publisher, Cantor's first step was to obtain a translated version of the German Forschungsgesellschaft Landschaftsentwicklung Landschafsbau guidelines, which highlight terminology for green roof installation and upkeep. Green roofs have a long history in Europe, dating back to the second half of the 19th century (Duke University Press, $24.95).

Cantor states that "a green roof is simply a 'vegetated roof' designated for improving the environment," whereas green roof technology is "a practical application of a systematic approach." But he also believes there is plenty of room to include aesthetics, claiming that "the endeavor of creating a green roof puts you on the cusp of technical knowledge and art."

With recent and perhaps a revived interest in the environmental and financial benefits of green roofs, Cantor has seen the initial question of whether to install a green roof shift to one of what kind of green roof to install. He does not spend time belaboring the benefits of green roofs. "The book wasn't designed to preach to the converted," he says, "but to instead provide a range of examples."

The green roofs he features in the "Case Studies" chapter are meant to show instances of innovation. Much of the time, Cantor notes, "innovation requires a certain level of risk," whether it's arranging a variety of different colored sedum plants in a quilt-like pattern or adopting a unique method of irrigation using recycled water for raised plant beds.

From the onset, Cantor dispels any misconceptions that green roof installation is as simple as rolling out a mat of grass. There are many choices to consider, such as methods of installation, growing medium, irrigation and, as he points out, "nothing in a manmade landscape is maintenance-free." Nonetheless, there is a sense that the challenges of creating and maintaining a green roof are in part the reward. There are no guarantees, with ever-changing variables such as plants, birds and weather. And it's observing these changes — watching the grass grow, as they say — that makes it all worthwhile.

As a green roof philosophy emerges, the very notion of "green" is being called into question. Cantor points out the mutability of the term "green roof," stating, "They aren't green year-round. In fact, in Portland, Ore., they've adopted the term 'eco-roof' instead, and in London, Dusty Gedge (a green roof consultant and urban ecologist) is championing the term 'living roof' to highlight the importance of preserving habitats for endangered birds such as the black redstart."

*Green Roofs* combines the navigability of a textbook with the artfulness of a coffee table book. The oversize format is resplendent with nearly 300 color photos, some taken by Cantor, an experienced photographer. The elegant look of *Green Roofs* was crucial to the publisher because so much of green roof design is about creating a visual experience. The book provides a launching point for dialogues about the future of green roof sustainability and design to occur, where in essence, the sky's the limit.

Julie Poole '11 GS

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The Tyranny of Opinion: Honor in the Construction of the Mexican Public Sphere by Pablo Piccato, associate professor of history and director of the Institute of Latin American Studies. Piccato analyzes Mexican attitudes toward honor during the second half of the 19th century (Duke University Press, $24.95).

Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet by Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, professor of health policy and management and director of the Earth Institute. Sachs insists that population stabilization, environmental consciousness and global economic cooperation will be essential in creating a more sustainable and more prosperous world (Penguin, $17).

Whistling Vivaldi: And Other Clues to How Stereotypes Affect Us by Claude M. Steele, provost of the University and professor of psychology. Steele examines the dangers of stereotype threat, a psychological term used to describe the anxiety felt by members of stereotyped groups when they fear that they will be judged according to a stereotype (W. W. Norton & Co., $29.95).
Richard "Dick" Siiberstein, retired radio engineer, Boulder, Colo., on November 30, 2009. Siiberstein was born in New York City on September 18, 1906. He first became fascinated with radio when at 9 he saw equipment on a coastal steamer. Siiberstein earned two degrees in 1930 from the Engineering School, including a Ph.D. in electrical engineering. When the Great Depression began, he returned to New York and took various jobs in the radio industry, eventually going into business manufacturing radio coils and then marine radio telephones. With the United States about to enter World War II, he joined the Radio Section of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) in Washington, D.C., and provided HF radio propagation forecasts and predictions. At night, Siiberstein taught courses in electromagnetic theory and communications laboratory at The George Washington University. After World War II, he performed and administered HF propagation experiments for NBS in Washington, D.C., and later Boulder, Colo. During the last six years of his career, Siiberstein did similar work for the U.S. Army Radio Propagation Agency at Ft. Monmouth, N.J. At the end of 1966, he retired and returned to Boulder.

1932

Gene F. Kuster, attorney and CPA, Slingerlands, N.Y., on September 20, 2008. Born on February 26, 1910, in New York City, Kuster grew up in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. He earned a degree in 1933 from the Business School and a law degree from Fordham. Kuster was admitted to the New York bar and also was a CPA in New York. For 35 years, he worked for Muir & Co., retiring in 1975. Kuster made time in volunteer work throughout his life. He sang in the choirs of each church he attended, as well as with the Columbia Glee Club. He also played French horn in the Columbia band. During retirement, Kuster and his wife, Ruth, spent many trips on their own to Europe, including the Mediterranean and Scandinavia. Kuster also loved playing golf. He is survived by his wife, son, Gordon, and daughter-in-law, Sandi; daughter Carole and son-in-law, James Wortley; daughter Joan and son-in-law, Mark Weintraub; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia University Athletics, PO Box 1523, New York, NY 10277-1937.

1937

George E. Safa, teacher and school administrator, Green Valley, Ariz., on September 8, 2009. Raised in rural western Pennsylvania, Safa played football at Columbia and eventually earned a Ph.D. at Teachers College. Safa and his wife, Ruth (nee Lulken), resided in New Jersey, where he had a long career in high school education and administration. Retiring in the early 1970s, the couple traveled a bit and moved to Arizona, settling in Green Valley for the last 35 years. They were active in the Southern Arizona AARP "35 Alive" driving program, and Safa enjoyed developing the college scholarship program for the local Elks. In recent years, he was still striving to perfect his golf game. Safa was preceded by his wife in 2008 and is survived by his son, Robert, and his wife, Joanie; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to any humanitarian purpose.

1938

Richard L. Hammel, accountant, Laurel, N.Y., on August 9, 2009. Hammel was born in Woodhaven, Queens, on April 27, 1917. His family moved to St. Louis when he was 5 and returned east in 1928. His parents purchased property in Laurel in November 1930 and built a summer cottage. They lived there year-round beginning in 1938. After graduating from Columbia, Hammel served in the Army during World War II. He later worked in accounting for a ladies' shoe factory in Norwalk, Conn., for Long Island Ice and Fuel Corp. in Riverhead and for the Ford auto dealership in Quogue. Hammel was a trustee of Laurel Cemetery for three years, trustee and president of the Laurel school board for 10 years and a member of the Mattituck Rod and Gun Club for many years. His wife, Ann, is survived by his sister, Bernice Duke; and cousins, Roy W. Fuchs and Edward Hammel.

1939

Clark I. Fellers, facilities director, Vero Beach, Fla., on October 27, 2009. Fellers was born on October 15, 1917, in Warren, Pa. He earned a B.S. and a Ph.D., both in mechanical engineering, in 1940 and 1941, respectively, from the Engineering School, and an M.B.A. from the University of Rochester. Fellers was an executive at Eastman Kodak of Rochester, N.Y., for his entire business career. He is survived by a son, Gary; daughter, Gail Fellers Millman; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Fellers was preceded by his wife, Sylvia.

1940

Gordon T. Wallis, retired executive, Chicago, on October 23, 2008. Wallis was born in Salt Lake City on August 15, 1919. While at Columbia, he was captain of the fencing team and president of his fraternity. Wallis joined the Irving Trust Co. in 1940, where he rose to become chairman of the board and CEO in 1970. He held the latter position until his retirement in 1983. During that time, Wallis was a member of the boards of Sterling Drug Inc., the local Elks, the Chicago Board of Trade, FW Woolworth and GTE. In 1975, he chaired the steering committee of major New York banks, which played a significant role in the solution to New York City's financial problems during that period. Wallis married Joan Merrill in 1946; she predeceased him in 2006. He is survived by his daughters, Judith W. Fenton, and her husband, Cliff, and Deborah Reit; and six grandchildren.

1942

Theodore S. Furman, retired aerospace executive, Saratoga, Calif., on October 29, 2009. Furman was born on July 23, 1922, in New York City and lived in East Orange, N.J., throughout his school years. He earned a degree in 1947 from the Law School after serving in the Army for four years during World War II. Furman was a Master Gunner, responsible for broadcasting early warning signals to U.S. Army troops in France, Germany and Luxembourg. After law school, he relocated to San Diego, where he met and married his wife, Gerry. They moved to the Bay Area in 1955, where Furman spent 40 years in aerospace, working for Lockheed, Ford Aerospace and Loral. He retired at 82. Furman was an avid sports enthusiast, attending his first baseball game at Yankee Stadium on his 10th birthday and watching Babe Ruth play, and was a Yankees fan to the end. He coached several Little League and Senior League teams in Sunnyvale and Saratoga. Furman served on the Zoning Board and Planning Commission in Sunnyvale. He is survived by his wife of 57 years; and daughters, Teri Howes, and Sue.

Allan L. Goulding Jr., physician, Billsburg, Mont., on September 8, 2009. Goulding was born in Cambridge, Ohio, on November 29, 1920. A graduate of Weill Cornell Medical College, his residency training was done in New York City. Goulding married Natalie C. Sundberg in 1944, and the family moved to Billsburg, Mont., following his residency training so he could join The Billings Clinic. Goulding established the first isotope laboratory in Montana in the Deaconess Hospital prior to being recalled by the Navy for two years. His specialty was internal medicine and his main interest at the time of retirement was geriatrics. Goulding was on the board of The Billings Symphony, was an elder of The Presbyterian Church, and served on the Presbyterian Church Foundation Board. Other interests were birding, fishing, reading, mu-
Arnold Beichman ’34, Political Analyst and Journalist

Arnold Beichman ’34, ’67 GSAS, ’73 GSAS, a conservative political analyst, journalist, author and professor, died on February 17, 2010, in Pasadena, Calif. He was 96.

Beichman was born on May 17, 1913, to Ukrainian Jewish immigrant parents. A child of the Lower East Side, he “read his way through the New York public library” in high school, according to a May 2003 profile in The Weekly Standard. When he came to the College, he wrote for Spectator and became its editor in 1934.

Beichman spent the first half of his life in journalism, working for The New York Times and Newsday, eventually landing an editorship at PM. He was fired in 1946 “in a struggle over the paper’s turn toward the radical left,” according to an obituary in the Times.

An unwavering foe of communism, Beichman went on to freelance for the American Federation of Labor for 15 years, according to a January 2004 CFT profile. “I wanted to undertake this fight against communism, which I thought was the most serious problem we had,” Beichman said. “So I went to work for trade unions, which I regarded — particularly the AFL — as the strongest fighters against it.”

Arnold Beichman, with a B.A. in business administration, joined the Naval Reserve and after graduating from the University of Massachusetts and Georgetown. He authored five books, most famously Nine Lies About America, tackling what he saw as liberal myths demeaning American history.

Beichman was known for a buoyant, infectious energy. “He was younger,” John Podhoretz wrote in a recent tribute in Commentary. “Younger than I at 23 when he was 72 … younger than I at 47 when I last saw him in his 97th year.” When being profiled for CDT, Beichman was “asked if he was tired an hour into a recent phone conversation,” and at 90, “Beichman roared, ‘Tired? I’ve just begun to fight!’ ”

“He mixed a lot of virtues that seldom go together in the same person,” Christopher Caldwell wrote of him in a tribute in the Standard, “authority and curiosity, ambition and generosity, brilliance and humility. He was a battler who had the happiest of happy marriages, a crawfer-of-lines-in-the-sand with a gift for friendship.”

Beichman is survived by his wife, the former Carroll Aikins; sons, John and Charles; daughter, Janine ’69 GSAS, ’74 GSAS; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Jesse Thiessen ’11 Arts

Half a century ago, a January 2004 profile. “I wanted to undertake this fight against communism, which I thought was the most serious problem we had,” Beichman said. “So I went to work for trade unions, which I regarded — particularly the AFL — as the strongest fighters against it.”

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Beichman is survived by his wife, the former Carroll Aikins; sons, John and Charles; daughter, Janine ’69 GSAS, ’74 GSAS; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Jesse Thiessen ’11 Arts
Peter F. Brescia, retired diplomat, Alexandria, Va., on January 17, 2010. Brescia was born in Solofra, Italy, on April 14, 1923, and educated in New York City public schools. He served in the Navy from 1943–46, participating in the D-Day invasion at Omaha Beach as Radioman Second Class aboard the USS PC-568 as part of the 12th Fleet. Brescia was awarded the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one star and the WWII Victory Medal. He earned a degree in 1950 from SIPA, began his career as a diplomat with the State Department and in 1953 joined the United States Information Agency (USIA). A graduate of the National War College, Brescia received the USIA Meritorious Honor Award. Following his 1980 retirement, he traveled extensively with his wife of 62 years, Mary, and enjoyed swimming, tennis, squash and reading about history. Brescia is survived by his wife, sons, Peter and his former wife, Lorraine; Christopher and his wife, Dawn; daughter, Regina M. Holleb and her husband, David; nine grandchildren; five nieces and nephews; and brother, Roland, and his wife, Mary. Memorial contributions may be made to Barakat, 552 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139.

Paul J. Mishkin, attorney and professor, Berkeley, Calif., on June 26, 2009. Born in Trenton, N.J., to Polish immigrants, Mishkin earned a B.A. from the College and a J.D. in 1942 from the Business School. He was on President Gerald Ford’s short list of Supreme Court candidate appointments and served as special counsel alongside Archibald Cox and Jack Owens arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court for the Regents of the University of California in the 1978 Bakke case. Mishkin joined the UC Berkeley, Boalt, faculty in 1973 after teaching at the Penn Law School for 22 years. He was a visiting professor at Colorado, Duke, Michigan and Texas Law Schools, as well as at Haverford College. Mishkin was on the faculty of the Salzburg Seminar.

O R T H E R  D E A T H S  R E P O R T E D

Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.

1933 John R. Phelps, music teacher, Sun City Center, Fla., on March 4, 2010.
1937 Lloyd D. Flint, physician, Myrtle Beach, S.C., on February 2, 2010.
1940 Willard N. Failing, ophthalmologist, Utica, N.Y., on May 25, 2009. Failing earned a degree in 1943 from P&S.
1942 David P. Harrison, retired market analyst, Madison, Wis., on February 3, 2010. Harrison earned an M.A. in economics in 1949 from GSAS.
1944 John J. Donohue Jr., retired market research manager, Hamden, Conn., on February 4, 2010.
1946 Wayne J. Halieneck, retired insurance executive, Mansfield, Ohio, on February 10, 2010.
1947 Donald J. Goodell, international trademark attorney, Chappaqua, N.Y., on February 16, 2009.
1948 Alvin K. Link, retired executive, Los Angeles, on February 23, 2010. Link entered with the Class of 1942 but earned a degree in 1942 from the Business School.
1950 Brian M.chr, attorney, Chicago, on February 22, 2010. Levine earned an M.A. in English and comparative literature in 1954 from GSAS.
1951 James W. Cronenberg, engineer, Midland, Texas, on January 15, 1950. Cronenberg entered with the Class of 1942 and then became a member of the Class of 1942 at the Engineering School.
1955 George T. Laboda, director of media, Lake Worth, Fla., on February 26, 2010. Laboda entered with the Class of 1942 but earned a degree in 1942 from the Business School.
1969 Alvin K. Link, retired executive, Los Angeles, on February 23, 2010. Link entered with the Class of 1942 but earned a degree in 1942 from the Business School.
1972 George T. Laboda, director of media, Aurora, Colo., on February 14, 2010.
1974 James W. Cronenberg, engineer, Midland, Texas, on January 15, 1950. Cronenberg entered with the Class of 1942 and then became a member of the Class of 1942 at the Engineering School.
in American Studies and was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and at Wolfson College, Cambridge University. He also served on the U.S. permanent committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise. Miskin was predeceased by his wife of 28 years, Milli, and is survived by a son, Jonathan Westover.

**1948**

Kenneth J. Sabella, retired business executive, Bloomfield, Conn., on September 24, 2009. Born on June 6, 1926, in Bingen, N.Y., Sabella served in the Navy, stationed in the South Pacific, during WWII. After the war, he earned a B.A. from the College and a B.S. from Cornell. Sabella became a successful businessman, working as partner and CEO of Eastern Food Services. He enjoyed skiing, tennis, boating and especially golf. During his retirement, he served as a Eucharistic Minister at The Church of St. Timothy, served the elderly with the Meals on Wheels program and tutored inner-city youths. Sabella is survived by his wife of 62 years, Myra; sons, Michael and Daniel Mosher; 25 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

**1950**

Paul McCoy, businessman, Duncedin, Fla., on October 27, 2009. McCoy was born on January 28, 1928, in Ventnor City, N.J. He graduated from the College with honors and earned a degree in 1952 from the Business School. McCoy moved to Dunedin in 1971. He was a member and commodore of the Coast Guard Auxiliary; an FSU Gold Star and an avid football fan. He also enjoyed boating and fishing. McCoy was a businessman in Dunedin for 30 years and a pioneer in the agricultural field, developing carboxylate technology. He was predeceased by his wife, Sue, and is survived by his sons, Paul and John; daughter, Nancy Hamilton; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**1952**

Donald J. Engel, retired controller, Hopewell, N.J., on September 11, 2009. Born in Pelham, N.Y., Engel lived in New Brunswick, N.J., before moving to Hopewell 41 years ago. He was a controller for Suburban Transit in New Brunswick for 40 years, retiring in 1992. Engel was a member and past president of Brantford Electric Railway Association, operating as the Shoreline Trolley Museum, in East Haven, Conn., and a member of the Electric Railroaders Association of NYC. Engel is survived by many friends and associates in the transportation industry. Engel was predeceased by a sister, Janet Walker. Memorial contributions may be made to the New Brunswick Electric Railway Association, 17 River St., East Haven, CT 06512.

**1958**

William G. Covey, physician, Easton, Conn., on May 12, 2009. Covey was born in New York City and earned a degree in 1962 at P&S. He was a member of the Glee Club at Columbia and sang with the Blue Notes. Covey served as a captain in the Army during the Vietnam War as a physician and was in private practice as a hematologist in Stratford, Conn., for 36 years. He was the medical director at the Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield for the past four years. Covey was dedicated to his field and loved travel, opera, learning to speak Italian and spending time with his large family. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Covey; children, Anne, David and his wife, Robin, Aaron and his wife, Cynthia, Michael and his wife, Alec, and Laura; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Dr. John A. Shayner Scholarship Fund, c/o Centenary College, 400 Jefferson St., Hackettstown, NJ 07840 or the National Cancer Research Center.

**1959**

Alvin M. White, professor emeritus, Claremont, Calif., on June 2, 2009. Born in New York in 1925, White was a Navy radio technician aboard a ship during WWII. After the Battle of Okinawa, he was sent to Officers Training at Columbia. He then obtained a master’s from UCLA and a Ph.D. in mathematics from Stanford in 1962. White moved to Claremont and joined the faculty at Harvey Mudd College, where he taught for more than 35 years. He was an active participant in the life of the colleges and town, frequently mentoring students from Harvey Mudd and other colleges and serving several terms as president of the Claremont chapter of Sigma Xi and of the local chapter of the American Association of University Professors as well as one term as co-president of the Faculty Senate. White helped create the joint chaplaincy at the colleges. He spent the majority of his career exploring, discussing and writing about creative, innovative and humanistic approaches to teaching and learning. White is survived by his wife of 61 years, Marjorie; and four children, Susan Miller, and Michael and his wife, Aunea; brother, Wal-
Class Notes

25 40
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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George Leonard 67, 68 GSAS, 72 GSAS wrote in with a remembrance of his father, L. Charles "Charlie" Leonard 37, 39:

"People who were at Columbia with L. Charles ‘Charlie’ Leonard 37 may well remember him, particularly if they were athletes. He made Spectator by accomplishing the odd feat of earning four letters in one year, though there were only three seasons. Classmates would most likely remember him, however, as ‘Charlie the Boxer,’ the 145-lb, all-Columbia University boxing champion. As you remember, boxing was such a big sport in the ’30s, Columbia had its own boxing trunks, with Columbia logo, Charlie KO’ed the Business School’s champ for the title, ‘spilling him around the canvas,’ Spec reported.

‘Charlie’s grandson and my son, Andrew Charles Leonard ’13, wrote to me that he had seen Dean Michelle Moody-Adams to be sure he got to live in John Jay Hall, where his grandfather, father and uncle, Robert Andrew Leonard ’71, had lived. My middle name is Jay because my mother waited on the steps of John Jay so often for my father that she had been. You’ve heard of dorms named after a dorm, person named after a dorm."

Anyway, Dean Moody-Adams very kindly wrote Andrew back and said she was forwarding his letter to Housing. Andrew got into John Jay. He is third-generation Columbia and third-generation John Jay. There have now been Leonards in John Jay Hall for 76 years.

"After Columbia, Charlie graduated from Columbia Law in 1939, married Adele Shapiro — Mom remembered double dates with his classmates all her life — and went into politics in hopes of becoming a boxing judge and getting to go to the fights for free. Instead, in the 1950s, his combination of Columbia and boxing impressed the Jack English Democratic ‘machine’ on Long Island. Jack had once knocked out a committeeman at a Young Democrats meeting, Pop proudly said. Charlie and Jack were early Kennedy men, and when my new ‘Uncle’ Jack English became Bobby Kennedy’s presidential campaign manager, Charlie became one of Bobby’s lawyers. For a few hours after the California primary, they were all on their way to the West Wing — until the tragedy.

‘Charlie left the Party during the Jimmy Carter years, and with bipartisan support, became Regional Chief Administrative Law Judge for New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and at other times, New England, supervising up to 140 judges. Among Charlie’s crucial decisions, still cited, were one requiring a religious family to allow its dying child modern medical care (law students used to call him ‘Mr. Justice’) and to reclassify thousands of impoverished Hmong refugee soldiers who had fought on our side in Vietnam so that they received much-needed benefits accordingly. His decision probably ran 20 pages, but when he heard about the situation, Pop had only said, ‘They were on our side, right? Got to take care of them.’ Charlie Leonard’s decisions on all things were like his straight right cross.

‘If any of his old friends have memories of Pop, I would be grateful if you would e-mail me at GL@georgeraldLeonard.com.

“Hoping this finds Charlie’s old friends in good health.”

41
Robert Zucker
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Dr. Stan Gottliffe passed away in January. Stan and his wife, Ruth, had been cherishing regulars at our annual Arden House reunions, from 1994–2008, Stan was our class correspondent. He had practiced psychiatry in NYC, and he and Ruth moved to South Carolina after he retired. Our sincere condolences to his family.

Cynthia and Arthur Friedman were omitted from the list of those who attended the Society of Columbia Graduates Dinner.

Those of you who read the story of Marine captain Jim Stanley’s heroism in the 1940 Class Notes column in September/October will probably remember that Jim was an active member of our class, not of the Class of ’42 as noted.

Art Weinstock and Suzanne and Bob Deitmers represented the class at the Westchester alumni dinner in Rye, N.Y.

I had the pleasure of taking my family of 26 to Club Med in Cancun during Presidents Week. We also celebrated there the early decision admission of the oldest of my 10 great-grandchildren to some insignificant school called NYU.

A group of us still have our irregular luncheons in NYC. To join, please call Len Shaye at 212-737-7245.

42
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The great author Louis Auchincloss, a loyal Yale alumnus who died on January 26 at 92, called his last novel The Last Of The Old Guard. Our own great Class of 1942, "Old Guard," has many surviving active members, and I hear from them frequently. Recent communications have come from Robert Kaufman in Scarsdale, N.Y.; Dr. Gerald Klingon in New York City; Don Mankiewicz in Monrovia, Calif.; Dr. William Robbins in Grand Island, Fla.; Dr. Bernard Small in Manhasset, N.Y.; and Dr. Arthur "Wizzer" Wellington in Elmira, N.Y. I have also had notes from, and telephone conversations with, a few surviving spouses of our deceased Old Guard classmates, including Regina Albohm, widow of Arthur Albohm; Marlene Green, widow of Gerald Green; and Avna Mark, widow of my Livingston Hall roommate and lifelong best pal, Dr. Herbert Mark. I also have heard from the two sons of our late classmate Don Dickinson, who live in Las Vegas. Older son Phil is in the real estate business in Nevada and California, and younger son Kit is the golf pro at the Las Vegas Country Club. Phil and Kit are loyal to the memory of their late father’s happy days at Columbia before he was seriously wounded (he recovered) as an infantry officer in Europe in WWII. Don was one of my good friends at Columbia. I thank Phil and Kit for keeping in touch with me.

As I submit these notes on March 1, our men’s basketball team has finished its home schedule with a last-second 56-55 win over Penn and a 67-52 loss to Princeton. Columbia once again finished in the bottom half of the Ivy League, below Cornell, Harvard, Princeton and Yale, tying with Brown and Penn for fifth place at 5-9. In recent years, several classmates have asked me why Columbia has not been able to do better in the two major sports that attract the most interest and attention from alumni: football and men’s basketball.

We have had success in many other sports, including Ivy League Championships in women’s soccer, men’s and women’s fencing, men’s and women’s cross country, men’s tennis and women’s volleyball. Most of these sports are sponsored by the University, which is not true of the Ivy League’s hockey, lacrosse, and baseball. Our wrestling and swimming teams also have had respectable, if not championship, performances. Consensus opinion is supportive and complimentary to our football coach, Norries Wilson, and our men’s basketball coach, Mike Rhoades.

The great Van Jones, who are popular with and respected by their players.

A perennial issue is the difficulty our coaches face in recruiting talented student-athletes to come to Columbia. Financial aid packages are roughly similar throughout the Ivy League, though Harvard, Princeton and Yale, our three wealthiest schools, may be able to provide more in grants and direct financial aid than Columbia. Our facilities are certainly adequate, if not superior to, other Ivy schools. Our Kitchen Stadium/Artie Field is an attractive and comfortable site for watching football games. Our gymnastics is not great, but Ivy League gyms elsewhere also are not elaborate or much larger than ours. The separation of our main campus from Wien Stadium is often cited as a significant negative factor in recruiting, with the burden of added transportation time for team meetings and pre-game practices.

Unfortunately, the realities of New York City geography, and a necessary large financial investment, make a solution to this dilemma a distant hope, with no resolution on the immediate horizon.

I welcome further comments from interested classmates and other alumni about this issue. Meanwhile, we continue to hope for more success in all of our Ivy League sports.
League athletic contests, and especially for Ivy League championships in football and men’s basketball.

Kind regards and good wishes to all.

---

**G. J. D’Angio**

Director of Radiation Oncology

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Ensign Leininger’s recollection in the March/April Class Notes that former University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) shook hands with all ‘43 graduates prompts this inquiry. Some background: The 1882 Formation of Nicholas Miraculous: The Amazing Career of the Redoubtable Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, by Michael Rosenthal, the Roberta and William Campbell Professor in the Teaching of Literature Humanities, paints Butler as a complex, multi-faceted person. He was scholarly and authoritative, yet petty, bigoted and vain. He saw to it, for instance, that his was always the longest entry in Who’s Who. He was a remote presence to me as an undergraduate, but in my young eyes every trace of the image of what a university president should be. I never remember seeing the man in person; I wasn’t there on graduation day to shake his hand as Ensign states he did. I was in medical school by then, having left Columbia after my junior year. The question that comes to mind is this: Do any of you remember seeing or talking to Butler during your college years? If so, send me a note (suitable for publication) describing the occasion and what he said, such as the inquiring military presence on campus.

Some sad news:

Domenick A. Luppino, a retired businessman, Glen Rock, N.J., died on March 25, 2009.

Alvin S. Yudkoff, Water Mill, N.Y., died on May 27, 2009. He was a writer and filmmaker and the ‘43 CCL class correspondent from July 2003 to March 2006.

Connie Maniatty, Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame athlete in two sports, and a philanthropist who has given millions to causes she believed in, died on January 8. Connie was our longtime Class Agent, and for several years, his name could be found at the head of our Class Notes. The notable career of this loyal Columbia alum is detailed in the March/April issue of the Class Notes.

**Henry Roil Hecht**

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Dr. Arnold B. Scheibel is still on the job as Distinguished Professor of Neuropsychology and Psychiatry at UCLA. He teaches grad students and med students as well as pre-meds, along with continuing his research at UCLA Medical Center. Also still at work is Arne’s wife, Marian, as professor of integrative biology at UC Berkeley. This requires them to take turns each weekend flying between Burbank and Oakland (“Southwest Air loves us”).

Arne and Marian consider themselves confirmed, if transplanted, Easterners. “I think New York is still the most exciting city in the world,” he said. But with so much air time along the Pacific corridor, they find they no longer have the energy to wander East. “My last visit was for my 50th P&S reunion in 1996,” Arnold said.

David V. Becker, professor of radiology and nuclear medicine at Cornell, died on January 31 in Manhattan. He was an expert on diseases of the thyroid and led the National Cancer Institute team to assess the potential hazards of radioactive iodine released by the 1986 Chernobyl explosion. David was awarded a White House Citation for this work.

**REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Jennifer Freely jfreely@columbia.edu 212-851-7438 DEVELOPMENT Paul Staller ps2247@columbia.edu 212-851-7494**

**Columbia College Today**

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Our 65th reunion is right around the corner, Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. Alumni Reunion Weekend will be filled with events around Columbia and New York City, including opportunities to engage in cultural happenings as well as a Saturday class dinner with the Class of 1943 at the Inn at Longshore. We will also enjoy the fascinating “Cats and Dogs” and “The Glory and the Drama: A Look Back at the ’30s,” a fascinating two-day tour of campus, followed by a reunion dinner at the Murray Inn.

It did not take long before I entered into the swing of freshman life. As I looked back, I was amazed at the wonderful scholarship offered by my teachers. Their ability to tweak my interest in history and literature in a way that has never been taught in many other schools. The students were all different and they all shared in common: We attended Columbia College in the late 1930s and early 1940s.

Finally, a personal note. When I entered Columbia, I had very little money. My scholarship covered tuition, but I needed to find work to pay for my room and board. I worked in a variety of jobs, including at a newspaper and a law firm.

“Shall we make new ones?”

“Finally, a personal note. When I entered Columbia, I had very little money. My scholarship covered tuition, but I needed to find work to pay for my room and board. I worked in a variety of jobs, including at a newspaper and a law firm. I also worked as a waiter at a neighborhood cafe. I enjoyed the camaraderie of the other students and the challenge of learning new skills.”

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“These thoughts preclude my journey back to Morningside Heights in June. Columbia molded me into a better person, and I owe the school a profound debt that will never be fully repaid.”

Dr. Joseph Stein retired in October after 53 years as a neurologist. Joseph graduated from NYU Medical School and served in the Air Force during the Korean War. He worked at numerous hospitals in Topeka, Kan., before joining the staff in 1990 at the Cotton-O’Neil Clinic, from which he retired. Joseph also served on the medical advisory committee of the Topeka-Shawnee County Health Department for 27 years.

The Class of ’45 is still looking for a class correspondent to write a bimonthly column for Columbia College Today If you want an open platform and a chance to reconnect with classmates, please contact Assistant Editor付费 at the postal address at the top of the column, or at 212-851-7485. Until then, please send notes about your life, thoughts, travel, family and experiences at Columbia to Ethan at the same postal or e-mail address.

Bernard Sunshine
20 W. 86th St.
New York, NY 10024
bsunsl@gmail.com

Kudos to ’46 from Cambridge University. This is the story:

My class files revealed that in 1953, we funded a scholarship for an entering freshman, Richard D. Gooder ’57 from Cincinnati. I was astounded to learn that I had supported him, and my search led me to Cambridge where I caught up with him.

Richard entered Columbia as a pre-med, changed his major to English and art history, graduated cum laude and won the Kellett Fellowship for study at Cambridge. There, at Clare College, he earned B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees and soon after joined his wife on the faculty.

He initiated a course in American literature, became a principal founder of the American M.Phil. degree at Cambridge and is a founding member of The Cambridge Quarterly, a distinguished academic journal.

Richard wrote: “I could not have gone to Columbia without a scholarship, and my years there provided the foundation of a good and happy life. I do very much hope that you and your classmates will not fail to see that their generosity was misplaced or wasted; and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to acknowledge it.”

When I told Richard how pleased the men of ’46 would be to know they supported a successful and accomplished career, albeit in a small way, he responded: “I don’t think the help your class gave was so small. I couldn’t have built the house without the foundation you laid for me.”

George Levinger e-mailed from his home in Amherst, Mass. George is professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Massachusetts. His specialty is social psychology with an emphasis on group behavior. Recalling his undergraduate days, George asks when freshman beannies were no longer worn, and when was the last Frosh-Soph Rush held. Does anyone know? Ahh, memories, memories.

George’s interest is understandable. On the morning of the rush, he learned that during the previous night, members of the freshman class kidnapped the head of the sophomore class. George, v.p. of the sophs, suddenly found himself in charge and had to prevent a freshman victory. Although outnumbered, General George’s sophs won the day. Another battle of Morningside Heights won by the “good guys.”

Lawrence Fuller, writing from his home in Santa Cruz, Calif.: “It was my desire to attend Columbia, as did my grandfather and mentor, Francisco Escobar, who had graduated in 1889 from the School of Mines. He was later consul general from Colombia in New York.”

Larry was with Lockheed Marietta for 35 years and retired as managing manufacturer of the Astronautics Division. During his career, he was involved in all areas of defense and programs for the Mach 2 Fighter F104G, the Patrol Bomber F2B AW and the T33A Jet Trainer.

Larry cites an important influence in his life — working with the Japanese for 12 years, learning about their culture, history and way of thinking. An interesting challenge for Larry was guiding Kawasaki and Mitsubishi factories to fabricate and assemble aircraft to rigorous Lockheed systems, designs and engineering.

Commenting on our government today, Larry decries the bickering and discord, and hopes our children and theirs can repair the fabric of our country.

Golf is one of Larry’s loves, and for 15 years, he was a marshal at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am Golf Tournament. That is indeed roughing shoulders with the stars. For other fun, add gardening, sailing, tennis and travel.

John McConnell sends greetings from Post Falls, Idaho, with a new e-mail address: jmccm@live.com.

Please note my new postal and e-mail addresses, at the top of the column.

Robert Pease wrote: “Here are the first three pages of my short story collection. The title story is ‘Invisible Bounds.’ I have self-published 17 books, and more than 43,000 copies of these have now sold. As for my novel O.U.I. (Operating Under the Influence), I have received comments from eminent people who have had high praise for it.

“If one of your readers could ever get an established publisher to take on this book, they could make a fortune and be doing something of real worth to society. Police officers assure me that where it is in use in high school English classes, it is saving lives. Is anything more important than that?”

I would add that no less than Calvin Plimpton, president of Amherst College in the 1960s, made a special trip to Robert’s home to personally convey his praise of O.U.I.

Here is the title story of the short story collection:

“Invisible Bounds”

Half an hour before sunrise.

I was standing in the marsh, a mile from the road, on a Sunday morning, waiting. Mist hung in the air around me, moist tattered veils of night-time turning slowly, the quiet and constant, perfect, all nocturnal creatures gone to burrows, roosts and grassy tangles, daytime’s players still asleep.

Would the elusive yellow rail I’d found a week before appear again? I wanted to see it another time, wanted to get to know him, had come at first light and walked out here, jumping ditches, pushing through the reeds to reach the same place where my rail had leapt up, flown maybe fifteen feet, dropped into a runnel and disappeared.

But just before the first catbird was ready to speak, out of the vapors around me stepped a young doe. I’d been motionless a long time. Did she think I was some fixed part of the marsh, a tree trunk, a post? That was unlikely. I saw her nostrils quiver. She knew I was human. She knew humans were trouble. Our eyes met and in her I read a question. A child would have looked at me the same way, wanting to ask but unable to find the words.

For a long moment we stared at each other. Then, still motionless, I made a sound. I don’t know quite what it was — a low sort of almost whistle, not a question — whhhooooo.

She stepped toward me. Not ten feet separated us. Her ears, ears that could hear a meadow voles’ scratch in the earth thirty feet away, twitched and pointed this way and that, independent of each other. Her white tail flipped once.

As softly as I could, I said, “Come a little nearer.”

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 The 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

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MAY/JUNE 2010
She seemed to carry still the faint spotting of the fawn. Her coat was as moth-eaten in places. She was very young, alone. She looked as if she hadn’t eaten well, and yet...

"...a little nearer."

Ready to spring into the air and be gone, poised, totally airborne, she knew I would never see her again. Swallows were there and blackbirds and jays but my doe was gone, gone forever. I cannot go back there now.

Ed McGavoy reported on his Tucson activities some time ago. Columbia had taken on the management of Biosphere 2 in Oracle, Southern Arizona, in 1996. The previous operators had generated a very negative reputation locally and scientifically — and the reorganized facility under CU influence needed some good new and positive local public relations activity.

The closing down of the first Biosphere 2 was for several reasons, one of which was a serious problem with the generation of oxygen within the enclosed domes 18 months into the two year "sealing" of the domes in this new world. There were suspicions that two of those sealed into the unit and their outside scientists. Also, some personal strife for those, I believe, eight persons in the enclosed environment. The local press had not treated the effort gently.

Ed visited the Biosphere 2 campus with friend and previous dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, Dr. Robert Weiss, and they reviewed the situation with the thethen-president of Biosphere 2. It was decided that the project would be continued by the backtrack support of a local Columbia alumni group. There was a small, active group in Phoenix, but that was too distant. Weiss generously offered Ed’s services to establish such a concerned group. Ed investigated and found more than 800 alumni from various Columbia schools within a 50-mile radius of Tucson. Mailing labels were quickly sent from the New York Alumni Office and local recruitment work began.

Within a few weeks Ed, ably assisted by Pam Farny ’71 CSAS, ’73 LS, "signed up" more than 100 paying members from 20 CU schools.

College alumni included Adam Anzalone ’54 and Ed McAvoy. Monthly meetings at the famed Arizona Inn began and guest speakers started with the then-president of the University of Arizona, Peter Likins, who had previously been provost and professor at Columbia. We also had that dynamic educator Michael Crow, then-Columbia provost and now president of Arizona State. Arthur Levine, then-president of Teachers College, spoke and was followed by Barry Rosen, famous for surviving the U.S. Embassy takeover during the Carter presidency. Other speakers included Arizona University Professor Jonathan Overpeck, one of the world’s leading experts on climate change.

These outstanding speakers drew 125-150 members each month and produced excellent local newspaper coverage for Biosphere 2. As a result, improved acceptability of the project occurred and that continues to this day, although Columbia has discontinued its connection and the University of Arizona is now in charge.

Durham Caldwell 15 Ashland Ave. Springfield, MA 01119 durham-c@comcast.net

[Editor’s note: CCT thanks Durham Caldwell for his more than 20 years of service as a class correspondent. Until a successor is in place, please send news to cct@columbia.edu, subject line "1948 Class Notes," or to Ethan Rouen, Associate Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.]

One of the joys of being a class correspondent is picking a name at random out of the class directory, placing a phone call and coming up with a classmate on the other end of the line with a very interesting story to tell. Take Peter White of Washington, D.C. When I talked with him in late February, the nation’s capital still was suffering from the effects of the winter’s unprecedented snowfalls. Peter, who lives on a side street, said a plow came through once and cleared enough of the road to allow one-lane traffic. If cars came at each other from opposite directions, it posed quite a dilemma. "It’s been a real mess," Peter told me.

Peter is retired from National Geographic after being a writer there for 37 years, covering "all kinds of subjects." These subjects included tropical rainforests ("I visited all the major ones in the world") and the opium poppy. During the 1960s, he made four trips to Vietnam.

Peter was born in Vienna and came to the United States as a refugee. He went to George Washington H.S. in Manhattan at night, working days as a copy boy at International News Service. Peter was drafted into the Army in 1943 right out of high school. Sent to England after training in the combat engineers, Peter was set to take part in the Normandy Invasion but got orders the day before to report to a new assignment with Army Intelligence in London. He hitchhiked to London, his orders in his pocket, and found that a mechanical genius of IBM personnel punch cards had revealed he spoke German. He spent the rest of the war as an interrogator in France and Germany, interrogating German prisoners of war "of all ranks."

Among his assignments was interrogating members of the German V-1 and V-2 rocket programs. "The Germans were bad Nazis," Peter remembers. Among interrogators’ duties: political screenings to help determine which of the rocket science experts would be recruited to work in the United States. Peter recalls the boastfulness of the German Walter Dornberger, who was Wernher von Braun’s superior and who couldn’t stop bragging about the superiority of the German rocket programs.

He later worked in the U.S. for Bell Aircraft. Peter interviewed him years later when the writer wrote an article on helicopters for National Geographic and found that he had "become quite civilized."

Busy with interrogation duties, Peter never saw combat. But his outfit accumulated four combat stars, each worth five points toward discharge, helping Peter get back to the States and out of the Army in January 1946. The good marks he’d gotten on New York’s Regents Exams while in high school helped him gain admission to Columbia.

Peter started at Columbia in February 1946 under the G.I. Bill. He signed up for 22 credits during each of his five regular semesters and 14 during each of two summer sessions to graduate in 2½ years with the Class of ’48. And all the while, he was commuting 90 minutes a day each way from his mother’s home in Queens Village on the Long Island Railroad and the IRT. In an understatement, he says, "I didn’t have much time for extracurricular activities."

But Peter has some fond memories of Columbia’s academics. "Contemporary Civilization and Humanities were very valuable," he says. "I had some good professors," he adds and mentions Jacques Barzun ’27, Mark Blumenthal, sociologist Paul Lazarsfeld ("a pioneer in polling") and Raymond Weaver, specialist in Melville novels. Peter
Joe has done guardian ad litem work for Vermont’s Family and District Court since 1988 and is a community member of the Institutional Review Board of the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center.

As a member of the gay community, Joe has been active for the last 15 years in the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force. Although he remains single, he is proud of Vermont’s role as the first state in the union to approve civil unions for same-sex couples and the legislature’s more recent action in overruling a gubernatorial veto to legalize same-sex marriage in the state.

Frank Marcus was a professor emeritus in cardiology at the University of Arizona’s College of Medicine in Tucson since 1999. But that hardly means he’s been sitting around taking it easy. From 2001-06, Dr. Frank was principal investigator of a study sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, “The Multidisciplinary Study of Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy/Dysplasia: A gate application to the genetics and molecular causes of the disease is pending with NIH. Frank received the Boston University School of Medicine’s Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2003 and the Laennec Master Clinician Award of the American Heart Association’s Council on Clinical Cardiology in 2005. His area of expertise spans clinical cardiology, cardiovascular pharmacology and clinical electrophysiology.

Frank earned a master’s in physiology at Tufts, then graduated cum laude from B.U. Medical School in 1953. His internship, residency and early cardiology training were at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, followed by further cardiology training and promotion through the ranks to chief medical resident, chief of cardiology and assistant professor of medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine and Georgetown University Medical Service in Washington, D.C. In 1969, Frank became professor and chief of cardiology at Arizona and was promoted in 1982 to the endowed chair of Distinguished Professor of Medicine.

His initial research interests were directed toward the understanding of the pharmacology of such cardiac drugs as digoxin, amiodarone and propafenone. Later, Frank turned his attention to the investigation of cardiac arrhythmias. And he introduced radiofrequency energy for cardiac ablation procedures.

Frank’s accomplishments in his chosen field have not been lost on his professional colleagues. He was founder and first president of the Arizona chapter of the American College of Cardiology and president of the Association of University Cardiologists. He has been, or still is, a member of the editorial/scientific boards of 14 cardiovascular journals and has been a consultant and reviewer for 26 publications, Frank authored 158 abstracts, 287 articles in peer-reviewed journals and more than 50 book chapters. He is co-editor, with Dr. Gaetano Thieme, of a book on arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardio(myopathy.

Maybe we could talk Frank into presenting a clinic for fellow Class of ’48 M.D.’s at our next reunion.

Charles Schultz of Los Angeles might have some things to teach us in the financial area. He’s “enjoying an active and fairly conventional retirement” after a career in insurance with two years out for Army service in Virginia during the Korean War. Charles earned a degree from CGAS in ’49 and worked in New York for Great American Insurance Co., eventually becoming corporate planning v.p. He moved to L.A. in 1972 after a corporate takeover of Great American, joined Farmers Insurance in 1974 and later became Farmers’ CFO in charge of all investment and financial operations with “heavy involvement” in mergers and acquisitions.

Since retirement, Charles has been a director of a number of smaller insurance companies and charitable organizations. He lives in the Hancock Park section of Los Angeles in a New York-style 1929 building that he says is referred to as “the Dakota of the West.”

Charles is a widower with three grown children, but his retirement hardly seems “conventional” the way he describes it: “Travel extensively, especially to Europe, most recently in Paris to maintain my French. Visit New York several times a year to see friends, Columbia games, do opera, theater and museums. Usually see [Athletes Director] Dianne Murphy and other friends in the athletics department.”

A personal note: This is my swan song as CCT’s Class of ’48 correspondent. I’ve had the privilege of chronicling classmates’ accomplishments, activities and memories for seven-plus years. I figure it’s time to give someone else — maybe you? — the opportunity.

It’s been a rewarding experience renewing acquaintances with old friends from Morningside days, some but not all of whom claimed to remember me, plus meeting scores of other ’48ers and learning about their experiences. I owe a debt of gratitude to my predecessor, Ted Melnechuk, for his wise counsel and continuing occasional contributions. And it’s been a pleasure to work with patient and understanding CCT editors Lisa Palladino, Ethan Rouen, Laura Buthy and Rose Kemochan.

If you’d like to be the next Class of ’48 correspondent, contact Ethan Rouen, Associate Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC, 4530, New York, NY 10025; ec22102@columbia.edu; or 212-851-7485.

As for me, I’m not exactly going out to pasture. I’ll be continuing my work as op-ed columnist for the weekly Ludlow (Mass.) Register as well as continuing to actively promote my novel, Tumultuous Affairs: Uncertain Politics and Unlikely Romance During a Turbulent Time, 1964–1975. Classmates are invited to check it out at www.amazon.com or at my own rinky-dink Web site, http://tumultuousaffairs.home.comcast.net.
of Low Memorial Library. The remainder of the evening, we are free to do as we please; you can arrange a dinner party with whom ever you wish and go wherever you wish.

Saturday, June 5: Pre-noon hours are left free of organized class activities so that you are at your leisure to socialize with friends, go sightseeing, attend Dean’s Day lectures (registration required) or just relax.

Noon: Class of 1950 luncheon. Dine in the ambiance of a Florentine palazzo in the magnificently refurbished Casa Italiana.

After luncheon: Glenn Lubash and Ray Scalettar, who are nationally renowned in medicine and who are still practicing, will give us their perspectives on a subject of immediate interest to all of us: health care. Glenn and Ray will lead us in a discussion in which all can participate with their views on therapy, and how he works as a therapist, to public attention with his book, Pilgrims, Paths and Progress: Toward a Comprehensive Psychotherapy. The book will be of interest not only to therapists but also to laypersons interested in psychotherapy and how people change. It stimulates the reader to think about what it is about the therapist that may contribute to effective therapy. The book can be purchased online at www.1stbookstore.com/reid.html. In February, Ted addressed the annual meeting of the Fellows of the American Group Psychotherapy Association.

Joan and Al Schmitt took a trip to Europe. One of their stops was Auschwitz, which Al described as “a very sobering” experience.

Sadly, we have two deaths to report: Dr. James L. Gamfalo, of Essex Fells, N.J., on February 26, 2010, and Frank P. McDermott of Agawam, Mass., on December 11, 2009. Obituaries will be published in a future issue.

George Koplinka ’51, CC ’51 secretary and class correspondent, presented a Columbia College shirt and cap to incoming freshman baseball pitcher Zachary Tax ’14.

Here’s an inspiring story about a young man from our hometown of White Plains, N.Y. Zachary Tax, an 88-mph pitcher, received his acceptance letter from Columbia College and will enter with the Class of 2014. Although highly recruited by Division I schools and several in the Ivy League, Zack chose to play baseball for the Lions and Brett Boretti, whom he called “my kind of coach!”

So what is so special about this all-star pitcher from the Rye Country Day high school? Well, since he was 7, he has had blood sugar five times the normal number. Aside from the daily blood sugar tests and the pump on his hip, Zack shows almost no indication he lives with type 1 diabetes. Whether pitching or playing an infield position, he says, “I don’t think about it most of the time. It gets on the back burner most of the time.” True, he has broken a couple of insulin pumps (at $5,000 apiece) while sliding into a base. So now Zack removes the pump when hitting and keeps it on when pitching. That’s his strong suit. Josh Thomson, sports writer for The Journal News, discovered how Zack honed his side-arm delivery throwing tennis balls against the front stoop at home until he developed the ability to throw three different pitches from two different arm angles. No wonder he has posted program records for strikeouts during his high school career.

Could there be an Ivy League baseball championship for the Light Blue next year? Yes! [See photo.]

“The last 20 years have been the best years of my life!” That’s a direct quote from Stanley M. Freid when he recently spoke about finally having opportunities to do what he wanted to do. Born in Brooklyn in the shadow of Ebbets Field, Stan remembers the times when many of us Boy Scouts could bring 50 lbs. of old newspapers to the field in the mid-1940s during WWII and sit for free in the bleachers watching “referees” play baseball. Years later, Stan attended Stuyvesant H.S. like so many CC students of the ’40s. He pursued the professional option program in the College and received B.A. and a B.S. degrees.

Continuing his education in night school for 13 years, Stan eventually was awarded a master’s in statistics and a professional engineering degree, which he dubbed “the poor man’s Ph.D.” Although the Navy in Bayonne, NJ, and Rayco, a manufacturer of automotive upholstery, got him started, it was IBM that provided a long business career in 10 technical and marketing positions, mostly in its Trade Corporation.

Stan retired in 1988 and eventually fell in love with Connie, bringing together his three and her three children. They reside in Yorktown, N.Y., and travel a lot with at least one major-splurge every year. They have been to Mexico, France, Italy, Indonesia, Thailand and so on. Stan is president of his condo association, leads writers’ workshops and is writing a novel, which when finished will be titled Diana Uncante.

Who has five sons and 13 grandchildren, and lives in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.? It’s Walter E. Kurkela. Walt says his house is on land that was once owned by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., but the estate was eventually developed into Dalton’s Farm, a community of private homes in Duchess County. As for his Columbia career, Walt started at Notre Dame before coming to Morning-side Heights as a sophomore. He enjoyed intramural sports, including basketball. Walt earned an M.B.A. from Harvard and then spent three years in the U.S. Navy Supply Corps in a career that took him from Newport to Bayonne to Athens, Ga., before retiring as a destroyer tender. Returning to civilian life, Walt joined Campbell Soup Co. and then went into the automobile business with stints at Lincoln-Mercury and nine years with Ford Motors in Dearborn, Mich. He did a lot of traveling with AWA and Xerox before acquiring a travel agency in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Seventeen years later, Walt retired at 60 to enjoy the good life…. and play a lot of bridge!

A couple of reminders: Next year will be our 60th reunion, and we have to get serious about some special planning. Contact me via e-mail (desiah@verizon.net) with ideas and suggestions about how you would like to participate on the planning committee for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2011, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5.

Finally, don’t forget to send in your contribution to Columbia College Today. It’s the best alumni publication in the Ivies, so let’s keep it that way with some financial support from CC ’51. You may give online at www.columbia.edu/cct/giving or mail a check, made payable to Columbia College Today, to the address on the masthead.

George Koplinka ’51, CC ’51 secretary and class correspondent, presented a Columbia College shirt and cap to incoming freshman baseball pitcher Zachary Tax ’14.

Finally, don’t forget to send in your contribution to Columbia College Today. It’s the best alumni publication in the Ivies, so let’s keep it that way with some financial support from CC ’51. You may give online at www.columbia.edu/cct/giving or mail a check, made payable to Columbia College Today, to the address on the masthead.

51

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52

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“Welcome sweet springtime. We greet thee with song.” Do you remember singing that in second grade? I do. What about “In Spring, a man’s fancy turns towards thoughts that a woman has had all year.” That is pretty old also, however the change from winter to spring is dynamic — delightful, uplifting and most welcome. This past winter has been one of the worst on record around here and makes people question global warming. The scientists have come up with a
different term — "climate change" — and this will allow greater parameters for all kinds of variations to fit within the concept.

Spring still is the great gift of rebirth. The warmed breezes against one’s face and the perfumed smell of budding flowers creates and releases a wonderful energy that lies dormant during cold, gray and snowy time.

Yes, indeed, welcome sweet springtime.

“I am Bob Hartman, who wrestled for four years and am an Alpha Delta Phi member and a Se-chem. If there is anyone out there who is reading this who wrestled or is an ADP, please get in touch with Sid Prager, who will give you my e-mail address.

“This summer, while camping on a cross-country trip, I stopped in Springdale, Mont., to visit Steve Reich ’53 and his wife. What a wonderful house and ranch they have, along with riding horses on which you could see the ranch. It was a lovely day and their guests, they are all great hosts. Also, my wife, Nancy, and I had dinner on January 9 in Toledo with Rose and Danny See- man before the Seeberns headed for their place in St. Peters burg, Fla. We, however, will go northward toward Saul St. Marie, Mich., to cross-country ski for a few days. We began cross-country skiing 25 years ago. I discovered it was almost as good as wrestling and was much more practical. By the way, Danny was a member of the 1951 basketball team that was recently inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. Well, Sid, if I get any more contacts I’ll write you.”

Roy Lutter writes: “OK, 58 years and 10,000 words or less. First job after graduation was at Best & Co., which was at 51st Street and Fifth Avenue. Didn’t really like the work, but I did meet the woman who became my wife and put up with me for more than 51 years. So, overall, it was a positive experience. In February 1953, I got a job as a binder clerk with an insurance brokerage firm at the foot of Wall Street. In what was definitely not a meteoric rise through the ranks, I became v.p. and director in January 1968. While working there, I tried to stay close to Columbia. I served as class fund chairman for some time, probably because no one else wanted the job, and was on the board of the College Alumni Association. In 1970, my firm merged with two other brokers and the atmosphere changed drastically. I stayed on with the new firm as v.p. but no longer as a director.

“In 1975, my wife, Ann, and I decided to move to Vermont. The change was not so dramatic for Ann because she had been born and raised in Saranac Lake, N.Y., just 10 miles from Lake Placid, but the question was, could someone who was born in Brooklyn, raised in Queens, went to college in upper Manhattan and worked in lower Manhattan adapt to Vermont? I got a job with an insurance agency in Hanover, N.H., right across the river, and have enjoyed every day. Not too involved with Columbia since the move, but I have served on the boards of the Independent Insurance Agents of New Hampshire, Woodstock ABC House, Hartland Public Library and the Insurance Agency in New Hampshire.

“I have two daughters and two teenage grandsons in the area, so I get all the help I might need in maintaining the property, and I can just relax and enjoy myself. It’s really a nice atmosphere all four seasons. Well, the fifth season, mud season, can be troublesome. If they ever complete the improvement program and pave our roads, it will be much easier to get around. Other than that, we don’t have to look for gators or poisonous snakes on our golf courses, we don’t have tornadoes and by the time a hurricane makes it this far north, it’s usually just a rain storm. Of course, we do occasionally get a nor’easter, but that just turns the area into a winter wonderland.

“I feel sorry for those stuck in Asia, Southern California, Arizona, etc. What can those poor guys do? Play golf every day of the year, lie on the beach, have a Christmas pool party? It’s sad. Best wishes.”

Filippo Galluppi ’52 founded Efficient Energy Devices, a company that will focus on developing efficient methodologies or hardware.

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“Wesley and his wife, Gloria, met in high school, married and had five children. She died in a tragic car accident in which Wes survived, Columbia, earning a National Scholarship. He was a key member of our freshman and varsity football teams and a member of Columbia freshman basketball team, but subsequently decided against playing two sports for fear of negative impact on grades. In October 2009, he was inducted into Westwood H.S.’ inaugural Basketball Hall of Fame.

“After graduation, Wes was a Navel Officer in supply corps. His business career included Ford Motor Co., RCA, [and] Coopers and Lybrand Partner Management Consulting, before returning to RCA and retiring.

“Wes was a loyal teammate who attended most Columbia football and athletics-related functions, including numerous off-campus rendezvous.”

“Now starts the third life experience. In 1990, I became a founder of a second company after all but losing my shirt in the 1987 stock market crash. This time it was Ultravolt, designed to be highly profitable by delivering a truly standard miniaturized high voltage power product to the industrial markets. The field was full of companies that were willing to build anything the customer wanted for a fee. That was what Venus Scientific did for the military market. This time we would lower costs by keeping engineering small but at the management level. We were quite profitable, and Ultravolt (Ronkonkoma, N.Y.) was sold in September 2007 to Riverside, a successful private equity firm. I retired a second time in December 2008. You’d think that was enough, but I’m not finished yet. Having turned 80 with all this behind me, I’m heading into my fourth life experience with the founding of Efficient Energy Devices, a company that will focus on developing efficient methodologies or hardware in these trying times. God knows where this will lead. Thank you, Columbia and all my former employees. May God bless you all! Stay tuned.”

Sergi S. Kuharsky is enjoying retirement in Jackson, N.J., and enjoys the company of his grandchildren (including Simon, son of Paul Kuharsky ’91, ’93) and two great-grandchildren.

Howie Hansen sent this about Wesley W. Bomm of Medford, N.J.: The passing of Wesley Bomm on September 28, 2009, at age 78 was reported in the January/February issue of Columbia College Today.

“Wesley and his wife, Gloria, met in high school, married and had five children. She died in a tragic car accident in which Wes survived, Columbia, earning a National Scholarship. He was a key member of our freshman and varsity football teams and a member of Columbia freshman basketball team, but subsequently decided against playing two sports for fear of negative impact on grades. In October 2009, he was inducted into Westwood H.S.’ inaugural Basketball Hall of Fame.

“After graduation, Wes was a Navel Officer in supply corps. His business career included Ford Motor Co., RCA, [and] Coopers and Lybrand Partner Management Consulting, before returning to RCA and retiring.

“Wes was a loyal teammate who attended most Columbia football and athletics-related functions, including numerous off-campus rendezvous.”

“The last 10 years of Wes’ life were shared with his significant other, Sally Rettew. They shared a residence in Medford. She is an impressive person and became a most welcomed addition to our gatherings.

“In the last 1½ years of Wes’ life, he struggled through significant health problems, and in telephone conversations with friends/fellow teammates, he couldn’t say enough about his relationship with Sally and how helpful she had been through his rehab and home care.”

“Tom Powers ’51 said it all: ‘Wes was a gentle giant!’ To me and all those who knew him, he was a grand guy and teammate who will be remembered and greatly missed. Wes was loved in Medford, N.J.’”

H. Gilbert Lahm writes: “After graduation from Columbia and getting my master’s from the Business School, I served in the Army,
stationed in Washington, D.C. In 1954, I married Ann Salmon. In 1956, we moved to New Jersey, and I worked for Western Electric in New York City. My entire business career was with the Bell System, working in New York and Baltimore. "Both before and after retirement, I had numerous volunteer jobs with my church, including administrative board chairperson and finance chairman. I served in the latter position for 22 years. "Ann and I have one daughter, Gill, who lives in nearby Allendale, N.J. She and her husband, Bob, have two children, Matt (13) and Cara (10)." Thank you all for contributing to the column.

Lew Robins
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During the course of a delightful telephone conversation, Henry Donaghy talked about his Psi Upsilon fraternity brother, Robert Gleckler. Hank and Bob had been teammates on Columbia's lightweight football team and both served as president of Psi Upsilon. After graduation, Bob was drafted and spent two years in the federal government. He spent part of his time as an assistant director in the patent office and the remaining time as chief of staff for the assistant secretary of commerce. Neal created a law firm that grew large, in Rockland County. N.Y. Ninety percent of his practice involved solving matrimonial problems. "Helping people who are in crisis gave me a great deal of satisfaction," Neal told me. About 11 years ago, heart trouble forced Neal to retire and move to Sarasota, Fla. However, the firm he created continues with his son at the helm.

I recently received the following delightful handwritten letter from Gus Fulk: "Dear Lew, I do enjoy your Class Notes in Columbia College Today. Hope we both can make the next reunion. Life here in Little Rock is not very exciting. Some houses of a little more than 50 years. We used to have four children and one grandmother, now we have a whole lot of storage space. Same wife, Anne, since 1954. Four children, all college grads and doing well. My daughter, Marion, and I have been together in an investment business I started in 1957. I figured at the age of 45, I could probably retire if careful. No, I'll stay a while longer. Still at it every day! See a lot of changes. Fortunately, it's my hobby as well. (How many of our classmates are still working)? I've been running for 40-plus years and try to do 2½ miles every day after work. If you ever get down to Arkansas, let me know. We can go hunting and fishing."

After talking with Gus by phone, I received a report that he still has the same wonderful sense of humor and southern style of communication.

Keep running, Gus! You are an inspiration to the rest of us.

Howard Falberg
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I hope that by the time this issue goes to press the weather will be back in "normal." I suppose that means that the snow will melt in most parts of the country while out here it means that our water supply will get back to something close to normal. I thought it was best described by Brian Tannen, who e-mailed me: I told him that I was planning a trip to his fair city (where my brother, Class of '59, lives), and he responded that in Cincinnati they were waiting for "the great white tsunami." I understand that things are back to normal at this point.

One of our regular contributors to this column, Arnie Tolkin, writes from Palm Beach that his grandson, Class of '08, is engaged to marry a lovely young lady, Class of '08, and that they will live in Miami ("a stone's throw from where we are"). I always felt that crossing Broadway between 116th Street and 120th Street was and is a lovely passage. Bernd Brecher and his bride were off to Africa on a safari to include Mount Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti and took with them "enough shots and pills to take us to Mars." Who knows, one of these days an "elderly" member of our class may write about his trip to another planet. On a sadder note, Bernd writes that Larry Pine passed away in February in Delray, Fla.

I received a lovely letter from Hank Buchwald, which I would like to share with you. "I continue to work because I love to work as a professor of surgery. [Hank is professor of surgery and biomedical engineering at the University of Minnesota]. I operate, do research, teach, write, attend meetings and am co-editor-in-chief of the international journal Obesity Surgery. I have had my share of awards and recognition, and find the process of working in one's field the greatest award and personal compensation. My wife, Emilie, retired as the founder, publisher and editor-in-chief of Milkweed Editions, at one time the largest nonprofit literary press in the country, but unrelated two years later to found a for-profit press, the Gryphon Press, which publishes award-winning children's books. We live in joy and contentment in the company of our four daughters, their spouses and our six grandchildren, as well as Sam, our dog." I wish the same joy and contentment for all of the members of our class. Please let me hear from you and allow me to share the joys and satisfactions of all members of "The Class of Destiny."

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6
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Columbia alumni are always taking advantage of the special travel tours hosted by our "second to none" faculty. This year is no exception. Professor Kenneth Jackson, the Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences, is to be the guest lecturer in early August on a cruise covering the Black Sea. Jackson will talk about the military history of the region, from World War I to the Cold War to the importance of Yalta and Sevastopol in the conduct of WWII. There will be another venture: "Into the Arctic — A voyage to Greenland and the Canadian Arctic," led by an expedition leader and naturalists — experts on the region.

The Café series is going strong: A couple of months ago, Café Humanities featured a lecture by Professor Andreas Huyssen, the Villard Professor of German and Comparative Literature and chair, Department of German Language and Literatures, who talked about the connection and conflicts between the politics of the humanities and human rights; Café Social Science had a discussion on investigative journalism in the digital age with Sheila Coronel, the Toni Stabile Professor of Professional Practice in Investigative Journalism and director, Toni Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism. If anyone is around the neighborhood on a Monday from 6–7 p.m., it would be well worth it to "soak up some fascinating knowledge."

A little further downtown from campus, the John Jay Awards Dinner was held at Cipriani 42nd Street on March 3. It was probably the largest turnout for any Columbia dinner. Festive, rollicking and entertaining are words that would describe the event led by Dean of the College Michele Moody-Adams.

To keep everyone up to date as we move toward our reunion, Columbia Community Outreach was celebrated in late March, not only in New York City but also in key cities around the world. As always, it was a huge success with an amazing number of participants, including more than 1,000 students and others in New York City.

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In case any of our classmates have turned off their computers, discontinued their regular mail and haven’t been reading Columbia College Today, they should be aware that we do have a reunion in just a few weeks. The neat, four-color brochure that everyone should have received by now outlines everything you want to know about our 55th. It looks like our class will be breaking all records once again. To whet everyone’s appetite, several weeks ago there was a pre-reunion event in which Jack Stuppin’s landscape paintings were put on display in the ACA Gallery in the Chelsea section of Manhattan. Noted art critic and writer Donald Kuspit gave some incisive remarks to the multitudes who attended (from both the Class of 2005 — my, have they grown — and our guys). We saw Roland Plotell, Anthony Viscusi and many other hardy ’55ers.

Key events at the reunion will be a special reception on Thursday at the Columbia Club; a tour on Friday of the American Museum of Natural History led by two Columbia astronomers, followed by lunch on the Upper West Side; lunch and dinner on campus Friday and Saturday at venues specially hand-picked for the Class of ’55; Saturday afternoon lectures and meetings of affinity groups featuring visitors to Spectator offices (Milt Finegold, your typewriter is still there), WKCR studios (Harold Kushner, the managers may let you do your old sports program — Doug Lasher, Peter Oden, Henry Roth, Marty Salan — welcome back), the CUMB (the Columbia University Marching Band playing old favorites — might we see Herb Gardner and Elliot Gross in the group?) and many other groups raising their voices high and entertaining the multitudes?

Add to the list of attendees Sven Johnson and Ed Francell. Ed ran into Harold Kushner, who said he will be there, in Atlanta. Will Lew Sternfels and his magic camera make it from Los Angeles? We heard from Marty Molly — hopefully he will take a weekend off from his busy schedule on the west coast to venture east. We haven’t heard from Dave Sweet yet. He’d love the WKCR tour.

The class is getting close to its reunion goals in terms of dollars raised and participation. Our glasses are dry. Chuck Solomon and of course, Jim Berick, for an outstanding job — well done! We’ll keep everyone posted as to final results.

As most everyone knows by now, Al Ginepra passed away on February 2, 2010, in Santa Monica. His teammate and classmate, team captain Neil Opdyke, has been trying to put together a mini-reunion of ex-players and managers to come to the 55th — Dick Carr, Bob Dillingham, Ben Hoffman, Denis Hagerty, John Nelson, Bob Mercier, Dick Benedick and Jim Larson. We hope to see you all or most of you in New York in early June.

Another classmate who recently left us is John Rigatii from Sturbridge, Mass. John was born in Manhattan and was a longtime practitioner of medicine.Conditions are extended to his family and friends.

My fellow classmates, it’s only a couple of weeks until the kickoff of the exciting ’55th. If you haven’t done so yet, sign up now for fun and frolic in early June (http://reunion.columbia.edu). You won’t regret being with some of the great personalities in Columbia history.

The euphoria of their company will lift you well above the rotunda in Low Library.

See you ‘round the Quad.

Love to all, everywhere!

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Guy’s, it’s a pleasure to be done with winter — a tough one — and I hear from our Florida snowbirds and residents it was even colder there. Can you believe a foot of snow in North Carolina and other Southern localities? When I was in Fort Bragg, in southern North Carolina, an inch of snow at a parachuting base of Airborne and Special Forces used to jumping in jungles almost caused paralysis. Things are changing!

After several conversations with Bob Long, who is a literary critic and also writes on theater and film and has published 50 books, it appears I had no idea of all the literary talent in our class. So Bob has put together a summary of this talent:

Lou Cornell: Taught at Cornell and Dartmouth. Wrote Kipling in India.


Tracy Herrick: Now lives in Sturbridge, Calif., has published several influential books on economics and investing.

Jay Martin: Taught at Yale, a psychoanalyst. Wrote books on American culture.

Peter Mayer: Former CEO of Viking/Penguin publishing with his own publishing company, Overlook Press, and a writer.

Alvin Poussaint: Psychiatrist at Harvard. Wrote books on African-American child development, and co-wrote with his friend Bill Cosby the Silvips-Dip: A prolific science fiction writer.

Kenneth Silverman: Taught at NYU and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for The Life and Times of Cotton Mather.

Milburn Smith: Wrote Off-Broadway plays.

Dan Wefeld: A novelist and social critic. Wrote Going All the Way and New York in the Fifties, partly about the Columbia scene and Mark Van Doren, a college idol for him and Bob Long.

Paul Zweig: Taught at Columbia. Awarded a Guggenheim grant as a poet. Brilliant promise but died young.

A great review, and thanks to Bob. If anyone was left out, let me know.

When you guys (and women), read this, you will have heard of the second 55th reunion meeting, the first at my apartment and the second a lunch at Faculty House, where we invited representatives from both the College and Engineering Alumni Offices. I have received e-mail from many classmates with suggestions and opinions:


Some guys, but only a tiny minority. Unfortunately, claim I talk too much about myself in this column. This stems from the failure of classmates to give me info to write about. So given more into than usual, only one personal comment: Kudos to Columbia, where I am taking three courses this term, a great literature course; a super jazz course to include art, music and literature, with Professor Robert G. O’Meally; the Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Comparative Literature; and a Bible course with Professor Michael Staniulskis, the Nathan J. Miller Professor of Jewish History and chair, Contemporary Civilization. If anyone is interested in taking courses at Columbia, which I heartily recommend, do contact me.

I should note about another classmate death, which is getting too frequent. Stephen Shenkel died on January 11, 2010. He was a TV writer and producer and an executive at major networks. I contacted his wife and expressed our class’ sympathy.

So guys and dolls, here is wishing us all health, happiness, a little wealth and some longevity. We always hope for concerned children and expect only extraordinary grandchildren contributions. Coming in to the Columbia College Fund (www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline) to continue funding our 10 annual scholarships, which we set up at our outstanding — an Army term — 50th reunion.

Love to all.

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John Taussig: "The West Coast version, southern California chapter, of our Class of ’57 enjoyed our second lunch meeting on January 16 in Long Beach. We met to celebrate our 52-ly-reunion, as well as a tour of Long Beach, the old 55th in New York. The day itself was typical for us, high of 70, low of 70, [with] nary an earthquake rumble nor a California budget cut to be felt. But our lunch gathering was anything but typical.

After our second luncheon, we feel we are bonding quite well, considering the 50-plus years it took us to have these get-togethers 3,000 miles away from alma mater.

Mike Gold, Bernard Lynch, Lew Schainuck, Marvin Shapiro, Ken Silvers, Herb Sturman, John Taussig and Gene Wagner met at Parker’s Lighthouse in the Long Beach Marina in the shadow of the Queen Mary to continue our conversations and entertainations. The consensus of the group is to meet as close as possible to a quarterly basis in a location convenient for all. Fortunately, we can all still drive. Kind of.

If any of you reading this ever [plan a trip] to southern California for business or for pleasure, please let me know (jntaussig@roadrunner.com) and I can advise as to our schedule.

Yours truly returned from a European trip (January 14–February 1) covering Florence, Florence, Bologna, Ravenna, Reading/London and Amsterdam. In addition to the well-known sights of Florence, a real gem is La Sinagoga (synagogue). Located some 50 miles off the beaten track in a nondescript neighborhood, it was designed in Moorish style after Hagia Sophia in Istanbul and completed in 1882. Severely
damaged by the Nazis during WWII (among other things, they used it as a garage), it now is fully restored. The exterior is in pink marble, set on a lawn with palms and other evergreens. The effect is most striking, closely resembling an oasis. A few steps away is Ruth’s vegetarian kosher restaurant, which serves quite good Middle Eastern meals.

Another gem is the Basilica of San Vitale in Ravenna, a one-hour, 20-minute train ride from Bologna. This octagonal, sixth-century church, with its exquisite green and gold mosaics, is a standout in a city renowned for mosaics. Depicted in the mosaics, is a standout in a city

San Vitale in Ravenna, a one-hour, 20-minute train ride from Bologna. This octagonal, sixth-century church, with its exquisite green and gold mosaics, is a standout in a city renowned for mosaics. Depicted in the mosaics, is a standout in a city

Henry Kurtz, one of our prolific class authors, who has published six books and more than 500 magazine and newspaper articles during his career, recently received an award for distinguished magazine feature article writing from Writer’s Digest magazine. The award singled out his historical article, “The Fight at Warbonnet Creek: History versus Legend,” in which he contrasted the reality of a minor skirmish between U.S. troops and Cheyenne Indians in 1876 with the highly romanticized Hollywood epic battle portrayed in a film biography of Buffalo Bill Cody. Writer’s Digest also praised Henry’s most recent book, Men of War, citing its “engaging writing” and “immuculate and thorough research.” In the spirit of diversity (and of solidarity top of the New York Times bestseller list and was a fount of political gossip for weeks afterward. The buzz arose primarily from the chapter portraying John and Elizabeth Edwards as the couple from hell and describing the events that turned their lives and his campaign into a soap opera.

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@radingclass.com.

I am sorry that our Class Notes are so short this month. I can only print what you send me. If you are reading this, it means that you are interested in reading about your classmates. They have the same interest in reading about what you are doing. You can, and should, send me a contribution via the USPS to the CCT office of or even better, send an e-mail to me at nmgs59@gmail.com.

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Adding to his impressive list of positions, Henry Solomon has been appointed chief medical officer of the American College of Cardiologists and chair of the American College of Cardiologists’ Professional and Corporate Consortium. Henry will maintain his academic affiliation with Cornell Medical College, where he is clinical associate professor of medicine. He had been medical director at Pfizer.

After 37 years in Port Washington, N.Y., Miriam and Stan Goldsmith have sold their house and moved to North Shore Towers and Country Club, a luxurious co-op in Floral Park, N.Y., where they met their new neighbors, retired musician Marty Silverstein and his wife, Judith. Incidentally, both couples celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries on the weekend of June 6-7, 2009.

Stan Keller ’59 is completing a three-year stint as independent monitor of the City of San Diego under the city’s SEC enforcement order.

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I try to communicate with members of the Class of ’59 via e-mail. If you don’t hear from me at least every six months, it means that I don’t have a valid e-mail address for you, and neither does Columbia. If you send me your e-mail address, I can be in touch with you and help you get in touch with classmates if you want. I will not forward your e-mail address to Columbia without your permission.

Gil Wright has managed to identify those of us who were in the class picture and prepared a caption for it. I am including it here. If you wish me to send you a copy of the picture, send me an e-mail.


Some of you who could not be at Low for the picture have asked to be added to it. If you send me a picture suitable for inclusion (a headshot is best) I will try to paste it onto the picture and will e-mail it to anyone who wants a copy.

Stan Keller had been engaged in law practice with his same law firm in Boston, which after a merger is now called Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge. He is completing a three-year stint as independent monitor of the City of San Diego under the city’s SEC enforcement order. Stan reports that it has been a fascinating assignment helping to create a Sarbanes-Oxley type of governance and disclosure regime in one of the 10 largest cities in the country. Stan also continues to be involved in legal professional activities, co-chairing the Practicing Law Institute and chairing various committees of the ABA Business Law Section. This, and spending time with his wife of almost 50 years, Sandy, and keeping up with the accomplishments of his grandchildren, keeps him too busy to think about retirement.

Stephen Joel Trachtenberg was in Madrid, Spain, in November for four days at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bankinter Foundation of Innovation, where he is a member. When he checked into the Hotel Ritz Madrid, “the desk clerk asked, ‘How was your trip from Jerusalem, Professor Trachtenberg?’ I replied that my trip from Washington was fine. Turned out, there were two Professor Trachtenbergs at the hotel,” Steve and a man named Trajtenberg from Hebrew University. When they met, it turned out the other Professor Trachtenberg was an economics Ph.D. from Harvard. His family had moved to Israel, and Trajtenberg, before Argentina, they came from Ukraine, as did Steve’s family. When they got to talking, they discovered that they had roots in the very same small town.

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In our March/April Class Notes, we reported that Doug Morris had been honored on the evening preceding the annual Grammy Awards with the Recording Academy’s Merit Award in recognition of his singular contributions to the industry. Word now arrives that on January 26, Doug received the 2,999th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, honoring him for having created the world’s largest and most successful music organization, Universal Music Company Worldwide. The Walk of Fame is administered by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and is located on Hollywood Boulevard between Vine and Gower streets.

Doug joins a brilliant galaxy of stars who have made music industry history. The 70th virgin!'"
We exchanged thoughts on how to locate services of which the friend might avail himself. Not long thereafter, in our next and last conversation, Mike said that he had just been diagnosed with a return of cancer. He spoke of it philosophically. He would take it as it came and make the best of each day. And then he quickly turned to a discussion of his efforts on behalf of his friend. Of course, as in every conversation, he spoke of Rebecca, the beloved daughter so central to his life, and what new ventures she was undertaking. It was typical of Mike to place himself last and his interest in others first.

I reread the moving tribute and reflection he wrote for the Class Notes on the life and profound loss of Mike Lesch, his closest friend who died suddenly and unexpectedly, on a fishing trip in South America. The two met as freshman and were together on the freshman basketball team. Each had been the best man at the other’s wedding.

Ann, Mike Hein’s wife of 32 years, described how important Columbia had been in Mike’s life: “He really valued the chance to study the great classics of Western Civilization and think about his relationship to the world. He still has many of his books. He always listened to all sides of the issues and analyzed them. He was a very critical thinker.”

Mike did graduate work at Columbia to get a teaching degree and taught English for two years. He went into advertising and spent several years enjoying the creative side of his work, but chose to leave the field and follow another path. He returned to Columbia for a master’s in library science and pursued a career as a librarian at the Lenox School and then at Horace Mann School. Mike retired in 2001 before computerization dominated his field. He managed during his lifetime to resist the need for a computer.

Mike loved all sports and was an avid swimmer. His special love was basketball, and he remained steadfast in his loyalty to the Knicks even through these, their worst years. Ann said that his goal had been to stay alive long enough to see the Knicks sign LeBron James. At least it was comforting to hear that in only the last three days of his life did Mike most feel the effects of his fatal illness, experiencing disorientation, and then he passed in relative peace. A kind, decent, thoughtful man.

The class extends its deepest sympathy to the family of the beloved daughter so central to Mike’s life, and what new ventures she was undertaking. It was typical of Mike to place himself last and his interest in others first.

We have lost Mike, a great man, who died suddenly, unexpectedly, who was beloved by so many of us. It is hard indeed to grasp the reality of our loss. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of the beloved daughter so central to Mike’s life, and what new ventures she was undertaking. It was typical of Mike to place himself last and his interest in others first.

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John informed me that Bob Trelstad died on February 15 at his home in Princeton, N.J., after a three-year struggle with fronto-temporal dementia, a disease that slowly robbed him of his ability to speak and then continued to progress. He had been hospitalized several weeks prior to this writing and then returned home under hospice care.

At South Salem (Ore.) H.S., Bob excelled at everything he attempted, chalking up a 4.0 GPA for his three years at South and having a wicked shot put. He played soccer, basketball, and baseball, which made him a valuable sixth man on the basketball team. He attended hometown Williamette University for his freshman year, where he again rang up a 4.0. His academic career then took a sudden turn, all due to an unlikely source: the movie Vertigo.

Bob and John drove 50 miles to Portland to see the film on a July evening after our freshman year, and on the way home, John suggested that Bob join him at Columbia. He liked the idea and the next day called the Columbia Admissions Office. The person on the other end of the phone politely told Bob that he had to be out of his mind to think that he could call two months before the school year began and be admitted. But Bob persevered and mailed his transcript to Columbia anyway; Columbia then quickly accepted him, and they headed back to Princeton, N.J., after a spring day, but it’s been one hell-uv a winter here on the East Coast ("On sont les neiges d’antan", in other words). For his efforts, Paul Webber wrote in the middle of the second big storm of February from Washington, D.C., "Our power went out last weekend and so my wife, Phyllis, and I—along with our cats—have decamped to a nearby hotel. Our power seems to be restored, but the roads are impassable so we’ll go home Friday. All else is well."

Steve Barcan took the weather in stride and headed to Vermont to ski with his kids and grandkids. Paul Gorrin wrote from southern Delaware, "Paul told me that he had too much snow and a blizzard. Paul also invited us to the 55th Georgetown Oyster Eat the last Friday in February. As you read this in May, I guess we all missed a great time."

"As a visiting friend of our oldest son, Daniel, said a couple of years ago, as he looked out for the first time at the cigar-smoking, beginning-to-be-drunk men of all ages milling about the sawdust-covered floor of Georgetown grilling beers, lining up for raw oysters, crowding around about 20 or so stands with holes cut in their centers for shells to be tossed in, volunteer firemen turned waiters shouting, ‘Hot stuff... hot stuff,’ carrying tubs of steamed oysters to be gloriously poured onto watching hands and goners divided amongst the one-gloved, oyster-knife-wielding dudes and shared with their friends behind them: This is the real America.’ Come down, I’d love to see you. And if you can’t make it, come the last Friday of February 2011."

Paul, sounds like a great time. Maybe a bunch of us can make it down next year.

Further south, even the snowbirds complained a bit. Doug Anderson wrote, "Sorry not to be able to join you but not unhappy to be in sunny (but chilly) Palm Beach. Would someone please send a decent pastrami sandwich?"

Frank Partel wrote, "I am teeing off today in 56-degree weather at 1 p.m. here in Vero Beach. Geez, it’s cold up there. I hope you all enjoyed your trip into the winter wonderland. It’s a good thing that we wear a glove on one hand when we play golf. Happy to let you know that I was informed by the USPTO that I am now the co-holder of U.S. patent 7,624,068. And I have about half of my first draft written for novel two, Black, with a Pinch of Salt."

OK, Frank, I take that as a challenge for the class. I want to hear from the first of you who is working on your second patent while you are working on your third novel. Any takers?

Henry Black writes, “We (wife Benita and I) recently moved from the Village to West 81st Street — that much closer to alma mater. We have taken tremendous advantage of the pristine restaurants in the Lou Gehrig Lounge, courtesy of such local emporia as V&T, Fairway, Rack ‘n’ Soul and Carmine’s. These dinners are a bonus to all season ticket holders in the True Blue program, and it’s fun to mix and mingle with alums, young and not-so-young."

Harley Frankel’s College Match program, which we have mentioned many times in these notes, brought 64 outstanding low-income public school students to visit Columbia in two weekends. Harley has been consistently successful in placing these students into first-rate universities.

Thanks for the fine work, Harley. Steve Honig writes, "My wife and I and our son, Matthew (6), are preparing for the2011 college application season. I am happy to write on behalf of our son, as I write this. We start out in Monte Carlo, where my son, Peter, has a one-man show of his photographs at the gallery at the Casino. From there, we go to a photo safari in Zululand, and then to Cape Town to sightsee and try the wine (in Matthew’s case, the local orange juice). While I have lost touch, or rather almost never had contact, with Boston area classmates, I would be pleased to hear from them."

Sounds like a great trip. You can reach me at StephenHonig@ comcast.net.

Art Eisenson has been a lead named plaintiff and a member of the Plaintiffs’ Liaison Committee in a series of writers’ class action employment discrimination suits. He writes, “I am limited by the terms of a settlement agreement in what I can say about it. However, if our classmates receive major newspapers in the United States, they will have seen articles and published legal notices about the settlements. A FAQ about these suits and settlements can be found at www.twitwritersoues.com/questions.html. The fact that only the federal government has ever taken on or gotten a settlement from the entertainment industry may be of interest to those who are concerned about freedom of expression for people who like bar bets. What is more significant, finally, is that we hope to address what is effectively a truncation of American popular
narrative, in the form of TV fiction. The experiences of generations much over 40 are simply not there in proportion to our numbers. We hope now to help people make sense of our lives by giving older writers the opportunities to tell the stories used to tell our truths and ask our questions.

“It’s been an education about law and the way the law business is done in the United States. To borrow a term from my profession as a screen and TV writer, we owe ourselves a rewrite.”

Farhad Ardalan sends “Greetings from Plattsburgh, N.Y. I still am teaching and still enjoying it, so I probably won’t retire for another two or three years. Meanwhile, I had three books of translations come out in the last year. Consen¬sion of the Alphabet, published by Scortecchi Editor, Sao Paulo, Brazil, is a collection of 22 rhymed sonnets by Brazilian poet Leonor Sciar¬Cabra. Each poem is dedicated to one letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The original Portuguese poems are accompanied by my English trans¬lations, along with translations by others into French, Spanish and even Hebrew. Tapestry of the Sun: an Anthology of Ecuadorian Poetry, published this past summer by Coimbra Editions, San Francisco, Calif., is the first collection of Ecuadorian poetry ever to be published in the United States. I co-translated the book with Ecuadorian writer Fernando Iuriburu. Brazil: A Trav¬eler’s Literary Companion, which I edited for Whereabouts Press, Berkeley, Calif., is a collection of Brazilian short stories organized by region and intended to be read as the traveler visits various parts of the country. It was published in January.”


Farhad Ardalan has been denied a visa to travel to the U.S. from Iran. He sent me an article from the February 20 issue of Science Magazine (you’ll find a link on our Web site) that relates the frustrating tale. Farhad was made a fellow of the American Physical Society last fall in part because of his work to connect Iran to the global scientific community. He had hoped to come to the society’s meetings to be honored, but the U.S. Embassy claimed he had an arrest record and that he had been involved in deportation proceedings in New York in 1993. He denies knowledge of both charges, states that he is sure that they are long gone and that he has never been in the U.S. He was recently stopped and inter¬rogated at the Tehran airport.”

Farhad, I hope that this issue has been resolved.

Paul Lehrer writes, “All of my friends are talking about retirement plans, but I think I have just learned how to do my profession well, so I’m still going with full steam ahead. I am a clinical psycholog¬ist and professor of psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ). I am a past president of the Asso¬ciation for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback and have just received a sizable grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to study biofeedback treatment of asthma. I have edited a book, Principles and Practice of Stress Management that is now in its third printing and has published more than 100 papers in various scientific journals. This stage of a teaching career is very rewarding, particularly seeing my students now develop productive academ¬ic careers of their own. I also enjoy my clinical practice through UMDNJ.”

“My wife, Phyllis, is an accom¬plished piano teacher and peda¬gogue, and is a professor of piano at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. My daughter, Suzanne, lives in nearby Princeton, with her two lovely children (aged 18 months). She also is a pianist and teacher. She is married to a lovely fellow, Jonathan LeBoeuf, who is an associate registrar at Princeton. My son, Jeffrey, is a diplo¬mat with the U.S. Agency for International Development. He lives in Tajikistan with his lovely wife, Natasha, and two children (6 and 3).”

Michael Hassan sent the latest episode in his life adventure. “I’m presently traveling in the Philip¬pines. That is my first time in Cebu last year. He’s an ex-Navy SEAL, and we met on Macon¬t Island at Chief Lapu-Lapu’s shrine.

“Mactan Island is a part of Cebu and is where the famous explorer Magellan bit the dust after living there only three hot and humid weeks. Seems Magellan sided with the wrong cheetah during an intertribal war and lost his life as well as those of most of the 600 men with him. The ex-SEAL and I are going diving off another island, Camiguin. The last time I dove, I returned to tell the tale, but I had a scary moment that made my coupling up with the ex-SEAL seem like a smart move. The last time (in Subic Bay, of WWII fame), I had to abort the morning dive because I was too tired. I had done to my underwa¬ter breathing apparatus.”

Steve Stollman wrote a while ago to let us know that he was about to be evicted from his of¬fice of more than 20 years at 3251 Broadway. He has been told that his lease is about to be up, albeit at an unaffordable five times my current rate, replacement space in the Nash building, where the Manhattan Project got its start. Given the interdisciplinary nature of our quest, this is a most appro¬priate location to gather the best vehicle design and construction minds. They could help to heal the potentially fatal environmental and economic (and ethical) wounds that our unsustainable transportation system is still inflicting upon our chances of survival.

“My business consists of two elements. One, profit-making, involves antique restoration, including treasured elements of New York City’s history, like the Automat and finely crafted 100-year-old carved Victorian bars. I also can be legitimately defined as a recycler, since a surprising por¬tion of my inventory was headed for the dump before it was rescued.”

“My other activity involves the creative development of new human-scale and human-powered transportation, bikes and trikes. I have put on conferences and events involving this work for 30 years. I operate a facility in Flush¬ing Meadows Park devoted to the evolution of these vital devices (www.LocalExpression.com). I have also been making proposals to the city regarding its plans to deploy a widespread shared-vehicle system (www.LocalExpression.com). If I am able to persist in my tenancy in Harlem, my intention is to de¬velop a creative design program to engage students and others in prototyping, testing and putting into operation crucial elements of the next generation of urban transportation.”

“When I provided the space and funding for the introduction of pedicabs into New York City 18 years ago, it was to spur awareness of the potential for clean, quiet, healthy modes of lightweight transit like human-powered trans¬portation to find a place here. It is most important that we find the way to maximize our impact on this planet rather than maximize it. The density of this city and wide variety of activities taking place here make this the perfect place to dramatically expand the role of human-powered transportation.”

When I asked him if any pro¬gress had been made, Steve replied, “Thanks for responding and offer¬ing to give some visibility to the issue. I’m afraid there has been no improvement in the situation. I may be history soon after the magazine comes out, but I still think it is im¬portant for former students to know what is going on here. I’d love to hear from some of them.”

You can find the full correspon¬dence from Steve (and even more news from Michael Hassan and others) on our Web site, www.c63ers.com.

Recent Class of ’63 lunches have been well attended. I hope that you will try to make the next lunch, scheduled for Thursday, May 13 (and then on Thursday, June 10). Check our Web site for details and to review pictures of past gather¬ings to see if you can spot an old friend.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

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The informal class lunches at the Columbia Club in Manhattan on the second Thursday of the month continue. We meet in the Grill Room on the third floor, which everyone seems to admire. Join us.

Allen Tobias has been named the Arts and Culture reviewer for the online publication examiner.com. Go to the Web site, type Allen Tobias in the “Search” box, and you will find eclectic reviews ranging from rock ‘n’ roll to the Frick Museum.

Stuart Sipeiser is a cardiologist in Wayne, N.J. After skiing in the morning at Hunter Mountain — a good cardiovascular exercise — he showed up for an evening event at the Columbia Club also attended by Nick Rudd.

The New York Times Book Review ran a full page review of The Great American University: Its Rise to Pre¬eminence, Its Indispensable National Role, Why It Must Be Protected by Jonathan Cole. The review noted that the book “makes the case for the extraordinary role [American research universities] play in improving our daily lives. He also argues that these ‘jewels in our na¬tion’s crown’ face a host of serious threats.”

Jack Leitner has retired as an internist after 23 years in Framing¬ham, Mass. A local newspaper, The Daily News, published a long
Mike Cook ’65 is being honored in May by the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group of the UJA — Federation of New York’s Lawyers Divisions.

The upcoming reunion in June (I will be there) undoubtedly will provide a good opportunity for our classmates to fill each other in on recent and not-so-recent developments, but I decided to send in a contribution to your growing file. Here it is.

“I continue to serve as a federal judge (now in my 11th year). As you know, federal jurisdiction is vast and complicated — civil and criminal litigation, admiralty litigation, patent and other intellectual property litigation, and the like. It remains both exciting and humbling to discharge such important responsibilities. One of the nice and unexpected ‘perks’ of the position is that it occasionally enables me to have contact with other Columbia graduates. Just last week, for example, I swore into citizenship in a ceremony conducted in my courtroom the Israeli journalist and author, Dore Gold, 1979. That came about through my connection with other members of the Brous family, including Rabbi Sharon Brous ’95; Sharon’s husband, David Light ’95; her father, Rick Brous ’58, ’60 Business; and her close friend Shawn Landres ‘94. Several years ago I swore Shawn’s wife, Zuzanna, into citizenship. Naturalization proceedings are wonderful. Sometimes I have conducted them for nearly 5,000 new citizens at a ceremony conducted in my courtroom the Israeli journalist and author, Dore Gold, 1979. That came about through my connection with other members of the Brous family, including Rabbi Sharon Brous ’95; Sharon’s husband, David Light ’95; her father, Rick Brous ’58, ’60 Business; and her close friend Shawn Landres ‘94. Several years ago I swore Shawn’s wife, Zuzanna, into citizenship. Naturalization proceedings are wonderful. Sometimes I have conducted them for nearly 5,000 new citizens at a ceremony conducted in my courtroom the Israeli journalist and author, Dore Gold, 1979. That came about through my connection with other members of the Brous family, including Rabbi Sharon Brous ’95; Sharon’s husband, David Light ’95; her father, Rick Brous ’58, ’60 Business; and her close friend Shawn Landres ‘94. Several years ago I swore Shawn’s wife, Zuzanna, into citizenship. Naturalization proceedings are wonderful. 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The Jewish prayer one says in mourning, I found myself much more looked to for advice, and before people I talked with in depth and was ready and physical health and was ready. It's surprising how much the loss of one's last parent leaves a hole in one's life, even though one is an adult (as I have been an adult for decades) with a spouse and descendants of one's own.

Apart from his personal importance to me, which I came to fully appreciate only in retrospect, I only retrospectively learned how deeply I had missed my father in profession. I'd known he was one of the originators of forensic toxicology, but only after his death learned how much he'd done to organize and advance the profession around the world. There are at least three annual Irving Sunshine awards given by various organizations in the field.

"At the other end of the age spectrum, our second grandchild was born just before my father's death. We're now up to five grandchildren, ages 1–6, with the San Francisco crew recently having moved back to Brooklyn, which makes them much more accessible. It's interesting how, despite having the same parents and the same home, the children in each family differ from one another. Of course, it shouldn't be a surprise—we experienced it with our own children—but it remains a source of wonderment. The pattern of vacations for my wife and me has changed, from trips to (somewhat) exotic (though not very exotic) lands to frequent long-weekend visits with the grandchildren. They're lots of fun, and it's nice to be able to enjoy spending time with them and watch them change, which happens rapidly. Most remarkable is the spider's export growth, the youngest has gone from unable to crawl to crawling all over and even pulling herself upright on convenient verticals.

"Professionally, I continue as head of health economics/services research at the American College of Radiology. Grad school (for me, Columbia, I'm proud to say) brainwashes the susceptible into thinking the object of professional life is to write scholarly articles. After a less research-y initial career, I've been doing that like mad and am now up to something more than 200 papers of which I'm author or co-author. (The obsession finally is easing; I've ceased exact counting.) For several years, I've had an academic appellation of sorts—Practice Manager for Columbia College, Jonathan Sunshine, Jr., of Rochester Hills, Mich., at the end of December 2009.

Many of you may be engaged in similar adventures. Your classmates would love to read about them. Do write.
were always the same, and no one based Fulbright & Jaworski. Also a business,” Bill said, and “the fan about turning my newsletter into clients and friends. “I had a fantasy cases, which he sent to his firm’s names of the clients. The problems Bill said.

The only thing to change was the spring weather. A number of you have promised updates, so soon your promissory notes are coming due. Looking forward to hearing from you.

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Talk about running into news. I attended a reception for users of Bloomberg News, a new legal research tool that I have been testing, and Bill Rochelle spotted me and came by to say hello. Bill now works for Bloomberg News, and naturally I asked him to provide some details. Bill switched careers after 35 years as a bankruptcy lawyer to become a column for Bloomberg News in New York. Raised in Texas, Bill came to New York for college and never left after graduating from the Law School.

“Bought a big co-op in Manhattan dirt cheap and didn’t want to pay capital gains taxes, so I stayed,” Bill said.

Bill spent most of his 35 years as a bankruptcy lawyer as a partner in the New York office of Houston-based Fulbright & Jaworski. Although the firm was “wonderful,” the work was routine after so long. “The only thing to change was the names of the clients. The problems were always the same, and no one is ever happy with the outcome of a bankruptcy case,” he added. In the mid-1990s, Bill started writing a daily synopsis of major bankruptcy cases, which he sent to his firm’s clients and friends. “I had a fantasy about turning my newsletter into a business,” Bill said, and “the fantasy turned into reality, thanks to Bloomberg when I came to know about the firm.”

Bill added: “I had two houses, two kids, two cars, and two dogs and two wives, so I didn’t need anything else. All I needed was an interesting new challenge. And that’s what I got. Today, I write a lengthy column every day for Bloomberg News describing the prior day’s events in 20 or so bankruptcy reorganizations. Do you want to know what’s happening in the bankruptcy and turnaround community? My column is the place to go. It’s a privilege to work for Bloomberg News, a financial news and information service owned by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who is the leader in supplying information for the Wall Street. It gives me a platform for telling the financial community what’s going on with sick and dying companies.” Bill never passes up an opportunity to put in a marketing plug for Bloomberg News (as this item shows), which he called the “Rolls Royce of financial reporting.” The Bloomberg terminal, according to Bill, “has everything Wall Street needs or wants, except pornography.” (For those of us testing Bloomberg Law, Bill’s last comment comes as a disappointment.)

Learning about Bill’s work for Bloomberg News in New York, I joined the company in April 2008, right after the collapse of Bear Stearns, and have been involved in coverage of the financial crisis ever since. I edit longer pieces and projects that run on the Bloomberg terminal, in Bloomberg Markets magazine and running in Bloomberg Businessweek. What’s different? Working for a media company that’s actually expanding and truly global.

Another news lead came in the mail, by way of the March 2010 issue of Vanity Fair, featuring Bill Studamore’s insider tale of his involvement with the Jon Peters book project — a tell-all memoir of a “half-Cherokee hairdresser” who became a film producer and then famously, but unsuccessfully, co-head of Columbia Pictures. The book was to be titled Studio Heat, which Bill’s article says was a “triple entendre.” (The first two are obvious; as to the third, Bill told me that Peters is “first and foremost a hairdresser” who “cuts the editors” they pitched.) Bill’s article, in the book was to be titled Studio Heat, The Greatest Story Never Sold! The Tell-All Memoir that Hollywood Killed.” A photo of Bill, with Peters, is included with the author’s credits on page 116.

I asked Bill for an insider’s view of the insider’s article. He responded: “Working with Jon Peters highlighted the great irony of prestige education: Here was a literally illiterate hairdresser who had gone to reform school with a glittering career and social life that most Columbians would have died for. Of course, he didn’t appreciate a bit of it; that’s where our education comes in, providing context and perspective. If we ran Columbia Px, we would enjoy it totally to work for Jon, I’m starting a new book on 1980s Hollywood barbarian producers called Moneyroad. It should explain once and for all why movies have gotten so terrible. I’m also working on a long-term project on Harry Winston, which has taken me around the world several times meeting princes, tycoons, oil sheikhs and arms dealers, who were Winston’s clientele. If a Saudi King bought a $1 million necklace for one of his wives, he had to buy equivalents for all their friends. That’s how got rich as Croesus. Movie stars rarely bought jewels, except for Liz Taylor. They just borrowed them.

“The first star I met was Paul Newman, when he came to speak at Ferris Booth Hall. I was grateful at that time for all why movies have gotten so terrible. Of course, he didn’t appreciate a bit of it; that’s where our education comes in.”

Bill’s article is a great read; my favorite sentence is “Peter’s warp-speed ride from hairdresser to producer to studio head made a business built on Schadenfreude apoplectic with jealousy.” (Paging through Vanity Fair led me to discover a new line of clothing called “Gap 1969”; how nice to have items in our class made for our class.)

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.

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Kenny Greenberg ’72 Brightens the World with Neon

BY KATIE MELONE ’01J

Inside his squat Long Island City studio, surrounded by machinery, remnants of art exhibits past and bright signs that read “Watney’s on Tap” and “Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer,” Kenny Greenberg ’72 passes a long, thin glass tube through a flame and bends it like a pretzel.

For decades, Greenberg has worked this highly specialized craft, creating neon signs that have graced Broadway stages, popular television show sets and high-end retail stores.

His work combines elements of science, art, electronics and design. Among his peers, Greenberg’s two-man operation, Krypton Neon, has gained a reputation for high-quality work in a field that has waned as few forefathers of the business passed down their trade. Greenberg, 58, was drawn to the field in his late 20s as a creative outlet when he realized he was unfulfilled in the education field.

While he is a commercial success in design and restoration of neon signs — Greenberg designed neon for the 2009 Tony awards, and for movies such as Men in Black and stores such as Chanel — he still sees his work primarily through the prism of art.

“It’s visual music, really,” he says, standing at his workbench.

And he looks the part of vanguard artist or musician. On this day, he’s wearing a black t-shirt and beat-up black Levi’s, his hair a mop of salt and pepper curls and his black eyebrows bushy and unkept. A New Yorker for 30 years, Greenberg moved to Long Island City in 1988, well before it became fashionable.

Greenberg came to neon after a brief stint working in education for the Jewish Child Care Association of New York. Unhappy in his work, he started to read and study matter and energy “from both a physics and metaphysics point of view,” he explained. “And the nature of light plays a strong role in both realms.”

Around 1980, Greenberg’s then-girlfriend noticed an ad for a neon course. It had never occurred to him that humans created neon; he assumed a machine manufactured the signs he admired. “For a bright guy, I wasn’t very bright,” he says, then chuckles. When “I first employee, another neon sign-maker.

“We made glancing contact in the ’80s. I found out he was doing stuff in neon and I seem to recall that, at the time, he was only beginning to go professional, and in my eyes, it was a sideline of his,” recalls Peter Frank ’72, an art critic and friend from Columbia who became a roommate after graduation. “I think he was doing something with kids or adolescents, and I thought that

his guitar, drew cartoons on the walls of his dorm (including a satiric take on the inhabitants, he says) and chased girls at Barnard.

“In terms of putting him into a category, he was a sensitive guitar strummer but with a poetic attitude liberally — unusually liberally — leavened with humor,” Frank says.

A mediocre engineering student early on, Greenberg transferred to the College and threw himself into his liberal arts studies, fondly recalling classes with Kenneth Koch, considered one of the great poets of the New York school of poetry, and Stanley Schachter, a noted social psychologist. Greenberg graduated with a B.A. in psychology, and two years later, an M.A. in education and psychology from Teachers College.

Of their time at the school, Frank says, “We knew that it was both a unique opportunity to explore the world and a unique moment in which to do so. And that is the general context for how Kenny found himself gravitating toward this neon art and neon craft.”

Greenberg’s first big show was Miss Saigon. He has since created neon for popular productions such as Victor/Victoria, Saturday Night Fever and Spring Awakening, and the movie Six Degrees of Separation, among others.

The work can be all-consuming. “If I have a day when I’m agitated, there’s a much higher chance that my work will have cracked,” he says. “It’s literally stored what I’ve put into it.”

But he achieves a certain Zen while in his studio. “When I’m working with glass,” he says, “I’m in a nice relaxed state, and I enjoy it.”

Katie Melone ’01J is a freelance journalist in Brooklyn, N.Y.
Columbia community, show your active connection by supporting the College. Your gift would like to increase the participation rate for the fund: Any amount from a new donor would be greatly appreciated. Of course, the more our classmatess give, the more that can be of immediate help to the current student body. Send your donation to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., 3rd FL, 4530 New York, NY 10025, and make a note that your contribution was prompted by reading CCT. You also can give via credit card at www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline.

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This is my second column as class correspondent, and I encourage all classmatess to come and send me updates. I also encourage all Class of '70 Classmates to come to our 40th reunion from Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. The events kick off on Thursday with a with a tour of the High Line and a cocktail party at the Gaslight's C2 Lounge. Our distinguished classmate Dr. Mark Pruzansky will host the Friday night class reception at his Park Avenue apartment. The Saturday activities will include lectures, courses, a wine tasting and a class dinner. At our 40th reunion dinner on Saturday, Classmate Alex McDonald will host the Ivy Champion basketball team. If you haven't registered, do so now: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

My Bronx Science classmate and friend, Paul Rosen, who has led an interesting life, reports on his latest — and very successful — career: “Well into my fifth or sixth career now as a primary care doctor in the South Bronx, not far from where I grew up. Interesting, that I responded to a challenge from Alan Solinger, a fellow Fordham denizen and then and now physician of some fame in ID/HIV research, who suggested at the '70 class reunion dinner we both attended back in 1990 with a certain flippancy that I should go to medical school. Since I had had so many other careers: first grade teacher, translator, police officer, parole officers, bounty hunter, researcher, lab tech, high school chemistry teacher). In a move that probably would have surprised Alan and certainly surprised my family and friends, I went to med school. The oldest student in my med school class, residency and fellowship, I am probably one of the only Class of '70 grads still paying off student loans. I hope that many more classmatess will show up for this year’s reunion than we have seen in years past. I would be happy to hear from classmatess/friends. My e-mail address is drpaulie2000@hotmail.com.”

David Lehman reports: “My book, A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American Songs, was published in October. I have given presentations based on it in New York, Washington, Atlanta and Chicago, and in the next weeks and months, I will be doing the same in London, Palm Beach and San Francisco.”

Dr. Mike Passow is completing his 40th year as an earth science educator, and his term as president of the National Earth Science Teachers Association. He organizes monthly programs that bring research scientists at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory together with class teachers. Next August, Mike will present a workshop about climate change at a conference in Recife, Brazil. During most months, you might see Mike in his blue kayak on the Hudson River.

Geoff Zucker reports: “I practice gastroenterology in a five-man group in Western Massachusetts (Amherst), home or near to five major schools, and married a nurse, now associate professor of nursing at UMass. Two children later, we’re empty-nesters and happy to visit the boys in Brooklyn and Boston.”

Lawrence Rosenwald reports: “At the age of 32, I published my Multilingual America: Language and the Making of American Literature in 2008, and my Library of American edition of Emerson’s journals is due out soon. Our twin daughters recently turned 30 and celebrated over high tea in London. April marked the 23rd anniversary of our becoming war tax resisters on grounds of conscience.”

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William P. Barr, attorney general under President George H.W. Bush, former general counsel of Verizon and currently a director of Time Warner, Selected Funds and Holcim US, has been elected a director of energy producer and transporter Dominion. According to The New York Times, March 4, 2010, “Now make room for I.”

“Prehab made its debut on February 25, the handiwork of Glasgow Rose, a commentator on Gawker, after a publicist for Charlie Sheen announced that the star of Two and a Half Men was entering rehab as a ‘preventative measure.’

Gawker wrote a satirical post delineating prehab as a vehicle for celebrity spin. ‘Get the “rehab” career bump without actually being an addict,’ Gawker wrote.

I had never been picked up by a number of blogs — prehab quickly moved to mainstream news outlets…”

Reading the article, I immediately remembered “prehab” from an excerpt Ron Bass sent me years ago, in communication about the class reunion dinner we were both writing (and may revise). So I contacted Ron, who confirmed that he had coined the word, and here is his report:

“Prehab appears in one of the fictional stories in my book, The World's Most Famous Reunion Dinner, which was published during the week of the blizzard in February 2006. I seem to recall first using it in a piece I wrote, probably in 2000, and certainly not later than 2001.”

My interpretation of Ron’s tongue-in-cheek style is to present a mass of detail with items increasingly being out of place. Here is the prehab excerpt I remembered:

“Preceded by Zorno, her long-haired dachshund, Dr. Lisa Coverdale breezed into Lotus Club on Clinton Street precisely at noon for our 15 minute interview that had been scheduled six weeks in advance and confirmed by email yesterday afternoon. Dressed in a turquoise Western shirt with guitars on the front, tight white low rise jeans, and white checked Vans sneakers, her hair resonated with that of the early 80s Lisa Coverdale, co-founder with her sister Laurel of The Astralettes, a self-described folkabilly band that soared into the stratosphere on the wings of their fluke hit ‘Mandalas on My Pillow,’ and then disintegrated abruptly due to what was described in the press as ‘creative differences’ between the sisters. Having graduated from UC Berkeley summa cum laude with a dual major in philosophy and psychology, she decided to start her career as a musician, after The Astralettes broke up in 1984 Lisa decided to continue her studies, and received a Ph.D. in psychology from Harvard in 1990. Her dissertation (Intersecting Impediments: How Social Preference and Racial Prejudice Drove the 1960 Choices of American Women) was published by Oxford University Press in 1991. Moving to the East Village after leaving Harvard, Lisa established the first of her network of clinics providing rehabilitations services to the children of rock stars, investment bankers, real estate magnates and other wealthy individuals. In 2004, the annual revenue of Pre-Hab, Inc. (‘So THEY won’t f up the way YOU did.’), of which Lisa is the CEO, was over $200 million, and the company’s stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Her second book, Twelve Steps for Tots, published in 1998, was an international best seller, and has been translated into more than a dozen languages. … Just one of the many ways our class was and is ahead of its time.

Ron adds that his band, Jersey Petroleum (see January / February 2009 Class Notes), will release its first CD, Living on Embassy Row, later this year.

Richard Hsia sends this report: “While the New Year of the Tiger (including the Siberian snow tiger) started on Valentine’s Day this year, it is evident that the ground-hog Punxoutawney Phil was so right when he saw his shadow and predicted a long winter to come.

‘Despite an epic snowstorm that closed all classes at Columbia (except B-School), the Columbia Lions waged a see-saw basketball battle against the visiting Penn Quakers on February 26 down under at Levien Gymnasium in the Dodge Physical Fitness Center. Both teams played hard-nosed, tenacious man-to-man defenses that thwarted the other side again and again. Or both teams can’t shoot. The game was close all the way, with leads changing myriad times, until, at the very last, Columbia won 56-55 with a turnaround, seemingly no look 17-foot jumper by 6-foot-7 forward Brian Grimes ’11, who, ironically, hails from Philadelphia. The home crowd loved it.”

‘Among those enjoying the game and rejoicing in Columbia’s triumph were Hillary and Dick Fuhrman, Bob Gallus (who still could improve the BB team), Chris Moriarty and his son, James (who can never out-run you), Beatrice (who looks like no other Columbia professor) and yours truly. Andy Arbenz said he was coming, but he must have been sitting with the Baby Blues Band on the other side of the court.

‘Before the game, we gathered for lively conversation and hamburgers, etc., up (but still underground) in the Lou Gehrig Lounge, whose picture windows overlook the court. There, we were regaled by Columbia’s cheerful cheerleaders and dazzling dance team. And then the game itself. One has to pass by and admire Greg Wyatt’s Scholar’s Lion sculpture, which
For this issue, we have both professional and personal items of note. Ron Weigl, a biology major at Columbia, is professor of biostatistics and epidemiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He recently was appointed associate editor of the international journal Preventive Veterinary Medicine. When he is not making decisions on publications or teaching statistics to graduate students, Ron and his wife, Susana, spend their evenings teaching and dancing Argentine tango.

H. “Hap” Aram Veeser’s new book, Edward Said: The Chairman of Criticism, the first biography of Columbia’s late University Professor Edward Said, was published in March. In the publisher’s words, “Drawing on what he learned over 35 years as Said’s student and skeptical admirer, Veeser uses never-before-published interviews, debate transcripts and photographs to discover a Said who had few inhibitions and loathed conventional routine. He stood for originality, loved unique ideas, wore marvelous clothes and fought with molotov fiytes. For 35 years he embraced and rejected, at the same time, not only the West, but also literary theory and the PLO. At last, his disgust with business-as-usual politics and criticism marooned him on the sidelines of both.”

Congratulations to Steven J. Schacter, whose daughter, Margot ’10, married Joshua Kaplan-Marans ’08 in September. The couple met at Columbia at the beginning of Margot’s first year. Josh is the son of Hillie Marans ’76. “We had around 25 people on the dance floor singing ‘Raaw, Lion, Raaw and Who Owns New York?’ (having made sure that the band knew both — they actually worked Who Owns New York? into Jewish dancing [wuuuuj]). It’s also worth noting that my daughter, Joanna ’05, also is married to a College alum, David Parker ’04. They, however, didn’t begin dat-

ging until after college, and had graduated together from the Ramaz Upper School in Manhattan, so Columbia can’t take more than minimal credit for the match.”

Greg Vitercik notes, “Our daughter, Ellen, somehow managed to get from pre-school to her last semester of high school in something like the blink of an eye. She visited a friend at Barnard earlier this fall and when she got home discovered that she had stayed in the dorm (Reid) — on the same floor — where her mother, Carol Murray ’73 Barnard, had lived her first year (a newly established music interest hall in 1969). She loves the city, and Barnard is high on her list.”

Greg was promoted last fall to full professor at Middlebury, where he has been teaching in the music department since 1986. “Carol has become an endorphin addict, spending hours every day at the gym and taking 10-mile walks every afternoon, no matter what the weather. Her ‘music interests’ have shifted from classical to death metal.”

Finally, we received the sad news that Glenn R. Swithes, who was an environmentalist, died in São Paulo, Brazil, on December 21. [Editor’s note: An obituary will be published in a future issue.]

Barry Kelner ’73 was named team lead for Wells Fargo Elder Services in Minnesota. Nick Lubur is in Ashiya, Japan, on temporary assignment. Ashiya, he says, is the “Beverly Hills of Japan … where my Honda Accord stands out from the BMWs and Mercedes. Life is quite different here, but easy (once you break through the language barrier) and very safe.”

Nick’s daughter is a sophomore at Occidental, giving her the opportunity to follow in our President’s footsteps (and transfer to CC). He hopes to be back sailing on Lake Erie by June.

That’s all we wrote. Not enough written response to my desperate pleas for notes; need notes, please. May we live to 120.

Fred Bremer 532 W. 111th St. New York, NY 10025 nbremer@pcient.ml.com

The American lexicon seems to morph at an increasing speed. A phrase that seems awkward when first heard now soon becomes commonplace. A few of you might remember the uproar when the then new gym was named the “Dodge Physical Fitness Center” around the time we graduated. This brought on jeers that Hamilton Hall should be dubbed the “Hamilton Mental Fitness Center.” Around the same time the head of the typing pool at my part-time job left to become the head of another firm’s “word processing department.” Roars of laughter could be heard above the clattering of our electric typewriters. Obviously, both terms have grown to become mainstream.

These tales of yesteryear came to mind when reading a recent copy of Spectator, which carried a front page article on Columbia’s plans to create “gender-neutral housing” in certain dorms that “allow for mixed-gender doubles.” No matter how much lipstick you put on it, this pig sounds an awful lot like the old phrase “shocking up.” Or, as the New Yorker put it, allowing couples to “live in sin on their partners’ dime.” Now that’s sounds familiar! [Editor’s note: The plan was not adopted for 2011.]

Browsing a recent issue of The Record (another Columbia publication), a picture of Sharif Abdus-Salaam with Phil Schap 73 jumped out. It seems that Phil was being honored at a gala dinner celebrating his 40th year hosting a jazz show on WKCR-FM, and Sharif was there as a fellow WKCR host. By day, Sharif is a superinten-
dent at the NYC Transit Authority. His wife, Sheila Abdus-Salaam ‘74 Barnard, ‘71, is a justice at the NYS Supreme Court in lower Manhattan. (Makes me wonder if she ever lunches with Shirley Kornreich, another NYS Supreme Court judge and wife of Ed Kornreich.) My son, David, is about to graduate from a NYC private school that now has kids from kindergarten to eighth grade. A few months ago, I was at a comparable grade parents where the school announced the plans for its new high school. Imagine my surprise when Larry Manner appeared before me. Ends up that Larry’s firm, Manner Architecture, was selected unani-
mosly to design the new Barnard-pre-school. I guess it shouldn’t have been such a surprise. His firm has done expansions for Chapin, Brearly, NYU and other prestigious NYC private schools.

From the mood of England came this e-mail from Les Bryan, mapping the course of his career during the past four decades: “After CC, I learned at Columbia’s Journalism School that I didn’t want to be a journalist, so I became a naval officer. After eight years of the sailor’s life, during which I married, I decided I didn’t want to be a ship driver anymore, so I became a teacher, first in the United States and then with the Department of Defense Schools in England. After 16 years of teaching, I decided I wanted to be a curriculum specialist, so I did that for three years before moving into school administration. I now am the principal of a pre-kindergarten-grade 12 Department of Defense school in Yorkshire.”

Les and his wife have two children: Colin (a submarine officer in the U.S.) and Rachel (a nurse and yoga instructor in Yorkshire). When I asked Les if he had finally found the “right” job, he replied, “It is for now, just as the others were then. I am a one-woman man, but not a one-man show.”

Stay tuned, sounds like there is still time for a few more chapters in this story! A press release arrived telling of
Gary Brill '75 co-founded the Humanist Chaplaincy at Rutgers at the beginning of this academic year.

for atheist, agnostic and questioning students at one of the nation's largest public universities. It also strives to promote understanding and tolerance of a large and growing segment of American society that is often the target of prejudice. More about the activities of the chaplaincy can be found at http://ruthgenhumanist.org.

The chaplaincy is very personal to Gary, touching his deeper values and allowing him to make connections with new people. Gary and his wife, Tamar, are still in the same brownstone on Rutgers' campus; son Zach '12 is at the College.

Ceyhan, Turkey's main oil transport port, appointed New York Attorney Melih (Mel) Dogan to expand and accelerate development of the city's growth as an international petroleum hub. Mel will assist the municipality in promoting the advantages of doing business in Ceyhan in the petroleum and ancillary industries. Mel has more than 25 years experience and success in identifying investors and developing projects for Turkish oil and gas companies. He predicts that there will be a “Ceyhan Oil Price” monitored by the industry in the same way that the Platt and Rotterdam benchmarks are applied.

While you may have known him as Rabbi Fish, he now identifies as Rabbi Dov Fischer. Dov has pursued careers both in the Orthodox Jewish rabbinate and secular law. After 10 years of service, he is pretty heady.”

Gary Brill has nothing on Christopher Pauc. Chris recently wrote in to us to update us on his four sons: Jesse (29), a photographer; Jordan (28), a marathon running “free spirit”; Zachary (27), who has left Citigroup to do premied; and Alex (19), who recently survived a traumatic brain injury and has had a miraculous recovery. Chris’ day, though, is nothing like that of the dad on the TV show. He is an internist in Tucson with a practice that concentrates on chronic pain management, hospice and palliative care. Despite the emotional challenges of his work, Chris says that “medicine became the equivalent of a Zen practice to me ... that no matter how much you give, you receive even more back.”

At the end of his lengthy e-mail, Chris added, “I hope that all of you have a happy and healthy New Year. I have had in watching the evolution of our own selves as the years go by. And for these very instances of evolution, I am thankful.”

Seems an apt summary of the general theme of these columns over the past few years.

There you have it. College kids “shacking up,” wives that lunch in their “robes” and a lot of classmates sharing their vignettes. All of this makes us the mosaic that we call the Class of '74 of Columbia College.

Gary Brill co-founded the Humanist Chaplaincy at Rutgers at the beginning of the current academic year. Humanism is a non-theistic approach to life that affirms morality, personal fulfillment and the greater good of humanity. The other co-founder is the chaplain, Barry Klassel ’68. The chaplaincy provides a welcoming community for atheist, agnostic and questioning students at one of the nation's largest public universities. It also strives to promote understanding and tolerance of a large and growing segment of American society that is often the target of prejudice. More about the activities of the chaplaincy can be found at http://ruthgenhumanist.org.

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on campus from Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. We’ve planned an exciting program of tours, seminars, parties and dinners. You’ve heard some already (Dead Head nars, parties and dinners. You’ve now: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu

tration packets. Please do plan to attend reunion or not — we’re in for a treat!) and an exciting program of tours, seminars and classes. You might have seen her at the dog show in Madison Square Garden in February. And finally, my son is almost two years out of Auburn and working for Lockheed Martin in logistics at its huge campus in Fort Worth.”

Mike goes on to say, “I thrived on my life on Daniel Island and might have considered moving here sooner if I’d known the ratio of men to women was 10:1. I still have my condo in Miami for a ‘getaway’, whatever you want it or not! Couldn’t sell it in the current market if I wanted.”

A loyal alum, Mike “makes it back to Homecoming every year and runs across fraternity brothers and classmates each time.” He also does what I should do, and participates in the Alumni Representative Committee interviewing local applicants to the College,” observing, “No way I could ever compete with the kids I’m meeting today.”

Having retired in 2006 after working as a prosecutor in “three different state attorneys’ offices in Florida,” Dean Tsourakis hung out on his own shingle in Clearwater, specializing in family law and criminal law. “I have handled many cases that received prominent national press on both sides of the criminal cases. I am sure that you have read about them or seen them on the news. I am happily married to the lovely Renee, and we reside in my hometown of Tarpon Springs. I am very fortunate in that my private practice is doing well in these economic times, knock on wood.”

Did you know that Joel Trachtman has published four books in the last two years? The Economic Structure of International Law (with Chantal P. Thomas); Ruling the World: Constitutionalism, International Law, and Global Governance (with Jeffrey L. Dunoff) and The International Law of Economic Migration: Toward the Fourth Freedom. Joel has taught international law at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts for 20 years. “Two kids in college,” he adds, and “one on the way (to college, that is). I like going to Columbia for conferences and seeing how nice everything is.”

Mark Sutton-Smith continues as v.p. and CTO for the NBA, “focusing increasingly on the international market for the NBA, which grows steadily.” He reports that he and his wife will be returning to Manhattan next year, “preferably to the Upper West Side,” when the second of his two daughters enters college. Older daughter Olivia will be a senior at Barnard by then and, at present, “coincidentally lives in my beloved 904 W. 110th St., where I spent my undergraduate years.”

Mark says that he “recently reconnected with Robert Martinez and would love to hear from them.”

From Atlanta, Paul Winum writes, first, that it is getting close to 20 years since it that he has worked for a management consultancy firm, RHR International, where he recently was promoted to senior partner and global practices leader; second, that he has been elected as a fellow of the American Psychological Association and, third (but apparently not in order of importance), that while on vacation in Hawaii last Christmas Eve, he got engaged to Leila Pinto, managing director at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. On top of all this, April marked “the 10th anniversary of an annual golf outing I put together, The Delilah Cup,” in which he notes that “several CC alums have participated over the years: Dennis Gonzalez, Mike Weaver, Steve Brandt, John Haggerty ’78, and John Pickerling ’79.”

Matthew Nemerson 35 Huntington St. New Haven, CT 06511 mnemerson@snnet.net

We have all been busy the past few months, and another issue of CCT has come out with no updates from any of you “50-somethings.” However, if your life is at all like mine, I think the fact that we are in the midst of the so-called “sandwich” years may have something to do with the silence out there. It’s not that Class Notes are not important, it’s just that we have a lot going on in our lives and we are dearly pulled between many priorities. The fact that we are mostly 50/50 relationships with our partners and spouses, you are probably a lot like me: juggling a lot of complex family issues.

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While many of us are now at the apex of our “careers” (and that is what Class Notes would have been about for the class of ’58 or ’68 when they hit the mid-50s) there is for us a new dimension: kids, parents and supporting our partners. And also working those 50 hours a week.

Note to everyone: I am not complaining at all. In fact there is a freedom at this point in my life to prioritize and do what needs to be done without the guilt I always had when I was younger that I was missing something critical at work when I was off doing the other priority of the day.

But things do come at you furiously. My youngest (Jen, 16) has been having some allergy issues and she needs to go to the doctor frequently. My mom’s husband of the last 10 years passed away peacefully at 92, and there were lots of issues there to make sure my mom was doing OK. My eldest (Elana, 20) needs rides back and forth to Clark in Worcester every weekend. My father has been recovering from a car crash in Detroit, and there have been visits and calls to help his wife out there. And my wife Marlene has taken F-4s to mach 2.4.) Anyway, send me some stories anyway, send me some stories
Robert Klapper
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Los Angeles, CA 90048
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Gill Lancaster: "Still living in
Redding, Conn., with my wife,
Mary, and two children and am a
full-time cardiologist at Bridgeport
Hospital (part of the Yale-New
Haven Health System). There, I am the
director of non-invasive cardiol-
ogy, which means I run the echo
lab and the cardiac nuclear testing
laboratory (you see, all the physics
and chemistry I suffered through
at Columbia actually served a
purpose after all!). I also am the
associate director of our Cardiology
Fellowship Program (training new
cardiologists). I am an assistant
clinical professor of medicine at the
Yale University School of Medicine
(but still root for the Lions when
they play the Bulldogs)."

"Recently, I was elected the Con-
necticut Governor of the American
College of Cardiology and will
serve on the ACC Board of Gover-
nors beginning in 2011."

"I make it into the city and Morn-
ingside Heights quite often, as my
mother lives on Claremont Avenue.
Although the neighborhood has
changed (no more TaKome, The
Gold Rail, Mama Joy's or West
End), Tom's is still there!"

"Hope all is well with you."

Gill, my stomachache is still there!

Robert S. Richman updates us.
He has "moved back to NYC and
has written a still-unpublished
third volume of poetry and still
work[s] at home as a freelance
writer."

Robert, nothing in life is free.
Partner Thomas Kligerman and the
architectural firm Ike Kliger-
man Barkley Architects have pub-
lished Houses, a first monograph
of the firm's work, which draws
on 25 years of IKBA's practice and
some 250 projects featuring 25
houses across the country.

And speaking of housing, for
the last 3½ years, Jonathan Rubin
has been a Guardian Ad Litem for
NYC Civil Court Housing Part and
NYC Housing Authority.

Jonathan represents disabled
seniors and disabled individuals
on a fixed income at the NYC
Civil Court Housing Part and at
NYCHA Administrative Hearings.
He also is instrumental in obtain-
ing grants enabling these families
to remain in their apartments.

When not advocating for the
poor, Jonathan is helping the en-
vironment. He was president of New
York City Friends of Clearwater
from 2007–09. The organization
helps to educate people in protect-
ing the Hudson River. Jonathan
writes for the Environmental
and has reported on New York
City's water contamination issues.
Jonathan, I remember drinking
that water, and my stomachache is
still there!

Jonathan is married to Cathy
Sylvis, a PBK, Thomas Hunter
English Fellow and Blanche Colton
Williams Fellow who earned her
B.A. in English literature and in the
honors program from Hunter Col-
lege and an M.A. from Columbia."

"We have a lovely 15-year-old
daughter, Zoe, who attends Horace
Mann as a scholarship student,
who has outstanding grades, who
made the varsity field hockey
team this year and who recently
attempted to make the varsity
lacrosse team. Zoe has participated
successfully in Model U.N. Com-
petitions, winning best delega-
tion at the Princeton Model U.N.
competition with her partner and
winning outstanding delegation
with her partner most recently at
the Harvard Model U.N. She also
studies the piano."

Richard Perl is CAO for Terra-
Cycle (www.terracycle.net), which
collects non-recyclable packaging
waste from more than 60,000 pro-
ductive locations throughout the
United States and turns that waste
into new products and materials,
keeping it from landfill. He lives
near Lincoln Center with his wife,
daughter and son.

Richard, what could you turn
my college diploma into?

Robert C. Klapper: "I rowed on
the Columbia freshman light-
weight crew team ... God, that
was a long time ago. At the top of
the stairs in my house in Ventura
(where I surf every Sunday), there
is a 172-pound oar, my 15-year-old
over from those days. The first day
at crew practice, the octogenar-
ian manager of the boathouse
told me a secret. The tradition
at Columbia, and perhaps at the
other Ivy League schools, was
that if you cracked the wooden
door, you got to keep it. I weighed
172 pounds at the time, and the
coach gave me two options: You
can bulk up and gain 20 pounds
and row heavyweight, but if you
wanted to start in the first boat of
the lightweights, he would let me
weigh 154½ pounds, the maximum
for the lightweight crew. Each day,
I went to practice and on some
days, double practices (I'm tired
just thinking of that), I would look
for the 89-year-old manager and
request the same oldest oar in the
boat. I pulled long on the crew for
a whole year, rowing on the
Harlem River watching floating
conduits, washing machines and
on one day, a corpse. And on the
last day of our freshman year I
heard a crack! I hear that crack
every Sunday when I see that oar.
Any relics from Columbia in
your house? Let me know. (And I
don't mean a Barnard girl!)"

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6
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Spring is in the air, and baseball
and golf are in full swing. I have
been to Robertson Field to see our
team play, and we have been very
competitive this season. In fact,
Eric Blattman, John McGuire,
Hal Robertson '81E and I traveled
to Las Vegas to see the team play
UNLV in March. We came home
after taking one of four games
from a high-scoring UNLV team ...
and what happens in Vegas stays
in Vegas.

The Football Golf Outing was
well attended by the Class of 1980,
with Scott Ahern, Eric Blattman,
Joe Ciulla, Shawn Fitzgerald and
me battling the Classes of '78 and
'81. Joe distinguished himself with
his sharp golf attire and almost hit
a fairway this year! We had a great
night making calls at my office for
our reunion and reunion gift. I want
to thank Jeff Field, Arielle Teitel, Jim
Gerken, Bruce Paulsen, John Schutty
and David Leahy in D.C. for all of
our Golf Outing support, co-workers
from all three of Brian's firms were
in attendance, each vying to outdo
one another in applauding Brian
for reaching this milestone. Brian's
speech covered three decades of
life at Columbia, and it was well
received by the large audience.
Joining Brian in celebrating this
honour was his love, Lauren, his
sister Susan, and their three children; his
mother, Arline; and a large, apparently
intoxicated and boisterous group
from Phi Gamma Delta. Members
of the Fijis present were Adel
Aslanian '90, Adam Barrison '91,
Michael Beinunger '89, Steve Cole-
man '83, Ed DeSear '82, Eric Hopp
'98, Tony Santos, Anthony Leitner
'65, Peter Luccarini '78E, Marty
Moroney '82, Bruce Sargent '66,
'68 Business, Fred Wang '95E and
Robert Yanich '65.

Brian is a reminder that we all
can make a difference if we're
willing to look beyond ourselves,
whether it be to the College or some
other worthy cause or organization.
Jeff Gracer has found a way to
combine his professional life with
community service: "My wife and
I have become avid bikers and love
to ride, [especially] the Transporta-
tion Alternatives century. I am a
regular bike commuter and stop
only when it snows! I’m continuing my environmental law practice at Sive, Paget & Riesel, focusing in Taipei, Taiwan, on October 16. Marcovitch (f/k/a Hsiangyi Wu) wanted a small, rural setting (Williams). The good news is that his environmental law practice at Columbia was, and is always will be respected for the great education it offers. But, what Columbia offered me extended beyond the classroom. During these years, I learned to become independent, experienced the responsibilities of running a business on campus, understood the importance of teamwork through the extracurricular activities I pursued and came to appreciate the enormous value in taking initiative. These were, without a doubt, important contributing factors to my education, and fortunately these opportunities and life learning skills are still very much part of the Columbia experience today. I can truly say I never take for granted the amazing education I received at Columbia. I learned to experiment; I pursued my intellectual curiosity, learned to take risks, and made lifelong friends. I continuously think about how lucky I am to have attended Columbia and am grateful for the way it prepared me for life and my career after school. And to be a recipient of the John Jay award, it’s icing on the cake. Thank you all very much.”

Fixed income guru Tracy also expressed his appreciation for the fine education and opportunities that Columbia afforded him. I can’t help but share many of these sentiments.

Attending the dinner in support of Tracy and Frank were such luminaries of ’82 as (in no particular order) Andrew Danzig, Victor Lopez-Balboa, Dave Filipa, Luis De Chiara, Fred Katayama, Martin Moroney, Tom Nevitt, Joe piscina and Joe Cabrera.

Ralph Rivera ’83 has been appointed president, online, of Major League Gaming, a professional video game league.

Andrew Weisman
710 Lawrence Ave. Westfield, NJ 07090
weisman@comcast.net

Greetings, gentlemen. I trust all is well and that the warm spring weather provides you with renewed optimism, thereby driving a higher than expected Michigan Consumer Confidence number, triggering a 30-point rally in the S&P, a widening in the 2s versus 10s yield spread, signaling the prospect of further reductions in accommodative monetary policy. For those of you who left the New York financial community far behind, this means “Have a nice day.”

Once again, I am filled with pride and admiration by the accomplishments of our classmates. On March 3 at Cipriani 42nd St. in New York City, five accomplished College alumni were honored with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. Two of these distinguished alumni were none other than Frank Lopez-Balboa and Tracy V. Maitland. One of the other honorees was actress Julia Schmidtberger ’82, Joe Cabrera ’82, Tracy V. Maitland ’82 and Brian Kribsberg ’81, attended CC4U with us in the early 1980s. I was particularly moved by Brian’s remarks. He spoke about the joy he experienced witnessing the transition of an all-male Columbia College to a co-ed institution. In fact, Brian was head resident of a co-ed Carman Hall while attending the Law School. I have had the pleasure of working with Brian on the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors, where he currently is chairman. Brian is a tireless supporter of the College.

Frank invited the organizers of our 25th reunion class to his Park Avenue apartment. The Class of ’82 had an enormously successful 25th reunion and his knowledge, words of encouragement and hospitality contributed to the success of our reunion.

Debbie and I were elated to be seated at the dinner with legendary basketball superstar Richie Gordan. Richie recently was honored by being inducted into the Boys and Girls H.S. Sports Hall of Fame. He is in touch with many of his CC basketball teammates including Darren Burnett (banking), Eric Clarke (professional basketball player/world traveler), Brad Brown (dentist) and Koko Eaton (orthopedic surgeon for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays). Richie lives with his family in New Jersey and is a broker/dealer. He has remained active in Columbia athletics and alumni activities.

I also spent time with Mike Brown ’80, Alex Sachare ’71, Mike Schmidtberger ’82, Joe Cabrera ’82, David Filipa ’82, Mark Amster-
Tom Watson '84 launched CauseWired Communications to work with nonprofits and foundations on using social media and storytelling.

to help manage its rapid global growth, as well as to continue to innovate around how MLG Nation experiences the world’s only digital sport. "Having worked closely with Ralph over the years, I know he understands the unique demands of a business that sits at the intersection of sports and video games," said Matthew Bromberg, president and CEO of Major League Gaming. "We are changing the face of sports media and Ralph is a great addition to the senior team." For the last six years, Ralph oversaw the AOL Games and AOL Latino businesses, as well as the expansion of AOL’s content sites internationally. Under his direction, AOL Games launched Game.com to provide a best in class casual gaming experience that consisted of a comprehensive portfolio of card, board, puzzle, arcade and casino games, along with a social gaming platform offering avatars, profiles, chat, tournaments, leaderboards, tokens and badges. He also led AOL’s leading bilingual portal — AOL Latino and was responsible for growing non-US audience from 0-50% of traffic. Additionally, he was responsible for AOL’s programming expansion across the Americas, Europe, and APAC. Throughout his career, Mr. Rivera has focused on the intersection of technology and media. Previously, he held executive and staff positions at AOL’s Moviefone, Pearson Education, Simon & Schuster, Deloitte & Touche, and IBAP. He earned his undergraduate degree from Columbia College and an M.B.A. from New York University.

Steven Greenfield writes, new season of Curb — a reunion of the cast of Seinfeld. As Curb enters its seventh and potentially final season, David returns to the place that first made him a household name, and he’s bringing Seinfeld, his best friend/ manager, Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Michael Richards with him in a faux ‘Seinfeld’ reunion. The socially inappropriate and still wildly funny David (Without your health you’re nothing. Some people are nothing even with their health. Like me.) is still calling other drivers ‘Schmohocks!’ and people are nothing even with their dignity. Larry is still wildly funny David (Without your health you’re nothing. Some people are nothing even with their dignity. Like me.) is still calling other drivers ‘Schmohocks!’ and still scherizing in the best tradition of Stg. Billco and Jack Benny. Taking on life’s everyday problems in largely improvised and symmetrically plotted episodes, with two disparate ideas converging in each episode, Larry’s philosophical concerns about David, who carefully outlines every episode, continues to push the creative envelope, turning every creative turn on its ear, including Jewish identity. Curb has become the current clubhouse where Jewish comedians meet.

"The former ‘master of his domain,’ David is the unbridled id of Seinfeld and the master of Jewish comedy. From feigning Orthodoxy in order to get his friend Richard Lewis a kidney donation, which harks back to Seinfeld making out with his rabbit’s-daughter girlfriend during Schindler’s List, to a vengeful George mixing lobster into her omelet after a fight, ‘the formula is the same as Seinfeld, David said, ‘to do awful things that people think about and sympathize with.’ Over the years, the overtly Jewish Larry has contemplated a spouse-authored 10-year anniversary dalliance with his Orthodox Jewish dry cleaner; feigning not wanting to miss the Four Questions at the Passover seder, it is a moment worthy of Philip Roth. ‘I’m like every other Jew — there are things I like and things I don’t like and understand about Judaism — I have the desire to talk about it,’ David said. ‘I don’t think of things to do about Judaism, but if I hear or read a story, I say ‘I have to do something with that.’ The chairlift episode was based on a story I read. And Larry’s almost death-dealing experience of a spiritual awakening was based on a story I read about something similar happening to Cat Stevens.’ "Garlin and Essman play Jeff and Susie Green, Larry’s best friends — and the Jerry and Millie Helper to his twisted Rob Petrie, an alternate universe Dick Van Dyke Show that tests all the conventions of sitcoms and comedy. ‘I’m very proud of my Jewish heritage,’ said Garlin, also the executive producer of the show. ‘The Four Questions joke comes out of the fact that I have the feeling that something is going to happen in any way. We’re Jewish, and that becomes part of our humor.’ To say that I use humor to show pride about my religion would be hypocritical, because I’m a nonbeliever and not religious in any way, but I do, however, feel proud to be a part of a long legacy of comedians, many of whom come from Jewish backgrounds,” said Essman … ‘New York Jews frequently say things to me about Curb, like: ‘I’m sure no one else in the country gets the show but us.’ That couldn’t be further from the truth. The humor in the show is universal, as is most Jewish humor — or all those great Jewish comics wouldn’t have been so popular. Anecdotally, I’ve been told by almost every ethnicity from Afri-can, Indian, Mid-Eastern, WASP’s, etc., that they love the show.’ I thoroughly enjoyed the Alum-ni Profile of twin jugglers Jake and
Juggling Association champion Jon's son, Isaac, will be entering April CCT. In fact, my wife and I CLASS NOTES to see them perform at the Big mance at the 2001 International "I am the chief of neuroradiology association of Columbia continues to attract the best juggling talent in the Ivy League.

Congratulations to follow CCT class correspondent Jon White '85. Jon's son, Isaac, will be entering Columbia this fall. It seems like yesterday that I met Jon as he arrived at Columbia while I was on the Orientation Committee. Isaac, the Class of '83 welcomes you to the Columbia family!

It's been a busy year for Tom Watson. His first book, CauseWired: Plugging In, Getting Involved, Changing the World, chronicled the rise of online social activism and went to a third printing. Tom launched a consulting company, CauseWired Communications, to work with nonprofits and foundations on using social media and storytelling to attract supporters and raise money for causes. You can check in at CauseWired.com. "Batter up! Doug Soffy is in the house! "I have been living in Pleas-}

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"I am the chief of neuroradiology at Weill Cornell Medical Center. Although I have never actually been to Cornell's Ithaca campus. I think that this has set some kind of dubious record! "Since Columbia is located between my work and home, I visit the campus somewhat regularly to reminisce about my old stomping ground and actually listen to some lectures. It seems that the Core Curriculum had a long-lasting effect on me! "It was wonderful to see old friends at our 25th reunion. Thank you especially Doug Mintz, for opening your home to fellow classmates." And speaking of Doug... "After 12 years as a musculoskeletal radiologist in my hometown of New York, I am plying my craft in the Adirondacks. We've both spent the past 25 years. I've been able to leverage my four years on the CU varsity baseball team into the highly sought after (unpaid) position as the head JV coach at our local high school. I'm finding that 14- and 15-year-old players are much better baseball players, since there's no way that my skills have deteriorated. One highlight, though, was that I struck out Joe DiMaggio's great-nephew (also Joe DiMaggio) during tryouts this past spring. He made the team anyway."

Ted Rodriguez-Bell regrets that he couldn't make the reunion last year because he was substitute coaching for his daughter's softball team. His charges hit two flies over the infield and recorded a defensive putout, which for first-graders was impressive. Ted and his wife, Nancy '86, work for competing banks and share the same home office. They and their daughter, Sophie, live in Berkeley, Calif., where they find entertainment in the chicken coop across the street is unremarkable and the Priors are beyond counting.

In the words of proud papa Andre Holodny, "I am most proud to announce that my daughter, Elena, has been accepted to Columbia College early decision and will be attending the greatest school in the world as a member of the Class of 2014. Elena will be a third-generation Columbian, as my mother is a graduate of the Barnard Class of '56. We have another Columbia connection, as I met my wife, Maria, at Bard Hall at the P&S campus when she was in her senior year in medical school and I was a radiology resident (at that purple school downtown) but still living in the Columbia neighborhood."

I am president of the alumni association at Barnard College and a member of the alumni board. I am also owner of a medical practice in Manhattan. I have been living in Pleas-
Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lynn Collins.

Joe Burgjal (who must hold the record from our class with three other Columbia degrees: M.A., '86 GSAS; M.Phil., '91 GSAS; Ph.D. '08 GSAS) recently released his latest book, Have You Seen My Dinosaur?, in which a little boy’s dinosaur sends him on a surprisingly difficult hunt when he decides to play hide-and-seek. The text contains lots of catchy rhyme and repetition to reinforce word recognition. The book makes for a pleasurable learning experience for young readers. Joe’s book is the latest in the Beginner Books series, which began in 1957, when Theodore Geisel — known to the world as Dr. Seuss — wrote a book called The Cat in the Hat. Jon also is an Emmy Award-winning writer of Lamb Chop’s Play-Along (Patty, Puce, Prunty, Dooody and Friends NBC) and Emily of New Moon (CBC) and creator of Muggsy and GO-USA (NBC) and The Big Game Hunt (New York State Department of Education).

Bonnie Morris has joined the New York office of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe as a partner. DLA Piper announced that Curtis Mo has joined the firm’s corporate and securities practice as a partner in the Silicon Valley office. Curtis is one of the most respected lawyers in Silicon Valley and in venture capital circles. His arrival reinforces our commitment to Silicon Valley as a focal point of our practice, given the history of the technology community here and the global role that it plays,” said Greg Gallo, a senior partner in DLA Piper’s Silicon Valley office, in a release. Curtis has represented 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 complex transactions. He has extensive experience in corporate governance matters and regularly acts as general outside counsel to public and private companies at all stages of development, particularly in the technology, life sciences, clean energy, technology, energy and consumer sectors.

Before joining DLA Piper, Curtis worked at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorsey, where he was the founding partner of its Palo Alto office. He has lectured extensively at seminars sponsored by the Practicing Law Institute and other professional groups and has given expert legal commentary on emerging growth companies and the technology sector for CNN Moneyline, CNBC Business Center and various publications.

Curtis is the founder and co-chair of PFL’s Venture Capital Conference. He 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. He also is a member of the Board of Directors of the Influential Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network.

What are his qualifications for senator? “The first qualification is not being from Washington. The problem today is the town is essentially populated by people who are perpetually interested in their own re-election.”

John is a third-generation Ne- vadan — he and his two brothers were raised on a cattle ranch in Elly, Nev. And while at Columbia, John was an intern for former Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt. John’s top opponents in the Republican primary are casino businessman and former state Senator Sue Lowden and former UNLV basketball star Danny Tarkanian. John has been tirelessly hitting the campaign trail across the state, and his TV ads have begun airing. The Republican primary will be held on Tuesday, June 8, and the winner will face Senator Majority Leader Harry Reid in the Senate election on Tuesday, November 2.

Best of luck John — we are pulling for you! Check out — www.chachasfornevada.com.

Daniel Ninivaggi was appoint- ed president of Icahn Enterprises. Famed corporate raider and activist Carl Icahn said: “I have known Dan for a number of years and have always been impressed by his intelligence, ability and work ethic. I believe he will be a great addition to the IEP team and look forward to working with him.” Dan was previously e.v.p. at Leer Corp. and before that a partner at Winston & Strawn. He earned an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago and a law degree from Stanford.

Laurence Holtzman ’88 and Felicia Needelman ’88 recently won the Theater for the American Musical Prize in the New York Musical Theatre Festival.

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Steve Heroux ’91 Builds a Product Empire

While other consumer product companies duke it out with Droids and iPhones, Hampton Direct, the company responsible for the “As Seen on TV” products, is sticking with the basics. “We sell a lot of problem-solvers, time-savers and money-savers,” says Steve Heroux ’91, Hampton Direct CEO and founder.

Under Heroux’s guidance, Hampton Direct (www.hampontdirect.com) concentrates on designing and selling simple household products, such as the Wonder Hanger, which reduces closet clutter by vertically staggering garments, and the Twin Draft Guard, a fitted under-door tube that reduces draft and cuts energy costs. These are two of more than 500 items that Hampton Direct markets, and they’re selling extremely well: Hampton Direct tripled its 2009 sales from 2008.

Products deemed to have the greatest selling potential will appear on TV advertisements and end up with an “As Seen on TV” label in stores, while some products appear solely in catalogs or retail outlets without TV ads. The Wonder Hanger and the Twin Draft Guard are both “As Seen on TV” products.

“I spend a good chunk of my time looking at new products and ideas,” Heroux says of his day-to-day schedule. “I spend a lot of time with the design team and I spend a lot of time with sales, making decisions on what we want to bring to market.” Heroux’s main focus is making the call on the next product to appear on TV. Hampton Direct invents many products in-house but also buys products from enterprising inventors. “There are a lot of people out there with good ideas,” he says. “We’re trying to close that gap, so someone has an idea, they bring it to us and we have the capabilities to develop the item.”

A native of Montréal, Heroux majored in political science at the College. “I think the school in many ways got me involved with international business,” he says. “I’ve met a lot of people who are from Columbia who are living all over the world.”

This focus has served Heroux well. Hampton Direct does more business internationally than it does domestically, a significant shift from when he founded the company in 1995. “Because we can sell more products outside of the United States, you’re looking at a product like a Wonder Hanger. Almost everywhere has closets, so that product applies to a lot of different places. We’re thinking more globally than we were 14 years ago.”

Heroux is accomplishing all of this from cozy Williston, Vt., where Hampton Direct is headquartered. He and his family live a few miles up the road in South Burlington. Living in Vermont is not a hindrance to getting business done, Heroux notes. “Burlington is not exactly New York City, but with the Internet, FedEx and cell phones, we can pretty much accomplish anything we want.”

Heroux met his wife, Jennifer, while he was at the College and she was attending the Manhattan School of Music. They have two children, Helena, 7, and Steve Jr., 5. Despite his demanding business life, Heroux makes time for family. “I try to get home to see the kids at night, and I catch up on weekends,” he says. “Burlington has a lot to offer for family. There’s a ton of sports, and in the winter there’s skiing and sledding.”

Perhaps Heroux learned the art of such balance early. Not only did he graduate from the College a semester ahead of schedule but he also was an active member of Sigma Nu and played on the tennis team. “He ranked fifth in Canada juniors,” Prem Parameswaran ’90 GS, ’95 Business, a fellow Sigma Nu brother, says of Heroux’s high school tennis days. “He decided at some point to focus more on business, although I’d probably say he had more raw talent than many players who went on [to play professionally].”

“He was always a go-getter,” Parameswaran adds. “He always wanted the best.”

After graduation, Heroux spent formative time working in sales at Sheffield Labs (now Sheffield Pharmaceuticals), a company that invented, among other things, modern toothpaste. “Obviously something’s wrong with their marketing because no one’s heard of them,” he notes dryly. “They did a lot of private label and contract packaging. I worked there and from there I started Hampton Direct.”

While Heroux talks with an easy calm, he’s intensely passionate about his work. “It’s very satisfying when you come up with an idea ... [and] consumers start buying it in the millions and telling you that you’ve had a really good idea,” he says. “Knowing that whatever I’m working on could be the next big thing really gets me pumping.”

So what’s a product on the horizon that he’s excited about? “We have a new pillow,” he says without missing a beat. “It’s very versatile — it turns into many shapes. You can put it around your neck, your back, your legs.”

“There are always things in the works. To make a big item, the odds of success are one out of 10, one out of 15 ... we have to kind of weed through,” Heroux muses. “But you never know what’s going to hit.”

Jesse Thiessen 11 Arts
service in New York in the years to come. Last March, Julie was among several of our classmates who gathered at Midtown for a mini-reunion at Bobby Van’s. Though I missed our mini-reunion, I was able to attend Columbia alumni festivities in and around the Sundance Film Festival, which was held in Park City, Utah, in January. For those who are looking for an excuse to see independent films and enjoy some skiing, the Columbia Alumni Association hosts a reception and cocktail party open to all alumni during the Sundance festival. Our university was well represented at the festival this year, with many films by Colombians featured. Carol Becker, dean of faculty, School of the Arts, and Donna H. MacPhree, v.p. for alumni relations and president of the Columbia Alumni Association, hosted the fifth annual CAA at Sundance Film Festival 2010 Directing Award in the dramatic category for his film 3 Backyards.

Utah residents Anne-Marie Wright and her husband, Fred Lampropoulos, hosted a reception for alumni at a local art gallery. Anne-Marie, who also has a master’s in journalism from Columbia, was deputy director of communications for the New York City Council and has written for several publications. She has three children and has written a book for women, A Bundle of Clones, aimed at helping women of the Mormon faith balance and achieve their life goals. It was great catching up with Anne-Marie, who continues to take on writing projects and hopes to have another book finished this year.

For those who will be in New York City this summer, the Columbia Alumni Association picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, from 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m. on South Lawn. The annual event for families includes children’s book readings, field games, face painting and more. Hope to see some of you there.

### Weekend

**Evan Schultz and Josh Saltman, and also sees Chapin Clark and Matt Segal every so often. All are healthy and happy.**

Thanks to everyone who has shared their news with us. Until next time … cheers!

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**Leila Charles Leigh ’92 is producing a new romantic comedy, Conception.**

Leila Charles Leigh ’92 was honored by the Columbia Alumni Association picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, from 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m. on South Lawn. The annual event for families includes children’s book readings, field games, face painting and more. Hope to see some of you there.

### Reunion June 3-June 6

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I’m excited to see many of you in a few weeks at Alumni Reunion

**Margie Kim**
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Hello, all! Just a few, but happy, updates this time.

**Elisabeth Porter**, who lives in Florida and is a civil litigation attorney for a firm specializing in representing banks in foreclosure cases, gave birth to Ari Jacob Goldstein on December 7. Congrats, Elizabeth!

This in from Francesca Coppa: “Belatedly surfacing from the fourth trimester” to say that my husband, Joe, and I had a baby: Joseph Coppa Rizzo, born October 23. We are delighted with him and figure he’ll apply early decision for the Class of ’30."

**Dave Kaufman** is a physician in Connecticut, specializing in pulmonary and critical care medicine. He is an assistant professor at Yale, and section chief of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine at Bridgeport Hospital, where he also directs respiratory therapy, rapid evaluation and the Ethics Board. Dave also does clinical research on conditions such as sepsis and acute lung injury. He keeps in touch with

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**David Kunian** lives in New Orleans and received the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities “Individual Achievement In The Humanities Award” for 2009. Congratulations!

Our class cover model in our class! Well, not that kind of cover model. But our own Aaron Lebovitz was one of several practitioners featured in a cover story on high frequency trading in Futures Industry magazine (www.futuresindustry.org/futuresindustry.asp). Leila Charles Leigh (formerly Gotoff) wrote to tell about an exciting new movie project that is truly a team effort (her husband wrote it and will direct). Leila said the movie, in prep production now, is a romantic comedy called Conception and is about nine couples on the night they conceive a child, all in different stages of their relationships (e.g., a blind date, a couple on the verge of breaking up, a couple for whom sex has become a chore, a lesbian couple artificially inseminating, a high school couple in over their heads). As Leila described, “These scenes are juxtaposed with a class of first-graders who sort of ambush their teacher, asking him how babies are made, the idea being that the fairytail version of our origins is often very different from the reality. Connie Britton, Julie Bowen, Gregory Smith, Jonathan Silverman and Pamela Adlon are in it, as am I. I’m also producing. Lots of fun. Lots of work.”

Leila added some news on one of our classmates: Valerie Chase visited Leila in December. According to Leila, Valerie lives in Basel, Switzerland, with her husband, Ralph.

---

**Jeremy Feinberg**
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Finally, finally, finally.

Lots of news, and a long column. Thank you to those who responded to my solicitations for news, and I hope we start a nice long run of lengthy columns right here and right now.

---

I should thank Jake Novak for my next piece of news. Jake is the co-founder and senior producer of Fox Business new show, Varney & Company, which airs every weekday at 9:00 a.m. Jake came to Fox to help launch its business network in 2007 after previously spending seven years at CNN. Recently, in an instance of CC ’92 cross-promotion, Jake interviewed Eric Garcetti about the financial challenges facing Los Angeles. As if that weren’t enough to keep him busy, Jake recently wrapped up his second season on HBO’s hit showing color commentary for Lions football along with play-by-play man Jerry Recco, on www.gocolumbiaiions.com. Jake continues to document the past, present and future of Lion football on his blog, www.rearions.blogspot.com. Jake lives on Long Island with his wife, Adar, and daughters, Jordan and Yael. Jordan has been the “honorary ball kid” at several Lion football and basketball games over the past few years.

Finally, Marion Contuglia, a Denver-based attorney, has found himself mentioned in quite a few newspapers lately. He is representing Holly Sampson, one of Tiger Woods’ alleged mistresses, and was quoted giving a “no comment” on her behalf in such newspaper as New York Post and the New York Daily News. That’s it for now. Let’s keep the streak going here. Longer is better! I look forward to hearing from you.
Leyla Kokmen 440 Thomas Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN 55405

de_kokmen@earthlink.net

Well, not a ton to report this time out. But I am pleased to share the happy news that creative director Nedde-Stephens married Jill Allison, Nussbaum on September 6. The wedding took place in Charlotteville, Va. The couple lives in New York, where Paul is v.p. for digital media at Comedy Central and Jill is executive creative director at R/GA, a digital design agency.

In other news, I recently saw Alex Rosenstein at a Columbia University Club of Minnesota board meeting and was thrilled that he agreed to be our secretary as we continue to formalize our club for Minnesota alums.

Please drop me a line with the latest in your world. As you can see, we need more updates!

REUNION JUNE 3 JUNE 6 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Taruna Sadhoo tds211@columbia.edu 212-851-7849 DEVELOPMENT Rachel Towers rt2339@columbia.edu 212-851-7833

Janet Lorin 127 W. 96th St., #2CH New York, NY 10025 jrf10@columbia.edu

My son, Ike, and I recently caught up with David Webber and his son, Boaz. David, his wife, Iris, and Boaz are getting ready to move to Boston. David is leaving New York after living here almost continuously since we started college in 1991.

David has spent the past two years as an academic fellow at NYU’s Center for Law and Business, where he has been conducting research in the fields of securities fraud and securities class actions. He is joining the faculty of Boston University Law School as an associate professor, teaching civil procedure and securities regulation while continuing his research.

David writes that he looks forward to seeing more of his 811A classmates, including those from the class of 1981 and the reunion in September.

As we continue to formalize our club for Minnesota alums, I am looking forward to hearing from more of you.

Please drop me a line with the latest in your world. As you can see, we need more updates!

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CC ‘97 has a number of arrivals to report! Roseika Smith Gravely gave birth to a girl, Tyla Elaine, in November. She weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., and was just in time for Thanksgiving. Carrie Sturts Dossick and Stephen Dossick welcomed Charles Ellis and Sara Verdie into the world on January 23 (yes, they are fraternal twins). Also, Carrie recently received a promotion to associate professor with tenure, effective September 16, at the University of Washington, College of Built Environments, Department of Construction Management. Rushika Conroy gave birth to her second child, Amalia Grace, on May 14, 2009. Amalia joins her brother, Nevin (2). Rushika is halfway through her fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at Columbia University Medical Center.

Eric Wolf is married with two children, Jacob (4) and Lily (1), lives in Great Neck, N.Y., and was promoted to assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at Columbia. Eric is an ophthalmologist in the Bronx and was accepted to the American College of Surgeons.

George Shuster helped start a nonprofit foundation to preserve a state park the site of the former Rock Point amusement park in his hometown of Warwick, R.I., which operated for 150 years until entering receivership in 1995. He encourages anyone with an interest in old amusement parks, open space or environmental activism in their regions to get involved.

Matthew Wang recently went skiing at Mammoth Lakes, Calif., with Justin Alevizos, Jim Antho-ny, Kip Hamilton, Per Petanda ‘97E and Brian Sauvigne. Everyone is doing great. Justin works at Citigroup in Hong Kong. Jim works at Kendle International in Cincinnati. Kim works at Shamrock in Los Angeles. Pete works at Ingram Micro in California. Brian works at Morgan Stanley in NYC. And Matt runs his game design consulting business in NYC.

Hannah (Trooboff) McCollum and Brian McCollum ‘97E report that their daughter, Lena (19 months) is a joy. "She has become quite a master of sign language through a weekly baby sign class we take in our neighborhood, and now she enjoys saying the words while signing them simultaneously," Hannah said. The family lives in Park Slope. Hannah works part-time at The TEAK Fellowship, and Brian now is at Rainbox, a generic pharmaceutical company in New Brunswick. In addition, Hannah now is director of media relations for Madecase (www.madecase.com), a chocolate company started by Brian’s brother. Madecase sources, manufactures and packages chocolate in Madagascar, where its founders were in the Peace Corps. The company won a Best in Show award at the 2009 New York City Chocolate Show. The chocolate is carried throughout the country, including at many Whole Foods stores.

Miguel Melendez is busy working on his www.MiggyMutt.com cartoons and products.

Jeremy Treistled was married in Montréal in April 2009 to Lindsay Wise. Adnan Qadir ‘96 was in attendance. Jeremy has been working for Athenahealth (ATHN: NSDQ) since graduating from Columbia and is director of recruiting.

Shivali Shah is based in Washington, D.C., where she is an immigration attorney and writes a column on immigration. Shivali writes: "I’ve been happy playing with Moha Desai ‘96’s little bundle of joy and regularly hang out with Maggie Osoby Katz. I’m in touch with Swati Khurana as well and was happy to host her on the D.C. leg of her East Coast road trip. I recently went back in touch with Kavita Kumar Puri, who also is in D.C. My husband and I stayed with Michael Pignatello when he was in Beijing. Mike’s Mandarin is awesome. It was really helpful when I was negotiating for better prices in the Beijing furniture market.”

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Happy spring, Class of ’98! Congratulations are in order for Joanna
Chung, who has been named bureau chief of the Law Group for The Wall Street Journal. Formerly the U.S. correspondent covering financial regulation and enforcement for the Financial Times, Joanna now will cover law and direct WSJ's legal coverage, as well as the legal blog on WSJ.com.

Unfortunately, I don’t have any more news, but let me once again invite those of you who have never sent in an update to let us all know what you’re up to. You don’t have to be newly married or new parents! Every now and then, someone will e-mail me asking for the whereabouts of certain classmates, so I’m putting out an APB for Ken Thomson and Bob Walsh. If you’re reading this, there are alums interested in what you’ve been doing since graduation.

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Hello there! I hope the past couple months have treated you well. Class Notes news items are trickling in at an alarming rate, so brace yourself for some compelling updates.

The day I moved to New York, I’m pleased to offer you some trivia. On a brisk day in February, I saw one of our classmates dodging across a vacant lot toward Clinton Street (Brooklyn). He was bundled against the cold in a green hooded coat, though once he appeared topless in a Woodbridge Hall art show. Shortly after this sighting, I encountered another ‘99er on the train, a novelist who was wearing a tweed overcoat with long lapels. The afternoon passed without incident, but after dinner I walked into a theater and met a man from our class. His coat was dark and his wife and twin sister were in the Class of 2000. Write me with your guesses or if you just want to find out who I saw. Actually, if you are reading this at all, please write me. Consider this testimonial from Esther Chak: “I can’t say I don’t owe something to Class Notes. After spotting their wedding photo in Columbia College Today, I reconnected with Kelley Kreitz and Westin Smith in Providence, R.I. in 2005, rekindling a Hartley Hall friendship from junior year.” Convincing stuff!

Esther continues, “I spent a few years in Rhode Island working on my M.F.A. in graphic design from RISD and graduated in 2007. I’ve since started a collaborative graphic design studio, Imaginary Office, with a friend in New York, Mary-Jo Valentino. Right now, we are focused on working with mission-driven clients, which consists of nonprofits, think tanks and start-ups. Let the ‘99ers out there know about our Web site: www.imaginaryoffice.com.

“Since grad school, I’ve lived in Chicago, where I am adjunct faculty in visual communication design at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. From time to time, I see other ‘99 friends. The usuals are Jenn Kaufman and Ethan Fischer, who live here, but we also get a string of conference attendees passing in and out of town, such as Chris Hardin, who recently was here for an academic publishing event.”

Chris, I want to hear your side of the story. Please write me.

Rachel Jackson is currently one of my favorite people. I recently received this e-mail from her: “After reading the updates from our fellow classmates in the last CCT, I felt compelled to send an update of my own. I am currently traveling around the country doing the film festival circuit with my short film, 3 Things. This film has been a passion project for several years, and I co-wrote, produced and starred in the film. There are several known, amazingly talented people who worked on the project. We are premiering here in Los Angeles at the Method Film Festival and soon after that, we will have our East Coast premiere at the Charleston International Film Festival. For more information, go to www.3thingsfilm.com.”

George Demos wrote in with this news: “After serving for seven years as an enforcement attorney at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, where he worked on some of the most prominent corporate fraud cases, George Demos now is running for the U.S. Congress in the First District of New York. The district covers eastern Long Island, holds a Republican registration advantage and is currently held by incumbent Democrat Tim Bishop. Additional information on George’s campaign can be found at www.georgedemos.com.”

I also received a helpful e-mail from Ethan Rouen, my long-suffering editor at CCT. “Subject: FW: News Alert: Tinsley Mortimer CCS9 - article.” Key takeaways: “Tinsley Mortimer is the center of a new reality television show called High Society.” The article appeared in the Richmond Times Dispatch, and there was another about her recently in the New York Times; she reportedly gorged a lot and ordered food by color.

Tinsley and I aren’t the only ones back home much these past couple of years, hearing Gina Kaufman on the radio is one of the best things about visiting Kansas City. (The other best things are primarily BBQ-related.) Wait, what’s Gina been up to since 1999? Gina obligingly replies: “I’ve been back in my hometown of Kansas City, the one I swore I’d never go back to. I came home for the summer and discovered a vibrant arts community that I became a part of without even thinking about it. By the end of that summer, I was so deeply involved in so many things that I didn’t want to leave. Since then, I’ve developed a career and style of writing that is a little too literary and personal to be entirely journalistic, and newspapers and magazines have, much to my amazement, been publishing them anyway. I’ve worked for alternative weeklies, the local daily, for national magazines, for coffee shops, museums and, most recently, for Kansas City’s station for NPR news. I’m working toward my M.F.A. in creative writing.”

As co-host of The Wall Bodine Show, Gina’s been live on the air every weekday morning for the past couple years and is a genuine KC institution.

Next question: How did Gina get involved in radio? “When I worked for The Pitch [KC’s alternative weekly], I also got pretty involved in Heeb Magazine from afar. I started out as a contributing writer, then became a contributing editor, then associate editor. I went to NYC to help with a Heeb Storytelling event and was asked to put on the first Heeb Storytelling outside of NYC here in KC. I said yes, even though I’d never done anything like that. Being onstage and telling stories was amazing for a lot of reasons, including that I discovered that I liked using my literal voice, and not just the kind of ‘voice’ authors use. As a writer, I have always put a lot of energy into making sure the reader can really hear the words. I treat punctuation as a means of letting people know where and how to pause. etc. It was such a relief to just talk. Inspired by the experience, I applied for an internship with KCUR so I could learn what a person needs to know to do radio. I was further surprised to learn that I enjoyed running around with a microphone and editing audio in a sound booth. It wasn’t until a few years later that I got a job with the station. The job didn’t involve any running around with microphones or audio editing. It was/has been a live in-studio gig, which I love because that much more. Again, totally surprising for me. I was always the shy kid, so yeah. Who would have guessed that I like talking for a live radio audience for an hour every day? But I do.”

Unfortunately, however, Gina’s leaving her radio gig. What’s next? “Well, in some ways the answer is ‘I don’t know.’ But in the short term, I’ve been hired to write a book of profiles of Kansas women born during the 19th century. Every chapter will be a mini-biography of an impressive woman who bucked convention. I’m so excited to throw myself into researching and telling their stories. Given the geographic location, with Missouri being a slave state and Kansas a free state, a good handful of them
will be stories about people risking their necks for freedom. I’m also still finishing up my M.F.A., and have another year to go with that, so I don’t know whether I’ll take on another job until I’ve accomplished that. But I’m all about the odd job. Last summer, I worked on a non-confinement sheep farm that makes artisanal sheep’s milk cheese, and I am going to do a little more work for them (mostly at the city market) again this summer.

So that’s odd job No 1. Currently, I’m writing about last summer on the sheep farm. As I was wrapping up my first year in the M.F.A. program and also doing a daily talk show, I was seriously dying of being cooped up behind computer monitors and sought out a summer job that would allow me to move more than my fingertips and get outside. It turned out to be an experience both more challenging and more beautiful than I would have imagined. I also met some of the most amazing people. I am writing about what led all of them (and me) from other careers to a sheep farm. All of our stories intermingle in this sort of magical (to me) setting. What I’m writing is book length, but I don’t want to jinx it by saying I’m writing a book. However, I will say that if any Columbia alumni are publishers or literary agents and want to give me a hand with that, bring it! I also translated a novella by Gabriel García Márquez, one of my favorites, and the desperate plea for a publisher applies to that as well.

Does Gina keep in touch with anyone from our class, and if so, what are they up to? “I keep in touch with an embarrassingly small number of people. Coming back to my hometown has made my time at Columbia feel a little like a dream, honestly. But I keep in touch with Jen Yang, Chris Mullis, Sharmaine Heng and Ethan Fischer. Jen lives in New York and works for a bank in compliance. I don’t totally know what that means, but I have long since made peace with the fact that she’s one of my best friends, and I don’t understand what she does. Chris lives in Australia with his wife and son and recently got a Ph.D. in modern Japanese history or something like that, and is teaching ESL. Sharmaine is a tax lawyer and is getting married in the fall. And Ethan is taking the restaurant world by storm, as near as I can tell, and living the good life in Chicago. Whew! Harder than it looks, being on the other end of the interview...”

But I think she handled it really well. Thanks, Gina!

Here are some final tidbits, chums, to get you through the next two months. Susan Harlan accepted a tenure-track job teaching English at Wake Forest. Jay Cosel passed the California bar exam and is wrapping up his studies to be a master of laws. (How many laws do you have to master, Jay?) Mike Ermann, now residing with a charming foreigner, made some excellent chili last winter — it was spicy on the back end. Nina Tannenbaum, also affiliated with a charming foreigner, wrote in to say that “Stacy Rotner, Scott Napolitano and Dave Matrin unveiled a project at a Colombia Private Equity networking night.

Thanks and congratulations to all of you, whether you deserve it or not, and please note this correction from the March/April issue: Kevin Aptowicz ’99E is married to Katie Eyer, who is a lawyer, not a nurse.

Please write me if you thought this column was either helpful or irrelevant, and please be sure to check out the next issue’s column because it’s gonna knock your socks off, big-time!

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6
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Reshan Richards was married in June 2009 to Jennifer Butler in Wilton, Conn. Several Columbia alumni were in attendance. Reshan is a technology administrator at a school in Manhattan, and he is back at Columbia working on his doctorate at Teachers College.

Kim Worly moved to Israel nearly four years ago. She lives in Tel Aviv and is an attorney. Kim is getting married in Israel on June 11 to Oren Salzman, a computer engineer. Kim and Oren’s dogs, Bamba and Sifa, will walk them down the aisle.

Tanya Wright (née Bank), husband, Will, and their 2-year-old daughter, Lily, are excited to announce the newest addition to their family: Ella Ruby was born on November 13. The family lives in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Tanya is hoping to finish her Ph.D. in educational psychology at the University of Michigan in spring 2011.

Tanya reports, “Traci (née Leiderman) Goldstein ’99 and her husband, Brendan, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Maxwell Logan, on January 5. (Traci graduated early, but she started with the Class of 2000 as my Carman 12 hallmate.) Traci is an optometrist, and she lives in NYC with her growing family.”

It’s unbelievable that our 10-year reunion is fast approaching. Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. The Reunion Committee has been hard at work, and you won’t be disappointed! Some highlights include a Thursday night reception at the Heights, Friday night party on the Intrepid!, Saturday night cocktail and dinner … and champagne and dancing on the Steps!

For classmates with kids, there will be some wonderful kid-friendly activities on campus on Saturday. While I look forward to catching up with everyone in June, here are Reunion Committee updates:

Michael Shen is a dad! Michael, his wife, Erika, and adorable son, Spencer live in Los Angeles. Spencer was born last August.

Claude Roxborough recently married his high school love, Christine, and lives in the D.C. area. He is a corporate attorney with Miles & Stockbridge and also serves as the president (U.S.) of the South African Chamber of Commerce in America. He encourages folks interested in attending South Africa/Africa-related business events, most of which are in New York, to join the chamber’s network (www.sacca.biz). He’s also thankful for Facebook, even though someone from another Ivy League school created it, because it’s one of the only ways he gets to see some of his old CU buddies.

Charles Saliba is in China and writes “No wife or children or anything like that, yet … I work more than full-time at D-22 (www.d-22.com) and Maybe Mars (www.evermaybe.mars.org) and was recently back in the States to bring six bands to SXSW and then go on tour with three of them to California for more info: http://maybemars.org/index.php/shows/chinesevine Sandwich.”

Charles is a founding partner of D-22, a Beijing music club, and Maybe Mars Records, an independent music label. In his spare time, Charles is working toward a master’s in international development at Tsinghua University in Beijing. [Editor’s note: CFT profiled Saliba in January/February: www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb10/]

Juliet Ross writes, “I am a psychologist in private practice in New York and am also production editor of the Family Business (www.familybusinessnetwork.com). My husband, Dan Burstein, is a senior associate at Warmkiss & Gallagher and does a lot of pro-bono work in election law. We recently saw Annie UVerve and Susie Freeman, who both live near us on the UWS. We spent a lovely weekend in the Berkshires with Sander Cohen and his wife, Katie. Don Saelinger and Katherine Dube ‘00 Barnard moved to San Francisco and had a baby, Andrew Nathan (Nate). In December, Sander and his wife, Katie, live in Boston, and Sander works in the energy sector.

Alex Conway, also on the Reunion Committee, was wonderful enough to provide an incredible update: “Most recently, I had a mini-Theta reunion in the week before Whitney Weems Mogavero gave birth to her daughter, Hadley. We met on February 8. Joining me were Laura Hearm, Marian Lee ‘00 Barnard, and
I am still in New York City but have left the law. I recently joined the Office of Corporate Engagement at Goldman Sachs where I was lucky enough to run into Jenn Lew Goldstone ’95 and even luckier to finagle an update from a fellow reunion classmate: “Jenn Lew Goldstone ’95 for the last year has been a v.p. at SeaChange Capital Partners, a nonprofit that arranges funding of nonprofits involved in education reform founded by retired Goldman Sachs partners. She has two boys, Max (4) and Charlie (1), and is married to CNN Senior Producer Tom Goldstone ’94 Cornell. She is especially looking forward to kids’ programming at her 15th reunion and the adult evening events, and is booking the sitter now!”

Finally, Omonose Idehen and Grigor Lioul were married in a gorgeous mountain top ceremony in Lovran, Croatia, in September. Several friends flew in from all over the world for the wedding, including my dear friend Mark from college! Our guests were included in their special day. Also in the mix, Mark Lewicky is living it up in his hometown of Chicago. I hope to see all of these guys at reunion.

“I also occasionally get to see Natalia Mehmman-Petrozea. Natalia, who is a full-fledged professor at the New School, spends her free time with her husband and young son and as an Intesani instructor at Equinox. Talk about keeping busy! Natalia, Heidi Wolf ’00 Barnard and I are all excited for the September wedding of Annabel Schnitzer ’00 Barnard. I also hear from Manelle Nunez Martino, who is living the life in Annapolias as the mother of three children with her husband, Peter Martino, and as the founder/owner of Capital Teas in Washington, D.C.

“Me, I’m living in New York working for Hunter Public Relations. I’m training for the New Jersey Marathon and a triathlon in Montauk. I’m using my training as an opportunity to support my friend’s new initiative — the Mandala House — which teaches yoga, meditation and breathing to victims of sexual assault in current/post conflict countries. I’m also gearing up for the third annual celebration of NYC Wildflower Week, an initiative my brother’s wife started. And I’m actively involved with planning our reunion.”

Maura Munnelly Determin and Mariel Munnelly ’02. Laura lives in Brooklyn and works for Bloomberg. She recently ran the New York Marathon and is doing great! Maura lives in New Jersey with her husband and works in New York for the Boy Scouts of America, while Mariel is set to get married in just a few months in Jamaical Marian is married and lives in New York a stone’s throw from campus and works for Condé Nast. The night was filled with fun memories about our four years at school, and in Theta, and everyone is excited for the reunion.”

Also via Alex: Her brother, Chris Conway ’95, lives with his wife, Cindy, and their dog, Kim, in Manhattan around the corner from Alex. He started Green T Digital.

“Our goal is to help individuals and small businesses take advantage of the latest technologies, while helping them reduce their impact on the planet,” Chris says. His sister is very happy to have a tech consultant at her doorstep at last!”

Alex continues: “Via the connective powers of Facebook, I still have the pleasure of talking to some of my favorite characters from college, including Ryan Rosenfield, who is living it up in the Pacific Northwest, Q Beck lives in Austin, Texas, where he recently started Famigo, a company dedicated to building games to help families play together. Also in the mix, Mark Lewicky is living it up in his hometown of Chicago. I hope to see all of these guys at reunion.”

Hi there. I rarely have updates on my family, but I have to say it’s been a busy few months for us. I became gainfully employed again in March, working for Mercer Outsourcing as a business strategist. I’m excited to be working again, though I can’t deny how amazing it has been to spend so much quality time with Jamie and our daughter Julian, (20 months). I’ve also loved every minute of watching my wife’s clothing business grow. Milkstars (www.milkstars.com) has been featured on People magazine’s Celebrity Baby Blog as well as on Daily Candy. I’m confident that Jamie will continue to take the business to even higher levels!

Now for some exciting baby news. Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg and his wife, Paola, welcomed Camilo on February 18. He weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. David Beatus and his wife, Ellie, welcomed Asher Josef on February 26. He weighed 8 lbs. Congratulations to the moms, dads and future Columbians (maybe?).

Camille Dalioite reports: “2009 was a big year for us! Akhilla Chopra and I were married on May 24 in Columbia, Mo. Many of our dear friends from Columbia made the trip to Missouri for our dual Hindu/Christian wedding ceremonies and celebration. Columbians in attendance included Usman Tahir, Sejal Shah, Amy Kimpel, Namrata Tripathi, Elspeth Cameron, Nolan Trosman, Madame Wi, Cassia Mosdell, Sofia Berger, Sheila Lavu, Krish Devidoss, Gareth White ’02 Barnard, Lisa Chopra Haldar ’03 and Kavita Kumar Puri ’97. Following our wedding celebrations, we headed to Boston for my graduation from Harvard Business School. Then, to complete the month of life change, I moved back to New York after two years away, and we settled into a new apartment in Chelsea. We are enjoying finally living in the same city again! We managed to sneek away in August and spent our honeymoon exploring Japan, returning to New York just in time for me to start a new job at the Boston Consulting Group. Akhill is keeping busy at his job at righthemi-

dia. 2009 was a whirlwind. Here’s hoping 2010 is half as fun!”

Almost nine months after their first date while Columbia seniors, Abena Boakye and Omar Slowe finally tied the knot on November 28 at an oceanfront private estate on Maui. They were joined by 84 guests for several days in paradise, and they were thrilled that so many of their Columbia friends were able to make it. After the wedding, the couple spent their honeymoon traveling throughout Thailand. Abena and Omar live in Brooklyn, and they both work in Manhattan. Abena is an attorney and Omar works in leveraged finance.


The family of Tyler Ugolyn told me about the important work the foundation they established in his memory is doing.

“The Tyler Ugolyn Foundation was established in 2001 in memory of our beloved 23-year-old son, Tyler Ugolyn, a Columbia College graduate and NCAA student-athlete varsity basketball player, who tragically lost his life on September 11, 2001, while employed at the World Trade Center as an investment analyst for Fred Alger Management on the 93rd floor of the first tower. In September 2001, Sports Illustrated published a beautiful tribute, ‘Picture This Perfect,’ written by Jeff Pearlman in Tyler’s memory and honor.”

“The foundation is committed to providing support to youth basketball, with an emphasis on...
Elliana Meirowitz Nelson '05 and Lev Meirowitz Nelson were married in Massachusetts in November with many Columbia alumni in attendance. Celebrating with them were (left to right, standing/kneeling) Ben Greene; Seth Wax '03; Jason Fruitandler '05 GS; Etan Greenbaum '06 GS; Rachel Pomerantz '06E; Erin Kade '03 GS; Jonathan (Yona) Reich '04, '07L; Zachary Jacobs '07L; Julie Altman '06 GSAS; Steve Melzer '05; Leslie Berliner Shanken '68 GS, '84 GSAS; Edith Cohen '64 Barnard; Leora Fishman '74 Barnard; the bride; Carol Glass '75 Barnard; James Bondarchuk '05; Dina Herbert '05 GS; Adam Levine '10 GSAS; Michael Shinnar '06 Barnard, and Rebecca Blatt '06 TC (front; left to right) Elizabeth Stone Jacobs '03 Barnard; Susan Rosenblum '71 GS; Tracy Massel '06 Barnard; Judith Samuels Meirowitz '73 SW; Carol Singer '74 TC; Jessica Horowitz Fruitandler '06 Barnard; Danielle Holtz '05 Barnard; Rachel Grant Meyer '05; Suzanne Schneider '05, '13 GSAS; and Joanna Kabat '06 Barnard.

PHOTO: MAX FLATOW

Democratic political campaigns. [Last spring], she managed a successful city-wide Council election and now is managing a 24-county judicial race. She remains one dissertation away from completing her Ph.D. at the University of Texas in media studies. In December, Lien De Brouckere paid a visit to Austin, where they enjoyed Austin's excellent food and nightlife. Katherine also visited with Rachel Gerstman in New York while she was home in New Jersey for the holidays.”

Brian Tang is working on his “HBO for gamers” site, www. goodgame.tv, creating, producing, distributing and selling online video geared toward video gamers. "Katie Rose Thornton is finishing her part-time M.B.A. at the Fox School of Business at Temple. She is working in marketing/advertising in Philadelphia and heard President Lee C. Bollinger speak at the National Constitution Center in March. Sabine Bejari completed her M.B.A. in strategy and marketing at NYU Stern and joined Avon as an associate brand manager for Global Skincare, Clearskin brand, in January.

Carter Reum writes, "Still working on my start-up alcohol brand, VeeV (my brother, Courtney ‘01, is my partner), which has quickly gone from being only available out of the back of our car to becoming one of the best-selling in the country and now available on Virgin America and in about 40 states. Still loving the fun and the sun of L.A., too, and can’t wait to go to Nick Solaro’s wedding in the fall!”

In September, Priya Purushothaman released her first album, Samarpam, a traditional Hindustani classical vocal album featuring Priya on voice and accompanied by tabla and harmonium. It is available for purchase on iTunes.

Sheila Dvorak’s dedication to independent filmmaking has paid off in a big way in 2010. For the second consecutive year, she had a feature film premiere at the Sundance Film Festival. Sheila was the line producer of Arranges, a dark comedy about a man with a compulsion to cut off his arms, which was part of the NEXT category spotlighting guerrilla filmmaking. Children of Invention, which was written and directed by Tze Chun ‘02 and was associate-produced by Sheila, who also was acting coach for the cast, started its theatrical run in Boston, New York and Los Angeles in February and March. Sheila’s most recent project is See What I’m Saying: The Deaf Entertainers Documentary. Sheila associate produced the world premiere at the Egyptian Theater in Hollywood in March, and a nationwide rollout in April and May, the widest reach of any of her projects to date.
Nick Cain ’06 Helps Students in the Developing World

By Joshua Robinson ’08

Nick Cain ’06 was doing everything he was supposed to do on his way to law school. An American Studies major, he had taken the constitutional law classes and gotten the grades, he had earned himself a job as a Manhattan paralegal and he had slogged through the repetitive grind. All he had left to do was send out the applications. The only problem was that, by then, he didn’t feel like going to law school so soon.

“Surprisingly, this was not the job with the organization,” Orphans of Rwanda executive director Michael Brotchner said he found someone who fit that description. Asked to describe his duties in Kigali, Cain hardly knows where to begin. He says he worked on everything from setting through applications for the scholarships to teaching English to tracking down carpenters to build desks for his classroom.

“All the things that you’d hop on the Internet for or look in the phone book to get done in the United States take ages in a place like Rwanda,” he says. And still, the six months Cain spent there seemed to fly by. He came back to the ground floor of Vittana (www.vittana.org), which perfectly combined his experiences of the previous two years. Based on the increasingly popular system of microfinance, Vittana helps ambitious people track down the funds they needed. This time he set off for Paraguay with a small company named Kiva, whose goal is to help small entrepreneurs secure “microloans” — tiny loans from local banks, which go a long way in places like Paraguay. With his notebook and video camera, Cain’s job was to interview loan applicants.

“It was there that Cain learned the nuts and bolts of microfinance, which served him well when he returned to the United States last summer. Almost immediately, he got in on the ground floor of Vittana (www.vittana.org), which perfectly combined his experiences of the two previous years. Based on the increasingly popular system of microfinance, Vittana helps young people in the developing world access funding for higher education. "These are students who certainly didn’t have anywhere to go for a student loan," Cain says.

Vittana, which is active in Peru, Paraguay, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Cambodia and Mongolia, helps local financial institutions package student loans and provides the capital, which comes from online contributions. Students can take out loans of up to $1,500. But, Cain notes, the online contributions aren’t donations — every cent is repaid by the student through Vittana within three years.

More than 1,300 people have made donations online, for a total of $155,000, and more than 230 students have received loans.

Cain’s job is to work closely with the microfinance institutions and teach them how to structure the loans. These days, Vittana is primarily involved with students in Nicaragua, and Cain is in charge of laying the groundwork there. To him, it’s a job that goes far beyond numbers, countless hours on the phone and a lot of frequent flyer miles.

“I knew that financial aid and loans were the only way I would have ever gotten my education,” he explains. “And having the Columbia name on my degree has been opening doors for me the whole way through. So, as someone who’s had that, it just made sense to work on it for others.”

Joshua Robinson ’08 is a freelance writer based in Manhattan.

The only problem was that, by then, he didn’t feel like going to law school so soon.

In early 2009, he began looking for another opportunity to help ambitious people track down the funds they needed. This time he set off for Paraguay with a small company named Kiva, whose goal is to help small entrepreneurs secure “microloans” — tiny loans from local banks, which go a long way in places like Paraguay. With his notebook and video camera, Cain’s job was to interview loan applicants.

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Joshua Robinson ’08 is a freelance writer based in Manhattan.

in England. As such, suspicion of anyone resembling me was pretty high everywhere, and so I was expecting a pretty tough time crossing borders.

“Surprisingly, this was not the case; Europeans, I soon found, were much more relaxed about the whole terrorism thing than people in the United States. I began my journey in London without immigration issues and criss-crossed the continent during the next few months. During the course of my travels, I’served with gangsters from Paris suburbs, befriended a Ferrari engineer, fought with tomatoes at La Tomatina festival in Spain, scaled the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, swam in (freezing!) Lake Geneva, was proposed to by a beautiful Eastern European blonde (followed by a price tag of 35 euros), toured the ruins of Rome and finally, in September, made my way to India. I spent the next 1½ months touring India and visiting for the first time my parents’ childhood homes.

“By November, I decided to start wrapping up my trip and thinking seriously about next steps. Throughout my travels I had stayed in telephone contact with some Pepsi folks in Dubai. I had asked them if they had any roles available for me in Dubai. (Why Dubai? Honestly, just for the sake of trying something new.) I spent a week in Dubai, met with the team there for a meeting/interview and then left for Karachi, Pakistan.

“In Pakistan, I met Leena, who was visiting with her family from Saudi Arabia. Shortly thereafter, as Karachi reeled in the aftermath of Benazir Bhutto’s assassination, Leena and I got engaged. In Febru-
**CLASS NOTES**

**REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6**

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Classmates, thanks as always for the interesting updates. It’s so exciting to hear about your accomplishments, travels and ongoing endeavors. We’re lucky to have a class whose gifts span the full spectrum.

I thought I’d start this issue’s column off with a happy update of my own: Michelle Oh got engaged in March to Alan C. Sing ’05 Dartmouth and is planning a winter wedding.

Colleen Taylor was married in September to Brett Slatkin ’05E. Their wedding was in Santa Barbara, Calif., and though the guest list was small (fewer than 40 people), it included a lot of Columbia grads: Katie Fernandez, Shayne Adler, Dana Gold, Naomi Kort, Jeff Farrell, Max DiAllojo, Jason Fernandez ’05 and Michael Kruwich ’05. The newlyweds live in San Francisco, where Colleen has been since graduation.

I had the opportunity to attend the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 3 and was pleased to see numerous classmates in attendance, including but not limited to Zachery Bendiner, Michael Brown, Schuyler Brown, Theodore Orsher and Jonathan Lung ’06E.

Hannah Herchenbach writes, “After graduating from Columbia, I left for New Zealand with aspirations of being a freelance writer. Within three months, I took over Pulp, the biggest pop culture magazine in the country. Within a year, I decided that I didn’t want to do that, as I didn’t have time to write my own stuff. So I set up a contract editing company instead and have spent the last three years perfecting my first novel, about a girl who runs away from America to live in Paris, a town in Indonesia about nine hours from Jakarta. I’m just traveling around Indo and discovering what life is really all about.”

**07**

David D. Chait
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I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable spring with some nice summer trips on the horizon. It’s hard to believe it’s been three years since our graduation, but members of our class are up to some amazing things.

Colleen Darnell has spent her time since graduation as a music assistant and copyist on such Broadway productions as In the Heights, 9 to 5, The Little Mermaid and Everyday Rapture. Her current project is the Green Day musical, American Idiot, with Tony Award-winning orchestrator Tom Kitt ’96. Colleen sound engineered and is a member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.

Alan Weeth writes, “[I recently] quit my job and moved to Yogyakarta, a town in Indonesia about nine hours from Jakarta. I’m just traveling around Indo and discovering what life is really all about.”

Eric Lopata ’07, Jeffrey Feder ’07E, ’08E, Arnye Falk and Eric Bondarsky recently had a long, interesting conversation about the Class Notes section in CCT. It felt like old times when you can have an intellectually stimulating conversation about almost anything! It also is so great to see what everyone is doing with their lives. We all were very very proud.

Hagar EBlishawli received her master’s in environmental engineering from Princeton in May 2009.

Nishant Dixit shares some exciting news. “I am moving to Mumbai to work in international development for an NGO, TechnoServe. I
COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

CLASS NOTES

will be managing a rural entrepreneurship program that assists people with developing businesses throughout India. I also will be working with the Tibetan Government in exile to promote economic development in Dharamsala and other refugee areas.

Congratulations Nishant! Sean Colenso-Semple recently moved to Melbourne, Australia, where he is working for McKinsey. Avi Zvi Zeilman is happily self-employed and can be seen on a semi-regular basis wandering the halls of commerce.

In addition to their real jobs, Pierce Rowe, Caryn Epstein, Alex Baulem, Leah Sandals and Christian Capasso are partners in a start-up beef jerky company, led by president and CEO Josh Kace.

SlantShack Jerky, which specializes in bespoke jerky, was recently featured in *New York Magazine* and the *New York Post*. Check it out (and place an order!) at www.slantshackjerky.com.

Brooklyn Smith has been living in Holland for the past year, working on her family’s farm and selling organic produce at a local food market. Life is beautiful! This fall, she will move to Ethiopia to study art at Addis Ababa University. She will return to New York later, after she will move to Bogota, Colombia. He is a revenue cruise line,” Aaron says. “Miami is not bad, but it is no Northeast. Of course, I encourage people to get out (and place an order!) at www.slantshackjerky.com.

May is finally here, and this means that we are officially at the one-year mark of life after Columbia College. Most of us have finally adjusted to the pressures and rhythm of the real world. During the last year, members of our class have continued to amaze with their exciting adventures and significant accomplishments. One can only imagine what the coming years will bring, given what we have already done in our first year out of college.

On February 27, Justin Fiske ’09 proposed to Mallory Carr. Mallory was then surprised when she found out that several of her friends had flown out from around the country to congratulate her in Los Angeles. I join all of CC ’09 in congratulating them on the good news.

Congratulations also are in order for Maxime Glass. Maxime is graduating this May from the Harvard Graduate School of Education with a master’s in education. She will return to New York City, where she will teach second grade at the Dalton School.

Gabrielle Apollon was in Haiti during the earthquake on January 12 with a research group from SIPA, where she is studying, and has written an account of her experience at www.ayitimwen.blogspot.com. She and her family were not injured, but to assist those who were, she led a team and ran in World Vision’s 5k Run for Haiti on April 3. Gabrielle is raising money for World Vision because not only does World Vision have a tremendous presence in current humanitarian efforts in Haiti but it also has worked in Haiti for more than 30 years and is committed to Haiti’s long-term development. Funds raised by the organization go toward providing child-friendly spaces, distributing food, medicine and family survival kits as well as contributing to longer-term development programs. Gabrielle would greatly appreciate it if you would contribute and spread the word about this cause. To do any of those, please visit http://tv-worldvision/set/1/773/WorldVision/General?px=10488418&pg=personal&id=1160. Also, feel free to e-mail her at gabrielle.all@gmail.com if you have questions or would like more information about other initiatives.

Philippe Fossaert has moved back to Bogota, Colombia. He is a business analyst for a Dutch chain of supermarkets with a presence in 10 Colombian cities. Philippe finds the work to be interesting and varied. As a former member of the Columbia golf team, Philippe enjoys playing a round of golf as often as possible to maintain his level.

Rebecca Feinberg and Jordan Keenan embarked upon “The Best Internship Ever” with Professor Paige West in Papua New Guinea. They put their anthropological skills to work with Ailan Awareness, a grassroots marine conservation NGO that had them grant-writing, visiting tiny island villages to set up community-based conservation plans and riding through the jungle in the back of a pickup truck. They learned to speak Papua New Guinea Pidgin, tried chewing betel nut and then proceeded to Australia to muck around for a couple months, surfing, hiking and (for a bit) living out of a much-beloved van.

As a consultant with Monitor Group’s Middle East office, Josh Mathew anxiously awaits the rumored launch of a Shake Shack in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he’s been stationed for the past six months on a project related to developing the Kingdom’s national competitiveness.

Josh recently attended the inaugural Saudi Columbia Alumni Dinner on the Red Sea in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He and more than 20 alumni, including an ’85 Business alumus, reminisced about College Walk, New York and snowstorms.

A large crowd of Philolexians joined Michelle Pentecost ’07 to celebrate her wedding to high school sweetheart Robert Smith in Louisiana on July 18. In attendance were (left to right) Leo Gertenshteyn ’06E, Eliot Kaplan ’06E, Jonathan Treitel ’05, Stephanie Feldman ’05 Barnard, Edward Rueda ’05, the bride, Everett Patterson ’06, Tamar Zeffren ’06 Barnard, Neil Flanagan ’08, Caitlin Campbell ’07, Anna Sproul ’07, Eric LeSueur ’06 and Andrew Liebowitz ’06.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF ANNA SPRoul ’07

**CLASS NOTES**

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PHOTO: COURTESY OF ANNA SPRoul ’07
Letters

(Continued from page 2)

without any editorial comment, the climate change denier’s letter. The writer made numerous statements of "fact” that are demonstrably false.

For a statement of the urgency of action to slow climate change, read this letter from The National Academies of Sciences, United States of America, and other major countries: www.nationalacademies.org/includes/G8+energy-climate09.pdf.

Sam Silvers '82, '85L
New York City

1959
Fred Kaplan makes a compelling case for his main thesis (“1959: The Year Everything Changed,” March/April), but I’d like to comment on his assertion that Allen Ginsberg’s "48’s mother, ‘who had gone insane when he was in high school, lived in an asylum up in the Bronx.”

First of all, Naomi Ginsberg began having psychotic episodes before Allen was born. When she got worse, she was sent to the Bloomingdale Asylum in White Plains, N.Y. (This is the same asylum that had occupied land on Morningside Heights until Columbia bought it in 1892.) When the family could no longer afford that private care, she was moved to the Greystone Psychiatric Hospital in New Jersey. She was in and out of state care for the rest of her life, dying in 1956 in the Pilgrim Psychiatric Center on Long Island. I do not believe that she was ever a patient in an asylum in the Bronx.

Secondly, “going insane” is not a good way to describe what she and her family went through. Although Allen thought of her condition in spiritual rather than medical terms, I think it would be fair to call it a severe and complex mental illness that worsened over time.

My interest in the Ginsbergs goes back to my connection with Allen’s father, Louis, who was my English teacher in 1951–52 at Central H.S. in Paterson, N.J. In early spring 1954, he stopped me in the hall and asked if I had plans for college. He told me he had son had gone to Columbia and “enjoyed it very much.” Since this was a life-changing conversation for me, I remember his exact words. He thought I would “enjoy” Columbia, too. Obviously, if I had not listened to his advice, you would not be hearing from me now. Only later, when I became aware of “Howl,” did I connect a kind teacher with his celebrated son.

David Brown '58
Shelburne, VT.

In the March/April issue of CCT, there was a wonderful digest of Fred Kaplan’s book about the Beat Generation writers. It featured a photo from a poetry reading (of his “Howl”) by Allen Ginsberg in 1948 in 1999. In this photo, an unidentified man was seated behind Ginsberg. Both Marty Janis ’59 and I believe this gentleman to be our erstwhile, wonderful professor of modern poetry, Frederick W. Dupee. Is this correct?

J. Peter Rosenfeld '59
Evanston, Ill.

[Editor’s note: Indeed, it is former professor Dupee in the photo.]

Thank you for choosing to publish that excerpt of Fred Kaplan’s book. It enlightened for me the sources for the writing of Allen Ginsberg ‘48 and Jack Kerouac ‘44. But it also reminded me of one of the great characteristics of Columbia: allowing talented young men who were expelled or suspended for rowdy misbehavior, like Ginsberg and Carney, to be oriented as Benjamn Jealous ’94, to return to the College and mature into useful citizens and leaders in their fields.

Sed Fisher ’36, ’38L
Pleasant Hill, Calif.

The Rule of Law

The article on Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, 76L (November/December) shows what a hypocrite he is. Mr. Holder states that the “whole idea of social segregation is disturbing.” Yet the article states that he was “active in a campaign to establish a lounge in Hartley Hall where black students could gather” while he was an undergraduate. If he is against social segregation, then why was he promoting it as an undergraduate? Furthermore, he states he wants to reestablish the “rule of law,” yet he was instrumental in obtaining the pardon of Marc Rich, the fugitive billionaire. It appears that the rule of law does not apply to lawbreakers who make a big contribution to the Democratic Party.

Roman Kernitsky ’62
Colu Neck, N.J.

The decision to try 9-11 terrorists in New York City is stupid — there is no other word. As anyone with a decent education knows, the decision is so obviously stupid on so many levels; there can be no justification for it. Oh yes, one can manufacture sentences that resemble reasons, but they are mere sophistications; they neither explain the decision nor make it right.

Because they are graduates, Columbia publications have not been willing to publish anything that could cast doubt on Columbia’s reputation. However, dozens of public relations between Columbia and indefensibly stupid decision makers lead me with, more than one degree from Columbia, to duck for cover. Friends who are recently educated otherwise wonder out loud whether Columbia’s reputation has outlived its quality.

While I imagine Columbia will continue to trade on its connection to political power, I wish the College and University would be more discriminating and circumstantial with what they support.

Daniel F. Johnson ’61, ’62 GSAS
’66 GSAS
Charlotte, N.C.

begin the Core, make new friends and explore New York City. Now, it’s time to clear our minds of phrases like “the homestretch” and the “final countdown” and turn our attention to the exciting plans for this summer and next year.

Some of our classmates will be staying in New York City. Joe Satia writes, “Next year, I’ll be an associate consultant at Rosetta Marketing Group, a consulting firm in TriBeCa that specializes in interactive and online marketing solutions. I’ll be living in downowntown Manhattan and seconding my hard-earned Core knowledge to good use in business meetings, cocktail parties and trendy electro-trance clubs. In a few years, I’ll be looking to attend business school.”

Michael Molina plans to look for a job at a production company in NYC while working on his robot screenplay, A Simple Machine. It is a parody movie in which artificial intelligence turns to violent intelligence as robots take over a small town in Arizona, and a lieutenant and single father will have to solve the mystery of the attack before the robots kill everyone. Eventually, Michael plans to move to Los Angeles to work for a studio.

Congratulations to Zeena Audi, who will be attending P&S in August after a summer of relaxation and traveling with friends and family. At the moment, she thinks she might like to pursue a career in pediatrics.

Sophie Reiser made the tough decision to leave Columbia early to pursue a career as a professional soccer player after getting drafted by the Chicago Red Stars in January. Although she has had a difficult time battling injuries, she hopes to make her mark in women’s professional soccer during the next few years. Look for her in the news (and in future Class Notes). Traveling through Europe before starting work full time is a popular choice for many. After graduation, Daniel Kanak will backpack through Eastern Europe for three weeks, starting in Poland and also going to the Full Moon party in Thailand with Columbia friends for fun before flying back to New York. He starts training in mid-July at Goldman Sachs and hopes to live in either TriBeCa or the Financial District.

Matthew Harold writes, “Next year I’ll be working at Morgan Stanley in the Investment Banking Division, where I’ll be in the Financial Institutions Group. Before I officially sell my soul, my summer is going to consist of moving into a new apartment somewhere in Manhattan with Veronica Colon and enjoying the fantastic nightlife traveling around Europe for a month.”

Emily Lampert will be just a train ride away in New Haven, Conn., where she will take Teach For America and help close the largest achievement gap in the country. Emily will be teaching fifth- and sixth-grade reading at an Achievement First charter school.

Some of our classmates will be moving abroad. Sue Yang will relocate from the Midwest to the Middle East, from Detroit to Dubai. She will be working for McKinsey & Co. Middle East, but will first spend the summer studying Arabic at the Columbia University Middle East Research Center in Amman, Jordan, and then traveling to Shanghai to reconnect with her roots and roam the World Expo.

Adam Valen Levinson also will be studying Arabic, but he will attend Middlebury’s Intensive Summer Arabic Program in Oakland, Calif. In August, Adam will move to Abu Dhabi to be a program coordinator for NYU Abu Dhabi during its inaugural year. He hopes to rent a camel.

Charlotte Freinberg also will be overseas, moving back to London in May to work at a television production company in the comedy/entertainment department. She would like to make shows that are both comedic and entertaining.

I will stay in New York City next year to work at Time in its Corporate Strategy Group.

Please do not hesitate to e-mail me at any time with updates, and have a wonderful summer!
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Kyle Merber ’12 and I never ran together at Columbia. He arrived at 116th and Broadway just as I was leaving for grad school at Georgetown.

We had met when he was in high school, and he seemed like a good enough guy. He knew about me as a runner and wanted to know everything there was to know about why I was pretty good. I tried to give him tips about succeeding as a runner at Columbia, and via Facebook we became friends.

My first year out of Columbia went extremely well in terms of running. While I couldn’t complain about my four years in Manhattan, I really started to mature as an athlete in the District of Columbia. On January 31, 2009, I ran a mile in 3 minutes 59.40 seconds, breaking the 315th American to break the four-minute barrier.

Joy, shock, relief and pride were among the emotions I felt as I crossed the finish line and realized I had done what I had dreamed about as a seventh-grader, when I first learned what running under four minutes meant. It took me 10 years to drop 80 seconds off my time, but the mission was accomplished.

Even though I was no longer in the light blue and instead wore a plain black singlet, I was the first Columbia runner to break the four-minute barrier.

Kyle wanted to be the next. I had no problem helping as much as I could.

I keep in touch with the Columbia coaching staff, especially since my brother, Will ’05, is an assistant, and they asked me to pace the mile at Columbia’s Last Chance Track Meet (an open race, although most runners were collegians) on March 5. So I hopped on the Amtrak to New York, grabbed a train to 116th, walked along College Walk to Amsterdam Avenue and boarded a bus that took me to the Armory on West 168th Street.

I was there to pace the first 1,200 meters of the 1,609-meter race. The point of a pacer, commonly known in the running world as a rabbit, is to do the work at the beginning of a race to make sure the tempo is fast enough. It is easier to run behind someone than to lead, so my goal was to be in front of Kyle and the other racers to make sure that they saw 2 minutes and 58 seconds when they had 400 meters to go. At that point, I would step off the track and hope that Kyle could maintain the pace in the final quarter-mile. It felt odd for me to enter a race knowing that I wasn’t going to finish it, but I had already broken four and I thought it was time for a guy in Columbia blue to do it.

On an outdoor track, there are four laps to a mile. At the indoor Armory, you have to make your way around the banked, 200-meter oval a hair over eight laps. I was in charge of leading six of those laps, and I made sure to do exactly that.

The excitement grew every time I ran around the first turn, and the noise got louder with each lap. Those in the Columbia cheering section were screaming wildly and pounding their fists on the track, their intensity picking up to match the intensity of the race.

“Two fifty-six, fifty-seven” — I stepped off the track as a race official screamed the time — “fifty-eight, fifty nine ….” His voice trailed off as I set up to watch the end of the race unfold. By now the Columbia cheering section was in a frenzy as Kyle went by in a blur, his long hair barely contained by his white headband.

I stood up on the banked curve and found myself wringing my hands and getting wrapped up in the screaming and stomping. A group of five runners came up the homestretch, and I frantically watched as Kyle took the lead from a Syracuse runner as the bell that signals the last lap rang out loudly.

“Go! Go! Go!” I yelled at him and spun my pendulum-like arm in a circle emphasizing how fast I wanted him to run.

He floated down the backstretch and began pulling away from the other runners. Around the turn they started catching up to him, but with only a straightaway to go, he mustered his strength and powered through the last 50 meters.

There often is an eerie silence right after a mile race that is run around four minutes. Everyone watches a runner cross the finish line, then quickly turns to the clock in hopes that a “3” will be the first digit in the final time posted.

That didn’t happen this time. Kyle crossed the line with his arms spread wide, certain that he had broken four minutes. He did: 3 minutes, 58.52 seconds of running led to him being the 343rd American under four.

He kept on running, too — right into his eagerly waiting cheering-section. There he hugged and high-fived anyone who would have him.

I stood by the finish line and took it all in. Everyone I looked at, Columbia students and alumni alike, was smiling.

For me, it was different now, but still much the same. There was still a love for anyone who donned the light blue and ran wildly around the oval. I once was the one with the “C” on my chest celebrating on the track; it was just as much fun to witness Kyle dancing like a child on the track, his joy contagious.

He eventually found his way over to me and gripped me in a bear hug. “Thank you, man,” he said. “I love this.” We pushed away from our hug and he went back to his interviews over the loudspeaker and celebrations with his teammates and family.

Only twice has a Columbia Lion laced up his track spikes, toed the starting line and proceeded to run a mile in under four minutes.

I did it once. I was extremely proud to witness, and contribute to, the other.

To see a video of Merber’s race, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Liam Boylan-Pett ’08, a journalism graduate student in Washington, D.C., still is chasing his running dreams.

By Liam Boylan-Pett ’08
THANKS AGAIN (WE HOPE!)

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An extensive exhibition of cartoons by Edward Koren ’57 is being shown through Saturday, June 12, at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery on campus. For more, see page 16.
Congratulations, Class of 2010!
’ll meet you for a drink at the club…”

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COVER STORY

CLASS OF 2010 JOINS THE RANKS OF ALUMNI
Class Day and Commencement marked a rite of passage for the Class of 2010.
By Ethan Rouen '04J and Alex Sachare '71
Photos by Char Smullyan and Eileen Barroso

FEATURES

COOKING 101
Chris Kimball '73, head of the America's Test Kitchen empire, showcases recipes that work.
By Claire Lui '00

YOUNG LIONS IN WASHINGTON
Three young alumni are making their mark in D.C. politics.
By Lydia DePillis '09

COLUMBIA FORUM
Jonathan Cole '64, '69 GSAS explains how universities fuel innovation in this excerpt from The Great American University: Its Rise to Preeminence, Its Indispensable National Role, Why It Must Be Protected.

LASTING IMAGE

ALUMNI NEWS

SPECIAL INSERT: ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND 2010
Eight pages of photos, including class photos, from the June celebration.

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View highlights of Chris Kimball '73 on America's Test Kitchen.

JEALOUS AT CLASS DAY
Hear Benjamin Jealous '94's inspirational speech.

THE MAKING OF LOGICOMIX
See how Apostolos Doxiadis '72 made his graphic novel.

FIVE MORE MINUTES
Listen to more from Professor Susan Boynton.

DROP THE BEAT
Listen to one of Michael Goldwasser '93's reggae songs.

CLASS OF '60 CELEBRATION
Enjoy Nathan Gross '60's singing and piano performance.
Letters to the Editor

Freefall
University Professor Joseph Stiglitz’s article in the May/June CCT [Columbia Forum] is right on the money, and I look forward to reading his book. However, he leaves out (at least in your excerpt) another important factor in the ongoing decline and fall of our economy, one that has a seriously inflating effect on the GDP.

For decades, the late Columbia professor Seymour Melman ’49 GSAS criticized the effects of Pentagon capitalism and the military/war economy on the nation’s overall economic situation. Military production and the maintenance of the war economy contribute significantly to GDP numbers but they provide nothing to either the general well-being of the population or to the real productivity of the economy.

Since the end of WWII, the Pentagon has monopolized an ever-greater portion of an ever-growing federal budget (total yearly defense-related expenditures, including servicing the military fraction of the national debt, is now around a trillion dollars), which has made it the single greatest economic entity in the American economy. Professor Melman pointed out that as military production dominated an ever-greater proportion of industrial research and development and precision manufacturing, the United States lost the ability to compete in essential areas of civilian manufacturing to overseas competitors. When New York City modernizes its subway system or California begins building a high-speed rail system, the only bids for equipment or technical expertise come from foreign corporations. When half of the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge is replaced, the fabricated steel components are shipped across the Pacific from China. But we can take solace in making the best (and most expensive) damn rockets, tanks and warplanes in the world — and it sure helps the GDP look good.

Dave Ritchie ’73
BERKELEY, CALIF.

Socrates, Not Sophocles
With great interest I read of this year’s John Jay Awards Dinner in the May/June CCT, where Julia Stiles ’05 was quoted as quoting this famous paradoxical phrase from Greek antiquity: “All I know is I know nothing.” Regrettably, this golden line was attributed to Sophocles, where actually it was Socrates who made this famous utterance in the Apology of Plato, a Contemporary Civilization mainstay.

Brian Overland ’04
SAN FRANCISCO

[Editor’s note: The error was made not by Stiles but by the editor, who heard it incorrectly and did not catch the mistake in print.]

Harriss Remembered
I am a three-degree Columbian, starting with the College. As a student, I was fortunate to take several courses with C. Lowell Harriss ’40 GSAS, as a professor and dean, to have worked with him on curricula and other academic projects.

What a truly fine man! A scholar, he cared more for what you learned than how learned you found him to be.

After completing a Ph.D., I joined the faculty of the Graduate School of Business and had the opportunity to work with Lowell on a number of University committees. When the Business School dean resigned in a dispute with the Provost over a tenure case, it was Lowell who convinced me to accept the job of acting dean.

“I know that you would rather teach than dean,” he said, “and you can return to teaching when the President’s Committee finds a new dean. Right now, the school needs you to hold things together and provide a sense of calm and continuity. It may not be fun, Kirby, but it is necessary!”

Lowell always put the “necessary” first. I admired him greatly.

E.K. (Kirby) Warren ’56, ’57 Business, ’61 GSAS
TUXEDO, N.Y.

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Within the Family

One Tradition Grows, Another Goes

The Alumni Parade of Classes, which has been a part of Class Day for seven years, is one of Columbia’s younger, lower-key traditions. It lacks the historical gravitas of the Varsity Show or the “students being students” nature of Orgo Night or Primal Scream (if unfamiliar, look them up at wikicu.com). It’s also one of my favorite days of the year.

For those who have yet to participate (and it’s your loss), each year alumni are invited to return to campus and join in the Class Day processional by carrying their class banner. The Alumni Office provides a nice breakfast at which attendees can catch up with classmates or mingle with other alumni. This year’s breakfast was held in John Jay Dining Hall, a room that certainly brought back memories for those in attendance.

Alumni are given Class Day pins to mark their participation; this year’s pin depicted Butler Library, which is now in its 75th year. Then alumni head outside, where they line up with their banners and await their cue to take their place in the processional (after the seniors and before the faculty), and march over the hexagonal pavers from Butler to the Sundial. The walk takes only a couple of minutes, then participants may leave or stay to watch the rest of the Class Day program from a reserved seating area.

What makes this event so special is the reaction alumni receive as they pass by carrying their class banner. This year it was Aron Saltzman ’36 — comes into view, the students stand and cheer and keep it up until each class has reached the front of the seating area. Take it from one who has done it several times: It’s remarkably uplifting to carry your class banner, hear the cheers and feel the connection with the graduating seniors on this, their special day.

Do yourself a favor: Keep an eye out next spring for the Alumni Office’s invitation to participate in the Alumni Parade of Classes, come back to campus and show your support for the next crop of Columbia alumni.

Alas, one other Columbia tradition seems to have quietly gone by the wayside: sledging down the snow-covered Low Steps on trays purloined from John Jay. That’s because the dining hall recently completed its first year of trayless dining, and it looks like there’s no going back.

College alumni, especially those older than I who have led full and fulfilling lives. Some have maintained their relationship with the College across a half-century or more and continue to contribute their time, money or expertise to support the College.

One such man was Arthur S. Weinstock ’41, who died in April (see Obituaries). I looked forward to seeing Arthur at College events such as Homecoming and awards dinners because he always had a smile on his face and kind words on his lips. He was active in his class’ affairs and was a staunch supporter of this magazine, often calling with thoughts and suggestions and even filling in with Class of ’41 Class Notes columns in a pinch. Ray Robinson ’41, another prince, called Arthur “the sweetest man I’ve ever met,” and I heartily second that emotion. He already is missed.

Speaking of Class Notes, I call your attention to the Class of ’87 column and a submission from Annie Fils-Aime Joseph ’87 in which she describes, as correspondent Sarah Kass ’87 put it, “her experience as a doctor, a Haitian and a human” in trying to help some of those impacted by the earthquake in her homeland. Please take five minutes to read her story.

Finally, to end on a happier note, filmmaker Marty Huberman ’91 is developing a documentary to be called The Streak Starts Now, about the players on the Lions football team that beat Princeton 16-13 on October 8, 1988, to end the record 44-game losing streak (or, to be entirely accurate, non-winning streak, since there were two ties) and the success so many of the players went on to achieve. He is looking for film, pictures — and stories. To learn more about the project, watch a trailer or contact Marty, go to www.TheStreakStartsNow.com.

Alex Sachare ’71 (left) and Eddie Etches ’71 prepare to march with their class banner in this year’s Alumni Parade of Classes.

PHOTO: ETHAN ROUEN ’04J

One of the best parts of my job is meeting some of the remarkable people who are Columbia
Class of 2010 Parties at Senior Dinner

Nearly 1,000 members of the Class of 2010 marked their last day of classes by getting dressed up and partying in a huge tent on South Field at the Senior Dinner on May 3, renewing what has become one of the most joyous traditions of graduation month. Dean Michele Moody-Adams, who experienced the raucous dinner for the first time, drew laughs and cheers by reminding attendees, “Columbia College Class of 2010, I have two words for you: swim test.”

As the seniors whooped and hollered, Adam Bulkley ’10, chair of the Columbia College Senior Fund, proudly announced that the Class of 2010 had set a record not just for Columbia but for all Ivy League liberal arts colleges with a participation rate of 92.5 percent, a figure that climbed to 92.7 percent by Class Day. By surpassing its goal of 91 percent, the Class of 2010 earned a matching gift of $50,000 from Board of Visitors member Charles Santoro ’82.

Class President Cliff Massey ’10 welcomed the seniors to the dinner, which was co-chaired by Ruqayyah Abdul-Karim ’10 and Robyn Burgess ’10. Student Council President Sue Yang ’10 introduced the dean, and Brian C. Krisberg ’81, chair of the CC Alumni Association, added brief remarks.

Community Impact Honors Wittens

Columbia’s Community Impact and its students presented the eighth annual “Making a Difference” Service Award to University Trustees Vice-Chair Richard Witten ’75 and his wife, Elizabeth ’97 TC, at its 18th annual Spring Benefit Auction, which was held on May 10 at JP Morgan Chase in midtown.

Witten is senior managing director of The Orienta Group, an investment and advisory firm. His wife is an Executive Committee member of the Hunter College Foundation and a director of the Fresh Air Fund. CI honored the Wittens for their “steadfast support of CI and their efforts to support education, public health and social services in the Columbia community.” Said Witten at the ceremony, “Community Impact is a core part of a Columbia education and a core part of Columbia’s responsibility to our neighbors. It’s not just altruism; it’s life experience.”

Through CI, 900 Columbia and Barnard students are directly improving the lives of more than 8,000 low-income residents of Harlem, Washington Heights and Morningside Heights. All proceeds from the event benefited Community Impact’s programs. To learn more, visit www.columbia.edu/cu/ci.

Left to right, President Lee C. Bollinger; Sonia Reese, executive director, Community Impact; Richard Witten ’75; Elizabeth Witten ’97 TC; and University Trustee Emeritus George Van Amson ’74. CI board member and master of ceremonies.

Photo: Michael Dames
Students Honor Davidson, Volk with Van Doren, Trilling Awards

Jenny Davidson, associate professor of English and comparative literature, received the 49th annual Mark Van Doren Award, and Katharina Volk, associate professor of classics, received the 35th annual Lionel Trilling Award, on May 5 in the Faculty Room of Low Library. The winners were chosen by the Columbia College Academic Awards Committee, composed of students representing a cross-section of majors within the College.

The Van Doren Award honors a Columbia professor for his/her commitment to undergraduate instruction, as well as for “humanity, devotion to truth and inspiring leadership,” and is named for Mark Van Doren, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, novelist and literary critic. The Trilling Award honors a book from the past year by a Columbia author that best exhibits the standards of intellect and scholarship found in the work of Lionel Trilling ’25, the noted literary critic and author. Van Doren and Trilling were longtime members of the Columbia faculty.

Katharina Volk (seated, left) received the Lionel Trilling Award and Jenny Davidson received the Mark Van Doren Award in Low Library on May 5. Joining them were (from left) Emelie Kogut ’10, Nirvikal Jassal ’10, Dean Michele Moody-Adams and Anna Malkan ’11. Kogut, Jassal and Malkan were co-chairs of the Columbia College Academic Awards Committee, which selected the winners.

Members of the Academic Awards Committee audited the classes of Van Doren Award nominees during the academic year to observe the quality of their instruction and read books under consideration for the Trilling Award. The committee met weekly to confer on the selection process and to evaluate nominated professors and titles before announcing the winners in April.

Davidson, who earned a Ph.D. from Yale in 1999, specializes in 18th-century literature, though she also is an expert on British cultural and intellectual history and English literature. She was cited by the committee for “her innovative assignments, her ability to facilitate student participation — even in lecture classes — and her genuine care for her students’ educational experience.”

Volk, who was honored for her 2009 book, Manilius and his Intellectual Background, earned a Ph.D. from Princeton in 1999 and has been teaching at Columbia since 2002. Manilius is the first English-language monograph on Marcus Manilius, a Roman poet of the first century A.D., and committee members found it “engaging and accessible, which is a testament to Volk’s ability to demonstrate the intellectual and cultural milieu of Manilius.”
2010 Academic Awards and Prizes

The Academic Awards and Prizes Ceremony, at which students are recognized for their academic achievements, is a highlight of graduation week. Dean of the College Michele Moody-Adams and Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn B. Yatrakis were on hand to congratulate the students, held on May 17 at Faculty House. Yatrakis, along with several noted faculty members, presented the awards. Following are the 2010 recipients.

Special Achievements
To Be Noted
Presented by Kathryn B. Yatrakis, dean of academic affairs
HARRY J. CARMAN FELLOWSHIP
Amanda Benavides '10
JARVIS AND CONSTANCE DOCTOROW FELLOWSHIP
Nishant Batsha '10
HENRY EVANS TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP
George Baison '10
DAVID VEGA-BARACHOWITZ '10
SOLOMON AND SEYMOUR FISHER CIVIL LIBERTIES FELLOWSHIP
Juan Gascon '11
BRITNEY NAGLE '12
ALBERT ASHER GREEN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Arianne Richard '10
EURETTA J. KELLETT FELLOWSHIPS
Charles Clayev '10
Amanda Parsons '10
RICHARD LEWIS KOFF TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP
Simas Glinskis '12
ARTHUR ROSE TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
Scott Maxfield '11
DAVID B. TRUMAN ALUMNI AWARD
Hadi Elzayn '12
SARAH WEISS '10
SALUTATORIAN
Jeffrey Spear '10
VALEDTORIAN
Arianne Richard '10

Prizes in the Core Curriculum
Presented by Professor James J. Valentini, Department of Chemistry
JOSHUA A. FEIGENBAUM PRIZE IN LITERATURE HUMANITIES
Susan Phan '10
WALLACE A. GRAY PRIZE IN LITERATURE HUMANITIES
Nina Baculinao '11
DEAN HAWKES MEMORIAL PRIZE
Allison Caplan '11
Judd Lindened '11
EMMA McCLENNEN '11
JONATHAN THRONE KOPIT IN LOGIC AND RHETORIC
Hadi Elzayn '12
JAMES P. SHENTON PRIZE IN CONTEMPORARY CIVILIZATION
James Dawson '10

Prizes in Science and Mathematics
Presented by Professor James J. Valentini, Department of Chemistry
RICHARD BERSOHN PRIZE
Arianne Richard '10
COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AWARD
Alex Bamberger '11
GABRIEL SCHUBINER '10

THE PHILLY STEVENS SHARP FELLOWSHIP IN AMERICAN POLITICS
James Dawson '11
CAROLINE PHEPS STOKES PRIZE
Nicholas Serpe '10
TARAKNATH DAS FOUNDATION AWARD
Nishant Batsha '10
ALAN J. WILLEN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Jordan Hirsch '10

Prizes in the Humanities
Presented by Associate Professor Jenny Davidson, Department of English and Comparative Literature
CHARLES A. BEARD PRIZE
Jonathan Backer '10
CARL B. BOYER MEMORIAL PRIZE
Ron Gejman '10
CHANDLER HISTORICAL PRIZE
Kate Redburn '10
ALBERT MARION ELBERG PRIZE
Anna Wood '10
LIST PRIZE IN HISTORY
Michael Parami '10
GARRETT MATLINGLY PRIZE
Timothy Tszeng '10
SANFORD S. PARKER PRIZE
Daniel Villar '10
EDWIN ROBBINS ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP
Jonathan Dentler '10
YESOL HAN '11
Sarah Khan '11
Kyle Shybrunko '10
THE ROMINE PRIZE
HONORS THESIS: James Sparks '10
SEMINAR PAPERS: Erica Kestenbaum '10

THE PHILLY STEVENS SHARP FELLOWSHIP IN AMERICAN POLITICS
James Dawson '11
CAROLINE PHEPS STOKES PRIZE
Nicholas Serpe '10
TARAKNATH DAS FOUNDATION AWARD
Nishant Batsha '10
ALAN J. WILLEN MEMORIAL PRIZE
Jordan Hirsch '10

Prizes in the Creative and Performing Arts
Presented by Patricia E. Green, the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professor of the Humanities, Department of Spanish and Portuguese
ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS POETRY PRIZE
Nicholas Wong '11
KAREN OSNEY BROWNSTEIN WRITING PRIZE
Yitian Fu '10
ARTHUR E. FORD POETRY PRIZE
Morgan Parker '10
PHIOLEKIAN PRIZE
Zachary Gomes '10
Rebecca Kutzer-Rice '12
AUSTIN E. QUIGLEY PRIZE
Paige Johnson '10 Barnard
RICHARD AND BROOKE KAMIN RAPSFORT SUMMER MUSIC PERFORMANCE FELLOWSHIP
Brigid Babish '12
Hilary Barboures '11
Susanne Davies '11
Theo Di Castri '11
Holly Druckman '12
August de Pont '10
Rebecca Fuller '10
Elliot Huang '10
Kurt Kanazawa '11
Sarah Mi-Eun Kim '11
Victoria Lewis '13
Edward Poll '10
Eric Silberger '11
Mark Yan-Wei Sim '12
Madhavan Somathan '13
Tavi Ungerleider '11
LOUIS SUDLER PRIZE IN THE ARTS
Ursula Kwong-Brown '10
THE MARIANA GRISWOLD VAN RENSSELAER PRIZE
Maya Popa '10 Barnard
Smith Named Head Men’s Basketball Coach

BY ALEX SACHARE ’71

Can Kyle Smith pick up where Joe Jones left off? Smith, who spent 18 years as an assistant coach, the last nine at St. Mary’s (Calif.), was introduced on May 5 as the 22nd head coach in the 110-year history of Columbia men’s basketball. He succeeds Jones, who resigned after seven seasons to become an assistant to former Cornell coach Steve Donahue at Boston College.

A 1992 graduate of Hamilton College, Smith spent eight years as an assistant coach at the University of San Diego and one year at the Air Force Academy before moving to St. Mary’s in 2001. He rose to become associate head coach for the Gaels, who compiled a 28-6 record last season and reached the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Championships. Smith’s primary duties included coordinating recruiting, overseeing player development and focusing on the team’s offensive game plan.

Jones had only mixed success during his tenure on Morningside Heights. A popular presence on campus, he inherited a team that went 2-25 and was winless in its 14 Ivy games and achieved three 7-7 Ivy seasons before sliding to 5-9 in Ivy play last year and 11-17 overall. Although Jones posted only one winning record in seven seasons (16-12 in 2007) and an overall mark of 86-108, Athletics Director M. Dianne Murphy said he “reengaged our men’s basketball community and revitalized our men’s basketball program. For that, we are all very grateful.”

Murphy said she reviewed more than 150 applications before deciding on Smith, citing his “strong leadership skills, excellent basketball knowledge and successful recruiting experience. He’s exactly what we’re looking for as our head basketball coach.”

Randy Bennett, head coach at St. Mary’s, predicted that Smith “will be very successful” in his first stint as a head coach. “He has been a huge part of what we’ve done. It’s been he and I together — it’s been like having a co-coach.”

Smith said he was “very excited” to take on the challenge of taking the Columbia program to the next level. “Let’s try to get a winning season,” he said, when asked about goals. “Let’s try to get there — that would be a huge confidence boost — and see what happens from there. Eventually we want to be a team that can compete for Ivy League championships.”

Smith sees parallels between St. Mary’s and Columbia. “When I got there we were 2-27,” he said, “so I saw it grow from 9 (wins) to 15 to 19 to 25, and then the last three years we averaged 27. It can be done.”

Although Smith said, “At St. Mary’s we fancy ourselves as being Ivy League West,” one big difference is that his former school was able to offer athletic scholarships. “It’ll obviously be different, with a different student-athlete,” he said, “but Cornell proved it can be done in the Ivy League. What I’m taking from that is the belief we have in ourselves. It doesn’t matter what resources you have — you have a chance if you’re working hard and you get good players who are committed. You have a chance to compete with anybody.

“What’s going on in the Ivy League is exciting,” he added. “Cornell reached the Sweet 16, Harvard and Princeton were very good and are expected to be good again next year. I don’t see any reason Columbia can’t be, too.”

How to realize leadership potential

1. Recognize Organizational Problem
2. Call for Help
3. Address the Issue
4. Apply Resolution

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Susan Boynton is an associate professor of music and chair of Music Humanities. Her research focuses on liturgical music in medieval Western monasticism, monastic education and the role of women in medieval song. The recipient of two Fulbrights, a Rome Prize, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship and a membership at the Institute for Advanced Study, she has been teaching at Columbia since 2000. Boynton earned her bachelor’s from Yale and her Ph.D. from Brandeis.

Where did you grow up? New York City.

What did you want to be growing up?

When I was in high school, I was interested in being a pianist, but I liked writing about music, so in college, I thought I’d be interested in being a music historian, a classicist or something like that.

Do you still play piano?

Yes. I have a grand piano at home. I do some informal performances. I’ve done little concerts here and at home.

What kind of music did you listen to growing up?

I listened to classical music. My father sang in a lot of choirs and was a very good piano player. My grandmother was a voice teacher and a singer. I heard a lot of early music and choral music growing up, so I grew interested in that.

How did you come to Columbia?

I used to teach at the University of Oregon. That was my first job after I got my doctorate. I was invited to apply for a job here in 2000, and that was it. I was very glad to come home to New York. The West Coast seemed very far away. My whole family lives in New York.

What are you working on?

I recently finished a book on a Jesuit in the 18th century and in the new world. As a larger historical project, it concerned the history of Spanish patrimony and cultural legacy.

Where do you live?

Broadway and 111th Street.

Are you married? Do you have kids?

I am married to Jens Ulff-Moller, who also teaches at Columbia. We have a 2-year-old daughter.

Did you and your husband meet at Columbia?

We met at a medieval conference in Kalamazoo, Mich. It’s this huge conference every year in May when the dorms at Western Michigan are available. It now has about 4,000 people a year. People from Europe, the Pacific Rim, all over the world come to Kalamazoo.

To non-medievalists, it’s probably weird, but to any medievalist, it’s a household name. I actually know a number of people who met their spouses in Kalamazoo.

What music are you listening to?

Right now, my favorite is an orchestral performance. The Firebird of Spring and The Rite of Stravinsky with wonderful reconstructions of the original choreography and a fantastic orchestra performance.

Can you recommend a musical event in New York?

The concert series of early music at The Cloisters in a beautiful chapel, and a series at Corpus Christi Catholic Church on West 121st Street.

What is something your students would never guess about you?

I used to dance ballet.

How do you recharge?

I do yoga.

If you could be anywhere in the world, where would you be?

It’s a tie between Rome and Madrid. I spent a lot of time at the Academy in Rome. My second book is on this Jesuit in Toledo, and because the materials are preserved mostly in Madrid, I spent a lot of time there too.
ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

Karthik Ramanathan '94 has left his post at the Treasury Department, where he had overseen the issuance of more than $8 billion of debt, to work in the private sector. Ramanathan, who joined Treasury in 2005 from Goldman Sachs, was entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the efficiency of the government’s debt auctions, a task that has only grown in importance in light of the financial crisis and the increase in the deficit. Ramanathan has made terrific contributions to Treasury’s seasoned debt management team,” U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner told The Wall Street Journal.

Mark C. Minton ’67 has been elected president of The Korea Society, an American organization dedicated to the promotion of greater awareness, understanding, and cooperation between the people of the United States and Korea.” According to the society’s website (www.koreasociety.org), he has served for 32 years as a senior Foreign Service officer, playing a prominent role in interactions between the U.S. and Asia. Minton served as U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia from September 2006-September 2009 and also served as deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul as well as in various other diplomatic posts. He also has taught as a Diplomat-in-Residence at the City College of New York.

Michael F. Mundaca ’86 has been appointed by President Barack Obama ‘83 as assistant secretary for tax policy at the Treasury Department. He previously was senior advisor for policy at Treasury’s Office of Tax Policy and was the acting assistant secretary for tax policy. Mundaca was appointed to Treasury in 2007 as deputy assistant secretary for international tax affairs. In the private sector, Mundaca was a partner in the International Tax Services group of Ernst & Young’s National Tax Department and has been an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center. He also served in the Treasury during the Clinton administration.

Tony Kushner ‘78’s latest play, The Intelligent Homosexual’s Guide to Capitalism and Socialism With a Key to the Scriptures, will premiere in New York next spring in a co-production by the Public Theater and the Signature Theater Company, according to The New York Times. The play, first produced in Minneapolis last year under a commission from the Guthrie Theater, will open on March 22, 2011, in the Public's Newman Theater. Kushner has continued reshaping the play after the Guthrie production, citing his recent work editing Arthur Miller plays as influencing his revisions of the script. He is noted for his Pulitzer Prize-winning play Angels In America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes.

James Shapiro ’77, the Larry Miller Professor of English, has garnered headlines for his latest book, Contested Will: Who Wrote Shakespeare?. Continuing this theme, he authored an extensive piece in the March 26 Financial Times (www.ft.com) questioning the reluctance of Shakespeare scholars to accept collaboration as a significant component of Shakespeare’s work. “Many scholars, including some of those most responsible for the transformations in Shakespeare studies, have had a hard time letting go of otherwise unsupported biographical claims that Shakespeare wrote Hamlet to commemorate the death of his son, or that The Tempest marks his leave-taking from the stage and retirement to Stratford — conveniently overlooking three subsequent collaborations with John Fletcher,” Shapiro wrote. The author of multiple volumes on Shakespeare, Shapiro is working on The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606.

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Thomas Sun ’11 Strives To Eliminate Health Inequalities

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

The two months Thomas Sun ’11 spent as a volunteer at a primary care clinic in sub-Saharan Africa strengthened his interest in global health issues and influenced his subsequent goals.

During summer 2009, Sun interned at the Shifa-al-Asqam (Healers of the Sick) Socio Medical Center in Medina Baye, Senegal, which focuses on all aspects of maternal and child health services in addition to general emergency care. Sun spent his time there assisting the staff in day-to-day tasks such as dressing wounds.

"Many kids came in with scratches and infections because they don’t have shoes. They play barefoot in the sand and get caught on metal. We saw many injuries like those," says Sun, who was deeply troubled by the clinic’s lack of medical supplies and poor hygiene.

In addition to assisting with medical needs, Sun collaborated with two volunteers to create new forms and digitize the clinic’s medical records with the hope that these can eventually be used to produce data for statistical analysis. "The expertise that we were able to offer was mostly technological," he notes.

The Senegal internship was an initiative of the One World Foundation, a New York City-based nonprofit that matches young people with domestic and international projects that promote social justice. The United States Agency for International Development’s Global Health Fellows Program provided the funding. A desire to visit Africa to inform his understanding of global health issues motivated Sun to apply, a process that required a written application and a phone interview.

Sun was born in China and was 10 when his family emigrated to Vancouver. "Having witnessed how the Canadian and American health systems work, I wanted a more global perspective on health care," he explains.

While in Senegal, Sun and the other volunteers stayed in a private, two-level building in Medina Baye. The desert heat was intense, he recalls, and power outages were frequent. At the clinic, Sun relied on Evelyn Kamgang, a fellow volunteer who spoke French, to serve as an interpreter for him with the doctors and nurses, who spoke French and Wolof, the local language.

"They were the ones who spoke on the radio to get people to have their children vaccinated," he says.

Sun traveled to Senegal with the goal of expanding his knowledge of global health issues and succeeded; a similar resolve to broaden his horizons steered him toward the College two years earlier.

"Columbia drew me because it’s in New York City and that comes with many cosmopolitan and international opportunities," says Sun, who completed the elite International Baccalaureate Degree Program, a rigorous two-year curriculum for high school students that yields a diploma recognized by universities worldwide. "I also was drawn by the well-roundedness of the Core, which is something the IB program also stresses and I found I enjoy."

Sun is majoring in philosophy and completing a pre-medical curriculum. He became interested in public health issues as a first-year at the College when he joined the Columbia chapter of Project HEALTH, a volunteer organization that recruits college students to provide public health interventions at local medical institutions.

"Part of why I am interested in health inequalities is because I was an immigrant, and I did not understand English when I moved to Vancouver. I felt a lot of the time I was neglected or ignored because of the language barrier," he says. "I find that I can identify with underprivileged patients who feel that they are ignored in some sense as well."

Through Project HEALTH, Sun has mentored children with sickle cell disease and staffed help desks at the Harlem Hospital Center and NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital emergency rooms that connect underprivileged families with resources relating to food, education, employment and housing.

"We [the students] are the ones who are directly servicing them," says Sun, who assumed a more administrative role as a campus coordinator for Project HEALTH in April. "With the recent economic crisis we have seen an increase in the number of cases."

In 2009, Sun was awarded the Goldman Sachs Global Leaders scholarship, which recognized 16 students nationwide who excelled academically and demonstrated leadership potential. He envisions himself pursuing an M.D./M.P.H., and though he is pondering different career paths, the value of his experiences thus far is not lost on him.

"I will be more aware of the socioeconomic factors that impact health," says Sun. "A doctor can only treat part of the health problem."

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer of LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language website.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Thomas Sun ’11, shown here in his bedroom in Senegal wearing a traditional Senegalese outfit, has been connecting Harlem families with essential resources through Project HEALTH since his first year at the College.

PHOTO: TREL MALVEO

He always had his notebook out in which he would take copious notes of French phrases and their phonetic sounds, along with Wolof phrases and translations," recalls Kamgang of Sun. "He did not let the lack of French or Wolof speaking skills stop him from communicating with our Senegalese counterparts or participating in clinic activities."

Though the language barrier was frustrating, Sun gained a new goal from it. "I realized if I was going to be more effective on the global health scene I would need to be more proficient in at least another language," explains Sun, who is studying French and already is fluent in Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese.

Sun also considers his stay in Senegal his first real exposure to Islam, the country’s predominant religion. He found the experience culturally enriching and was particularly struck by the role local religious leaders, known as sheikhs, played in promoting healthcare initiatives.

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In 2009, Sun was awarded the Goldman Sachs Global Leaders scholarship, which recognized 16 students nationwide who excelled academically and demonstrated leadership potential. He envisions himself pursuing an M.D./M.P.H., and though he is pondering different career paths, the value of his experiences thus far is not lost on him.

"I will be more aware of the socioeconomic factors that impact health," says Sun. "A doctor can only treat part of the health problem."

Nathalie Alonso ’08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer of LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language website.
CAMPUS NEWS

LEED GOLD: The recently renovated Faculty House (www.facultyhouse.com) has been awarded the prestigious Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold Certification by the United States Green Building Council, making it the first LEED Gold Certified building on the Morningside campus. Faculty House is the only building of its kind in New York City and the first McKim, Mead & White building in the country to be given this designation. The United States Green Building Council describes the LEED system as “the nationally accepted benchmark for design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.”

Some of the features of the Faculty House restoration included integrated energy-efficient and water-conserving utilities, appliances, fixtures and insulation; installation of a new HVAC system; recycled, low-emission furnishings, materials and finishes as well as locally made materials; restored original details; and repurposed materials. During renovation, used equipment was donated and construction waste was recycled. Faculty House was awarded 44 out of 44 total points attempted in the certification process.

Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS was awarded the Philolexian Award for Distinguished Literary Achievement at the Philolexian Society’s annual dinner, held at the Union Theological Seminary on April 17. De Bary, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus of the University, was cited as “a distinguished member of the Philolexian Society and a giant in the field of literary endeavor who is the quintessential great teacher, the quintessential great scholar and the quintessential great Columbian.” Tao Tan '07, '11 Business, a former student of de Bary’s, presented the award.

PHOTO: RAZA PANJWANI '07

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COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

AROUND THE QUADS
ROAR LION ROAR

■ TENNIS REPEAT: Columbia’s men’s tennis team, co-captained by Jon Wong ’10 and Mihai Nichifor ’10E, won its second consecutive Ivy League Championship and its third in the last four years by beating Princeton 6-1 on April 18. The Lions finished the regular season with a 16-4 overall record and 6-1 in the Ivy League to capture their fifth Ivy title since 2000 and eighth under coach Bid Goswami, who took over the program in 1982.

Wong is the first Columbia tennis player to become a three-time Ivy champion, and Nichifor, a transfer from Manhattan, completed his two years at Columbia with a 14-0 record. They were All-Ivy first-team selections in both singles and doubles, and Haig Schneidernman ’12, who was 7-0 in singles play at the No. 3 spot, was named to the All-Ivy second team.

■ GOLF THREE-PEAT: Clark Granum ’11E shot a three-under-par 67 in the final round at Baltusrol in Springfield, N.J., on April 25 to lead Columbia’s men’s golf team to its third consecutive Ivy League Championship. The Lions compiled a three-round score of 690 to beat Yale by three strokes for the team title, with Penn third in 698. Granum tied Penn’s Scotty Williams for the best individual score at 214 but lost a one-hole playoff for medalist honors.

Brendan Doyle ’12 and Michael Yiu ’13 tied for seventh individually in the recurve division, winning four matches before bowing to Jennifer Nichols of Texas A&M 106-94 in the final. Goshorn earned All-America honors for the third year in a row. Chai and Sydney Shaefer ’12 (compound) were named All-America for the second consecutive year and Lauren Marion ’11 (recurve) achieved All-America for the first time.

■ GEHRIG TITLISTS: Columbia’s baseball team won its second Lou Gehrig [23] Division title in three years before bowing to Red Rolfe Division champion Dartmouth, two games to one, in the playoff for the Ivy League Championship. Columbia had won the Ivy crown in 2008, Dartmouth in 2009. Columbia led All-America for the second consecutive year and Lauren Marion ’11 (recurve) achieved All-America for the first time.

■ STRAIGHT SHOOTERS: The Columbia archery recurve team won silver for the second consecutive year at the U.S. Collegiate Archery Champions at College Station, Texas, on May 13–16. Columbia, represented by Sara Goshorn ’10, Sarah Chai ’12 and Alexandra Garyn ’11Barnard, defeated Connecticut and James Madison before losing to the host school, Texas A&M, by one point.

Goshorn won the silver medal individually in the recurve division, winning four matches before bowing to Jennifer Nichols of Texas A&M 106-94 in the final. Goshorn earned All-America honors for the third year in a row. Chai and Sydney Shaefer ’12 (compound) were named All-America for the second consecutive year and Lauren Marion ’11 (recurve) achieved All-America for the first time.

In addition to Lowery and Pizzano, catcher Dean Forthun ’10 and designated hitter Alex Aurricchio ’12 were named to the All-Ivy first team. Pitcher Don Bracey ’11 was named to the second team and infielder Jon Reiser, Columbia’s all-time leader in assists, was the Ivy League Player of the Year.

■ HEPs: Columbians won seven individual titles and two relay crowns at the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships in Princeton on May 9.

■ Kyla Caldwell ’12 was named the meet’s Most Outstanding Female Performer. She won the 100m hurdles and 400m hurdles and set an Ivy record with a time of 58.24 seconds in the latter event. Caldwell then teamed with Yamira Bell ’13, Uju Ofoshe ’13 and Sharay Hale ’12 to win the 4x400m relay in an Ivy record time of 3:35.69. Hale won the 200m dash, Jacqueline Drouin ’11 won the 1900m run and Monique Rials ’12 and Brian Stewart ’11 to win the 4x800m relay.

By virtue of their wins, all received All-Ivy first team recognition. In addition, because they finished second in the events listed, the following were selected for the second team: Hale (100m dash), Bell (400m dash), Drouin (3,000m run) and Ofoshe (long jump).

■ ROWING: Columbia’s varsity heavyweight eight scored a surprising win in its heat at the Eastern Sprints, beating highly regarded crews from Yale and Wisconsin, among others. The freshman eight also surprised the experts by finishing second in its heat behind top-ranked Harvard. Both crews, however, finished sixth in their Grand Finals. Columbia’s JV finished third in its opening heat and fifth in the Petite Final. The varsity lightweights finished second in their Petite Final, the JV finished third and the freshmen came in fourth.

■ ALL-IvIES: In addition to those mentioned in previous items, four other Columbians earned All-Ivy honors in spring sports. In softball, catcher Kayla Leecher ’12, who set school records for batting (.368), runs (37) and total bases (79), was named to the first team, and utility player Dani Pineda ’10, who played both first base and center field and led the team with six home runs, and designated player Maggie Johnson ’11, who pitched and played first base and set a school record with 12 career home runs, made the second team. Goller Lynda Krauss ’12, who finished seventh in the Ivy championships, also made the second team.

■ VARSITY ‘C’: Sophie Reiser ’10 (soccer) and Jeff Spear ’10 (fencing) were among this year’s winners of the Connie S. Maniatty Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Awards at the annual Varsity ‘C’ Celebration. Photo: Gene Boyars

■ STEINMAN: Sports historian and former sports information director Bill Steinman was one of seven people presented with Lifetime Achievement Awards by the College Sports Information Directors of America in San Francisco on July 5. Steinman publicized Columbia sports for 38 years, joining the Athletics Office in 1970 and retiring in 2008. He continues to serve as a valued resource because of his encyclopedic knowledge of Columbia sports history.

■ Columbia’s men’s golf team celebrates winning its third consecutive Ivy League Championship at the historic Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, N.J. PHOTO: DAN LAUKATIS

Alex Sachare ’71
ALUMNI OFFICE: Taruna Sadhoo joined the Alumni Office on March 15 as assistant director for student-alumni programs. She works with the Division of Student Affairs and the Center for Career Education to create opportunities for alumni involvement that will support the undergraduate experience. Before coming to Columbia, Sadhoo spent 2½ years at Queens College as coordinator of specialty advising/programs and academic adviser.

Ron Joe joined the Alumni Office on April 21 as associate director, data analysis and reporting. Joe most recently worked at Columbia Technology Ventures, where he spent the past 1½ years as associate director, business processes and data management. Prior to working at CTV, Joe worked for more than a decade as an independent technology consultant with firms such as Credit Suisse, Morgan Stanley and The City of New York. He works with the Alumni Office to provide ad hoc reports and data analyses for individual units as well as develop models and reports to support short- and long-term planning.

Three Columbia College Fund staff members have been promoted. Eleanor L. Coufos ’03, ’06 TC has been appointed director of annual giving programs, effective May 1. Coufos joined the Alumni Office in April 2007 from the Center for Career Education, starting as associate director of donor relations and then becoming director of the Young Alumni Fund in July 2008. As director of annual giving programs, she will focus on bringing the College Fund’s direct mail, telemarketing and online giving programs to even higher levels as well as increasing outreach and providing leadership to the fund in managing trend analysis and segmentation strategies.

Amanda Kessler has been promoted to associate director of the Young Alumni Fund, effective May 24. Kessler has been with the YA Fund for almost two years, notably working as staff adviser to the Senior Fund. In the past two years, the Senior Fund’s participation rates of 90.5 percent and 92.7 percent showed increases of 5 percent and 2.2 percent from the previous years, respectively. In partnership with the Alumni Affairs department, Kessler has co-led the Young Alumni Spring Benefit for the past two years. In her new role, Kessler will continue to handle these areas as well as take on greater responsibility for the YA Fund.

Zachary Howell, who for the past three years was a member of the College’s Fund staff, first as a development officer working with older alumni and then as assistant director of the Parents Fund, has been promoted to associate director of the SEAS Annual Fund, effective July 12.

AAAS: Ruth DeFries, the Denning Professor of Sustainable Development and professor of ecology, evolution and environmental biology, and professor of philosophy Christopher Peacocke were among four Columbia faculty members elected this year to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation’s most prestigious and oldest honorary societies. They were joined by Nicholas Lemann, dean of the Journalism School, and Peter Strauss, the Betts Professor of Law. They will be inducted on Saturday, October 9, at the academy’s headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.

IN LUMINE TUO

AAAS: Ruth DeFries, the Denning Professor of Sustainable Development and professor of ecology, evolution and environmental biology, and professor of philosophy Christopher Peacocke were among four Columbia faculty members elected this year to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation’s most prestigious and oldest honorary societies. They were joined by Nicholas Lemann, dean of the Journalism School, and Peter Strauss, the Betts Professor of Law. They will be inducted on Saturday, October 9, at the academy’s headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.
As the Class of 2010 celebrated Class Day on May 17, the College's newest alumni were treated not just to mild temperatures and sunny skies but also to a rousing call to arms from keynote speaker Benjamin Jealous '94, NAACP president.

"These are days when we each are called on to be clear about what we want not just for ourselves, but for the world," Jealous told the seniors gathered on South Field. "Now is the time for you to decide that you will move this country always forward and never backward. Now is the time for all of us who believe in hope, not hate, to speak up and be heard, because change happens every day, not just during elections."

Jealous, a campus activist who was suspended from Columbia before being reinstated and going on to become a Rhodes Scholar, spoke about his time as a civil rights activist in the South and warned of the need to always be questioning who are your enemies and who are your friends.

Presiding over her first Class Day, Dean Michele Moody-Adams received an enthusiastic ovation as she addressed the graduating class. "You dove into this big pond that we call Columbia College and you did what was required of you not only to stay afloat, but to swim with assurance and power, and to do so in more than one sense," she said, drawing a laugh with her reference to Columbia's famous swim test.
Moody-Adams quoted from John Dewey, who said, “Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself,” and urged the graduates to remain lifelong learners. She also referred to John Stuart Mill, who wrote that truly happy people always have their minds fixed on some object other than their own happiness. “That object might be the happiness of others, it might be the improvement of mankind, it might be some other art or pursuit, as Mill says, ‘followed not as a means but as itself an ideal end,’” she said. “Aiming at something else, Mill concludes, we will thus find happiness by the way.

“But now it’s your turn. You must find something in life that takes you outside of yourself, something that provides a goal far richer and more compelling than the fleeting pleasure of the moment. Your Columbia College education has taught you just how to find such a goal, and its value in this regard may mean more to you in the future than it already means today.”

For the seventh year, the procession featured the Alumni Parade of Classes, with 115 alumni from as far back as the Class of 1936 marching with their class banners. The alumni were greeted by a standing ovation from the members of the graduating class as they passed alongside with their banners and symbolically welcomed the seniors into the alumni community.

Dean of Student Affairs Kevin Shollenberger welcomed the students, parents and guests and also presented a number of student life and service awards, Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn B. Yatrakis presented academic awards and prizes and Geoffrey J. Colvin ’74, president of the Columbia College Alumni Association, presented alumni awards and prizes.

Jeffrey Spear ’10 delivered the salutatory address, and Clifford Massey ’10, senior class president, addressed the crowd prior to the presentation of class pins, at which several deans were assisted by members of the 50th anniversary Class of 1960.

Adam Bulkley ’10, Senior Fund chair and recipient of the 2010 Alumni Association Achievement Award, announced that a re-
cord 92.7 percent of seniors had donated $18,628 this year, and
that surpassing the participation goal of 91 percent triggered a
gift of $50,000 from Board of Visitors member Charles Santoro
'82. Bulkley, accompanied by the nine Senior Fund vice-chairs,
presented Moody-Adams with a scroll bearing the names of the
945 seniors who contributed.

While the weather was perfect for Class Day, it rained the fol¬
lowing day at University Commencement and the sea of light
blue in the center of campus was somewhat obscured by um¬
brellas. President Lee C. Bollinger, who had cut short his Class
Day remarks because he was to speak at Commencement, said
he was invoking his executive authority to shorten sections of the
outdoor event, which was met with approving cheers from the
grateful, wet crowd. In his sharply abridged remarks, he shared
an old piece of academic “folk wisdom” that “if it rains on your
Commencement, you are guaranteed to have a fabulous life.”

During the Commencement ceremony, the University conferred
eight honorary degrees and two Medals for Excellence. Among the
honorary degree recipients were NYC schools chancellor Joel I.
Klein '67, playwright Tony Kushner '78 and the late professor C.
Lowell Harriss '40 GSAS. The Medals for Excellence, awarded
annually to outstanding alumni under the age of 45, were presented
to Ron Gonen '04 Business and Dana Schutz '02 Arts.

Ten Alumni Medals were presented, with the recipients in¬
cluding Kyra Tirana Barry '87 and Gedale B. Horowitz '53, '55L.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Teaching were present¬
ed to Sharon Akabas, associate clinical professor, Department of
Pediatrics; Michelle S. Ballan, assistant professor, School of Social
Work; Linda F. Cushman, associate clinical professor, Department
of Population and Family Health; Frederik B.S. Paerels, associate
professor, Department of Astronomy; and Michael S. Sparer, pro¬
fessor, Department of Health Policy and Management.

Later, from dusk until after midnight, the lights of the Empire
State Building were aglow in blue and white in honor of Colum¬
bia’s graduates.
Rain dampened those in attendance at Commencement but not their spirits. President Lee C. Bollinger invoked his executive privilege to cut short the ceremony, including his remarks, which can be read in full online at www.columbia.edu/cu/president/docs/communications/2009-2010/100518Commencement Address.html.

Two happy graduating seniors join the ranks of College alumni.
Chris Kimball '73 brings recipes that work from America's Test Kitchen to your kitchen

Cooking 101

BY CLAIRE LUI '00

he titles of Chris Kimball '73's published books, The New Best Recipe and More Best Recipes, quite literally reflect his convictions about cooking. Kimball believes that there is an absolute best way to cook anything and everything — and furthermore, that with the right recipes, anyone can be a great cook.

Kimball's passion for well-made food (and his zeal for didactic details in recipes) is reflected in the magazines, television shows and books that he oversees as the head of the America's Test Kitchen empire (www.americastestkitchen.com), based in Boston. His official title is founder of Boston Common Press, the company that owns the various media that come out of America's Test Kitchen. In reality, Kimball is much more than just the founder; serving as hands-on leader and cooking guru/taskmaster to more than three dozen employees who create hundreds of recipes each year.

And to the public, Kimball, sporting a natty bow tie and his signature red apron, is instantly recognizable as the face and voice of the America's Test Kitchen brand.

The brand began with a small, unassuming food magazine, Cook's Illustrated (www.cooksillustrated.com), which in terms of circulation is now one of the biggest cooking magazines in the country and is edited by Kimball. It has grown to include a spin-off magazine, Cook's Country (www.cookscountry.com); two shows on PBS, America's Test Kitchen and Cook's Country (www.cookscountrytv.com), both hosted by Kimball; a new radio show debuting this fall, also hosted by Kimball; a bevy of cookbooks each year; and four successful websites. The company is privately held and revenues are not publicly disclosed, but the Boston Globe has estimated the gross revenue for print and web subscriptions alone at more than $40 million a year — and that's not counting television, radio or book revenues.

Fusing science, analytical testing and commonsense tasting, Kimball and his team have developed an approach to cooking that is quite different from the celebrity chef phenomenon. Though Kimball is featured as the face of America's Test Kitchen and Cook's Illustrated, he and his team try to shift the emphasis to where they think it belongs: the food.

Kimball is involved in every television and radio episode, sits in on meetings for all the books and magazines, and tastes everything in Cook's Illustrated. His workday starts at 6:30 a.m., and the editorial director at Cook's Illustrated, Jack Bishop, says with a laugh, "When Chris arrives on his motorcycle, wearing his bow tie, it is a sight to be seen." Kimball's contrast of practical neckwear (chosen for his ability to keep it out of the food he cooks) and daring trans-
Majoring in primitive art, Kimball recalls having excellent art history professors and citing Professor Albert Goldman’s classes as being particularly memorable, but he acknowledges that he probably learned as much outside the classroom as inside. During his undergraduate years, Kimball drove a cab on weekends and remembers sitting on the roof of the student center during a protest, talking a fellow protester out of throwing a Molotov cocktail.

After a couple of jobs in publishing and marketing, Kimball, who had always had an interest in cooking, began taking cooking classes. Frustrated with the lack of answers about why some recipes worked and others failed, Kimball decided to start his own cooking magazine in 1980 and raised $100,000 from friends and family to get it going.

“The other food magazines weren’t really about food,” he says. “They were about restaurants and lifestyle.” This first magazine, titled Cook’s, already bore Kimball’s soon-to-be signature emphasis on cooking. Eventually, the magazine was sold and operated by different media companies before being closed down by Condé Nast in 1990.

In 1993, Kimball decided to try again, and this time, after buying back the name Cook’s, he ditched the advertisers as well as any lifestyle and travel articles requested by said advertisers. The result was Cook’s Illustrated, an advertising-free publication that is a cross between Consumer Reports and a high-end neighborhood recipe pamphlet. The magazine only has color on the cover; inside, unfussy black-and-white photos are augmented with precise line drawings.

In 2000, Kimball started America’s Test Kitchen, now airing its 10th season on PBS. “It’s no secret that in the food world, you need to be on TV,” says Kimball. “If you’re not, it’s very difficult.” Unlike traditional cooking shows, which are built around the personality of the chef-host (think Julia Child), America’s Test Kitchen is much closer to a classroom. Kimball rarely, if ever, cooks on the show, leaving that to the test kitchen staff. He acts in his host role as a stand-in for the viewer, asking the reasoning behind each ingredient and technique.

His friend and fellow PBS cooking show host, Lidia Bastianich, host of Lidia’s Italy, is respectful of Kimball and his team’s zeal for details. “I think they are very practical, and they take the maybes out of the recipes. It’s a clean, intelligent approach,” she says. Bastianich says that her show emphasizes “the freedom of cooking” and a belief that “cooking is not a science,” taking a more relaxed approach that is the opposite of Kimball’s philosophy; for him, cooking is a science. Nonetheless, Bastianich suggests that perhaps her show has gently changed Kimball’s approach to television, saying, “We have influenced each other. He hasn’t admitted to my influence, but perhaps now he brings a little more passion to the show.”

The recipes for Kimball’s magazines and the television shows all go through a rigorous testing process. First, readers are surveyed about which recipes they want to see. Next, the test kitchen tries out multiple versions of each recipe, with a working recipe being tested as many as 50 or 100 times. Then the recipe is sent to a few thousand volunteer testers, with a few hundred of them trying it within a week and answering a questionnaire. “Unless 80 percent of the people say that they will make it again, we go back and fix it,” Kimball says. “We have to go back and make it simpler, make it tastier.”

The featured recipes are rarely fancy; the emphasis is always on simple, easy-to-find ingredients transformed into tasty, approachable food. Kimball believes that everyone can agree on the best version of a dish. “This whole idea of taste being relative — when it comes to basic American cooking — is just not true. I mean, there are good mashed potatoes and bad mashed potatoes, and it’s not that hard to tell the difference,” he says.

The resulting recipes are impressive. Cook’s Illustrated’s recipe for pie dough, which uses vodka to create a flaky crust, is hailed by Kimball as one of the magazine’s best discoveries and immediately became a classic among bakers.

Of course, with access to so many test kitchens and sample recipes, the question becomes whether Kimball cooks at home. The short answer, at least during the week, is no. That task falls to his wife, whom Kimball met when she was working at a summer job at a marketing seminar company, where Kimball also worked. Adrienne laughs when recalling how Kimball, who used to have to walk by her cubicle when leaving, would never say goodbye until one evening when she yelled out “Good night, Chris!” Adrienne, who has been married to Kimball since 1987, worked on the business side of Cook’s before leaving to take care of the family’s farm in Vermont, their children and their daily lives in Boston.

Adrienne, as the person in charge of Kimball family meals, did have a wandering eye, recipe-wise, for a while. “For years, Adrienne cooked out of Bon Appétit, and I used to get really mad,” says Kimball. “She used to just ignore me, and then I shut up for about three years, and slowly I realized she finally had migrated to our stuff, because, I hope, she found our stuff more reliable.” Adrienne, who now cooks exclusively from her husband’s magazines and books, agrees, saying, “The bottom line is that the Cook’s Illustrated recipes work. The other ones, while they may have looked good on paper, were not consistently working. Ours just ended up being better.”

Compared to the other cooking magazines, which are supported by advertising, a subscription to Cook’s Illustrated is expensive, $24.95 for six issues. After Kimball placed a notice in The New York Times announcing Cook’s Illustrated’s return, 1,500 subscribers, many of them former Cook’s readers, immediately signed up, and today, almost two decades later, the magazine has a million subscribers, a number on par with glossies such as Bon Appétit and significantly higher than competitor Saveur, which has about 270,000 paid subscribers. Cooksillustrated.com is unusual in that none of its content is free, even with a subscription to the magazine. A year’s subscription to the website costs $34.95.

In a media world that is rapidly changing and during a recession where many publications’ advertising revenue has shrunk dramatically, Kimball also stands out because his magazines and website are free of advertising, supported only by subscription fees. “Considering what a traditional niche Chris is in, he’s been a real innovator, and his models have implications that go beyond his amazing franchise,” says David Carr, media critic for The New York Times.

Kimball is adamant about the need for consumers to pay for content and to pay for the expertise of well-trained editors and test cooks who develop recipes for the show and magazine. “In terms of recipe selection, having a lot of recipes is not helpful; having recipes that work is,” he says. “You want someone to stand in between the raw data and the consumer and give the consumer something that’s helpful.”

And with his gimlet eye, finicky palate and multimedia reach, Kimball wants his recipes to be the ultimate stand-in between the ingredients and the home cook. America’s Test Kitchen may be a democracy of recipe testers, but one very determined ruler stands above it all.

To watch highlights of Chris Kimball ’73 on America’s Test Kitchen, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Claire Lui ’00 is a freelance writer and editor. Her articles have appeared in Print, American Heritage and other magazines and websites.
Perfect Chocolate Chip Cookies
From Cook's Illustrated
Makes 16 cookies

Avoid using a nonstick skillet to brown the butter; the dark color of the nonstick coating makes it difficult to gauge when the butter is browned. Use fresh, moist brown sugar instead of hardened brown sugar, which will make the cookies dry. This recipe works with light brown sugar, but the cookies will be less full-flavored.

1 3/4 cups unbleached all-purpose flour (8 3/4 ounces)
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
14 tablespoons unsalted butter (1 1/4 sticks)
3/4 cup granulated sugar (3 3/2 ounces)
3/4 cups packed dark brown sugar (5 1/4 ounces)
1 teaspoon table salt
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 large egg
1 large egg yolk
1 1/4 cups semisweet chocolate chips or chunks
1/4 cup chopped pecans or walnuts, toasted (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS
1. Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 375 degrees. Line 2 large (18- by 12-inch) baking sheets with parchment paper. Whisk flour and baking soda together in medium bowl; set aside.

2. Heat 10 tablespoons butter in 10-inch skillet over medium-high heat until melted, about 2 minutes. Continue cooking, swirling pan constantly until butter is dark golden brown and has nutty aroma, 1 to 3 minutes. Remove skillet from heat and, using heatproof spatula, transfer browned butter to large heatproof bowl. Stir remaining 4 tablespoons butter into hot butter until completely melted.

3. Add both sugars, salt and vanilla to bowl with butter and whisk until fully incorporated. Add egg and yolk and whisk until mixture is smooth with no sugar lumps remaining, about 30 seconds. Let mixture stand 3 minutes, then whisk for 30 seconds. Repeat process of resting and whisking 2 more times until mixture is thick, smooth, and shiny. Using rubber spatula or wooden spoon, stir in flour mixture until just combined, about 1 minute. Stir in chocolate chips and nuts (if using), giving dough final stir to ensure no flour pockets remain.

4. Divide dough into 16 portions, each about 3 tablespoons (or use #24 cookie scoop). Arrange 2 inches apart on prepared baking sheets, 8 dough balls per sheet. (Smaller baking sheets can be used, but will require 3 batches.)

5. Bake cookies 1 tray at a time until cookies are golden brown and still puffy, and edges have begun to set but centers are still soft, 10 to 14 minutes, rotating baking sheet halfway through baking. Transfer baking sheet to wire rack; cool cookies completely before serving.

Five Tips for Cooking Success
Chris Kimball '73 offers guidelines to help you become a better home cook.

1. Use more salt. People don't use enough salt, which is ridiculous. The amount of salt you consume when you cook is a small fraction of your daily total salt intake, because it's all in the processed foods.

2. Use more heat. People don't use enough heat. People are scared of heat, but heat creates flavor. When they sauté, they crowd the pan and they don't preheat it properly, and they end up steaming the food. When you go to professional kitchens, you see a lot of heat, a lot of smoke.

3. Taste before serving. People don't taste the food before they serve it, so they don't adjust the seasonings, and they end up with something that would be improved by a little more salt, a little more fresh herbs, a little more of this or a little more of that. That last-minute adjustment of the dish, assuming it's something you can adjust, is something that makes a huge difference.

4. Use sharp knives. People don't have a sharp knife. (Sharpening steels don't sharpen; they tune up the knife. To sharpen, you have to regrind the blade.) So people have incredibly dull knives, which means they're likely to cut themselves. It's incredibly hard to cook with dull knives.

5. Check your oven temperature. Buy a $13 oven thermometer, heat the oven for 20 minutes, put in the thermometer and check it. Often, the oven is off by at least 25 degrees. We calibrate our ovens every 30 days. That's what people at home don't realize. They set their ovens to 350, and they don't realize it could be 375 or 400. It could be anything. That's why cooking times are never to be trusted. No one's ever cooking under the same conditions.
For Lukas McGowan ’07, going to the office every day means something rather special — walking through the doors of the White House. That’s where he works as a correspondent for Vice President Joe Biden, drafting letters on behalf of his boss to anyone he might need to communicate with: the Dalai Lama, perhaps, or the prime minister of Spain.

One day, it was a newly naturalized American, whose letter required some serious contemplation. “I hadn’t given much thought to what it meant to be an American citizen,” McGowan says. “It was an exercise not only in writing, but it also was a philosophical exercise.”

McGowan had never set his sights on government, but politics uprooted his life at an early age. When he was in middle school, during Bill Clinton’s second term, his father, Gerald McGowan, was appointed ambassador to Portugal. So, the seven-child McGowan family decamped to Lisbon, going from eating spaghetti most nights in Northern Virginia to having a staff of eight at a palatial residence in a European capital.

At his international school, McGowan sometimes took heat for his country. “By being the ambassador’s kid, if America was doing something, I became the kid who had to stand up for it,” McGowan remembers of his four years in the Portuguese capital. “At times, I would have to walk through a group of protesters. They were yelling, ‘Americans are murderers,’ and I would see the guard on the other side of the gate and he would let me in real quick.”

McGowan, who has a ready smile and easygoing manner, didn’t consider himself an activist when he got back to the States. A political science major, he loved the Core Curriculum, played intramural soccer and immersed himself in the delights of the city rather than College Democrats meetings. When graduation rolled around, he signed on with an investment bank in New York. Politics, however, got in the way again; though McGowan had been supporting fellow Virginian Mark Warner for President, things changed when Obama jumped into the race.

“Obama declared, and I knew I had to work for him,” says McGowan, who had been a fan of the Illinois senator since watching him deliver the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention in 2004. That choice landed McGowan in Dallas County, Iowa, where he was charged with spreading the Obama gospel as one of the campaign’s earliest paid staffers. At that stage, the job meant doing whatever he could to get attention for Obama, from running road races to entering eating contests in his candidate’s name. Wearing a sandwich board during a parade one day — as far as he could get from his original investment banking career plan — McGowan says he thought to himself, “I just graduated from Columbia. I didn’t picture myself doing this!”

Obama won Iowa, and the victory made him a real contender. But that was only the beginning for McGowan, who in the next several months sped through California, Ohio, Wyoming, North Carolina and Puerto Rico, leaving to help organize the next area as soon as the last one’s primary was over. For the general election, he settled into Virginia, and his work contributed to the first Democratic presidential win since 1964.

Soon after Obama’s victory, McGowan went to Washington, working on the transition team until he was offered a spot on the Vice President’s staff. Though the hours aren’t as crazy as his field organizing days (he’s usually off in time for dinner), there’s a different kind of pressure — his boss, after all, is one of the men running the country. “In the campaign, we understood that losing wouldn’t be the end of the world,” McGowan explains. “Now that we’re governing, we don’t have that choice. The stakes are so much higher now.” And now, McGowan is not only drafting Biden’s letters but also his speeches: He wrote the first draft of the Vice President’s remarks on Earth Day and jumped at the chance to write for an appearance in McGowan’s old turf, Iowa.

On a day-to-day basis, though, there are considerable perks to McGowan’s job: directing the vice presidential motorcade through New York City, for example, or playing basketball with White House staff and elected officials. Sometimes, even senior adviser David Axelrod stops by to shoot a few hoops. “He’s good!” McGowan says.

McGowan isn’t sure what his next career move might be — right now, he says, there’s just too much going on to think about it.

By now, you’ve probably heard of the Columbia alumni who hold top spots in the current administration, including Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr., ’73, ’76L; Federal Communications Commission chairman Julius Genachowski, ’85; and of course President Barack Obama, ’83. But there was a lower-level surge toward Washington, D.C., as well, a migration of recent graduates wanting to help implement the agenda that Obama had laid out in his campaign and learn how government works from the inside. In addition to Josh Lipsky, ’08, who works in the White House visitors office and was the subject of CCT’s January/February “Alumni Corner” (www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb10), here are three more young College alumni who are serving on the front lines in the administration.

By Lydia DePillis ’09

At Columbia, Iyer, an economics-political science major, devoted
his extracurricular time to activities that skirt the edges of politics and policymaking. He traveled and competed with the mock trial team, practicing legal reasoning and rhetoric. His speech still is speckled with debater-ish phrases such as, “At the end of the day...”.

As a volunteer tutor for the college prep program Let’s Get Ready, Iyer engaged directly with the kind of social need that he hadn’t experienced growing up in suburban New Jersey. He also oversaw law and justice as the chair of the Student Council’s elections board, arbitrating disputes that arose in hard-fought races between student politicians. “The act of politics has always appealed to me,” Iyer says, “although I never actually wanted to partake in the act.”

So Iyer jumped into the intense life of an entry-level consultant, putting in 14-hour days at McKinsey & Co., helping to unravel the management problems of large corporations. He asked for, and received, a broad range of assignments, from health care to financial services.

The case he most enjoyed was the only one he did for a public entity: a study on Maine, recommending ways in which the state could close a budget gap without cutting services. In December 2008, Iyer received a call from Karen Mills, who had headed the Maine economic council that had brought in McKinsey. President Obama had just appointed her to head the Small Business Administration, and she had been impressed enough with Iyer’s work on the Maine assignment that she wanted him to come along.

Iyer didn’t need to be asked twice. He packed up his life in Manhattan and moved to Washington, D.C., soon after the inauguration, settling into an office in the maze of federal buildings south of the Mall.

When he arrived, the Small Business Administration itself was in need of some McKinsey magic: Its budget had been cut significantly during the Bush administration, and morale was low. But the SBA had become a key element of Obama’s strategy to kick-start the economy; legislators allocated $730 million in stimulus funding to distribute to small businesses across the country and looked to the agency to guarantee loans when banks weren’t lending.

“Small businesses are something that everyone can rally around,” Iyer explains. “People realize that we’re a powerful engine because we’re connected on the ground to people and we can have a tangible impact, and so everyone has been coming to us wanting to partner with us, from healthcare to ‘green’ jobs.”

Unlike many positions in federal bureaucracies, Iyer’s job isn’t confined to the Washington bubble. He has traveled around the country to meet with small businesses, helping the SBA maintain a strong local presence. Recently, he transitioned from advising Mills on policy matters to working directly with agencies to help them award contracts to small businesses — especially those owned by women and minorities — as Recovery Act money flows through the federal pipeline.

Iyer grows animated as he talks about the problems his agency has been helping to solve. “It’s fascinating,” he says, describing how nearly a quarter of all government contracts go to small businesses, or how the SBA guarantees more than $80 billion in loans.

Nonetheless, his Washington detour will not turn into a re-route. Iyer will enter NYU Law this fall. He’s not sure what he’ll be studying, or where he might want to go after that. But he’ll definitely have something to say when classmates ask, “So, what have you done since graduation?”

Washington, D.C., would seem like a natural post-college destination for George Krebs ’09, whom his classmates know as the ebullient social butterfly they elected to two terms as class president and then president of the Student Council during his senior year. After all, it would make sense for him to follow the man upon whom he had modeled his own administration.

Krebs first saw Obama at a campaign rally in July 2007, and the next summer he passed up more lucrative internship opportunities to volunteer with the campaign’s new media operation. In helping to run the blogs and social networks of my.barackobama.com, Krebs became part of the team that knit together thousands of Obama supporters in the most successful online outreach effort politics ever had seen — exactly what Krebs had worked to achieve in his own political career.

“After Columbia,” Krebs says, “it was about having a student government that interacts with the people it’s representing, one that doesn’t only come to your doorstep when you’re pandering for votes but instead keeps relationships with you for the entire time you’re in office and really cares about your concerns.”

Krebs’ successful campaigns featured high fives and bear hugs rather than advanced web applications, and promised the ability to use flex points off-campus rather than comprehensive healthcare reform. But the idea of constant interactivity carried through to his work for Obama.

“I found a man who believes in that very principle who just happens to be the President of the United States,” he says. “So it worked out.”

Along with the luckiest of Obama’s volunteers, Krebs found his way into the administration after graduation. He’s still doing new media, but this time for the FCC under Julius Genachowski ’85. The FCC has been making headlines by pushing forward with “Internet neutrality,” or keeping the web free of restrictions on content and types of access. Krebs also is supporting a lower-profile but no less important project: expanding broadband Internet across the country, using funds from the stimulus package passed last year.

Like Obama’s web campaign operation, the FCC also is leading the federal government’s charge into the world of Web 2.0. As such, Krebs has done the federal government’s first official live-blog, and also manages the FCC’s Twitter feed, which has garnered more than 341,000 followers since it started in mid-August. Krebs speaks with glee of its rapid early growth. “In 80 tweets, I’d grown larger than the EPA! State department, you are so dead!” he crowed.

Krebs doesn’t plan to stay in D.C. forever — he misses the boundlessness of New York City and plans to leave for graduate school at some point. In the meantime, he says he has been pleasantly surprised by the atmosphere in a large federal bureaucracy such as the FCC.

“I thought that everyone in government would just be going through the motions,” Krebs says. “Instead, they are very interesting people who live very full lives outside government. I have little desire at this point to be a career employee, but being here while the Obama administration is in town is really exciting.”

Lydia DePillis ’09 majored in history and lives in Washington, D.C., where she covers real estate and development for Washington City Paper.
The Great American University

I do not know what I may appear to the world; but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the seashore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

Isaac Newton

Americans have always been fascinated with inventions and scientific discovery, and we pride ourselves on our ability to find solutions to formidable problems. Yet most people do not know the origin of the most important discoveries of our time. Is it any wonder, given that the best-selling twentieth-century American history high-school textbooks devote more space to Madonna than to Watson and Crick, that our
Finding A Smoother Pebble: A National System of Innovation
top university professors and researchers typically miss out on even their fifteen minutes of fame? Nevertheless, we use products derived from ideas generated at our great research universities countless times a day — whether we realize it or not.

For example, in the morning you may brush your teeth with an electric toothbrush, then stagger into the kitchen, open the refrigerator, and take out some orange juice. The toothbrush can vibrate thousands of times a minute, creating fluid dynamics that can dislodge bacteria and plaque much more efficiently than an old-fashioned toothbrush; the refrigerator has a compressed gas circulating through its coils; and the orange juice has been preserved while being shipped from a distant location. All three are based on discoveries made in university research departments. Contemplating that night’s dinner, you take some steaks out of the freezer and make sure you have the ingredients for a salad. Most likely, you are not thinking about the fact that the meat’s fine quality is a result of artificial insemination and scientific breeding techniques, both the result of university work, or that the special tomatoes on your counter have been genetically modified. You put a nice bottle of California wine into the fridge to chill, with nary a thought of the heartier vines made possible by research conducted by university enologists, then turn on your favorite FM radio station, made possible through university inventions over in engineering, for a little background news.

The station gives you a weather update, based on knowledge originating in the meteorological wings of universities. Then there are news stories about an earthquake that measured 7.5 on the Richter scale, the number of hurricanes predicted for this year, and the latest public opinion poll on the upcoming election, all of which are based on information learned through university research. You swallow the antibiotic your doctor prescribed for you, and then, as your conscience gets the better of you, decide to go out jogging. You bring along some Gatorade (another university invention) so you won’t get dehydrated. As you begin, you notice that your muscles are sore from your last run, and that reminds you to order some flowers for your elderly mother — her hip replacement surgery is tomorrow. On your way home you stop at the closest ATM for some cash, which, of course, uses another university discovery, and later, when you’re driving to work, you flip on the GPS to navigate a construction detour. A few minutes later, back on route, you use your E-ZPass to glide through the bridge toll booth — which uses laser technology, not to mention computers — paying a premium for driving into the city during peak hours (congestion pricing is also a university invention).

Whatever your job, you are very likely to continue using methods and devices that are the fruits of university research once you reach the office. As the manager of a hedge fund, for example, you would be using sophisticated mathematical programs to help make investment decisions, and the mathematics and investment algorithms, of course, would be based on advances made in universities. When you entered the office, you would turn on the computer to find out how the foreign markets were doing. In fact, all day long you would be using the computer and the Internet, which also began with university discoveries. If your advertising agency was using focus groups, it would be basing its work on university research, and when you took your lunch break, and the clerk at the local deli swiped your sandwich and soda over the bar-code scanner, you would again be encountering a university discovery. Enough. The list could go on and on, but the point is clear. As we march through our daily lives, all of us are continually enjoying the benefits of discoveries made at our great universities.

The universities play a huge role in bringing all of these inventions and discoveries into our daily lives, but they do not do it alone. The research conducted at our great universities is part of a larger national system of innovation. That system is essentially a social system for producing and applying new knowledge. It is a complex network of affiliations, collaborations, and formal relationships that includes our universities, government agencies and laboratories, and the private sector, including the nonprofit research sector. Each plays a critical role in enhancing the overall stockpile of knowledge that we possess and in bringing it piece by piece into our lives through the practical applications that make up our world.

A Productive Partnership: The Impact of Universities on Industries and Local Economies

Industry and research universities are interrelated in many ways — not only through licensing agreements (explored in Chapter 5), but also through production of the highly trained, talented individuals who work in industrial laboratories and through the founding of companies by university faculty or former students. As of 2003, over 70 percent of all science and engineering graduates were working in private industry. Forty-four percent of all the science and engineering students who had earned Ph.D.s were working in industry; 43 percent were working at institutions of higher learning; and 13 percent were doing other things. It is clear that research universities represent the main pipeline to our nation’s industrial research laboratories. And the 100 or so greatest research universities produce the majority of Ph.D.s in science and engineering. The great industrial laboratories could not function without these universities feeding them new, talented individuals on a consistent basis.

Although the universities supply the talent — people with the aptitude, the skills, and the training to contribute to industry — as well as many of the ideas that industry uses, however, the credit for creating and developing products and services based on discoveries in science and engineering cannot go solely to the universities. Industry picks up where the universities leave off, playing an equal role in the innovation process. In that sense, there is a very productive partnership between the universities and industry. And the knowledge produced at universities and then developed by industry has huge societal payoffs with an enormous impact on local, national, and international communities. The national system of innovation in America has many components, as mentioned above. Here we will take a closer look at the relationship between two of those components — the universities and industry — with an emphasis on how the universities have an impact on the economies of their local communities.

Stanford and Boston area universities, particularly MIT, have attempted to measure the economic and social impacts they have had on their local communities, and the data they have generated can help us estimate the impact of universities on local communities in general. Stanford University reported, for example, that
since the founding of Hewlett-Packard in 1939, 2,325 members of the Stanford University community founded more than 2,454 companies. These companies included such giants as Cisco Systems, Google, Hewlett-Packard, Sun Microsystems, and Yahoo!, and their commercial prosperity led to the phenomenal success of nearby Silicon Valley. These companies have consistently made it into the “Silicon Valley 150” — the list of the largest Silicon Valley firms, published annually in the San Jose Mercury-News. In fact, they have not only made the list, they have consistently been in the top ten or fifteen in terms of rank by sales. In 2008, Hewlett-Packard topped the list, Cisco was number two, Google and Sun were numbers six and seven, respectively, and eBay was number nine, with Yahoo! twelfth. These companies generated $261.2 billion, or 55 percent of the total revenues of the 150 companies, in 2008. The total market capitalization of the Stanford-founded companies on this select list totaled $415 billion, or about 50 percent of the total market capitalization of the 150 companies. Silicon Valley is in a class of its own, but other cities have also benefited from their proximity to major research universities. A 1997 study by BankBoston concluded that the local economic impact of eight Boston-area universities was “more significant than at any other time in modern economic history.”

A 2003 study of the economic effects of Boston’s eight research universities showed that in the year 2000, these universities provided a $7.4 billion boost to the regional economy.

The study concluded: “As jobs become more knowledge-driven, the universities produce not only the research that can lead to the creation of new companies and industries in the Greater Boston area, but the ability to deliver a workforce educated in emerging technologies.” It further noted that the universities had “served as a magnet to a number of national and international companies that have located or are developing major research operations in the Boston area,” listing Amgen, Cisco, Merck, Novartis, Pfizer, and Sun Microsystems as examples.

A 2003 study of the economic effects of Boston’s eight research universities showed that in the year 2000, these universities provided a $7.4 billion boost to the regional economy. The universities employed almost 51,000 people directly in 2002 and provided employment indirectly for about 37,000 other workers in the region. (This does not include people employed by university-affiliated hospitals or research institutes.) A talent pool of roughly 32,000 graduates, many of whom remained in Boston, came out of the universities every year. Innovative research at these universities had led to 264 patents, 280 commercial licenses for technology, and 41 startup companies as well as opportunities for more than 25,000 continuing education students, many cultural and community events, and general improvements in the housing, streets, and environment of Boston. The universities received almost $1.6 billion a year in research contracts and grants, mostly from the federal government. The report noted that faculty members had founded major local companies such as Akamai Technologies, Biogen, Delphi Communications Systems, and Genome Therapeutics. They had also spawned hundreds of new start-up companies. In fact, 25 out of the 50 Boston-area start-ups that had attracted the most financing had been companies associated with these universities.

MIT alone has a huge impact on the local economy. The BankBoston report found that “if the companies founded by MIT graduates and faculty formed an independent nation, the revenues produced by the companies would make that nation the 24th largest economy in the world. The 4,000 MIT-related companies employ 1.1 million people and have annual world sales of $232 billion. That is roughly equal to a gross domestic product of $116 billion, which is a little less than the GDP of South Africa and more than the GDP of Thailand.” Perhaps as important as the overall effects of MIT research and training is the type of companies that are being formed on the basis of discoveries and training at the university. Noting that the MIT companies tended to be “knowledge-based companies in software, manufacturing (electronics, biotech, instruments, machinery) or consulting (architects, business consultants, engineers),” the report said: “As you would expect from the most distinguished engineering school in the nation, about 50% of the firms had founders who majored in engineering and another 24% in physical science. But fully 25% of the founders of MIT-related firms majored in ‘social studies,’ and a significant number of firms generated by them were related to ideas produced in the social and behavioral sciences. The knowledge-based companies have a disproportionate importance for their local economies because they usually sell to out-of-state and world markets and because they so often represent advanced technologies.”

The universities and the firms based on their research also were found to have a “multiplier effect” on the total number of jobs created in the local area because, for example, for every local job created by a pharmaceutical firm working on university-based discoveries, there tended to be three to five additional jobs created by the needs of that firm for suppliers of equipment and services. These data are now a decade old, but since 1997 MIT’s research and development activity and its role in the establishment of new start-up companies has expanded dramatically. The 1997 data vastly underestimate the impact of MIT’s faculty and students today on the formation of national and international companies and the value of their discoveries and innovations to our economic well-being.

The fact that the universities have so strongly boosted the growth of technologically oriented firms is significant. The independent Milliken Institute in Santa Monica, California, found that it was the high-technology sectors of the economy that determined the success or failure of a metropolitan area. High-technology activity explained 65 percent of the difference in economic growth among metropolitan regions in the United States in the 1990s, and research centers and institutions were undisputedly the most important factor in incubating high-tech industries. Proximity to a research university has been a critical factor in determining where high-technology industries locate their offices and laboratories, both because the brains located at the university represent a greater asset than ever before, and because of the increased interest among universities to be involved in the early stages of company formation and the licensing of their ideas to established businesses.
Social, Cultural and Ethical Impacts of Universities

For many generations, we Americans have thought of education as a public as well as a private good. An investment in the education of our young people was an investment in the nation. We created land-grant colleges after the 1862 Morrill Act in an effort to train young people for more skilled jobs and to improve the quality of our agriculture and related industries through organized research. We knew that a better-educated citizen had greater life chances and could potentially contribute more to the general social welfare. In recent decades, we have moved away from this rationale for higher education toward one that focuses on individual payoffs rather than on larger societal returns. That is a mistake. Our personal and taxpayer investments in the American research university should be seen by each of us as an investment in the public good — in the larger welfare of the nation that will improve the lives of all citizens. That commitment to the general good is a fundamental part of the mission of great universities.

The number of consulting firms that depend on advanced university training, either in the form of Ph.D. or advanced professional degrees, and that work for industry to solve market-research problems, is staggering. The very idea of systematic marketing research comes, as we shall see, from our universities.

I don’t want to dismiss the other side of the story. The great transformation that university research has created in our lives and society, sometimes beyond what we could have imagined even a decade or two ago, also has produced a host of complex new scientific, moral, and ethical problems for us to address and solve. Our successes have spawned new dilemmas of choice. When modern biological science allows us to create new and potentially lethal viruses; when nanoscientists, piecing together individual atoms, can create biological structures that can learn from their own actions; when nuclear physics produces the possibility of Armageddon, and creates problems of nuclear waste disposal even when its discoveries are used peacefully to generate power; when computer-science technology allows us to spy on our own citizens and abridge their privacy; when automobiles and other manufactured goods contribute to global warming; and when we have the capacity to clone animals and potentially human beings, we are faced with a set of vexing and challenging problems of our own making that are sometimes urgent and often controversial.

New social and economic costs are thus sometimes associated with discovery. A number of questions arise that we all must consider as the social and ethical impacts of university-related research affect our world in ever more surprising ways. When science and technology have the potential to be misused and can potentially fall into the wrong hands, what should our attitude toward the advance of knowledge be? When we can use our knowledge for the welfare of others, what choices are we faced with? How and whether we decide to use our knowledge depends on our values, and sometimes it involves making complicated choices where both options have advantages and disadvantages. These are issues that are usually the province of the humanities, not the sciences, and yet they are questions that scientists are now facing every day. This is why I insist that the great centers of higher learning must include an emphasis on the humanities and social sciences. Great universities cannot ignore the contributions of any of these sources of ideas.

When we think about the contributions of the universities to industry we naturally focus on the influence they have had on the growth of industrial innovation and the scientific and engineering feats involved in taking ideas and translating them into useful products. But another kind of contribution to the social and cultural life of the nation is derived from the ideas, inventions, and discoveries made by scholars working in the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities. As with the contributions of science and technology to industry, the contributions in the social and behavioral sciences and the humanities are made through the influence of ideas, concepts, and methods as well as through the people who establish and staff organizations and businesses that depend on the training that is provided in these fields by our best universities.

Consider in blueprint form five domains where our universities have had an enormous impact on the direction the society has taken over the past fifty years: (1) independent “think tanks” that translate empirical knowledge into policy advice; (2) consulting firms that are used by businesses and government to solve organizational problems; (3) nongovernment organizations around the world and other private nonprofit foundations; (4) cultural institutions; and (5) individual social and political advisers who work for the government. There are hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of jobs created as well as thousands of businesses spawned as a result of the training and expertise gained at our universities in these fields.

There are hundreds of private think tanks, and they work on every imaginable subject, from military preparedness to health-care reform. Some are liberal (the Brookings Institution), and some are highly conservative (the Heritage Foundation), but the entire spectrum of political perspectives is represented in the range of think tanks that exist. Though most are independent, some are associated with universities (such as Stanford’s Hoover Institution, the University of Chicago’s National Opinion Research Center [NORC], and the University of Michigan’s Institute for Social Research [ISR]). Some are extremely large, such as the Rand Corporation, while others are...
boutique-sized, specializing in just a few areas of knowledge. What almost all have in common is that they recruit highly knowledgeable and well-trained graduates of our major research universities, most of them with advanced degrees from Ph.D. programs or law schools. Many of the larger think tanks have endowments, but their revenues come principally from work on government contracts that require specific answers to questions posed by the funding agency or from private businesses. They exert increasing amounts of influence in the policymaking world, independent of universities. The quality of their work is often mixed, but they depend largely on our great universities for their talent.

The number of consulting firms that depend on advanced university training, either in the form of Ph.D. or advanced professional degrees, and that work for industry to solve market-research problems, is staggering. The very idea of systematic marketing research comes, as we shall see, from our universities. Polling and public-opinion firms alone hire thousands of people to staff their efforts to put their finger on the pulse of the nation. Hundreds of thousands of jobs have been created from the ideas and methodologies developed at research universities that have created advanced techniques to explore questions about peoples’ preferences and purchasing behavior, and about their attitudes and opinions, and to place these views in some form of theoretical context.

Nonprofit organizations are largely staffed by those with advanced training at our great institutions of higher learning. Nongovernment organizations (NGOs), which now number in the thousands around the world, and which set out to achieve a host of objectives, ranging from empowering women in less developed countries to preventing disease, find their talent most often at the distinguished research universities. These graduates of our universities are contributing on the homefront as well as epidemiologists working for the Centers for Disease Control; they might become medical sleuths trying to uncover the genetic makeup of a bacteria or to piece together the history of a flu that is developing into a pandemic. As social workers with Ph.D.s or lawyers who work for organizations such as the Urban Justice Center, they may advocate for the poor. Brilliantly trained lawyers and Ph.D.s are working for organizations that are trying to limit the number of wrongful convictions in felony cases through the use and analysis of DNA evidence. In today’s world, NGOs are having as much impact in many domains as governments are. And large, private foundations that support the arts, sciences, and humanities, as well as ongoing projects on themes designed to address major social, political, and economic problems, also depend increasingly on the skills and knowledge of Ph.D. and professional school graduates from our finest universities. Foundation leaders and program officers, who choose how and where to invest scarce resources, have been trained and often had teaching or research experience at these universities.

Finally, we should not omit the contributions of these universities to the cultural institutions of our cities and nation. Universities produce more doctorates than are needed on university faculties. Increasingly, these highly trained professionals, particularly in the humanities, are working at museums, libraries, media companies, and arts and cultural centers. The quality of curatorial work at museums, and the art and science of the restoration and preservation of valuable artifacts, depends on highly technical knowledge that can only be gained with advanced education. Work at museums on virtual learning centers and on documentary films exploring historical and cultural subjects depends on the talents emerging from the advanced university programs....

As we depend increasingly on knowledge as the source of social and economic advance, we require an increasing proportion of our young people to be trained, even beyond their undergraduate education. The universities are not only critically important to our economic and technical welfare; they are also, both directly and indirectly, essential in creating the richness of the social fabric of the nation.

Excerpted with permission from The Great American University: Its Rise to Preeminence, Its Indispensable National Role, Why It Must Be Protected by Jonathan R. Cole (PublicAffairs, 2010).
So Lovely a Country Will Never Perish: Wartime Diaries of Japanese Writers by Donald Keene ’42, the Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature and University Professor Emeritus. This set of journal entries written by WWII-era Japanese literary figures is interwoven with Keene’s commentary and reminiscences about the writers (Columbia University Press, $24.95).

But I Never Made a Loan: My Career in Banking — The Early Years by Carter C. Golumbe ’45. Golumbe, an economist and former FDIC employee, comments on the relationship between banking and public policy (Universe, $25.95).

Lyndon B. Johnson by Charles Peters ’49. This biography of America’s 36th president is part of a larger series co-edited by Sean Wilentz ’72 (Henry Holt and Co., $23).

American Indians and the Fight for Equal Voting Rights by Laughlin McDonald ’60. McDonald examines the struggles that Native American citizens have faced in gaining and exercising the right to vote (University of Oklahoma Press, $55).

Writing for the Web: 4th Edition by Crawford Kilian ’62. Focusing on issues of content as well as presentation, Kilian outlines the strategies that make for effective Internet writing (Self-Counsel Press, $18.95).

The Logic of Alice: Clear Thinking in Wonderland by Bernard M. Patten ’62. Patten examines the role of logic in Lewis Carroll’s classic children’s book (Prometheus Books, $21.98).

St. James’ Church in the City of New York 1810–2010 by Francis J. Sjipter Jr. ’63. A bicentennial history of St. James’ Church, an Episcopal parish on New York’s Upper West Side (St. James’ Church, $35).

The Grave Gourmet by Alexander Campion. This mystery novel, written under a pseudonym by Milton Sia Pereira ’68, centers around a French detective and her food critic husband (Kensington Books, $22).


Edward Said: The Charisma of Criticism by H. Aram Veeser ’72. Veeser, a student of Columbia-based cultural theorist and late University Professor Said, offers his thoughts on his teacher’s philosophy and contributions to the field of academic criticism (Routledge, $39.95).

In Search of the Blues: A Journey to the Soul of Black Texas by Bill Minutaglio ’76. A longtime reporter and professor of journalism, Minutaglio has written a series of essays about the African-American community in Texas (University of Texas Press, $24.95).

The Culture of Japanese Fascism edited by Alan Tansman ’81. Tansman argues that fascism in WWII-era Japan was as much a cultural as a political phenomenon (Duke University Press, $27.95).

Walking Thunder: In the Footsteps of the African Elephant by Cyril Christo ’82 and Marie Wilkinson. This book introduces readers to the elephants of the savannah through black-and-white photographs, essays and stories from African folklore (Merrill, $60).


Have You Seen My Dinosaur? by Jon Surgal ’85. A friendly game of hide-and-seek between a young boy and his dinosaur gets a little out of hand (Beginner Books, $8.99).

Water the Moon by Fiona Sze-Lorrain ’03. A compilation of Sze-Lorrain’s original poetry (Marick Press, $14.95).

John Kluge: Stories by John W. Kluge Jr. ’05. Written by the son of John W. Kluge ’37, this collection of anecdotes and stories, as told by his father, offers a new perspective on the life and philosophy of the famous philanthropist (Columbia University Press, $39.95).

The Publisher: Henry Luce and His American Century by Alan Brinkley, the Allan Nevins Professor of American History and Pro-
Turning Geeks into Superheroes

Apostolos Doxiadis ’72 merges math and comic books

Faster than a graphing calculator. Tougher than a complex proof. Able to turn a nerdy subject into a compelling story in fewer than 350 pages. It’s Mathman! Actually, it’s Apostolos Doxiadis ’72, who may be the first alumnus to fall into the same category as Batman and Superman. Doxiadis is the co-author and on-page guide of the best-selling graphic novel Logicomix: An Epic Search for Truth (Bloomsbury, $22.95), the story of Bertrand Russell and the search to establish a logical foundation for all of mathematics.

While the graphic novel may not seem the ideal genre to attack the greatest paradoxes of the 20th century, Russell as narrator adds enough POWs, ZAPS and KA-BLAMs to deserve a space alongside the best of superheroes. “Russell had advantages that made him a dream narrator. He was known for his fluency and his dry, ironic sense of humor as well as his unconventional ideas and behavior,” Doxiadis says. “He was more of a Huck Finn, i.e., star and teller of his own adventure, than an Ishmael in Moby Dick. Russell is undeniably one of the great heroes of the quest.”

After a brief introduction by Doxiadis, his co-author, UC Berkeley theoretical computer scientist Christos H. Papadimitriou, and artists Alecos Papadatos and Annie Di Donna, the reader meets Russell pushing his way through a crowd of anti-war protestors at the beginning of WWII.

The protesters appeal to his pacifism and ask him to join them instead of going into an American university to give a speech. Instead, Russell invites them in and proceeds on a tale that begins with his childhood and takes readers through an enthralling narrative of his tumultuous relationships, his fear of madness and his consuming journey into “The Crisis of Foundation,” the search for unifying truths.

“Russell had a tragic childhood, and his falling in love with the ‘cold beauty’ (his words) of mathematics was partly an escape from horrible internal insecurities and dilemmas,” Doxiadis says. “This personal stance seemed to us to be a perfect metaphor for the role that the quest for Foundations played in the troubled times in which it took place: an almost maniacal search for complete certainty in an increasingly uncertain and dangerous world.”

The reader also is introduced to mathematicians A.N. Whitehead, Georg Cantor and Kurt Gödel, as well as their contributions to the quest.

Even without the gene-mutating exposure to a nuclear reactor, Russell is able to tackle the problems of his times in a compelling story that Doxiadis made seem effortless.

He has had practice, though. Doxiadis has made his living in the arts for three decades as a film and theater director, playwright and novelist. Uncle Petros and Goldbach’s Conjecture: A Novel of Mathematical Obsession (1992) was an unexpected bestseller and was translated into more than 30 languages. The book merges math and narrative, focusing on a young man and his uncle, who is obsessed with trying to solve a famous mathematical problem.

“When I wrote Uncle Petros, which really marked my entry into this overlap, I wasn’t thinking I was doing anything out of the way,” he says. “Like all writers, I like to write about things I know and care about.”

Doxiadis came to Columbia at 15, a self-described math nerd who “tended to view all required, non-mathematical courses as a nuisance.” Moving into John Jay just after the protests of Spring 1968 and witnessing the toll of the Vietnam War and a junta in his native Greece, he got swept up in the political upheaval of the moment — he can even be spotted in protest footage that was used in Forrest Gump.

The departure to the graphic novel came about by luck when two artist friends were looking for an idea for a book, and Doxiadis proposed his math story. He found the process frustrating, the writing being much more technical and exacting that what he was used to as a novelist. Still, he says he would like to try again.

For now, Doxiadis is completing three scholarly papers based on a cognitive study he recently finished on “how logical and mathematical thinking were born in the agonistic context of classical Athenian democracy, through influences both from judicial practice but also storytelling and poetry.”

After that, he plans to leave math alone for a while.

“With these projects, I feel I’m pretty much done with it for a while and would like to go back to the usual subjects for a while,” Doxiadis says. “But when I am doing anything out of the way,” he says. “Oh, you know, sex and violence and passions and ideas and their interrelations — and suchlike!”

Ethan Rouen ’04J

To view a video about the making of Logicomix, go to www.college.columbia.edu/ccct.

Storms of My Grandchildren: The Truth about the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity by James Hansen, adjunct professor of earth and environmental sciences. Hansen’s discussion of climate changes incorporates political and historical as well as scientific perspectives (Bloomsbury USA, $25).

The Bridge: The Life and Rise of Barack Obama by David Remnick. Remnick, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editor of The New Yorker, analyzes the social implications of Barack Obama’s presidential campaign (Alfred A. Knopf, $29.95).

vost Emeritus. Brinkley’s profile of Luce — the founder of Time, Life and Fortune magazines — criticizes many of the media mogul’s professional choices while applauding his contributions to American journalism (Alfred A. Knopf, $35).
Obituaries

Arthur S. Weinstock ’41, Loyal and Generous Alumnus

Arthur S. Weinstock ’41 of White Plains, N.Y., a devoted and generous Columbian, died on April 17, 2010, after a brief illness. Weinstock worked for Exquisite Form and was the general manager of manufacturing in Puerto Rico prior to retirement.

A longtime contributor to the College as well as an involved alumnus, Weinstock, along with his late wife, Marian E. (Betty), to whom he was married for 52 years, endowed the Arthur S. and Marian E. Weinstock Scholarship for College students in financial need as well as the Arthur S. Weinstock Recognition Award for participation in intercollegiate athletics. He served as president of the Society of Columbia Graduates, treasurer of the Columbia Club of Westchester, was on the Board of Columbia/Barnard Hill and was a 1991 Alumni Medalist.

Weinstock was the “one most responsible” for class reunions at Arden House for about 45 years, noted CCT class correspondent Robert Zucker ’41 in this issue’s Class Notes. Weinstock himself at times wrote the ’41 column, stepping in occasionally for Stanley H. Gotliffe ’41. Weinstock also contributed regularly to Class Notes with classmate news. A member of Zeta Beta Tau, Weinstock served on its Supreme Council in addition to being an honorary director on the Foundation Board of Directors. Active in the congregation at Temple Israel Center in White Plains, he dedicated a classroom in its Hebrew School. Weinstock also was a donor to the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center, the New York ALS Association and the Grace Church Community Center in White Plains.

Weinstock played baseball and basketball while at the College, managing the latter team. "Arthur and I met in 1937, our freshman year, at Zeta Beta Tau," said Ray Robinson ’41, “and we remained friendly the rest of our lives. He loved Columbia, the New York Yankees and Temple Israel in equal proportions. Rain or shine, Arthur attended Columbia football and baseball games and never lost hope for our teams. "To me, he was indisputably the sweetest person I’ve ever met." Dr. Melvin Hershkowitz ’42, also a longtime friend of Weinstock’s, noted, “Arthur was one of the kindest, most generous and most considerate friends I had at Columbia. These traits were part of his intrinsic character, and they persisted throughout his life. I mourn his loss and will never forget his extraordinary qualities and his loyalty and devotion to our beloved alma mater.”

Weinstock is survived by his nieces, Margaret (Peggy) Kerner and her husband, Jonathan, and Carol Landsman Hannett and her husband, Steve.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Arthur S. and Marian E. Weinstock Scholarship c/o the Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025 or Temple Israel Center, 280 Old Mamaroneck Rd., White Plains, NY 10605.

Lisa Palladino and Jesse Thiessen ’11 Arts

John M. Mullins, education executive, Holyoke, Mass., on July 11, 2009. Born on May 2, 1919, in New York City, Mullins served in the Navy during WWII, obtaining the rank of lieutenant commander. He and his family relocated to New York City after the war, and Mullins began his career at Columbia. Mullins and his family then moved to De narest, N.J., where he held, among other positions, a nine-year term on the Northern Valley Regional School Board of Education. In 1961, Mullins took a position with the College Entrance Examination Board, where he worked for the remainder of his career. Mullins was a trustee of the American University in Paris for 35 years and remained interested in the educational issues of the day. He enjoyed following professional tennis on TV and attending the theater. Mullins is survived by his wife of 67 years, Alice Newton Drury; sons, John and his wife, Donna; Ross and his wife, Maria; and David and his wife, Betsy; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Loomis Village Fellowship Fund, 20 Bayon Dr., South Hadley, MA 01075.

Carter H. Hills, retired diplomat, Arabist, Washington, D.C., on December 8, 2009. Hills graduated from the College with honors and earned an M.A. from Princeton in 1950. He received an Aramco fellowship to study Arabic and Middle East Studies at the American University of Cairo and was a fellow at the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies. Hills, a Navy WWII veteran, was appointed under the Eisenhower Commission for the State .....
OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.

1942 Waldemar R. Hertwig, retired chemical engineer, San Diego, on April 1, 2010. Hertwig entered with the Class of 1942 but instead earned a B.S. in 1942 and a Ph.D. in 1943 from the Engineering School.
Warren W. Eason, professor and musician, Columbus, Ohio, on March 22, 2010. Eason earned an economics certificate and Ph.D. in 1951 and 1959 from SIPA and GSAS, respectively.
Kenneth G. Englar, retired engineer, Newport Beach, Calif., on March 2, 2010. Englar entered with the Class of 1944 but instead earned a B.S. in 1943 from the Engineering School.
1945 Howard H. Bess Jr., surgeon, Denver, on May 2, 2010. Bess earned a degree in 1948 from P&S.
Donald W. Johnson, radiologist, Bloomfield, Conn., on May 7, 2010. Johnson earned a degree in 1948 from P&S.
1946 Raleigh Estrada, salesman, Chicago Heights, III., on May 12, 2010.
1948 Henry H. McDonald, retired ophthalmologist, Pasadena, Calif., on April 9, 2010.
Theodore O. Prounis, attorney and management consultant, New York City, on May 22, 2010. Prounis entered with the Class of 1949 but instead earned a degree in 1950 from the Business School.
1950 Desmond J. Nunn Sr., retired educational system administrator, Ocean City, N.J., on May 5, 2010.
George C. Muscillo Jr., physician, Scarsdale, N.Y., on May 10, 2010.
1960 T. Irving Chang, Honolulu, on April 1, 2010.
Norman H. Nordlund, pilot, Brookfield, Conn., on April 28, 2010.
1965 George W. "Bud" Goth, Berkeley, Calif., on November 28, 2009.

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Please include the deceased's full name, date of death with year, class year, profession, and city and state of residence at time of death. Biographical information, survivors' names, address(es) for charitable donations and high-quality photos (print, or 300 dpi jpeg) also may be included. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at editors' discretion. Send materials to cct@columbia.edu or to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, University Press Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.
Class Notes

Dr. B.F. "Billy" Levene '38, '41
Dental writes, "I went on to dental school and practiced for 69 years, until this January. My father began the practice in 1905 and my son, Kenneth, '66, '72 Dental, is continuing it. I captained the Columbia chess team and have been devoted to the game all my life. I play, teach and collect: 750 books and 400 sets. We hope to attend the meeting of Chess Collectors International in Cambridge, England, this July (over my cardiologist's dead body, to coin a phrase)."

Paul Angiolillo '38 shares, "Glory be. I never thought I would hear from or about the Columbia Glee Club. [Editor's note: Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010, held in June, featured a Glee Club alumni gathering and performance.] It seems a distant, shadowy, vague event. When I entered the College in September 1934, Fred Meisel '38, a classmate at Great Neck High, persuaded me to join the club with him. I was grateful to him for the suggestion, for I profited greatly from my four years. My closest friends also were in the Glee Cub. I remember this now after some 60 years. Not having been to the campus since our graduation so I suspect that the Glee Club is still going strong."

Seymour Jacobson '39 writes: "Seventy years have passed since our graduation, so I suspect there aren't many of us left to share our classmates' stories. For those left and others, here is mine, briefly: "I took the M.A. in philosophy in 1942 under Irwin Edman '17 (thesis on 'Plato's Philosophy of Art'). I was drafted in 1942 and spent much combat time in the Southwest and Luzon. I ended the war in northern Luzon, then was dedicated to the graduates at Bucks County, Pa. — she from Manilla, I from Inchon — early in 1947. I re-enrolled in Columbia, completed my coursework, published my dissertation (The Philosophy of Thorstein Veblen) and was awarded the Ph.D. in philosophy in 1949, signed by Dwight D. Eisenhower, Columbia's then-new president."

"Accepting a post at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta, I taught small classes consisting mainly of Georgia students in various subjects from speech and writing to introduction to philosophy and ethics for several years under a unique and exciting plan. It involved teaching and aiming at human understanding, character, citizenship and community service. Recently, I was invited to Oglethorpe to give a talk to students from the '50s and '60s. I spoke on 'The Good Life, 2009.'"

"In 1962, I accepted the post of chairman of the philosophy department at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Wash., and spent the next 23 years teaching, writing and administering a department of six professors. I established an annual Colloquium in Philosophy, to which we invited some of this country's most noted scholars in the discipline; I believe it is still running. Philosophers from the entire Northwest, including Canada, are usual attendees."

"Meanwhile, and betimes I have enjoyed playing piano, particularly with different partners in the two-piano format, for which a body of significant music has been composed. We have given concerts for about 15 years running. I regret saying I haven't found a substitute for my last partner, who passed away. My first wife, daughter of Delaware Valley artist Rae Sloan Bredin, passed away in 1978. I remarried in 2000 at 82 to a brave but loyal and loving woman of 63, Alice Vivian Daugert. We have been a happy and devoted retired couple, travel fairly extensively, read widely, and commune with friends and family for talk, music and humor."

"We are moderately active politically, pleased to see Obama elected, but wish we could be more sanguine about our country's future. We leave it to the good students of Columbia, including Obama, to help steer the ship in the right direction."

Jim Frost '40, '49 GSAS writes: "Recently, there was a notice concerning an alumni reunion this June. Not having been to the campus in years, it seemed like something I might do. The occasion was dedicated to the graduates at five-year intervals [those class years ending in 0 or 5]. There was an entry for the Class of 1945 but none for the Class of 1940. Never have I written concerning my life after college, but it seems like now or never. I turned 92 in May."

"I knew Harry Carman, who was on my doctoral committee, and was his coauthor for a book. My wife and I visited him at his farm. Another professor at Columbia, though he did not stay there very long, was Harold Syrett '38. GSAS, '44 GSAS, the great author of 'The Philosophy of Thorstein Veblen' and was meeting Elsie Lorenz, who was to become my wife. My story must include this beautiful and extremely able person, who graduated from Richmond Hill H.S. in Brooklyn a month past her 15th birthday and was at the top of her class. She graduated from college a month past her 19th birthday. Hunt described Elsie as 'an unusually attractive and able lady.'"

"I completed my master's in 1941. The plan was that I would get a teaching job, and Elsie and I would be married. It was not to be. I was a Canadian citizen and drafted as a private. My classmates were all officers, usually in the Navy. When I told Elsie that I was drafted, she said it was time we were engaged. I had no money, but Elsie had been teaching for two years, and she bought the ring."

"On July 14, 1941, I entered the Army as a private and found it was not an easy life, working on the line, checking lanes and preparing them for flight. An order sent me to the base commander's office, where I was informed that I, a private, was the NCO in charge of personnel. This assignment came because I had the highest score on the Army General Classification Test."

"My citizenship came through. In those days, it took at least a couple of years. I was sent to the Officer Candidate School in Miami and the School of Business at Harvard, where I was the only cadet to pass one examination. Graduation made me a commissioned officer. I had a specialty number and a title bestowed by Headquarters Army Air Force and could be assigned duty only by Army Air Force Headquarters. Elsie and I were married in her church on September 14, 1942. Elsie used to quip that it was a short courtship, only six years. I did well and rose to the rank of major."

"The war ended, and it was back to Columbia to work on the doctorate, which I received in February 1949. My doctoral di-
I was twice offered the position of raising my salary and assigning me in Albany. Chancellor Gould kept removed from the exclusive role leges multipurpose institutions far in Albany was to make the col¬Syrett was there as vice chancellor the area, visiting 17 countries. Japanese universities. Harry Car¬central administration of SUNY, a wonderful year. We went around for the grant. The funds available the American studies centers in ontacta but never said much about it. multipurpose institution.

One said, 'You are Dr. Frost.' The second said, 'You have two very pretty daughters.' The third said, 'Too bad.' Nothing happened, but Elsie and I were very concerned and kept careful watch over our daughters.

We moved on to Connecticut, where I thought my job was to press for new programs in the state colleges to increase their role as multipurpose institutions offering broader opportunities for students. Every personnel change in my office had to be approved by the Commissioner of Education. Work in the legislature, defiance of a commissioner and, as a newspaper reported, defiance of the governor resulted in the trustees taking control, and their policies governed the system of four campuses. There were legislative threats to eliminate the trustees. Elsie always said to me that we did not have to stay in Connecticut and that perhaps it was time for me to retire and write books. She would also say, quoting from the Book of Ruth, 'Whither thou goest, I will go.' On March 1, 1983, the legislature created the Connecticut State University, and I became its president. The trustees were in control, and now the effort would be focused almost solely on expanding the curricula.

I taught history for a year at Nutley High School in New Jersey and then at the University of Connecticut. He graduated from the Engineering School in 1942. He worked for the El Paso Gas Co. His life ended on January 1.

T. Hall Keys III entered with our class. He owned and operated a pet resort and training center in Ridge, N.C., and died on January 6.

Arthur Weinstock left us on April 17 after several weeks of intensive care at a White Plains, N.Y., hospital. Art lived in White Plains and was the one most responsible for our annual reunions at Arden House for approximately 45 years. In college, he was president of ZBT, manager of the basketball team and took part in many other activities. He served as president of the Society of Columbia Graduates, as treasurer and executive officer on a training for our annual reunions at Arden House in Ridge, N.C., and died on January 6.

Edward Amontree died in Sarasota, Fla., on February 4 after a lifetime of practicing dentistry. He was born Berg of Midland, Texas, started with our class and graduated from the Engineering School in 1942. He worked for the El Paso Gas Co. His life ended on January 1.

Robert Zucker 29 The Birches Roslyn, NY 11576 rzucker@optonline.net

We note with sorrow the passing of four classmates.

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extraordinary family. Bob, at 89, is a contender for the record of eldest grandpa with the youngest grandchild in our class. As I write this in April, Bob's granddaughter, Ruby Lee, is just 20 months old! Ruby Lee's sister Madalein Row Loom. On April 19, our Alumni Office notified me of the deaths of David Harrison and George Laboda.

Dave died in Madison, Wis., on February 3, and George died in Lake Worth, Fla., on February 26. I knew both Dave and George during our college years. Dave worked on Spectator and was a member of the Debate Council, Blue Book editor, Columbia Community Fund chairman, and a member of the Earl Hall Society and the University of Wisconsin Society. George was manager of the Student Laundry, chairman of the Fall Formal, president of the Columbia Student Agencies Council, and a member of the University Christian Association and Nacorns.

Dave was born in Liverpool, England, in 1922. He was brought to the United States in 1933 and naturalized in 1945. In 1949, Dave earned an M.A. in economics from Columbia and began a career as an economist, statistician and market researcher. He worked for several prominent firms, including RCA International, the Textile Economics Bureau, Courtauld's North America, Chemstrand, Monsanto, and Kirt and Salmon Associates.

Dave retired to Madison and lived there several years until his death. He was assistant editor of our Great Class of 1942 newsletter, working with our late, great editors, Victor Zaro and Dr. Herbert Mark, and later with myself after Vic and Herb died. Dave was a fine writer, with a laconic wit and penetrating analytic comments about the absurdities of modern life. After he moved to Madison from Bayside, N.Y., he sent me his wry comments about George or his family. We shared our condolences to the family and to his friends. A detailed obituary will be published in a future issue of CCT.

Don Mankiewicz in Montrovia, Calif., and Arthur "Wizzer" Wellington in Elmira, N.Y., had been in touch with me via e-mail and telephone to discuss and handicap the Kentucky Derby on May 1. (By the time you read this, that race will be history.) Don, Arthur and I are the surviving members of the Columbia chapter of the Columbia Spectator. We founded the campus in 1938 by ourselves and our now-deceased friends Charles F. "Chic" Hoelzer Jr. and Don Dickinson. Over the intervening 72 years, members have kept in touch to discuss and handicap the Triple Crown races (Derby, Preakness, Belmont Stakes) and the Breeders Cup Championships. Despite our collective expertise in equine genetics, handicapping, jockeys and post-time odds, our success has been erratic. As we approach our collective nonagenarian status (Art celebrated his 90th birthday on May 17), we retain our optimism and continue to believe in what Frank Sinatra said in one of his best songs, "Here's To The Winners!"

Welcome news from all classmates via e-mail, regular mail or telephone calls. Kind regards and best wishes to all. Hail Columbia!

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Dave's family and friends. A detailed obituary will appear in a future issue of CCT.

George was well known on campus as manager of the Student Laundry Agency. He had many friends who appreciated his energy, gregarious personality and management skills. After Columbia, George rose to a prominent position as advertising manager and media consultant at Colgate-Palmolive Corp. According to our 1978 Columbia College Directory, George had already retired by that date.

At the time of this writing, no further information is available about George or his family. We send our condolences to the family and to his friends. A detailed obituary will be published in a future issue of CCT.

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Henry Rolf Hecht 11 Evergreen Pl. Demarest, N.J. 07627 hrhl5@columbia.edu

We mourn the passing of Henry Griesman, who spent most of his life in the fashion industry as a supplier of high-quality fabrics from Europe and Asia. His proudest achievement was as an intelligence sergeant who shortly after VE Day ran across Wernher von Braun and started the rocket pioneer on his way to Huntsville, Ala. Henry's ashes will be interred in Arlington.

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Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
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John Gollembe '62, '65 TC wrote to inform the class of his brother's doings: "Carter H. Gollembe, who is retired with his wife, Patricia, in Delray Beach, Fla., recently published But I Never Made a Loan: My Career in Banking — The Early Years, a book about his distinguished career, which spanned the second half of the 20th century.

"After beginning with the FDIC in the early 1950s, Carter moved to the American Banker's Association, founded a leading bank consulting firm and then established one of the most respected and widely read newsletters in the banking industry, The Gollembe Reports. Financial writer Martin Mayer called Carter 'one of the most interesting and informative sources on the banking scene,' and a Federal Reserve Board governor lamented his 2002 retirement by saying, 'Not getting the benefit of his 50-plus years of experience and his ability to analyze is a tremendous loss.'"

"As with many of his classmates, Carter's College years were interrupted by WWII service in Europe. After recovering from wounds suffered in the Battle of the Bulge and returning to Morningside Heights, Carter finished his baccalaureate and went on to earn a Ph.D. in economics in 1952 at GSAS. Subsequently, he earned a law degree at The George Washington University. Carter's long-standing support of Columbia College was honored in 1995 by the establishment of the Carter H. Gollembe Scholarship Fund."
Albert Rothman chimed in before reunion: “I hope many of us ‘46ers are still above the ground, and others I can only find them. How I would love to hear from others who linger here and remember me, whether positively or the reverse. Hal Samelson, Ron Graham and Johnny O’Connor are gone. I miss them deeply, as well as others [who] don’t come to my aging mind.

“In many ways, it is the happiest time in my life. Am I nuts? No. I feel fully alive and active, grateful for surviving heart bypass, cancer, hip replacement and so on, and especially others [who] don’t understand why some don’t come to my aging mind.

“No longer interested in my former studies and career in chemical engineering and chemistry. B.S. Ch.E. at Columbia, Ph.D. in chem. Ch.E. at UC Berkeley and both industrial and university positions. After retiring in 1986, I became a published and prize-winning writer, poet and author: A Brooklyn Odyssey: Trials and Joys of a Boy’s Early Life. Working on two more books, including Travels Without Charley, about a 10-week trip in my truck, hitting all the National Parks in the West.

“Writing is much more to my liking than anything before it. Another passion is regular hiking in the mountains (I am a trails patrol volunteer in the various parks in the SF Bay Area). And, of course, my loving children: entrepreneur Denise, teacher Lynn and son Joel, professor and head of the Department of Molecular Biology at UC Santa Barbara. Also, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren of various ethnicities, which delight me: Mexican, Japanese, Caucasian (what an odd name to avoid ‘white!’).

“But I must add: My first two years at Columbia, thanks to a Pulitzer Scholarship, mean more to me than all the subsequent studies and career at the College, which I didn’t care for. I wish I had been able to study more humanities. But to an offspring of poor immigrants, a good job was the primary need. My family considered themselves deprived, but the word ‘poor’ never crossed my mouth. And the draft board had me in its sight at the elbow of WWII.”

“The Class of ’45 is still looking for a class correspondent to write a bimonthly column for Columbia College Today. If you want an open platform and a chance to reconnect with classmates, please contact Associate Editor Ethan Rouen at ec210@columbia.edu. Until then, please send notes about your life, thoughts, travel, family and experiences at Columbia to the post or e-mail address at the top of the column.

Bernard Sunshine 20 W. 86th St. New York, NY 10024 bsunsl@gmail.com

Our class luncheon in New York on May 6 brought us together for an enjoyable afternoon of good fellowship, reminiscences and personal anecdotes. Wives were invited, and four brave women added beauty and grace to the event. Present were Helen and Marvin Aronson, Josephine and Herb Hendin, George Levinger, Irwin Nydick, Alhud Pevsner, Mike Pincus, Paula and Mal Ruderman, Don Summa, Marge and Bernie Sunshine, and special guest Kevin Baker ’80. [See photo.]

We dined at Moran’s Restaurant, a 19th-century throwback, which hosted a large collection of sparkling Waterford crystal acquired by the proprietor across many years. It is adjacent to the High Line public park, which opened less than a year ago to rave reviews and already is a featured New York attraction. After lunch, we had the very special treat of a guided High Line tour by Kevin, a widely acclaimed writer, many of whose novels focus on life in New York, set in historic context. His insights and information, delivered in delightful fashion, added immeasurably to the experience.

George Levinger, professor of psychology (retired) at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, traveled the furthest. He is writing a memoir that includes a recounting of the Fosh-Soph Rush. George reports that at v.p. of the sophomore class, at the last minute he was thrust into the leadership of the class at the rush when it was discovered that freshman had kidnapped the president the night before.

John McConnell resigned from the class luncheon announcement, saying Idaho was a bit of a distance from midtown Manhattan, and he would not be with us. John writes: “We are in a house on the Rathdrum Prairie, sandwiched between Coeur d’Alene and Bonneville Falls and Hayden, a 45-minute drive from Spokane, Wash. Weather here is beautiful. Last year at this time, we had six feet of snow. This year, we have had a total of less than five inches, leaving concerns about water levels throughout the region. Skiing is still great at elevations above 4,000–5,000 feet.”

John, from this and previous correspondence about your surroundings, you probably could write Paradise Found.

My wife and I recently moved house from New York City, after 55 years in New Rochelle, and some things that turn up catch the eye. Like a note from Mike Pincus. Some years back, he wrote in part: “A good deal of my openness of mind and attitude derived from those wonderful men at Columbia who inculcated, in most of us, the idea that what is true is what you have examined closely with an open mind. But, it may not be true forever. In a sense, truth changes as we grow older and experience the world and other people’s truths.”

Send me your thoughts about Mike’s statement. It can bring an interesting exchange of views. I also came across the first CC ’46 Newsletter (December 1954), I don’t believe it was ever published, and reported: “I am frankly sorry that one of the first official acts of our group (the officers) has to be a request for dues, but as you can understand, it is not possible for one or two individuals to continue to finance class mailings and other functions. I hope you will respond to this one request for dues and will do so immediately. I realize the expenses of Christmas and other holidays, and income taxes cloud the horizon at this time of year, but the $2 you give to the class now may well mean the success or failure of our attempts to put 1946 back on its feet.”

Fifty-six years later, CC ’46 is going strong, so I suppose the appeal was successful.

Bert Sussman
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Joseph P. Rumage, our class eye physician and surgeon, wrote to us from Gretna, La., his home base: “I had hoped to visit with you and perhaps catch the Columbia crew after my Class of 1950 NYU Medical School reunion breakfast on April 10. However, they race now at 10 a.m. somewhere on Long Island. In the old days, it was at 2 p.m. on the Harlem River across from the old Polo Grounds.

“Anyway, enjoy your news items, and I’ll try again soon. Keep up your good work!”

In early February, my wife, Shirley, and I flew to Hawaii for our oldest grandson’s wedding. He had requested I act as officiate. He lives in a lovely home on Maui, one of Hawaii’s principal islands. The wedding took place on the lawn. Of course, in my brief address to the couple I urged them to stand together forever to withstand “the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune” as well as enjoying the “Joy of the World.” Flying the longest way was made even more onerous on our return trip by an all-night layover in Los Angeles requiring a fresh Hobble through security. The wedding and attendant parties had already proved exhausting enough. But such age-related complaints are really beside the point. The weather was perfect. The 6-foot-4 groom was incredibly handsome, the bride, Hollywood beautiful. So what more can you ask?

Since returning at the end of February and continuing until now, physical problems have been huge time guzzlers. I know that other classmates have struggled with as much and more. They have told me it would be impossible to find space in their minds or the time to compose a note, however simple.

In my case, the next months promise renewed energies, and I look forward to hearing from classmates. While we are still around — though sadly in dwindling num-
my children. This is basically why we decided to move to Mayflower instead of to my place in Falmouth. It will be readily available to us should we feel the need to escape institutional living, and it will provide a place to stay when my son and his family visit.

"Arthur Bradley was my neighbor to the north in Hartley. He mentioned in the March/April CTT that in 1945, he'd been stationed at a port near Tokyo," which was, in fact, Yokosuka. When Arthur came to visit me in the '60s at Ste-Adèle, in the Laurentians, we played golf. The player we were paired with turned out to be an American who had also been stationed in 'Yoksuka.'

Iany Spelman writes: "My wife, Dorothy, and I are still happily retired in Saratoga, Fla. In pursuit of activities, I have become an avid tenor banjo player (1920s songs, none of that bluegrass stuff). I am now a member of two bands, the Gulf Coast Banjo Society, which has its weekly gigs from October–May on Thursdays at Snook Haven in Venice, Fla., during the day, and the Sunshine Mummers String Band, which has its weekly gigs on Wednesdays, also in Venice. Dick Hyman lives in Venice, and he has visited our banjo performances. He has intimated that one of these days, he will bring along his electric keyboard and join our playing, but so far we have not had that pleasure. If any classmate likes happy banjo music and comes to any of our gigs and introduces himself to me as a classmate, the hot dogs or cheeseburgers are on me." CTT is looking for a new Class Notes correspondent for the Class of '48. If you’d like to volunteer a few hours a month to keep in touch with classmates and write about what they are doing, please contact Ethan Rouen, associate editor: Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025. Or e-mail him at cct2102@columbia.edu, or call him at 212-851-7485.

Until a correspondent is found, for responding to my plea. Basil did express a desire to be in touch with classmates, and his e-mail address is basilshar@yahoo.com.

That’s it for July. Enjoy your summer. At this writing, my tomatoes are in the ground, and hope springs eternal for a fruitful harvest!

"This is my second sojourn in a retirement place, and I can recommend such a move to our fellow classmates. Not only is caregiving a burden, but a spouse or offspring should a debilitating illness occur, but your wife no longer has to cook dinner every night, nor clean up afterward!" As a fellow resident once said to me, ‘Moving here is my gift to

Dick Brunstetter, after graduating from PAES in 1955, entered the field of law enforcement and child psychiatry. He practiced and taught in several U.S. cities but for more than 20 years has remained settled in the Winston-Salem, N.C. area. Among his posts have been professorships at the medical schools of Tulane, Wake Forest and a four-year stint with the National Institute of Mental Health in Washington, D.C. Dick retired from academic life in the late '90s but took on a new career in public mental health. For his many years of service on mental health boards, local and state, and as a child psychiatrist for various community agencies helping kids, he was honored as the recipient of the 2010 Lifetime Career Leadership Award from the North Carolina Council of Community Programs, a state-level organization of mental health agencies. Dick has published articles in professional journals and is the author of the book Addicts In Psychiatric Hospitals: A Psycho-dynamic Approach to Evaluation and Treatment.

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So, what about Len and Fred? If we roll back the clock more than 60 years, Len Steohr and Fred Kinsey are roommates during their junior year at Columbia College. They share a double room on the third floor of the new defunct Phi Kappa Psi fraternity chapter on West 113th Street. After graduation, they go their separate ways and do not reconnect until some 40 years later. Len was enrolled in Columbia’s ROTC program, and upon graduation he was commissioned an ensign in the Navy with a three-year obligation. After a few years of Navy life and while stationed in Hawaii, he had an epiphany and decided that naval service was not such a bad deal. Len “re-upped” and served for 22 years as a naval officer. Prominent years were spent commanding a submarine on patrolling missions in the Pacific Ocean. He retired in 1973 as a captain. Following his discharge, Len held a variety of engineering and management positions, and today
he works part-time doing patent searches for a law firm. He has been married to Jan for 27 years. They live in Arlington, Va., and own a retreat house on a lake near the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Len's interests include tennis, grandkids, the lake house, reading and connecting with old friends.

Fred's career took a different trajectory. He married after graduation and returned to Columbia for graduate work in anthropology. After completing an M.A. in 1953, Fred was drafted into the Army. Upon completion of his military obligation, Fred was employed as an archeologist and curator at the Pennsylvania State Museum. After eight years, he accepted a dual position as director of Franklin and Marshall College's North Museum and as a member of the college's anthropology department in Lancaster, Pa. Fred retired from F&M after 27 years and added an archeological consulting business. Now fully retired, Fred and his wife, Carol, live in Manheim, Pa., where they enjoy traveling, landscaping, reading and volunteer work.

Happy ending? Yes! About 20 years ago, Len and Fred reconnected after '51's 40th reunion. They began exchanging visits several times a year, with and without spouses. A big event last year was when they attended each other's 80th birthday bash. Recently, the day off was enjoyed a boys' weekend at the lake house. As Len said, it was comical, "Two old deguys shooting at each other." Both would enjoy hearing from any of the old gang. Len can be reached at lenstoehr@msn.com and Fred at wfrkinsey@gmail.com.

Fortieth reunion, good; 50th reunion, better; but the 60th will be the best! Planning is under way, according to old friends. As Len said, it was comical; "We have four children, three sons and a daughter. They are all engineers. I have a most wonderful wife who is a chemist. We met at a scientific conference. She thought I was a chemist. But I kept her out of military service.

Peter G. Lee writes: "I began my career working for defense and defense-related companies. DuPont (smokeless gun powder), G.D.-E.B. Division (nuclear submarine) and Secondary Lead Smelters (ballistics and bullets). Anyway, it is not a distinguished career, but it kept me out of military service."

"My wife and I like outdoor activities such as hiking, sightseeing and gardening. We bought a small camp with three acres of land in upstate New York. It became our place of refuge, where we can unwind and relax. Since we like the place, we thought we could retire there. In 1987, we replaced the one room school with a 2,500 sq. ft. ranch style home. We purchased the cabin kit and friends helped put it together. After it was finished and comfortably livable, we realized it was not good for an old couple to live there year-round. This place is too remote. It has no public transportation, limited medical facilities, and only mom-and-pop shopping. The winter is too harsh, with temperatures 20 degrees below zero and 300 inches of snowfall each season. That situation, we cannot handle. But, it is still an attractive
place to spend summer and fall. We are now a ‘snowbird couple.’”

James D. Kelly writes: “I was supposed to graduate with the Class of 1953, so few in the Class of 1952 are apt to know me. I went on to Columbia’s graduate school for economics and ended up working as an economist at IBM’s Armonk HQ for 27 years. I have a message for all of you out there. Despite appearances, the earth is not flat, and the sun does not revolve around the earth. And with physical science and economic assumptions using common sense alone frequently lead to the wrong conclusions. I knew from my studies of the history of economics that there were, indeed, bubbles in both the worldwide real estate market and in most stock markets, despite assertions from Fed officials that it was impossible to know that a bubble exists until it bursts. Some of us knew that huge bubbles existed. I acted on that knowledge and got out of the stock market long before it crashed. Finally, it is clear that the federal government cannot run large budgetary deficits until it is clear that the economic recovery will not abort and send us reeling into another Great Depression. Common sense says that big federal deficits must be reined in. Washington policy says, ‘not so fast.’ Before we curb the deficits, let’s be sure that the crisis is really behind us.”

Sorry to report the passing of Donald J. Engel, a retired comptroller from Hopewell, N.J., on September 11, 2009. Good wishes and good luck to all. I left Florida in May and will be in my New Jersey home until December. Please feel free to send me any information or updates.

Committee of the LeDucq Foundation, Dr. Andrew Wechsler has written, “Bob Wallace set the direction for what will probably turn out to be the largest private foundation supporting cardiovascular research. Individuals supported by the Foundation represent the highest level of cardiologic investigation on both sides of the Atlantic.” Bob has written more than 250 articles or book chapters. He was a resident on Dr. Michael DeBakey’s service in Houston and later worked with Dr. Denton Cooley. Amazingly, Bob claims that it is quite likely he would never have pursued a career in medicine if it had not been for football coach Lou Little, who took a great deal of interest in the young men who played for him. He’s sure that Little had a great deal to do with his acceptance at P&G.

Bob and Betty have been happily married for 55 years. They have three children and six grandchildren. Talking to Bob on the phone, I learned that since his retirement, he has been involved in a program to provide tutoring and mentoring to inner-city children in Washington, D.C. In addition, he has become addicted to playing golf and carving two decorative decoys a year, which he donates away to friends.

What a great classmate! Here’s to many more years of productive activity!

Sad to say, Jay Levine passed away on February 22. Jay earned his M.A. in English and comparative literature in 1954 from CSAS and became a professor in Chicago. The American Physical Society, in recognition of scientists who have worked to uphold human rights, awarded Herman Winick and Andrei Sakharov Prize on February 14. The award is named for a Russian physicist and Nobel laureate who campaigned extensively against nuclear proliferation in the former Soviet Union. Herman Winick, “Boys are us.” Saul is considering moving back from Beverly Hills to New York so that he can “hang around Hamilton Hall” to see if he can assist grandparents Max and Ross with their admission to Columbia College. He was talking to Stan Swenson, who lives in Weston, Fla. Stan has successfully recovered from serious surgery and is well enough to play golf again.

I’m feeling great, since a good number of classmates have responded to my “agonized call for help” regarding information. Many of our classmates are involved in activities, regardless of retirement, and concentrate on business or community, family or sports, hobbies or travel, or just plain leisure.

Peter Ehrenhaft is serving as an arbitrator in an international dispute. Peter and his wife, Ray, were in Charlotte “375 SW (whom he met in his last year at Columbia), recently spent two weeks in China to see the terra cotta warriors in their pit and cruise down the Yangtze River. Peter also serves as national treasurer of Compassion & Choices, which seeks to allow Medicare to reimburse doctors who provide end-of-life counseling.

Alan Fendrick and his wife, Bev, are well and were planning to leave Sarasota in late May for their home in the Berkshires. Bev’s mother, who was of pride is their grandson, Jonah, who has been playing the cello since he was 5 and will be part of an interscholastic student high school orchestra giving a concert at Alice Tully Hall.

Larry Kobrin ’54 is senior counsel at Cahill Gordon & Reindel, practicing real estate and corporate law.

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Peter Kenen refuses to retire. Although he ascended to emeritus status at Princeton some years ago, he continues to teach, write, and consult. Peter is a prolific writer and has three new papers, all forthcoming, on the reform of the international monetary system. His areas of interest involve him in a great deal of international travel. Peter and his wife, Reggie, have four children and four grandchildren, one of whom is a freshman at Columbia in a joint program with the Jewish Theological Seminary. Peter is another example of how one can be retired, involved and having fun. He is happily involved in deep sea fishing and enjoyed the sailfish he caught on a deep sea trip.

Amie maintains a strong Columbia connection, since his grandson, Aaron ’08, is engaged to Dena ’09 Barnard. “We are now three generations of Columbia grad., Shirley, will celebrate their 50th anniversary on August 1. Here’s to a happy 50 more years together. They have two sons and four grandchildren (in the words of our classmate, “Boys are us.”)

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uates with a great deal of loyalty to the College and the University," Amie said.

Bret Charipper is living happily in Manhattan and would be interested in getting together with classmates for coffee or lunch. His e-mail address is regentplace@rcn.com.

Larry Kobrin is now senior counsel at Cahill Gordon & Reindel, practicing real estate and corporate law. I've known through the years that Larry has always had a "full plate." Like many of us, he is exploring new areas of involvement. He noted he and his wife, Ruth, and their children hold eight Columbia degrees.

I am pleased to have heard from so many of our classmates. Many of us share similar activities and concerns, so that between reunions we have an opportunity to send info for our Class Notes for sharing and for mutual interest.

One of the significant initiatives being put forth by the University is the establishment of Global Centers around the world. The most recent ones are in Mumbai and Paris. This is being done to enhance Columbia's global perspective in teaching and research. President Lee C. Boller has led the charge in opening these facilities. This added to are the alumni travel programs, which continue to play a role in getting alumni closer to the University and faculty. In October, an exciting tour will be conducted exploring the mysteries of the Ottoman Empire — "Empires of the Sea." Pop quizzes may be given at each port.

Before the World Cup reached its peak of excitement, in the spring Columbia alumni in Johannesburg attended an exciting opening of the Johannesburg alumni chapter. The turnout was beyond expectations — considering that there are more than 150 alumni in this part of the world. Back on campus, Columbia once again hosted the World Leaders Forum. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen spoke about U.S. military strategy. The school also featured a visit by French President Nicolas Sarkozy, who addressed an enraptured audience in Low Library. Columbia continues to get high-profile people.

The Café series at PicNic Market & Café continues to sell out every Monday evening. Recently, Professor Ira Katznelson '66, as part of Café Social Science, discussed how fear shaped policy during the Roosevelt and Truman years. In a Café Humanities chat, musicologist Professor Elaine Eisman revealed the secret narratives in the problematic opera Don Giovanni. You get to see and know the professors very close and in person (per Howard Cosell).

Dean Michele Moody-Adams recently gave a stirring talk at the Columbia University Club to a throng of alumni and friends. She certainly makes the rounds, not only with alumni but also with students. We can't wait to see what classes she will teach, once she finds the time in her busy schedule.

The party's over — it's time to call it a day. And so went the 55th reunion for the Class of '55, who will be described by many as the most memorable class in Columbia history — record-breaking attendance participating in wonderful events. Thanks go to the Reunion Committee from all over, specifically Herb Cohen, Jim Beric, Bob Brown, Don McDonald, Lew Mendelson, Bob Pearmain, Bob Siroty, Alan N. Miller, 257 Central Park West, Apt. 9D New York, NY 10024 oldcocal@aol.com

The weather is nuts this year. Temps can vary by 50 degrees within one week in the Northeast. I heard from Lou Hemmerdinger that Florida was not so great either.

We had a well-attended monthly lunch in late April — 10 guys made it. We tried out the new third-floor dining area at the Columbia University Club, which got excellent reviews.

Alan Broadwin brought photos of his two new grands, very cute.

Buzz Passwell still is acting president of CCNY, but the school found a permanent replacement to start in August, and this is making Buzz's wife, Roz, happy for the end of his temporary position.

Alan Press still is wandering the out-of-the-way parts of the earth (places I would never go), and after lunch, we went to his office and he showed me photos of indigenous people seen on his travels.

Dan Link is back from Florida, and we greeted him with 40 degrees and wind. He arranged lunch at the the Basie orchestra club for May 20, which included tennis (I tried not to fall this time).

Jerry Fine is back from vacation in the Far East. He and his wife, Barbara, used Odysses Unlimited again, and they raved about this trip. It was a trip when we had class. It was fortuitous, as Helene and I were considering this outfit for a trip to northern Italy the end of September, and we signed up.

Peter Klein, Al Franco '56E and Bob Siroty came from New Jersey for the lunch. Bob agrees with me that Dean's Day combined with Alumni Reunion Weekend is a mistake, as I have heard from many others. And we both miss the full day in April with three sessions. Now we have two sessions with a total of eight choices. It also distracts from the purpose of class-specific reunions with a whole University event and eliminates one event a year for alumni to get together.

Lenny Wolfe was a last-minute attendee at the lunch and a pleasure to see after a long absence. Maybe we will use his Yale Club again in the fall.

Missing due to various problems good and bad at the last minute were Maurice Klein with a cold, Ron Kapon suffering drinking

champagne in France, and Ralph Kaslisk and Mark Novick, who went by mistake to Faculty House, where we usually go.

The next event was Class Day on May 17, where Steve Easton and I carried the class banner. May 18 was Commencement, also a great occasion, despite rain all day. Then, as I said, another class lunch and Dean's Day.

By the end of April, we were getting close to our $5 million requirement to fund our 10 annual class scholarships, which we started at our great 50th reunion, and I fully expect to meet this. The student recipients I and others meet are interesting, intelligent and unexpectedly accomplished. Keep your money coming to the Columbia College Fund (www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline), as it serves a great purpose.

Next, as usual, my plug for taking courses at Columbia taught by super professors. I am taking two great ones, one with the Parr Professor Emeritus of English and Comparative Literature Jim Mirrolo and another with retired professor Peter Pazzaglini. Jim gave a marvelous talk at our 50th reunion lunch. In the spring, we have at the Heyman Center for the Humanities Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages and director in University Seminars Robert Belknap on Russian short stories (my fourth course with him; he is superb). Anyone interested in courses at Columbia, which I am enthusiastic about, can contact me.

I got a 10-year economic and international forecast from our class economist in Palo Alto, Tracy Herrick. If this is correct, it has some sobering aspects, and I hope it is partly wrong.

So guys and gals, our 55th reunion is scheduled for Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011. We have had two small meetings, combined with lunch, so far and plan to have two major ones in September. Please let me know of any ideas and if you want to join the Reunion Committee. When in my apartment, an inducement is sandwiches from the Second Avenue Deli, probably more important than your sparkling personality.

As usual, we wish you all health, happiness, a little wealth and longevity. We expect only concerned children and extraordinary grandchildren. Love to all.

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yte, Robert Lipsyte's son, a professor of creative writing at Columbia, practices what he preaches. His new book, The Ask: A Novel, is reviewed by Slate:

"The outer borough Socrates of Lipsyte's new novel, The Ask, is Milo Burke. As a reviewer, I will describe him as a development officer at a university in New York that aspires to be more prestigious. In Lipsyte-speak, Milo is "one of those mistakes you sometimes find in an office," hired to "grovel for more money" for an institution where "people paid vast sums of money so their progeny could take hard drugs in suitable company." Milo has a "good [expletive] job.""

"[Sam's] book of short stories is called Venus Drive: Stories. It (as well as his two intervening books) is available on Amazon and at your local bookseller."

"The Ask seems to be a big hit, so congratulations, Bob."

"And now we turn to the bad news."

"George Dickstein died on February 3. It is coincidental that he joins his good friend and fellow Jamaica H.S. 1953 graduate, Joel Schwartz, in the hereafter. They are the first members of our little 1957 luncheon group to pass on."

"Bob Bickers reported that George's widow, who lives in Riverdale, drop a line."

Marty then provided us with some personal recollections of George: "We lost another friend and companion on February 3 when George 'slid the surly bonds of mortality to join his forefathers on the inevitable journey we all must take. George was a good friend: quiet, subtle, intelligent and rock-solid. He was not the hail-fellow, well-met person one might imagine being the center of attention at a fraternity house party. He was not a cynosure but rather existed on the fringes of the main event. If one were lucky enough to encounter George there, one could have been impressed by the breadth of his intellect and the depth of his passion. The specific passion with which I happened to connect was George's simple and complex love of the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball club, circa 1947-57. We could have talked for hours about the exploits of Jackie, Duke, Peeewee, Gil, Roy - yes and predecessors and role models such as Pistol Pete Reiser, the unfortunate center fielder who kept bumping into short outfield walls at Ebbets Field, and Whitlow Wyatt. This is not to mention Andy Pafko, who unhappily witnessed the Cubs and a godsend, and Ralph Branca, son-in-law of a part-owner of the Dodgers. He served up the now seriously disputed pitch that Bobby Thomson hit in 1951. And there is..."

Dale Mitchell, the excellent singles batter and consistent .300 hitter who is now remembered as the final out (on a called strike) in Don Larsen's 1956 World Series perfect game.

"This recollection could have been improved because it offers only one good opportunity to listen to George privately after one of our recent '57 luncheons. I arranged a one-on-one get-together with him at an upper Broadway diner 15 blocks from Baker Field. I knew I wanted to repeat the experience every while I was enjoying it, but the exigencies of time and location to meet intervened. I never saw George again.

The lesson to be learned: seize the life experiences you know you want to repeat and cut through the protocol and procrastination, which prevent you from enjoying them, now. You will not regret them, as I regret never having spoken again with George, a fine, generous, unassuming, truly modest man."

"Marian Olick, daughter of Phil Olick, has been mentioned prominently on NBC's Nightly News. Although I have not seen her on screen, Brian Williams gave her a generous credit early in April for her reporting on the continuing foreclosure crisis."

"We met on May 1 at Parker's Lighthouse at the foot of the Long Beach Marina. The background views of the close-by Queen Mary in the marina, along with the many boats [crossing] the harbor, was to recognize and celebrate our 53rd year post-graduation and to continue our sharing of memories from those formative years. Attendees were John Ahoune, Ken Bodenstein, Mike Gold, Jonathan Lubin, Ken Silvers, John Taussig and Gene Wagner."

"We plan to meet again in the early fall."

"Barry Dickman"

"We are sorry to learn of the death of Dr. William G. "Buz" Covey on May 28, 2009. After graduating from F&ES, Buz had a long career as a hematologist in Connecticut and eventually became medical director of the Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie; children, Anne '94 P&S, and David '00 Business, Aaron, Michael and Laura; and seven grandchildren. Classmates may remember Buz as the bass in the Blue Notes, along with Bob Hanning, my children (Michele '86 and Ben '91). We pledged to pick up the conversation at our 55th reunion."

"Elliott Schwartz: "Two CDs of my music have been released this past year. One contains all six of my chamber works, performed recently in France, London, New England and New York; their reviews appear on their blog, http://aswelikeit.vox.com. Joel has moved from ophthalmology to being a foodie to a third career as a financial advisor, assenting at his daughter's hedge fund, and he offers this advice: "As far as investing is concerned, a long ago teaching has paid off for us: 'An investment is something that gives you a safe, measurable, consistent return.' Anything else is speculation with risk capital, and the past few years have accentuated the risk part of that equation. Class of '58 alumni should remember to hedge their risks and enjoy their 'Golden Years.'"

"Stu Huntington reports, "My wife, Paula, and I went to a party on March 7 at Harriet and Irving Micklin's lovely horse ranch, which sits on the Santa Rosa Plateau, above the Temecula Valley in southwest Riverside County, Calif. Other CC 58 alumni and their spouses attending were Marcia and Rick Brous, Jane and Ira Carlin, and Helen and Harold Wittner. Arthur Freeman was there, but his wife, Carol, was at their East Coast home. Jack McGroarty was accompanied by his friend Patti Kelly. We enjoyed a look around the ranch, a visit to the stables, tasty hors d'oeuvres and a fantastic dinner, but most of all an afternoon with some of the nicest people in the world! And we roared, roared, roared, joy loud enough to wake the echoes of the Temecula Valley!"

"Chuck Golden observes, "Have you noticed that the 1958 column is getting ominously closer to the beginning of the Class Notes than the end?"

Thanks for the reminder, Chuck! Having left a Wall Street firm, first to become associate house counsel to a commercial real estate developer in White Plains and then to open his own office on Long Island, Chuck has been a country lawyer for 40-plus years. When the real estate downturn began, he closed his office and moved his practice to his home. Even though his wife, Sheila, works in a shop in Huntington four days a week, leaving Chuck alone, "Roaring in a 'Houseband'" by Cault, he still has more time to devote to his five grandchildren (all of whom live on Long Island), HO scale model railroad, tennis and to a timeshare in Aruba every winter. A fencer as an undergraduate,
Chuck continues to follow the team “as a way of reliving the past and trying to stay and think young.” A little genetic boost doesn’t hurt: His dad lived to 101. 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@readingclass.com.

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Steve Kallis Jr. writes, “So much has happened in half a century. When I graduated, after serving my obligatory time, I went after my dreams, formed years before. I had the space bug. The job chance was hired by the Chrysler Space Division, ending up in Huntsville, Ala., where I worked on the Saturn IB program as part of the Apollo Project. The Huntsville years were great, and although my contributions to the overall effort were tiny, they did help. To this day, I mourn the emasculation of the manned space effort, viewing the shuttle program as a step back from greatness. As the prospect of meaningful manned space exploration waned, I found myself working in a whole new area — interactive computers. I spent the majority of my professional career with Digital Equipment Corp., where I found a home publicizing new and innovative ways to apply computer technology. Through the years, I’d developed an interest in motion picture production and its technology, eventually to the point of developing a computer system to generate control tapes for the optical printers found in motion-picture film processing laboratories.

“Long before PCs, I had acquired a PDP-8/e minicomputer, which I installed in my home and which I used to develop software avocationally. I’d acquired some professional 16mm cameras and made a number of industrial films to highlight the company products. I’ve kept my finger on the pulse of several technical specialties and probably will continue to do so until my last breath. I’ve also been a writer, selling my first article and short story within 1½ years after graduating. I’ve sold stories, articles and guest editorials ever since. An old-time radio show, Captain Midnight, was something I aspired to develop a book on, and in gathering data for the work, I learned how to fly, eventually acquiring an airplane (a PA28-151, which led me into the joys of aviating).

“Captain Midnight book finally appeared, and I flew from Maryland to Washington, D.C., to get some of the illustrations. I’m quasi-retired (no writer who can still write is ever really retired), living in Florida with my wife and, at this time, a very affectionate cat.”

From David Smith, “I had such a wonderful time at our 50th reunion I am writing to share some of our retirement life with my classmates. My wife, Helen, who also is retired, and I have continued our world travels, but on a more expanded scale. Last year, we spent three weeks in Paris and traveled in Turkey and Syria. In the fall, we went to Scotland for a month, followed by two months in Italy, mostly in Ferrara and Venice with side trips to Bologna and Ravenna. We recently left for two months in Turkey. We’ll spend a few days in Istanbul, a week in Cappadocia and return for a month to the same house where we spent April last year, in Yallikavak on the Bodrum Peninsula. Bodrum is the home of Herodotus and the Mausoleum, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. We’ll finish sojourn in Edirne, ancient Hadrianopolis and site of Sinan’s finest mosque. After a month back in Washington, we’ll return to Orkney and to Lewis in the Outer Hebrides for July and August. September will find us again, as every year, in Venice for a month.

“Helen is a wonderful photographer and a member of the Society of Women Geographers. She documents our adventures with her insightful photographs. I write about — anything we are seeing and experiencing.”

From Eugene Appel ’60E: “Most of you know of my participation in Columbia football; what you probably don’t know was the driving incentive. As a first-generation American from Hungarian/Jewish (Levite) immigrants, Appel-Lobl-Almasy, first to attend college (Columbia), football and engineering presented me with a determined objective where failure was not an option.

“My 39 years of engineering included a master’s, ’73 UNC-Chapel Hill, in environmental engineering; registration P.E. licenses in New Jersey, California, Oregon and Florida; and disciplines of mechanical, civil, environmental, system controls, structural, water, waste water and construction management. The results of my work exist in New Jersey, Wisconsin, Washington, California and Oregon. I’m especially pleased to say construction management plans set forth more than 20 years ago for Medford, Salem, Portland and Gresham, Ore., are still in use. A major factor in my success was Columbia’s emphasis to look at the big picture, the inclusive potentials, not limiting the problem to just the immediate needs!

“But Norm Gelfand asked, ‘What are we doing and thinking now?’

“Doing: Trying to stay healthy, active and productive.

“A healthy: routine exercise (here milo 20 miles on trail three times per week, 15 miles on bike two days per week); watch what I eat (keep my eyes on the food); use my mind (play a lot of bridge and love Sudoku).

“Active: volunteer coach since retirement in 1999 in football and wrestling in the Portland area (2004 State Championship 3A); volunteer help at local community center (developing bridge and biking groups and educational arts classes).

“Stepping forward: Any time I see something I don’t like but feel I can improve, I do. (I’ve stepped into an argument at a bus stop between a teenager and an old bag lady, stepped into the path of an escaping thief who the cops then picked up off the ground, pushed and cursed at an unruly crowd in Dieburg that separated my son and granddaughter).

“I’m not afraid to speak or vote the less popular position because my values are not negotiable. As my wife, Linda, says, ‘I may not be right but I’m sure!’

“Thinking: I’m concerned there is not enough time left in my life to accomplish my cares and responsibilities. First, I feel it is now my responsibility as the last living member of my immediate family to leave the memories and stories for my grandchildren. What these individuals felt and taught us through their examples and values represent their souls. Therefore, I plan in the next few years to retrace my path and record on videotape places, people and stories of our family and friends.

“Also, before I die I want to leave my eulogy on videotape to be played at my funeral. I’d like to share in the last laughs and the last tears. As an example, in case some of you can’t make it, a couple of years ago I had a urinary infection and my testicles enlarged about 10 times. The only thing I could think about if I die from this, at least my friends could say, ‘Appel had balls!’

“On a more serious note, I want to leave with my words the two most simple and important values he left for me were, ‘Be the best you can be’ and ‘Make the world a better place.’ I hope we all have time to do that! My definition of success lies in Ralph Waldo Emerson’s Success.”

More contributions like this would be welcome in our Class Notes.

Joe Calarco writes that, “Things are a bit crazy right now, but here’s a brief summary: We recently closed my production of Midsummer Night’s Dream after a five-month run in our repertory. My son, Joey, got married in Los Angeles. We recently added a pair of stunning B&W speakers to our surround-sound system. I am getting back into weight training after recent knee surgery and plan to add water aerobics. My wife, Sue, continues to teach special education.”

Stan Feld reports, “The Class of 1959 had a great 50th reunion. Many wonderful comments have appeared in our class’ CCT column. I hope my comments stimulate all of us to keep communicating so we have a fabulous 55th reunion.

“I started a social network called Columbia College CC’59 nine months prior to our reunion. We had 200 CC’59 members out of our class of 660. One hundred thirty classmates signed up for the social network.

“I realize I might have been a pest and apologize. I have been told by many of you that joining the social network amplified the reunion experience and so I accomplished my goal.

“The social network facilitated reconnection of past friendships and stimulated new friendships. As we get older, social networking will be important for our health. The Columbia College CC’59 network should be used to increase our fond memories at Columbia College.

“The network is private and available only by my invitation. If you wish to be a part of it, please e-mail: stanfeld@feld.com.

“I am trying to keep CC’59 alive and active. I wrote that my wife of 47 years, Cecelia, and I were going to New York City. I asked for some hot suggestions. Michael Marks wrote a note with two helpful suggestions. Jack Kahn offered to take me around the College.

“The Columbia communications department is putting ‘Names in the News’ and ‘What Is Doing at Columbia?’ on the network once a week to keep us informed. As a stimulant for communications, I have asked members of the network to talk about their travel and travel plans. Cecelia and I always have been active travelers. We recently went to Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand in January. This summer, we are spending a month in Colorado. In the fall, we are going to take a car trip around the Finger Lakes in upper New York State.

“I would love you to share your
travel experiences with all of us either through the social network or our CCT column. Here is a taste of our Turkey trip.

"Turkey: Beyond Istanbul. In September 2009, I spent almost three weeks traveling in Turkey. It is a country of varied terrain, bustling cities, quiet villages and friendly people everywhere. One's experiences in Turkey can be as full of contrasts as the country itself. A modern shopping mall filled with young people and families; McDonald’s and KFC next to Turkish fast food in the food court; ancient ruins (Ephesus, Perga, Aspendos); mountains and lush valleys growing everything from olives to pomegranates; and towns overlooking the really turquoise Mediterranean are a few of the delights awaiting the traveler. See Istanbul, the city that straddles two continents. Go to Ephesus (preferably late in the afternoon when the crush of cruise ship tourists has left). Spend a few days on a Turkish sailing boat called a gulet dipping in and out of coves along the Mediterranean and Aegean coasts, hiking in the hills while at anchor. And take a hot air balloon ride over the fairy chimneys of Cappadocia (you’ll be sorry if you don’t).

Steve Trachtenberg has been traveling, too. He writes, “Just back from Tangiers, Morocco. Went to attend board meeting of Museum Morocco TALIM. While walking around, found a small schul on a side street. Nice but out of business.”

From Allen Rosenshine, “I have done something I never thought I would do: a blog. I’m doing this in spite of my antipathy towards most blogs and bloggers, largely a result of 1) being a poster boy (or old man) for the new-media challenged and 2) the torrent of inanity, insanity, irresponsibility, downright lies and pure claptrap that typifies much of the blogosphere. Rather, I’m doing it because (no surprise to those who know me) I enjoy now and again expressing an opinion. But I find no pleasure in expressing them to myself, since that rarely results in any meaningful response or discussion. That is in fact what I hope my blog will encourage. So if you are interested, or whenever you have absolutely nothing else to do, you can find my blog at allenrosenshine.com. It’s called My Two Cents (and Worth Every Penny). Feel free to 1) ignore it, 2) pass it on to others and/or 4) write it off as just more claptrap.”

I have gone there, and as you might expect it is worth reading.

Frank Wilson has provided an update on his progress in learning how a group of men still struggling to emerge from their history of Remington typewriters, carbon paper, mimeograph machines, Kodachrome film and videocassette tape, and the efforts of Lee induced to overcome their hardwired technological limitations and register on an instantaneous, interactive communications vehicle.

And if you have not visited and registered on this website (takes less than five minutes and is free to do so: http://CC1960ing.com. This site is private and available only to members who have signed up. If you haven’t joined already, e-mail Lee at jlrathome@juno.com and he’ll enroll you.

In the March/April issue of CCT, we included some comments regarding the class survey. Among them, a submission by one of our classmates of several suggested additions to the questionnaire, one such addition being a play on the falafels, or Bald Man Paradox, propounded by the classical Greek philosopher Eubulides of Milotus (forgive me for bringing him up again). As framed by our classmate, it reads as follows: “Since graduating from Columbia, I still have all my hair; I have lost some of my hair; I have lost much of my hair; I am not bald, I just have a very wide part.” All responses to the survey having been submitted in anonymity, the clever wag’s identity was unknown. Now Sidney Hart has revealed himself to be the author, and to establish the bona fides of his claim, has submitted the several other proposed questions as well. The door to survey questions having long been sealed, the responses received and tabulated, and the results distributed, Sidney’s proposals will have to remain in quietude for the present, next a questionnaire is assembled for a subsequent reunion we can petition their inclusion. Or, perhaps, we can explore with Lee Rosner the feasibility of a rolling survey on the class website, to include Sidney’s questions and others, as well as topical matters of interest as they arise, keeping the class engaged in making its views known on current events concerning the world at large and alma mater in particular.

Meanwhile, Sidney remains occupied in his practice of psychiatry, is working on his third novel and “from time to time bombards friends and family with my sardonic or blistering satires.”

Julia Mednis sends greetings and well-wishes to all from Latvia. Rogrets that he could not make the 50th reunion but promises to make a later anniversary and hopes that we all stay mentally and physically fit till then.

Jirus’ life, which began in Latvia, has come full circle. He came to the United States, attended The High School of Music and Art as an art student (MFA, as we referred to it fondly, sent 11 of us to the Class of ’60), and “purposefully rejected opportunities in the arts.” He pursued a career in banking, initially several years at the Bank of New York, thereafter as the president and CEO of two banks in New Jersey. Putting the banking career aside, a new life started: “I became an inventor, then started a plastics manufacturing company. In 2000, with my wife of now 40 years, we moved to Latvia, hoping and expecting to be able to make some minor difference toward this society’s recovery from the debilitation wrought by more than 50 years of foreign occupations: first the Soviet Union’s, then Nazi Germany’s and again, for the long pull, by the Communist Soviet Union. It will take at least another generation for a meaningful recovery. So we are here and here to stay. I have been back to the States now for four years, although our kids and grandchildren live on the East Coast. My wife occasionally gets back in the context of her work within the Methodist Church.”

And, despite his decision to pursue careers other than in the arts, Jirus “wound up being stuck in a museum anyway.” Collected and displayed in the Department of Architecture and Design of the Museum of Modern Art are everyday objects that merit recognition as masterpieces of design, balancing function and form. MoMA has designated them “Humble Masterpieces.” Those enshrined is a design version of one of Jirus’ inventions. The work named “Bottles” can be viewed on the MoMA website www.moma.org/?q=bottles-jurus-mednis.

Don Patterson writes that as a commuter from New Jersey and member of the varsity tennis team, 80 percent of his extra time and social life revolved around members of the team. “My best friends were brothers Les ’62 and Lloyd Moglen. They became California doctors. Unfortunately, my old doubles partner, Lloyd, died in July 2002. In the ’70s and ’80s, my business took me to San Francisco, where I spent my weekends playing tennis; he also taught me to ski at Squaw Valley.” Don wonders whether anyone has been in touch with Paul Standel and Reynolds Ackerman, two other members of the tennis team. He would like to make contact with them.

The undergraduate friendship between Irving Chang and Bill Tanenbaum became stronger when their daughters, Kimberly Chang ’95 and Betty Tanenbaum ’96, became friends. It grew deeper and more poignant when Bill’s
Irving received his law degree from the University of Michigan. He clerked for the Hawaii Supreme Court, was a deputy prosecuting attorney and established a highly successful private practice from which he retired in 2004. He chaired the boards of the Hawaii Youth Symphony and the United Cerebral Palsy of Hawaii, and remained active in leadership positions in Hawaii with regard to Columbia affairs. Each of his children, sons Timothy and Jonathan ’98, and daughters Allison ’94 and Dr. Kimberly ’95, attended Columbia. Irving was passionate about food and cooking. He had been writing a cookbook. He tended beehives and made honey (Bill Tanenbaum has a sealed bottle of honey that he received from Irving; he will open it this Rosh Hashanah in bitter-sweet remembrance).

T. Irving Chang died on April 1. As I write this, one month and a fifteenth days before reunion, I think, “Damn, how sad he’ll not be here; how sad there’ll be no opportunity for us to sit and talk and continue to spin out the many interesting threads of conversation we had started four months earlier.”

Reaching out to classmates to encourage them to return to reunion resulted in wonderful responses and warm phone conversations. It also brought news that some had died. We learned from Nicholas Basiliou’s son that Nick had died, as we learned from William Molloy’s son that Bill had died. Bill’s son, Bill Jr., wrote that his father was a “wonderful man/dad/teacher, and I miss him every day. He died on July 25, 2007.”

Please send us your remembrances of Irving, Nick and Bill. To the families of each, we send our heartfelt condolences.

Next issue: news of the reunion. Please send me your impressions. [Editor’s note: Go to www.college.columbia.edu to listen to Nathan Gross’ singing and piano performance at the reunion.]

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This is the third reminder for our 50th reunion, which will take place Wednesday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011. A committee has been formed to plan the event with the help of the Alumni Office. Anyone interested in helping should contact Tony Adler (awadler@spartacommercial.com) or Burtt Ehrlich (burtt@bloomberg.com) with their ideas.

Joe Rosenstein’s new prayer book for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Ma’azer Eli Ratzon, will be published this summer. This is a follow-up to Siddur Eli Ratzon, a prayer book for Sabbath, festival and weekdays that he published a few years ago. Information about both can be seen at www.newsidur.org. A pair of volumes on mathematics education he co-authored, Navigating Through Discrete Mathematics in Grades K–12, were published in 2008 and 2009 by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Mich Araten was honored by Westchester Jewish Community Services, the largest not-for-profit, nonsectarian human services agency in Westchester, for his 20 years of leadership on the board and for his guidance in the last three years as president of the board. WJCS programs span generations with an emphasis on mental health issues, reaching 18,000 individuals. Programs include services for young children with early signs of autism, adults dealing with end of life and bereavement issues, and victims of abuse and trauma. WJCS provides counseling in schools and in homes for children of all ages, home health aides for seniors and has 12 group homes for developmentally disabled adults. In the past year, it has set up a program to provide financial, legal and emotional counseling to those affected by the recent financial crisis.

An obituary for Conrad M. Sherman, whose death Frank Grady reported here several issues ago, appeared in the May/June issue.

Harry Green recently completed 40 years as a faculty member at the University of California (combined Davis and Riverside campuses). Thanks to the university’s vision of long ago, he writes, “UC has a defined-benefit retirement program that reaches 100 percent at 40 years service. As a consequence, I have retired to help with the financial calamity that has befallen the university.” Nevertheless, Harry maintains his high-pressure laboratory and pursues his research into the physical mechanisms of earthquakes at depths greater than 50 kilometers, where frictional processes are quenched by pressure, and into the strains that have surfaced from hundreds of kilometers depth during continental collisions. Although Harry has curtailed his teaching, he has enhanced his external service. On July 1, he will become the presi-
dent of the Tectonophysics Section of the American Geophysical Union. Harry’s wife is a professor of cell biology, and their family is growing by leaps and bounds; grandchild No. 8 is due in August. Congratulations!

Phil Eggers reports the sad news that his wife of 26 years, Jane Jafie Young, died a year ago of mesothelioma. They were colleagues in the English Department at the Borough of Manhattan Community College since 1965. Phil chaired the department for 18 years, and Jane chaired the faculty union, the Professional Staff Congress, for eight years.

During his career, he served in the Navy as a naval aviator, including command of a land-based maritime aircraft squadron and a naval air station. Andy retired from the Navy as a captain. During his career, he served in the Navy as a naval aviator, including command of a land-based maritime aircraft squadron and a naval air station. Andy retired from the Navy as a captain. Phil is married to his college sweetheart, Victoria Young Salganik, a senior social worker at Johns Hopkins hospital. She and her husband, Jonas Salganik, have a daughter, Natasha (6), Phil’s first grandchild.

In 2008, Penguin Academics published Phil’s two-volume writing textbook, and, from his own account, he passed the next 10 years in the aerospace industry learning how to be a capitalist. Andy spent the last decade in retirement researching and writing full-time. He has published three books: The Last Lincoln Conspirator: John Surratt’s Flight from the Gallows, The Gallows: Sailors in the Holy Land, and The Real Story of the gallows: Sailors in the Holy Land. The book is already more than 400 pages and includes both famous and not-so-famous people. Their memories start with the return of the doughboys from WWI, include the 1920s (remembering Harding’s Depression), the Depression (one woman was paid $7.50 a week as a seamstress), WWII (two were in the V-J program) as well as more recent history. Writes Peter: “It’s been a grand adventure, probably more for me than the interviewees.” Peter’s e-mail address is petek12@gmail.com.

Allen Young sends a brief note that underscores some of the progress made at Columbia since our time: “I am proud of track and field athlete Cory Benton ’10 and happy to know that his coming out as a gay man (a black gay man) was a good experience for him. Our college has had a pretty good overall record as a progressive place.”

Benton said that coming out to his coaches and teammates was a better experience for him. Allen learned this news. Peter Killian writes that he “experienced life as a retreat this spring. I took a job at a Vancouver community college, teaching for an instructor who’d fallen ill in the first week of the semester. It went well, but today’s students’ addiction to their cell phones is starting to look like a public health problem. They could go more than 15 minutes without texting someone! I finally laid down the law, and we got back on task. Now I’m back to retirement… at least for a while.”

Crawford is working on the third edition of his Writing Science Fiction and Fantasy, which should be out later this summer. He says, “Amazing that the book has carried on since 1996.” The Tyee (http://the tyee.ca) continues to publish his book reviews and articles, and he keeps blogging away on topics ranging from swine flu to English usage.

Peter Krulewitz ‘62 has been working on a book of oral histories of New Yorkers over 90, the oldest being Jacques Barzun ’27.

Peter Krulewitz has been working on a book of oral histories of New Yorkers over 90, the oldest being Jacques Barzun ’27, who last year gave Peter a five-hour interview in San Antonio, where Barzun is retired but continues to read and write. He was 102 last November. The book is already more than 400 pages and includes both famous

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I recently reached out to all of you by e-mail (if you didn’t hear from me, it means I don’t have a good e-mail address for you — please send me one) and asked for news, especially from those of you who have never sent in a note, and received the following:

Richard Weisman writes, “This will be my first update since I graduated. I’ve maintained contact with my dear friend Paul Lehrer over all these years. I’ve lost
contact with a few other classmates. I have been teaching at York University in Toronto since 1969 — recently received acknowledgement as a 40-year veteran. I have been a professor in the Law and Society program and for the past two years have been director of the Graduate Program in Socio-Legal Studies, a program I helped found. I have been a dual citizen of the United States and Canada since 1997 and still vote in U.S. elections. I married a wonderful woman, Maureen, in 1981. She had the misfortune to get breast cancer, from which she passed away in 1995. I have since 2001 been sharing my life with another great lady, April. Maureen and I had two sons, Daniel (26) and Steve (22). I consider it the greatest and most rewarding learning experience of my life to have raised them more or less singlehandedly after their mother died. I have no plans to teach after completing an L.L.B. in 1985. I remember an absolutely extraordinary seminar I took with Professor Daniel Bell at Columbia in 1962–63. I think just about all eight of us in that seminar became academics. If I were to demand of my students what I expected of us in that seminar on a weekly basis — completion of a major work in classical social theory and readiness to discuss it in detail — my students, graduate as well as undergraduate, would think I was either joking or had taken leave of my senses.

Victor Margolin writes, “I am an emeritus professor of design history at the University of Illinois Chicago. I am working on a large world history of design, which I plan to finish in about two years. Recently, I have given lectures in Poland, Spain and China, and spoke in May at a conference of Turkish design historians in Izmir. Travel plans for work include Santiago, Chile, and Montreal, Canada. So, life as a retired professor is not bad. I have been nominated for the third time for the Design Mind award, which is part of the National Design Awards at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum.”

Mike Bowler writes, “Taught high school; worked nearly 40 years in the newspaper business, the last 35 at the Baltimore Sun (the last 10 of those as education editor); three years at the Institute of Education Sciences (research and statistical arm of the Department of Education). Our son, daughter-in-law and grandson live two blocks away, and I volunteer at their grandson’s public school (as well as doing a volunteer research project on H.L. Mencken at a local university). Through early July, I’ll be a part-time enumerator for the census. I put this job roughly at the difficulty level (high) of brewing the coffee (and thus determining the mood of Columbia on any given day) at John Jay first thing in the morning in 1960–61. Being married to a Barnard girl (Margaret, for 47 years), I sided with her when Columbia went coed and did not ename myself to the Columbia p.r. machine. Will try to make the 50th reunion.”

When I asked Mike if there were any classmates he’d like to be put in touch with, he replied, “No, not really. There were three of us from Montana (I from Helena) in the class. I’m in touch with John Barovich ’64, from Billings. I’m long out of touch with Richard Penouith, from Missoula. I’ve been close friends with the only Barnardian that fall from Montana, Carol Miles, from Livingston. We celebrated 50 years of friendship last fall. We met on an Undergraduate Christian Association flyer and have remained friends ever since. My wife and I married in the Columbia chapel the week of my graduation. The next day, I took her to a Mets doubleheader. She had a year left at Barnard, so we repaired (by train) to Montana, where we took a whole year’s worth of education courses and returned to New York, where I got a job after the start of the academic year replacing a woman at Ocoeeide (Long Island) H.S. who had made the mistake of showing her pregnancy, I taught that year and then did the master’s program at Columbia’s J-school while my wife paid the bills as a teacher in Hicksville. The rest, including a turbulent time covering desegregation as education editor of the Atlanta Constitution, getting fired for rabble-rousing, being saved by arbitrator Hugo Black Jr. (yes, the son is history.”

Water Guarino writes, “Things have been exciting recently. I have been interviewed a lot by national and local media (CBS-T.V., BBC, USA TODAY, WOR T.V., FOX T.V., New York Times, et al.). It is a result of the fact that I have become a media expert on things such as Super Bowl advertising, ad trends, social media and most recently, Tiger Woods as a brand. I run a branding firm in

Bob Contiguilia ’63 recently was honored with the Werner Fricke Builder Award by U.S. Soccer at its annual meeting.

Bob Contiguilia recently was honored with the prestigious Werner Fricke Builder Award by U.S. Soccer at its annual meeting. The honor is bestowed annually to an individual who has worked tirelessly in furthering the interest of soccer, without regard to personal recognition or advancement.

Bob is the former president of the U.S. Soccer Federation, which culminated a three-decade career in which he excelled as a player, coach and administrator at nearly every level of the game. During his tenure as U.S. Soccer president, several milestones were achieved, including a U.S. Women’s National Team victory in the spectacularly successful 1999 FIFA Women’s World Cup, the largest women’s sporting event in history; the tremendous run to the quarterfinals by the U.S. Men’s National Team in the 2002 Korea /Japan FIFA World Cup, and an Olympic gold medal won by the U.S. Women’s National Team at the 2004 Athens Olympics.

Michael Nolan writes, “Recently found a photo of me and Harvey Milk, a friend and political adviser of mine, from early 1978. It got quite a response when I posted it on
Facebook. Quality ain’t great but lots of meaning.

For those using Facebook, I recommend searching for classmates like Mike (or me) and becoming our “friends.” There are a lot of us out there, and you might be interested to see what we’re up to. Maybe we should start a Class of 1963 page.

Phil Satow recently was honored at the annual Varsity ‘C’ Celebration for his many contributions to Columbia athletics and in recognition of his leadership gift to provide major improvements to the baseball facility at Baker Athletics Complex.

Congratulations, Phil, and thank you from all of us.

If you are back in NYC, I hope that you will try to make the next Class of ’63 lunch, scheduled for Thursday, July 8 (and then again in the fall starting on Thursday, September 9 — it’s always the second Thursday). Check our website at www.ccf63ers.com for details and to review pictures of gatherings to see if you can spot an old friend.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

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My freshman CC instructor was the then-27-year-old historian Robert Dallek ’64 CSAS, who has gone on to write highly regarded books on American presidents and American foreign policy. At their class lunch in April, our Washington, D.C., classmates invited Professor Dallek as their special guest. Dan Press writes: “The informal and stimulating high-conversation with Professor Dallek was like a typical CC class, unstructured and covering a great deal of territory, including the good old days at Columbia, an assessment of the Obama presidency (largely favorable), his views on Afganistan (largely unfavorable), thoughts on prior administrations and Kant’s categorical imperative (largely un-understandable). Class members in attendance were Barry Shapiro, David Levine, Gene Meyer, Jack Ventura, Sheldon Hochberg, Peter Trooboff, Ed Levy and his wife, and me. Everyone in attendance received an A, and Professor Dallek even offered to convert my 50-year-old C to an A.”

If you live in the Washington, D.C., area, or are just passing through the capital, you can reach Dan at 202-289-1882.

Allen Goldberg writes from the Midwest that he has retired as professor of pediatrics at Loyola University and now is working with former U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop on the Communication in Health Care Project, which seeks to encourage the effective communication of information that individuals and families can understand and use to maintain good health and prevent disease. Allen’s son Sanford is professor and chair of the Department of Philosophy at Northwestern. His son Matthew moved with his family to Melbourne, Australia, to become CEO of Lovely Planet, the travel guide publisher.

“My daughter Rachel and her husband, Duane, are expecting their first child,” Allen adds, “and Matthew and Liz are expecting their first daughter. That will make seven grandchildren. What blessings!”

Steve Henick writes, “After retiring in 2004 from a career in international business and wanting a purpose rather than leisure, I looked for a second career, something I would simply enjoy doing. I initially trained to become a director, but I still mediate as a volunteer, but I was given the opportunity to teach and that has become my main interest. I split my time between Anne Arundel Community College near Annapolis, Md., where I live, and the University of Maryland College.”

At Anne Arundel, Steve created and teaches courses on the impact of globalization, and at the University of Maryland, he teaches management courses. “I also am director of Anne Arundel’s Institute for the Future, so I work full-time. I truly enjoy it and the course design. The constant work aimed at improving online education and the institute help keep me up-to-date. In 2004, Peter Trooboff received the Leonard J. Theberg Award for Private International Law from the American Bar Association’s Section of International Law. The award was given for Peter’s “distinguished, long-standing contributions to the development of private international law.” Peter has been practicing law with Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., for 35 years.

After 25 years, Steve Singer is retiring as director of college counseling at the Horace Mann School in New York. Steve estimates that he has counseled more than 4,000 students. “It has been a great job and a wonderful experience,” Steve said. As many of you know, Steve is one of the premier and most famous college counselors in the United States. The headline in the Horace Mann Record reads: “Singer, College Counseling Legend, to Retire in August.” The tributes have been pouring in. Peter V. Johnson, A.G. Rosen and Michael Schlanger, Mike’s star power drew 1,150 attendees, a record for this prestigious annual event. A highlight was the presentation to Mike of a “Mensch” T-shirt by Jonathan and Alexander.

I ran into Ira on April 17 at a performance of the Broadway play Raf, a fascinating piece about the artist Mark Rothko. Ira and I are both Rothko experts.

Our class China expert, Ken Dewoskin, has been appointed an independent director of Agria Corp., a China-based agricultural solutions company. Agria’s March 10 press release announced the appointment of a prominent China strategist, Kenneth J. Dewoskin, Ph.D., as an independent director of the company. A partner of strategy and business development at a big four accounting firm, Dr. Dewoskin is a well-regarded and regular presenter on China business issues throughout the U.S., Europe and Asia, including at the World Economic Forum. He has lived and worked extensively in both China and Japan over the past 45 years.

Ken is a senior adviser to Deloitte China, director of Deloitte’s China Research and Insight Center. He also is a senior adviser to The Conference Board, where he oversees a range of leadership activities spanning workforce, financial and strategic areas. Ken is a former professor of international business and the chairman and professor of Asian cultures at Michigan. He also has taught executive education programs for Michigan, Singapore Management University and Wharton. He has presented on China business issues across the United States and throughout Asia and Europe, in the World Economic Forum, Chamber of Commerce, Economist Intelligence Unit, Eurasia Group, the Conference Board, U.S.-China Business Council, China-Britain Business Council and World Transportation Forum. Ken has authored numerous articles during his career, including a regular column for the China Economic Review, and previously wrote regularly for The Far Eastern Economic Review. His influential views have made him sought after by some of the world’s most prestigious media outlets, including The New York Times, Financial Times, Economist, South China Morning Post, People’s Daily, CNBC, Business Week, Fortune, Asian Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Red Herring, BBC World Services.
and major news wire services.

Ken earned a Ph.D. from Columbia in 1974. A fluent speaker of Mandarin Chinese and Japanese, he has also studied at National Taiwan University and Kyoto University. [Editor’s note: CCT profiled De- woskin in November/December 2007: www.college.columbia.edu /cct_archive/nov_dec07/updates2.php ]

Dr. Gerald Kruglik, like your class correspondent, had a conflict- ing obligation that required him to miss our reunion. “I am sorry to have missed the reunion, to which I had been looking forward. But my class at the University of Santa Monica, where my wife, Barbara Bottoner, and I are in the master’s program in spiritual psychology, meets that weekend. Students are not allowed to miss a class, which meets only one weekend a month. So in the spirit of reunion, and this column, so diligently prepared by Leonard, I shall report Class Notes: My wife, a writer (she’s published more than 40 books for children), and I have written four kids books together: Wallace’s Lists and the Fish and Posh series are published under my name; House. I live in Los Angeles, not far from USC; am retired from the practice of radiology; occasionally am in contact with Bob Szarnicki, even more occasionally with Run Chevako and Jim Carlin and welcomed my first granddaughter on May 12, Miranda Nicole Kruglik, all 6 lbs. and 10 oz. of heart-stopping beauty. Do I make an occasional interview for the ARC and watch the continued travels of the football and basketball teams with unabashed enthusiasm.

Gerald has a wonderful e-mail address: dr.xray@sbglobal.net. Feel free to write to him and let him know what he missed at reunion.

Professor Leon Rosenstein ’72 GSAS notes that his book, Antiques: The History of an Idea, is doing well, having been reviewed with praise in international journals, and so is his antiques business, given this sluggish economy. Having retired from full-time teaching two years ago, Leon still finds opportunities to give lectures on various subjects, from philosophy to architecture to religion. He recently, for example, gave the annual member’s lecture to the Mingei International Museum (in San Diego, where he lives) on “The Ten Criteria of Antiques Collecting and Connoisseurship.” He finds that the only part of university life he really misses is the interaction in the classroom with students. (Leon does somewhat guiltily also admit missing the lengthy battles he used to have with the university administration, which he was able to survive not only because of academic tenure but also because, he claims, he was able to view these contests as a sports match, ones that he could only rarely win, but where one could sometimes check the opponent.) Leon also spends much time traveling to various parts of the globe and will be guiding an exclusive, luxury tour of the Greek Islands and Istanbul (Tuesday, September 21—Wednesday, October 6, all of which, as former president of the Classical Alliance of the Western States, he has done many times before. He is also in the process of turning his lengthy published article, “Heidegger’s Aesthetics,” into a book. Leon can be reached at rosenstl@mail.sdsu.edu.

Finally, on a somber note, please turn to the Obituaries in the May/June issue for notice of the death of Roger Wetherington in July 2009.

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Byron Michael Noone was remembered at the University’s Operation Baby Bilt 35th Anniversary Program, held on the Jewish Visiting Education Center on April 24. Byron’s widow, Lana, and daughter, Jennifer Nguyen Noone ‘99 SW, spoke at the event, and Lana celebrated Byron’s work and life during her remarks. Please contact lananoone@yahoo.com for further information.

We recently learned about two events in Massachusetts featuring Alan Feldman reading for National Poetry Month. Both were held April, at the Dover Town Library and at the Framingham Public Library.

Nothing further to report at this time. Have a pleasant summer (and greetings from our part of the world),

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Rabbi Mark Golub, who was general manager of WKCR while at Columbia, is president and founder of Jewish Education in Media, a nonprofit that produces Shalom TV and L’Chayim on cable television. Shalom TV was launched in 2008 as a mainstay, free, video-on-demand network and now is available in more than 37 million homes across the United States, including 1.5 million Jewish homes, on virtually every cable network. Newsweek named Mark one of America’s 50 most influential rabbis. He was ordained a rabbi by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City. He has been the rabbi of two congregations in Connecticut for more than 38 years.

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Greetings and salutations. Summer seems to have arrived quickly in New York City. I hope to get to Saratoga soon for some fresh air. Or maybe Skita, Alaska, from where some amazing pictures arrive regularly, compliments of Bob Carlson.

I ran into Ira McCown at the gym, and he forwarded a note that I will summarize. He claims he looks great (thank you and suggests that I could run another NYC Marathon) — wrong guy. Maybe Buzz Zucker, Ira looks trim and in good spirits. His daughter is at law school, and his son is a paralegal. I learned a bit about his dad, who had been a rabbi and was in both WWII and WW II American military service. I received a brief “hello” note from Bill Joseph. As usual, a spurt-of-the-moment idea turns into a “Next time, pal” — he was in for his granddaughter’s graduation to be a rabbi. So as Bill wrote, “Being married to a cantor and now having a rabbi for a daughter, I find myself at Stephen Wise in your neighborhood, but that’s as close as I’ll get.”

Congratulations, Bill. You may be the only one who can hold a service at home — or on the road if you can find your daughter for a visit.

I received a wonderful note from Ira Goldberg. His daughter, Shoshana, will be off to the University of North Carolina in public health, where my daughter, Hannah ‘06, finished her first year. Shoshana and Hannah know each other from Columbia and before. So Professor Jon Kott will be educating our daughters. Thanks, Jon. Hannah is enjoying Chapel Hill.

Mas Taketomo sent a note on a Club Reunion held during Alumni Reunion Weekend/Dean’s Day on June 4–5. Sounds like a large crowd was expected. I hoped to go. They may have let me sing. Mas said I could play the piano with them.

I enjoyed hearing from Paul Bron- nian. I appreciate the political humor, but I am restraining my enthusiasm for sharing — but two Arlington fellows might agree on things.

Paul, I am sure you noticed that the baseball team won the Gehrig Division and had the best record in the league, but lost the Ivy League title to Rolfe Division winner Dartmouth two games to none. I was impressed with our come-from-behind win in Cambridge for the second time of the year. Our first baseman and the first game, the hapless Harvard team scored one run to Columbia’s 24 runs. Isn’t there some mercy in baseball, especially if there is a second game and the first game is seven innings?

To the men’s tennis and golf teams, both Ivy champs, congratulations!

I received a video shot and edited by Bob Brandt’s son, Austin, showing Austin and Ryan (his other son) doing skiing tricks and flips and summersaults on the skis.

Bob, they seem like dancing fol¬ows reading themselves for the Olympics. I enjoyed the video. I would have included the YouTube link here, but I wonder what the appropriateness of that is. I bet you can still downhill ski with them if they slow down a bit.

Mike O’neill sent a note that I should forward to Bob and others. He wrote, “I was perusing the recent CCT Class Notes, and had an idea for the Class of 1968. People of our era frequently have their children’s children. How about sending out a call for notes from those of us who are, in the title words of Martin Carney’s book, ‘fathers of a certain age,’ i.e., fathers with high-school or younger kids still living at home? For some, these will be folks in ‘second’ families; for others, like me, they will be ‘late bloomers.’ You might get some interesting themes.”

Mike is professor emeritus of educational policy studies and sociology at the University of Wisconsin.

It is a fascinating thought, Mike. I am sure Pete Janovsky, with his wonderful twin daughters (who must be fifth-graders now) would agree.

I received a nice note from Doug Wyant, mentioning sending condolences for my mom’s passing away. (Thanks, Doug.) He also had been a little under the weather and is, I hope, feeling much better now.

Doug’s Venere Lute Quartet has a third CD on the way, and he will let us know when it is out. (Thanks, Doug.) maybe you can perform with the Quartet at our next re¬union. That would be grand.

I received this note from Roger Wyatt with news that should lift one’s spirits; tragedy followed by good things sounds good to me.

Roger wrote me, “Four announcements. One’s news packet is personal. After living in Kansas for many years, I moved to Saratoga Springs, N.Y., in 1998. Last year was a rollercoaster of a year for me. In October, Hilary
Thomas Kline '68, '75L Helps Return Stolen Art

In the movies, Indiana Jones acts alone in taking back pilfered artifacts. In reality, he surely would benefit from the help of Thomas Kline '68, '75L.

Kline, a New York native and father of three who now resides in Washington, D.C., has been a pioneer in the field of art restitution law during the last two decades and has been involved in cases that twist from The Netherlands to Indiana, from Berlin to Connecticut.

"I started off representing the Greek Orthodox Church in Cyprus," Kline recounts of his first restitution case, in 1989. An art dealer from Carmel, Ind., had purchased four famous mosaics in The Netherlands, not knowing they had been stolen from the church in the aftermath of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974.

The church asked Kline's law firm, Manatt, Phelps, & Evans, to represent it in recovering the mosaics. "U.S. Customs would not seize them, so the only option we had was to litigate," Kline says.

Kline ended up with a highwire act. "[The Carmel dealer] agreed to a temporary order against selling the mosaics, on condition that we go to trial in 60 days." Kline's team packed 25 depositions into that time and proceeded with a trial that became politically contentious.

"There's an entity called the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus that's only recognized by Turkey, and lawyers for that country showed up claiming to be plaintiffs," Kline says. "There was an argument over unrecognized governments, whether we should recognize their actions ... there was a multitude of issues I hadn't anticipated." Nevertheless, five months after the temporary order, Kline's firm won the case and the mosaics were returned to Cyprus.

Gary Vikan, director of the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, befriended Kline while serving as a witness on that case. "Tom emerged as a leader in the area," Vikan says. "The case was precedent-setting in due diligence with trafficking in antiquities."

Kline's tone is generally calm, but discussing the afternoon of the Cyprus case brings out exhilaration: "Oh man, the issues were incredible!" he says. "I was learning about the art market, international trade ... it was fascinating!"

Kline grew up on the Upper West Side, moving with his family to Scarsdale, N.Y., when he was 9. After high school, he came back down the Hudson to major in government at the College. "It's kind of a family tradition," he says of Columbia, referring to his father, Eugene Robert '66, '70L, and his late brother, Robert '65, '70L.

Before attending the Law School, Kline taught social studies at a public high school in Manhattan, a four-year period that "really rounded me out," he says. He still teaches, having taught a course on cultural property for 10 years in The George Washington University's Museum Studies Program.

"Teaching forces you to think more broadly about things, keep up on all aspects of the law," he says. "When you do litigation, you learn a lot about a little, about one issue."

Sometimes, Kline says, the solutions to his cases get innovative. Ten years ago, he represented a Czech Jew named Eric Weinmann who was looking for some artwork his mother had abandoned in Berlin during WWII. "He was in his 30s [during the war] and he remembered this painting," a Courbet. Weinmann had discussed his search with a friend, who then discovered the painting by chance, hanging in the Yale University Art Gallery. "He found it when he went back for an alumni reunion!" Kline says. "That was very strange. So we made a claim. To return the painting, Kline’s team had to prove that its then-owner had purchased the work after Weinmann’s mother had fled Germany, and that she had not sold the painting voluntarily.

"The case was not exceptionally long in settling, but it felt that way at the time," Kline says. "We had to do an incredible amount of research to show Weinmann’s story was more likely to be right."

When they won the case, Weinmann just wanted to get the painting back, Kline says. "He didn’t want a financial settlement, he didn’t care about that. So he arranged with Yale for a 10-year loan, and he hung the painting in his dining room."

"Tom’s an idealist," Vikan says about his friend. "The cases he takes are for the underdog." His speech slows slightly. "He’s a just, good person. He brings his values into the courtroom."

Jesse Thiessen '11 Arts

McLellan, my wife and companion for 21 years, died. She lived her life on her own terms while she battled cancer for 31 months. In July, in Hawaii, my son, Owen, married the lovely Maggie. They are in Boston, studying to be psychotherapists at Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. This year started out with a bang. In February, I met the lovely Letitia, and we clicked deeply. We are exploring and deepening our relationship. In late April, I started my sixth residency at the Experimental Television Center. In May, I vacationed in Vienna and Salzburg. Whatever the rest of the year brings, I will engage it with resilience, resourcefulness and imagination that are the hallmarks of a Columbia education.

Roger, when you get back I hope we can rendezvous at some fine restaurant in Saratoga. We are so overdue. All the best.

I had lunch with Paul de Barry as part of our once-in-a while lunch event, and he reported he will be off to Argentina in the fall, and yes — I think I have this right — there are more than 700 de Barrys in Ar-
The book is about a Boston lawyer who knew. The description says that the poor and downtrodden, the liberties, and the abolition of the death penalty.

It’s been several years since an item about Mark appeared in this column, so I went to his webpage to get his current bio. Mark is professor of law and former dean for academic affairs at Boston College Law School. He has published extensively in the areas of employment discrimination, constitutional criminal procedure, evidence and litigation. Mark was named BC Law’s 2002–03 Faculty Member of the Year by the Law Students Association. The Black Law Students Association awarded him the Ruth Arlene Howe Award in 2005 and 2006 and the Anthony P. Farley Excellence in Training Award in 2008–09.

The Internet (especially university websites) is a helpful way to learn about classmates who do not send in news, and I found information about several classmates whom I do not believe have appeared in CCR. The third edition of which was published in 2001.

David Bradley is an associate professor and tenured reader in the linguistics department of La Trobe University in Bendigo, Victoria, Australia. He has conducted extensive research on endangered languages, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, geolinguistics, language policy and phonetics/phonology in Southeast, East and South Asia. David’s teaching areas include language across time, language in Asia and language in society. He has had extensive contacts with Asian universities for more than 25 years; has participated in establishing, obtaining funding for and running exchange links in China, Thailand, Japan, Indonesia and India; and has had many years of fieldwork experience in China and Southeast Asia. David was a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia.

Elliot Rosen is associate professor in medical and molecular genetics at Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and was a postdoctoral fellow at UC San Diego. The research in Elliot’s lab focuses on studying the physiologic roles of coagulation and hemostatic factors using genetically modified mice.

Richard Sherr is a professor in the Department of Music at Smith College. He has written extensively about Papal music and musicians as well as the music of the Renaissance. Richard has been chair of the Department of Music (1983–88, 1991–93, 2002–05) and secretary of the Faculty (1987–90).

I know there is news out there about our classmates, but it would be really great if the news out there would simply show up in my e-mail inbox. Let me hear about your personal and professional news and/or your reflections on how the College years have impacted your life, looking back now on 41 years since graduation and just about 45 years since our freshman week orientation.

Postscript: Five members of our class participated in the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day on May 17: Neil Flomenbaum, me, Manny Organeck, Richard Rapaport and Eric Saltzman.

The Class of 2010 also reflected participation by members of our class with four legacies: Adam Flomenbaum ’10, Abby Oberman ’10, Billy Organeck ’10 and Gabriel Saltzman ’10. Eric had even more reason to be grateful that day: his father, Arnold Saltzman ’56, led the parade, commemorating three generations of College graduates in the Saltzman family. As Neil, Manny, Richard and I carried the Class of 1969 banner (which, as always, attracted cheers from the graduating seniors), Eric moved back and forth along the line photographing the occasion. For sure, at our own Class Day, I did not foresee a day 41 years in the future when a Dean Michele Moody-Adams would recognize a daughter of mine as a graduate of the College, but I do confess experiencing during this Class Day a misty-eyed moment as I realized that the ’10 after my daughter’s name and the ’69, P10 after mine will constantly confirm our shared membership in the Columbia community. And, if that wasn’t enough, the event produced copy for the class column!
our development and in assisting us on the path of life. You can give via www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline or mail a check to the Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

One news item from Richard Howard: ‘If you come across the print edition of The Chronicle Review, it features three photographs that I took for Spectator way back when. I do quite a bit of work for the Chronicle and the editor knew I had been at Columbia in 1968, so she requested the photographs. The stock photo usage fees would have paid for a semester’s tuition in 1968! For me, a parent with two kids in college right now, that is quite a revelation, inflation calculator notwithstanding.”

Also some sad news on the passing of two classmates: Robert W. Butterfield, sexton, Bethlehem, Pa., on January 5; and Stephen G. Plummer, chairman and CEO, Crumpler, N.C., on October 20.

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Contributors to this column make several references to an eatery you may remember. That may be in response to an e-mail I sent to the class, mentioning a number of experiences we may have in common.

By the time you read this, I will have sent a Class eNewsletter, which I am restarting. If you have not received it, I may not have your correct e-mail address. Send it to me at the e-mail address above.

Vita Rindt: “I am pastor of Our Lady of the Presentation Parish in Poolesville, Md. It is a very happy assignment.”

Pete Hamlin: “Yes indeed, 40 years has passed by in a blink. So much has happened to all of us that I won’t even begin to start individual news this time, but I do want to say for our school, not just our class, that we have a President, Barack Obama ’83; a governor of New York, David Paterson ’77; U.S. Attorney General, Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73; Ted Strickland, from my Ohio days! Things were simpler then, or at least more immediate.”


Eddie Etches: “Son Etan graduated Columbia P&G in May. He will be an ER resident at Beth Israel in NYC. He is excited at moving from Washington Heights to First Avenue and East 16th Street. Daughter Eliana ’13 finished her first year at the College. Only freshman to take (at Dad’s urging) Eric Foner ’63’s 1860-1880 American history course. Hoping both will follow Dad’s legacy (president of largest federal worker local in D.C.) footsteps.”

David Lindsey: “My wife, Jane ’71 Barnard, and I are grandparents. Our older daughter, Camilla Lynch, and her husband, Brian, had a son, Jack. Looks like both parents and all four grandparents, strange, this gene thing.

“Jack and I share a middle name, Morrison, my mother and his great-grandmother’s maiden name. We have threatened to get us matching kits.”

Michael Strauss: “By the time you read this, I will have completed, d.v., a master of philosophy degree studying ancient Greek at Cambridge, a university which, though it may lack Columbia’s culinary equivalents, such as Mama Joy’s, more than makes up for it in the quality of its pubs and of course its architecture. My thesis concerns Aristophanes’ play The Clouds, which may have been on our reading lists as freshmen, but repays a visit. And to be sure, as I discussed at more length in my Class Notes submission last year, www.college.columbia.edu/ct/c/ jul auc98/class_notes$cy197, reading classics beats reading depositions, an avocation from which I retired in 2005.”

Rob Mayer: “The photo near these Notes shows Larry Teitelbaum, Lawrence Masket, me, Elliot Cahn ’70 and my brother, Alan ’72, at a spring 2010 wedding, as we were about to break into a round of ‘Lion, Lion, Roar!’ Elliott is an original member of Sha Na Na, and I was a four-year member of the Columbia Glee Club. ‘T (Larry), ‘Spider’ (Lawrence) and Alan all can sing pretty well, so our rendition of ‘Roar, Lion, Roar’ was in full multi-part harmony.

‘Larry and his wife, Barbara Felsinger, have a son, Ben Teitelbaum ’08, and a daughter, Sophie Teitelbaum, who attends UC Berkeley. Barbara’s older brother, Stan Felsinger, was a basketball star at Columbia immediately before our era (when a 6-foot Jewish guy could still excel in the Ivy League). He was All-Ivy in 1966 along with Dave Newmark ’69. And just to complete the circle, the guy whose daughter was getting married in May is Dave Newmark’s dandy brother Eddie.

Hang out with your friends, too! Alumni Reunion Weekend is Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, 2011. Mark your calendars now.

The campus is beautiful (especially in June), and it surprises how much things have changed and how some things have remained the same. (Same with classmates!) Some have done both. For example, Ferris Booth Hall is gone, replaced with a sleek and modern Alfred Lerner Hall. But downstairs, in Roone Arledge Auditorium, you will see that it is really our old Wollman Auditorium. Remember classmates performing there in Sha Na Na and other bands?

I attend reunion, and I always have a great time. It’s wonderful to be with old friends and to make new ones. We all experienced so much together. Forty years will have gone by in a blink. Keep your eyes open for this. See ya there!”

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There’s a definite California flavor to this column. Peter Levitan in Los Angeles, ‘get[s] such a kick out of reading items from Armen Donelian, who was a neighbor on the legendary (7) fourth floor of Furnald in our day, and following his jazz career. The latest turn in my legal career (my seventh since graduation — in turn, children’s theater manager, restaurateur, freelance journalist, nonprofit arts administrator, script reader and literary/theater scout) follows stints at New York and L.A. law firms, and subsequent positions as a senior lawyer and executive at Fox and indie Intermediate Films. I started a solo practice in 2002 and also began teaching as an adjunct at Loyola Law School (a course I created covering film, television, music, theater and new media financing — the first such law school course in the country, I believe).”
Peter recently organized and moderated a symposium for the Beverly Hills Bar Association on new developments in entertainment financing, providing clarity on the differences between broad-based television programming where there were only three networks and today’s more fragmented cable world. Peter notes how common censorship was for the edger acts. “For their 1967 appearance on the television show ‘The Ed Sullivan Show,’ the Rolling Stones complied with CBS network censors’ instructions to change the line ‘Let’s spend the night together’ to ‘Let’s spend some time together,’ but Mick Jagger exaggeratedly rolled his eyes every time he sang the line. By contrast, later that year The Doors agreed to the censors’ demand that lead singer Jim Morrison change the lyrics to their hit single ‘Light My Fire’ by altering the line, ‘Girl, we couldn’t get much higher,’ to ‘Girl, we couldn’t get much better.’ The band agreed to the change, but had no intention of honoring the agreement. Morrison sang the original line, on live television and with no delay. CBS was powerless to stop it, and a furious Sullivan retreated to the shake the band members’ hands.”

Also in L.A., Jack Feinberg received his Ph.D. in physics from UC Berkeley in 1977 and has been a professor of physics, astronomy and electrical engineering at USC since then. His research work was on lasers and nonlinear optics. Jack’s daughter, Rebecca ’09, graduated magna cum laude, the third generation of Feinbergs to do so. Jack’s father, Judge Wilfred Feinberg ’40, 43L, is a senior judge on the Second Circuit. [See photo.]

Back on this coast, Peter V. Dar- row has joined DLA Piper’s corporate finance practice as a partner in the New York office. Peter was previously at the law firm Mayer Brown, where he was a partner in the firm’s banking and finance group for 25 years. He regularly represents issuers, underwriters and placement agents in cross-border securities offerings, as well as structured finance transactions in emerging market locations. Peter represents institutional lenders in secured and unsecured financings, including acquisition and leveraged financings. He also advises SEC-registered companies in complying with their disclosure obligations and counsels U.S. hedge funds in their private equity investments and joint ventures. Among his other accomplishments, Peter is chairman of The Cambodia Trust, the leading provider of relief and rehabilitation support for landmine victims in Cambodia. He also is an officer and board member of the Trinity College, Oxford Society, as well as a board member of Everyone Wins, a nonprofit literacy and mentoring organization. After Columbia, Peter earned a B.Phil. from Trinity College, Oxford, and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.

There is a great piece about Phil Schiap in the spring Columbia magazine, for them of you that never read it (or even look at it). Unfortunately, the timing is such that by the time this is published, you may not still have the magazine ....In order of appearance: Jose Sanchez recently completed another book, this time on the Iraq Papers, which “does what few books did to explain the Vietnam War for many of us back then.” What he is proudest of are his daughters. Desti is a TV show host, hosting Latin Nation on Sunday afternoons on New York’s channel 9, a show on the Music Choice cable network interviewing celebrities and a show on MTV2. Hannah is starting her own assisted-living facility and says there won’t be any “early admission” for Jose and his wife, although he says, “I have my doubts.” The youngest, Leina, is an art major at Pratt, not far from where Jose teaches pol sci and urban studies at LIU Brooklyn. “Life,” he says, “could not be better.”

Continuing in academia (and publishing), Joel Prest, a Columbia Professor of the Humanities and chair of the Department of English at Wesleyan. His fifth book, The Yale Indian: The Education of Henry Rowe Cloud, was published last year. Recent "lecture gigs" have taken him to China, Japan, England, France, Germany, Denmark, Norway and Israel. Joel notes the passing (mournfully) of two of his favorite professors, Robert Egan (drama) and James Shenton ’49 (history) a number of years back.

Kirk Moritz is tennis director (along with Joe Perez ’79) of the CityView Racquet Club in Long Island City (www.cityviewracquet.com), which was built on top of the Swingline Staple building and has helped overcome the dearth of indoor facilities in NYC. Kirk and Joe ran the East River Tennis Club for 25 years previously; they are happy to see the Columbia tennis teams continuing to win Ivy League championships (Kirk was part of the first two). Kirk and his wife, Julie, have lived in Manhattan for 30 years.

Steven Niles performed a thesis production for an M.F.A. in new media and performance at the Kumble Theater at LIU Brooklyn (there is one again) in April. The work, a multimedia piece including multichannel video and compositions that Steven played on the piano and sang, is about a bipolar movie director who has problems with his medication and seeks alternative forms of help. Wow.

Steven Messner begins his term as president of the American Society of Criminology in November; he muses that “having lived on 120th between Amsterdam and Morningside in the early ’70s, how could I not have developed an interest in crime?” How not, indeed.

Until we note again ....

Morningside Heights is being transformed at a remarkable pace, yet this transformation seems to have achieved "stealth mode" for many. Two implications for Columbia and the community are significant.

While we were on campus in the early ’70s, crossing 110th Street was an act of bravery. Few of us traveled much further north than Flimpton on Amsterdam or inside 6th-R. Nobody crossed to the forbidden zone east of Morningside Drive. All of this appears to either have changed or will soon do so.

The advent of the Manhattanville campus (roughly West 106th Street to 134th Street, Broadway to the Hudson River), which will change nearly a mile north of the Morningside campus. A string of luxury high-rises and high-end retail space along 100th Street from Broadway to Columbia should bring in upper-income households to Manhattan Valley (the one-mile area south of campus). Across the past five years, there already has been a great migration of upper-income professionals into Harlem, especially the 20-30 blocks north of Central Park, to the east of campus. This is well under way. Columbia one was "stealth mode" for many. The island of academia and middle class surrounded by areas of poverty, we soon will be an institution cozy in our nest surrounded by upper-income neighbors, fancy restaurants and high-priced shops. This sounds marvelous. The physical setting of Harvard, Princeton and Stanford — all wonderful institutions, but with very different environments. “The times they are a changin’” — but for better or worse?

It has been “many a moon” since we heard from Marcos Delgado (known as Tony while on campus). He recently sent in word that he still owns Barton-Sharpe (the high-end furniture concern) in NYC and is surviving the challenges of the economic downturn. Maryse keeps in touch with crewmate John Pototsky ’74E, even though John lives in France most of the time. Yet, he adds that “I have not spoken with Jonathan Oberman (who lives in NYC) in more than 25 years. How odd is that?”

By the way, Jon is a law professor at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York. When President Barack Obama ‘83 needed advice on ways to strengthen black colleges, he called upon Ronald Mason. Ron is the president of Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss., and has joined the advisory board of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. One of its central tasks is to recommend ways to increase college attendance among racial minorities.

As the children of many classmates move from college to their own careers, I will try to pass on the occasional insight into what they are up to. While I don’t have many details yet, I have learned that Steve Dworkin’s son, Adam, wrote a play that was staged at a theater in the East Village last April. Adam is attending NYU in the graduate dramatic arts program. Steve is doing municipal finance at J.P. Morgan in Los Angeles, but work conveniently brings him to New York on a frequent basis.

In the current environment, do you think Adam in theater or Steve in finance has the more stable career? It started with a show from Barry Silverman (a partner with Covington Burling, the New York law firm) asking if I knew anything about Simon Taylor (a long-lost friend from College days). Hitting a few directories and the Internet reminded me that Simon and I share a lot of geography — except in exactly the reverse order. I was born in Sausalito, Calif., grew up in Oregon, came to New York to go to the College and the reverse order. I was born in London for college and recently started a securities firm in Sausalito. (OK, maybe it won’t make it into the next volume of Ripley’s Believe It or Not!)

Simon attended Harvard Law. Being the 1970s, he went to Florida to be a poverty and civil rights lawyer. In the 1980s, he returned to NYC to various law firms and eventually became a partner at Snow, 

Peter V. Darrow
Becker, Krauss. In 2004, Simon started his own law firm while also being CEO of the NASDAQ broker-dealer investment bank ACN Securities (with offices in Palo Alto, West Palm Beach, New York and London). His role involved advisory, investment, consulting, and intellectual property law for clients in life sciences, alternative energy and agribusiness.

Welcome back, Simon! There you have it. Lost classmates reporting, a presidential appointment and another example of the achievements of our progeny. As you can tell, the virtual mailbag was not as full as it usually is. Please take a moment to dash off a quick note about yourself, classmates or your kids. And if you have been wondering about a buddy from 40 years ago, let me see if I can locate him.

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I'm writing this in late April, in the run-up to our 35th reunion. Throughout the year, many of us have dug up memorabilia. Those of you who have visited the CC ’75 network at www.columbia75.org have seen some of mine. Recently, I received an e-mail invitation to rehearse and perform with other Glee Club alums during Dean’s Day/Alumni Reunion Weekend. We were asked to send Glee Club stories, and I responded with the following: “I remember, as a tender frosh from the sticks, going with my fellow Glee Clubbers to buy tuxes before our first concert. It was a hoot. We went to some shop downtown on the second floor and had an elderly man assist us. Imagine maybe a dozen guys tossing tuxes around, trying to find ones that fit. Of course, there was no discussion of style—they were all basic tuxes, the only kind of clothing I had in those days.”

I am pretty sure that Mukund Manathe and Bruce Grivetti were tossing the tuxes that night with me, and probably others of you as well. And Jim Dolan’s reporting on his discovery of a decaying audio tape, reported in his recent e-mail, is another gem. How many classmates were being cheered while they were streaking through campus? What do you remember about those days?

With degrees in art history from Columbia and Brown, and training in museology from the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art, Horace Brockington has held curator, historian, educator and art adviser roles with numerous museums, organizations and artists. In May, he was interviewed by artist Sandra Payne as part of the Hatch-Billups Collection’s Artist and Influence Series. He cofounded the public art organization, Art Across the Park, which was instrumental in creating some of the early contemporary site-specific art works/projects in public parks throughout New York City.

While updating my profile on LinkedIn, I came across Stanley Fertig, s.v.p. at HBO International. After taking a couple years break from his studies at Columbia (majoring in French), Stan went to Harvard for a Ph.D. in Romance languages and then to Yale School of Management, where he earned an M.B.A. Prior to moving to Executive Row for HBO, he was s.v.p. for Warner Music Group and Columbia Music Entertainment (Japan).

Marc Kozinn practices cardiology in Buffalo, is on the faculty of SUNY-Buffalo and attending cardiologist at Erie County Medical Center, and does clinical research. He directs an echocardiography and non-invasive imaging lab, speaks and consults nationally for the pharmaceutical industry, and publishes in the field. Marc has been married for over 25 years. Their first granddaughter arrived in March. Wedding bells and additional baby showers are in store for the summer.

At their 18th Annual Spring Benefit Auction, Columbia’s Community Impact (CI) presented its Eighth Annual “Making a Difference” Service Award to Elizabeth (Lisa) and Richard Witten. Richard is vice-chair of Columbia’s Board of Trustees and the senior managing director of The Orienta Group, and his and Elizabeth’s firm, Witten, has been mentoring and advising firms. Elizabeth is an executive committee member of the Hunter College Foundation and a director of the Fresh Air Fund. Richard and Elizabeth (Lisa) were recognized for their steadfast support of CI and their efforts to support education, public health and social services in the Columbia community. [See “Around the Quads.”]

Next issue, I’ll be reporting on our 35th reunion. Go Lions!

76 Clyde Moneyhunt
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No notes this issue, friends. Send family and professional news to the address above, and I’ll make sure it gets into a future issue.

77 David Gorman
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Brief notes first. Rev. Thomas Worcester S.J. has been promoted from associate professor to professor of history at the College of the Holy Cross. Ron Fried was named as one of seven Norman Mailer Fellows and is spending a month in Provincetown, Mass., at the Norman Mailer Writers Colony working on a new novel, his third, I believe. Ron also mentions plans to take Damien Bone out to dinner for his birthday.

The township of Edison, N.J., has a new business administrator—none other than Dennis Gonzalez, Dennis, who picked up a degree from Michigan Law, previously was the acting business administrator for Trenton, where he lives. He worked for Trenton in various capacities since 2000.

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the early 1990s, will have its New York premiere next spring in a co-production by the Public Theater and the Signature Theater Company. The play, which explores politics, marriage and the labor movement under the roof of a retired longshoreman’s Brooklyn brownstone, was first produced under a commission from the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis as part of a festival of Kushner plays last year. Michael Greif (Rent, Next to Normal) directed the Guthrie production, as he will the new one, which will run in the Public’s Newman Theater. The production is expected to cost slightly less than $1 million, with the Public and the Signature, both not-for-profit companies, sharing the cost.

Tony said that the scope and themes of the play and its 11 characters remain intact from the Guthrie production, but that the script has also been influenced by his recent work, working with psychiatrist Lynne Selesnick and Arthur Miller. “If it feels at some point like a Broadway run is what should happen after this co-production, great,” he said.

Now let’s move to Hollywood, where The Walt Disney Company recently announced that James “Jay” Rasulo will become senior e.v.p. and CFO. Jay has been chairman of Disney’s Parks and Resorts and is a 23-year Disney veteran. In his new role, he will oversee the company’s worldwide finance organization, corporate strategy and development, brand management, corporate alliances, investor relations, treasury and risk management, controllers functions, information systems, corporate responsibility, real estate and taxes.

“Jay is a versatile executive who has done a great job over the last several years and has helped me to shape Disney’s strategic direction,” Disney President and CEO Robert A. Iger said. As part of this growth strategy, Jay has overseen a major expansion of Disney’s California Adventure at Disneyland Resort, which culminates with the opening of Cars Land in 2012, and of Hong Kong Disneyland, where work is under way on the creation of three original new lands. He also has led negotiations with the Chinese government to begin development of a new theme park in Shanghai. In addition to park expansion, Jay has been the principal architect of the growth of the award-winning Disney Cruise Line, which is adding two new ships, Disney Fantasy Club and Adventure by Disney. Prior to becoming head of Disney Parks and Resorts in 2002, Jay greatly improved the operating performance of Disneyland Paris, now the No. 1 tourist destination in Europe. Jay has been an advocate for the tourism industry, acting as chairman of the Travel Industry Association of America in 2006 and 2007. He was inducted into the Travel Industry Hall of Leaders in 2008. Jay previously served as Disney’s executive vice president of strategic planning and development, advancing to more senior positions there, and later became s.v.p., corporate alliances. He then led Disney Regional Entertainment before moving to Paris as president, Euro Disney, before becoming its chairman and CEO in 2000. A native New Yorker, Jay has an M.A. in economics and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago. Before joining Disney, he held positions with Chase Manhattan Bank and the Marriott Corp.

Finally, a real view from inside Hollywood through a recent blog of Peter McAllvey, president of Thunderbird Pictures.

“I don’t think a lot of our classmates follow my blog, www.b.eightyseven.com, and seek out new potential book reviewers. On the other hand, it’s been years since I’ve read a book like Mark Harris’ Pictures at a Revolution: Five Movies and the Birth of the New Hollywood, now in paperback. Now, you have to understand there’s a lot of jealousy here for one. For some reason, it seems as virtually everyone I know has won a Pulitzer Prize: My college roommate Tim Page (for criticism for The Washington Post), Ric Burns (for his documentary, The Civil War), playwright Tony Kushner (for Angels in America) and so on.

“And now it’s Kushner’s companion Mark Harris’ turn for the kudos. But that’s not really what makes me jealous. Rather, it’s that I thought I had a lock on that old ‘ana-"}

ment. Prior to becoming a judge, Rolando held various positions within the Legal Aid Society, including attorney in charge of the Civil Division in the Brooklyn Neighborhood Office and director of community relations. He also served as deputy commissioner for law enforcement and, subsequently, first deputy commissioner of the Commission on Human Rights. Rolando is the immediate past president of the Association of Judges of Hispanic Heritage, sits on the Board of Advisors of the Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics at Fordham Law School and is a fellow of the New York Bar Foundation.

Jeff Tolkin and his wife, Laurie, celebrate their 32nd anniversary this year. “We continue to live on Long Island in the town next to the one where we both grew up and are still happily in love after all these years. All three of our children are gainfully employed, which in this economy is something for which we are grateful. Michelle’s ‘09 Business works at American Express. Remarkably, my travel business (World Travel Holdings) is going strong. We distribute cruises and villas. These two verticals are the best values in travel these days, and that is a key element to our success. For anyone interested, go to CruisesOnly.com for cruises and VillasOfDistinction.com for villas. The villa business, while much smaller in scale than the cruise business, is a really cool business and is exploding. While most of our business is either families or groups of friends wanting to travel together, this year alone, we have booked a singing star, a number of NFL stars, numerous other celebrities and a King. We called the king of themoment and he went where they got us, and she said Google. Thomas Friedman has it right: The world is flat, and the power of the Internet and information is king!”

Robert C. Klapper: Although it has been three decades since we were graduated by this institution (I mean that in a loving way, Peter Pouncey), I have a daily reminder in my bedroom of those hallowed days. My wife has allowed me to keep at home the simple oak stool where I sit and put my shoes and socks on every morning. This oak stool, which was recently repaired by my next door neighbor (the Bob Vila of Ventura, Calif.), is the same stool that Jack Garden and I used to audition acts for the Fumald Folk Festival during our senior year. We probably shared this stool with you may remember, and I will never forget the highlight of the auditions where a young Barnard student sat on that stool and with her very first words, Jack looked at me with eyes wide open listening to this incom edi

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Thank you to all who attended Alumni Reunion Weekend in June and to all who contributed to our reunion Class Gift. The Reunion Committee did a fantastic job putting together a wonderful, full weekend, and it was great to reconnect with classmates after 30 years away from alma mater.

J[Editor’s note: Because of CCT’s publishing schedule, reports from reunion will be published in the September/October issue.]

Dion has served in various roles for the U.S. Attorney in the Southern District.

Phil Adkins checked in from London, where he runs Cadenza International, which provides investment banking and corporate finance advice specialized to companies in the Far East. I urge you all to make it to Baker Field this fall to watch the football team play. Coach Norries Wilson and his staff have done a fine job and now that the season is over, we are excited about the prospect for this season.

Please feel free to drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

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It’s a sad state of affairs. A sad, sad state of affairs, indeed. How sad? I’ve been writing this column for some years now and for all those years, Ed Klocz has been pestering me to mention him. He’s tried exaggerating things; he’s tried outright making things up; he’s begged; he’s cried; he’s sworn any number of offensive threats, and I have little memory of those years I’ve managed to fend him off. How? Because I’ve had so much other material that there simply wasn’t enough room without encroaching on territory already ceded to the Class of ‘82.

Well this time out, you leave me no choice. Submissions are few and uncharacteristically economical. I’m forced to include an item from Ed, if only to hold off the Class of ’80 from inching into our beloved alumni newsletter.

This time out you’ll hear from Ed; next time out you’ll hear from me. And Ed. Send copious and verbose updates to jpundyk@yahoo.com or who knows what I may publish next ...

Andrew Weisman
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Greetings, gentlemen. As I put digit to keyboard, the spring is turning to summer, the SEC is turning to the NFL, Tiger Woods is turning to golf (failing to qualify for a tournament for the first time since 2005; his grip doesn’t appear as steady; insert your inappropriate comment here . . .). BP is turning the Gulf Coast into an unprecedented ecological disaster. Goldstein and Tiger Woods are turning to golf (failing to qualify for a tournament for the first time since 2005; his grip doesn’t appear as steady; insert your inappropriate comment here . . .). BP is turning the Gulf Coast into an unprecedented ecological disaster.

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JULY/AUGUST 2010

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If the nomination of Elena Kagan (HLS ’86) to the Supreme Court is confirmed, I will have a law school classmate on the Supreme Court. President Barack Obama and Kagan both were members of the University of Chicago law school faculty. Elena’s mom, Rose Kagan, taught my wife at Hunter elementary school/high school in Manhattan, a feeder school for Columbia and Kagan’s secondary school alma mater. While it is humbling to have classmates like ever-dangerous Dr. Donald F. Ferguson, Donald is a Kenpo Karate black belt and four-year student of Krav Maga, a particularly lethal martial art also known as Israeli jujitsu. I have been on the alert for instances where we are both new to blood sports. Krav Maga is used by the IDF Special Forces units, and several closely related variations have been developed and adopted by law enforcement and intelligence organizations including Mossad, FBI, SWAT units of the NYPD and United States special operations forces. Rumor has it that this martial art was developed in response to a group of soldiers being led kasha varnishkes, which was so lacking in flavor that several of them became enraged and struck out viciously at the barack’s cook.

When pressed on the martial arts issue by yours truly, Donald responded: “I am hoping the UFC starts a division for overweight people 50 or older. I am really looking forward to seeing my 50-plus-year-old, overweight opponent in a Socratic Dialogue and then pounce when he least expects it. Just like a CC professor.”

In between workouts, Donald recently managed to become CEO, distinguished engineer and e.v.p. of CA (formerly known as Computer Associates).

A big congratulations on this is clearly in order! I did a little background checking and also discovered that Donald earned a Ph.D. in computer science from Columbia in 1989, was appointed an IBM Fellow in 2001, chief architect for IBM’s Software Group and was named by ChannelWeb one of “25 Technology Thought Leaders For 2010.”

Pretty impressive. I’m guessing the clock on his microwave doesn’t constantly blink 12:00.

Keep those e-mails coming. Cheers!
While other kids were becoming beautiful and brilliant little girls and failures, Dakota was learning that the economic growth in Asia and reading before starting college, Dakota’s mom, dad or both were there every day to share meals and a bedtime kiss and prayer. While others were out learning to drive so they could attend more parties or experimenting with alcohol and drugs, Dakota was practicing the sport she loves, fencing, with dedication, intensity and passion. The result? She became one of the elite junior fencers in America, winning the Pacific Coast Championship and representing the United States at World Cup events in Germany and Austria.

“Was all the discipline and sacrifice worth it? Recently, Dakota achieved her lifelong dream. She would be the first in her family to attend an Ivy League or a top-tier university. She was also accepted at Columbia, Penn, Brown, Duke, Chicago, UC Berkeley, USC and several more of the elite schools in America, an unheard-of record for a home-school kid. At a time of economic downturn, this is a remarkable story. With America’s public school system ranked at or near the bottom of the industrialized world (and Nevada near the bottom of that, with record dropout rates, grade inflation, violence, gangs, drugs, teen pregnancies, and the scandal of graduating high school seniors requiring remedial math and reading before starting college, Dakota’s story offers hope. Dakota proves the American Dream is alive, if only we’d stop depending on government to save us.

“Sad reality is that teachers’ unions and government aren’t the solution. They are the problem. Our public schools get worse every year, yet teachers’ unions demand more money. Dakota proves it doesn’t take a state-certified teacher, or a teachers’ union or a village to raise a child. It only takes two loving parents who give a damn. One home-schooled girl has driven a stake through the heart of the public school education sham. ‘Home school to Harvard’ is a powerful story that every parent should be allowed to offer their children.”

Steve Greenfield: “I have posted my music survey for 2009 (and just four months and a bit after the year ended) on my blog, Permanent Transcendence: http://www.permanenttranscendence.blogspot.com. Although it is exceedingly long (a new personal high of 66 CDs were reviewed this year), I hope you will click on the link and take a look. I will probably soon add my top 10 pop albums of the decade, which will be a much shorter entry.

“I am an editor and writer who has contributed freelance to the website Culture Catch, to CD NOW (back when it was independent and had and most content) and to several music publications you likely have never heard of.

“A year overshadowed by the bizarre, pathetic and avoidable death of Michael Jackson on June 25 also will be remembered for Kanye West’s gauche antics, interrupting the MTV Music Video Awards presentation to Taylor Swift for best female video to argue that Beyoncé deserved it more, and for the annoying ubiquity of the Jonas Brothers and Miley Cyrus, not to mention certain moody vampire/werewolf types on the silver screen. Bob Dylan released a Christmas album, and WFUM listeners had numerous suggestions for song titles (‘Harsh, the Hard Old Angel Stings,’ ‘O Little Ton of Deathly Philosophy,’ ‘I’ll Be Home for Christmas,’) Kevyn Kudum, WFUM’s station manager, threatened to keep playing tracks from the Dylan record until listeners donated a threshold amount to the broadcaster. A sure sign of the apocalypse came toward the end of the year with the emergence of a self-possessed, 15-year-old mushrat with blow-dried hair named Justin Bieber as the new teen heartthrob. In more considered news from 2009, blues roots guitarist Elijah Wald wrote a book, How the Beatles Destroyed Rock ‘n’ Roll: An Alternative History of American Popular Music. I looked just at the eyebrow-raising title chapter and thought it was ridiculous. Whatever Wald’s merits (as a writer and musician, grotesque overgeneralizations like ‘black music was not an outstanding one, their titles (from the Beatles onward) the fatter recording contracts, enabling them (from the Beatles onward) the luxury of noodling around in the studio, with detrimental effects on the music by moving it away from its essence. Since I am not any kind of a rock ‘n’ roll fundamentalist, I do not buy this line of reasoning.

“For the second year running, I will list my top 10 pop records (original releases only) here in order of preference. For 2009, I am eliminating the Latin and ‘world’ (miscellaneous) categories and grouping under the rubric of pop anything not jazz or classical. In the end, I decided that there is still some usefulness in maintaining separate classifications, though I moved much of the Latin material (and one African record) that had aspirations toward mainstream pop into the primary section, making these CDs eligible for Album of the Year. The year in music was one of an overall decline, but neither was it the weakest I have witnessed this decade. Some interesting pairings can be made from the records in the survey, starting with the euphonious coincidence that albums titled Ay Ay Ay and Hu Hu Hu both made the Our Year-End Top-10 list. The survey contains two records from Philadelphia bands (Espers and A Sunny Day in Glasgower) and two from 6-foot female singers from the United Kingdom, one backed by a band (Florence Welch of Florence and the Machine) and the other not (Imogen Heap). There were two epic-scale productions (Oneida’s triple-disc Rated O and the Decemberists’ rock-operatic The Hazards of Love). Also, two bands with Japanese names (Asobi Seksu and Deerhoof) and two albums with national capitals (from opposite ends of Eurasia) in their titles (Goodnight Oslo and Destination Tokyo), two from electronica-geek specialists (Étienne Jaumet and Thomas Waktins), and one CD from a woman (Jennifer Beere Simone) to pair with the real thing (Air’s not very good Love 2). Several worthwhile acts narrowly missed the top 10 list, notably Regina Spektor’s Far, Esper’s Ill and Nisennnenomal’s Destination Tokyo. At the other end of the scale, particularly disappointing were Forro in the Dark’s Light a Candle, Asobi Seksu’s Citrus, Passion Pit’s Manners, and Peter Bjorn and John’s Living Thing. In the realm of retrospectives, the compilation There were two epic-scale productions (Oneida’s triple-disc Rated O and the Decemberists’ rock-operatic The Hazards of Love). Also, two bands with Japanese names (Asobi Seksu and Deerhoof) and two albums with national capitals (from opposite ends of Eurasia) in their titles (Goodnight Oslo and Destination Tokyo), two from electronica-geek specialists (Étienne Jaumet and Thomas Waktins), and one CD from a woman (Jennifer Beere Simone) to pair with the real thing (Air’s not very good Love 2). Several worthwhile acts narrowly missed the top 10 list, notably Regina Spektor’s Far, Esper’s Ill and Nisennnenomal’s Destination Tokyo. At the other end of the scale, particularly disappointing were Forro in the Dark’s Light a Candle, Asobi Seksu’s Citrus, Passion Pit’s Manners, and Peter Bjorn and John’s Living Thing. In the realm of retrospectives, the compilation The Story of Ethio Jazz 1965-1975, will be a revelation to those (myself included) who had never been exposed to his work, and the special expanded edition of Radiohead’s OK Computer with alternate takes and bonus tracks is well worth a hearing. In jazz, new recordings by the Steve Lehman Octet, the Vijay Iyer Trio and Medeski Martin & Wood stood out. The year in classical music saw noteworthy releases from the collective Alarm Will Sound and from Chinese Zen, as well as a reconstruction of the Ninth Symphony of the late Alfred Schnittke by Alexander Raskatov. Album of the Year honors go to Animal Collective for Merriweather Post Pavilion. Over the course of the two decades, this band has been growing in confidence while avoiding the pitfalls of hubris and pretension. It has also managed to stay out of a creative rut, even as it continues to make music the same
way it has all along — childlike, volatile, hard to pin down, yet streaked with brilliance. The list of the top 10 follows:

1. Animal Collective, Merriweather Post Pavilion
2. Broadcast and the Focus Group, Broadcast and the Focus Group Investigate Witch Culls of the Radio Age
3. Zero 7, Yeah Ghost!
4. Black Moth Super Rainbow, Eating Up
5. Flight of the Conchords, I Told You I Was Freaky
6. The Fiery Furnaces, I’m Going Away
7. Matias Aguayo, Ay Ay Ay
8. Metric, Fantasies
10. Robyn Hitchcock & the Venus 3, Goodnight Oslo"

Michael Marzec, publisher and COO of Smart Business Network, attended the Journalism School and recently participated in his 25th J-School reunion. Michael encourages us to check out his website, www.sbone.com. In the past several years, SmartBusiness has expanded from four to 19 publications. It specializes in local business-to-business management publications offering management strategies to build a successful corporate culture. The company is in most major markets including Chicago, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Dallas and Philadelphia and has both a print and online presence catering largely to mid-level executives. It has published feature stories on Wayne Huizenga (Blockbuster), Ted Turner (CNN) and John Paul Dejoria (Paul Mitchell).

Michael has been married to Paula Huber, an accountant, for more than 21 years. Their daughter Julie is a sophomore at the University of Cincinnati. Their daughter Morgyn is a junior in high school and interested in design.

Looking forward to seeing you at some Columbia football games this fall!

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When Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig calls — and he is gracious enough to do so quite often, especially to wish this writer a hearty “Good Morning” — childlike, volatile, hard to pin down, yet streaked with brilliance. The list of the top 10 follows:

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Looking forward to seeing you at some Columbia football games this fall!

And this “just in” from Bill Reggio: “My son, Billy, is a sophomore at the Engineering School and is having the time of his life. And, my daughter, Katie, was just accepted to Columbia College! A true-blue Columbia family.”

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Although I am writing this column before our 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend, which we all know is a thing of the past after... so please be patient, as the next column will be chock-full of reunion updates.

In the meantime, Judah Cohen lives in Newton, Mass., outside of Boston, with his wife, Sherri Cohen (née Rabinovitz) ’91 Barnard; their daughter, Gabriella (14); and twin sons, Jordan and Jonathan (12). Judah works for AER doing climate-related research, consulting and seasonal forecasts. He also holds a research affiliate appointment in the civil and environmental engineering department at MIT. “One of the accomplishments of which I am most proud is that I have received funding from both the U.S. and Russian governments for my new ideas and approach to seasonal forecasting. Something I had to do 20 years ago when we were students at Columbia and Russia was the ‘evil empire.’ I am in touch with David Avigan, Barry Kanner, Martin Moskovitz, David Reich and Barry Schwartz,” Judah said.

On the home front, I was privileged to attend Admitted Students Day. Our son, Isaac ‘14, went to an activities fair (where he signed up for half a dozen activities on all ends of the spectrum, from College Democrats and the Science Magazine, to the Marching Band and Clee Club), ate in Jay (we walked around on Jay 14 and Carman 7 — looked amazingly like it did nearly 30 years ago), was entertained by a series of a cappella groups, took a coach bus tour around Manhattan, returned for a midnight run to the Spectator offices and a late night at the Caffeine Pizza, slept with two other students in a room on Jay 6 and texted us at 3:20 a.m. He came home the next day, having heard David Helfand and several other presentations, commenting that he was missing being at Columbia already. It is a truly wild experience to participate as a parent in this process.

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By the time you read this, we’ll know how John Chachas did in the Nevada Republican U.S. Senate primary in June. In late April, I heard John speak at a fundraiser in Sam Katz’s beautiful apartment, joined by Michael Lustig, John is facing a competitive race for the Republican nomination in Nevada, especially from Sue Lowden, a former Nevada state senator and Miss New Jersey. Whatever the outcome John, we’re proud of you!

Ellen Bossert, a Columbia basketball star and inductee in the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame, recently met Columbia Arnold Schwarzenegger in Sacramento as part of the Green California Summit. She leads the marketing area for Philips Color Kinetics in Burlington, Mass. The company works with large-scale color “solid-state lighting” displays designed by Ellen. Ellen has an M.B.A. from Harvard. Congratulations to Michael Mundaca for being appointed by President Barack Obama ’83 as assistant secretary for tax policy at the Treasury Department. Michael also served under President Clinton and George W. Bush in the Treasury from 1995-2002, handling international tax and electronic commerce matters. In between Treasury stints, he was a partner with Ernst & Young in Washington, D.C. He has a three-post-Columbia degrees: a master’s in philosophy from Chicago, a law degree from UC Berkeley and master’s in law from the University of Miami.


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As promised in the last issue, Annie Fils-Aime Joseph has graciously offered to share her reflections on being a minority experience as a doctor, a Haitian and a human to help some of the many affected by the earthquake. This is her story.

“I was so busy when the news hit. Eventing clinic was in full swing. An earthquake seemed almost random to me. My first thought was ‘Why Haiti?’ The last thing Haiti needed was another disaster — of any kind. No one had any idea how bad things were till later that night. The next few sleepless nights were spent in collective shock, huddled around CNN. No word from family, friends — only silence greeted our persistent and futile cell phone attempts. Once the extent of the catastrophe became clear, there was no question — I had to go. The details of when and how were quickly decided. Gaskov Clergy Foundation, a nonprofit organization that I have worked with for years, would put together a disaster mission, with rotating groups of medical professionals, one week each. Local lodging and transportation were secured. Having participated in previous missions to Haiti’s southern province, I felt I would be prepared for what lay ahead. I was comfortable with working under less-than-pristine conditions. Nothing could have prepared me for the devastation.

“I have never been to war, but the streets of Port-au-Prince resemble sets for a bad war film. Rubble and dust are everywhere. Two-story homes and businesses flattened. Others are severely damaged, leaning precariously into the streets or over the adjacent properties. Impromptu, disorganized ‘tent’ cities — little more than lean-to’s covered with sheets, plastic bags or pieces of tarp — are strewn everywhere any public square or roadside clearing once existed. Large piles of refuse cover many corners. The stench assaults you quickly, making your eyes and nostrils burn. Most heart-breaking of all are the dazed facial expressions. People look confused, as though they had expected to have already woken from what must surely be just a bad dream. Many survivors report feeling as though the world was coming to an end. I cannot imagine the end of the world looking much worse.

“Work for the medical team started immediately. Baby Ebenezer and his father, who had been waiting since morning for the doctors, met us at base. He was 1 month old, severely dehydrated from diarrhea. His mother died three days post-partum, in the ‘event,’ or ‘event,’ as the earthquake is called. We took turns caring for him: gently, slowly, giving him anti-emetics and formula, even as we settled our belongings. His father, a widower at 24 with five other small children, looked almost as helpless.

“Over the next six days, there was more of the same: children with malaria and scabies, hunger and dehydration, pregnant women without prenatal care whose hospitals had been damaged or destroyed, whose doctors were dead or off dealing with their own injuries. One elderly diabetic and hypertensive patient who had not taken meds in a month. The surgical team cleaned wounds and changed dressings that had not been tended to for weeks.

“During the week, we saw an average of 300 patients a day, all with multiple and varying complaints. The complaints we never heard, however, were of anxiety or depression. Instead, patients reported palpitations, chest pains, anorexia, insomnia or vague abdominal discomforts (all signs of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder). In Haiti, it is not acceptable to have anxiety or depression. It is perceived as weakness, and one cannot afford weakness in the face of all the devastation and death.

“Our mobile clinic traveled to various areas in Port-au-Prince, seeking out tent cities and groups of medical professionals that were off-radio to the global media. This is the work that GCF has been doing in Haiti, on a yearly basis, for the last 11 years. Our clinic was usually a makeshift tent, or church,
or school. Every neighborhood in Port-au-Prince is affected. Everyone knows someone who has died. All essentials are in short supply. Relief is still only trickling in. Some areas are flooded; others are littered with bodies. We have not been able to get as far as the rural areas, where the biggest need is still only trickling in. Some areas are flooded; others are littered with bodies. We have not been able to get as far as the rural areas, where the biggest need is still only trickling in.

"The story of Haiti and the earthquake is one of overwhelming destruction and crippling losses. It is also the story of people who are resilient and brave, having been dealt blow after blow, by man and by nature. People are homeless and afraid, but they wake up every morning and look to push forward and try to improve their lives. I feel very privileged to be Haitian and to have been able to serve those that deserved it most. I hope to return soon, to continue the work that is so desperately needed."

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Summer is here, and the Columbia campus looks beautiful! On a recent visit, my kids were amazed at the flurry of activity and vibrant energy surrounding the Steps. I was delighted to hear from many of you this time.

Salma Hansen All is a freelance writer based in Washington, D.C. She recently moved to Pakistan with Greg Mortenson, co-author of The Three Cups of Tea, and humanitarian Todd Shea, and has written about their work. Salma writes about cross-cultural issues, U.S.-Muslim world relations and people making a difference. Her personal essay, "Pakistan on the Potomac," appeared in Washingtonian magazine (www.washingtonian.com/articles/people/10466.html), and her articles have been published in newspapers and magazines around the world.

Laurence Davis writes, "Following my graduation from Columbia College, I spent two years working on the legislative staff of U.S. Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D-WA). I then moved to England, where I completed my doctoral degree at Oxford. I am interested in the political thought of the English poet, artist and craftsman, and revolutionary socialist William Morris. I have since taught politics and sociology at Oxford, Ruskin College, University College Dublin and National University of Ireland, Galway, and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, where I am a visiting scholar. My recent publications include Anarchism and Utopianism (co-edited with Ruth Kinna), The New Utopianism (co-edited with Peter Stillman) and numerous articles and book chapters on anarchist and utopian political thought, ecological and post-capitalist politics, and the politics of art, work and love. I live in Dublin."

Nikos Areadis sent the following update: "I graduated from Boston University Law School, then spent three years as a pension consultant at Deloitte & Touche. I’ve been running my family’s private mortgage and real estate business since 1995. I married Yvonne Knapp ’90 in 1996, and we have a daughter, Sophia (10), and a son, Georgie (8)."

James Friedman keeps connected with alma mater. After graduating, he worked for a few years and then returned to campus to launch a new Business School, graduating in 1995. Since then, he has been on Wall Street, first at Goldman Sachs and for the last five years at SIG (known for options trading). James lives on the East Side of Manhattan with his wife, Alison, and sons, Henry and Jack. They regularly attend CC cultural and sports events, such as Spring Kids Reading at Alma Mater and an occasional football game or Homecoming. He mentioned that he is always interested in reconnecting with fellow CC alumns.

Alex Wallace Creed is really enjoying her involvement with the College’s Board of Visitors. She says, "There are a lot of interesting things going on at the school, and I am constantly reminded what a special place it is."

Craig Blackmon’s wife, Tiffany McDermott ’87 Barnard, wrote in that "Craig has created a novel business model for Washington State, a lawyer handling your real estate transaction. He named the business Walawreality. Super-busy when men you can’t get is the man in the mirror. In Seattle, we don’t get to see many Columbia grads, but we have a cool ski house at Mount Rainier and would love visitors."

Patrick Crawford updated us as follows: "I got an M.A. in philosophy (studying with Richard Rorty) and a J.D. at the University of Virginia. I then practiced tax law with Shearman & Sterling in San Francisco before joining the faculty/staff at Stanford Law School as a Law and Business Fellow. I then became an assistant professor at American University School of Law. Since moving back to California — Los Angeles — I have taught and am now in private practice with a boutique firm, The Brager Tax Law Group, doing tax controversy work."

Batiya Mishan Wiesenfeld also wrote in: "I married Howard Wiesenfeld ’87L and went on a five-month honeymoon. When we returned, I went back to Columbia to get my Ph.D. in management from the B-School and then moved downtown to join the faculty of the Stern School of Business at NYU. I was promoted to tenure associate professor in 2002 and then full professor in 2008 and was blessed by having raised four terrific kids along the way. One of the best things about being at Stern is the time I get to spend with Ellen Pluta, who teaches there along with me and is much beloved by our students, and Sha¬raen Koren, who is only one block away at Hebrew Union College. This fall is going to be a double Columbia homecoming for me. My oldest daughter, Yael, will be joining the Class of 2014, and I will be back on campus at the Business School for a one-year sabbatical. I hope to hear from many of you this time. My kids were amazed at the flurry of activity and vibrant energy surrounding the Steps. I was delighted to hear from many of you this time.

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
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In the world of Class Notes, it’s wedding season. Congratulations and best wishes to you all. Margaret Flynn and Dave Robinson were married in July 2009 at the beach in Bay Head, N.J. Their son, Carson (2), played ring bearer. Many Columbians were in attendance, including Liz Siezcka and Jim Felakos ’92, Gabri¬el Kra, Steve and Jenny Thompson Harvey, Karen O’Riordan, Michael Behringer ’89, Lisa Dabney and Craig Nobert, Sean R., Brian Kennedy, Kirsten Mellor, and Stephen and Laura Schiele Robinson. [See photo.]

Joel Tranter and Mia Houtermans were married in December in Mendocino, Calif., and in March hosted a party in Berkeley to celebrate. Joel and Mia live in Berkeley, where they grew up. At their party, I caught up with Brian Timoney, Ethan Nosowsky, whose career in book publishing I have followed for years. Ethan was a longtime editor at Farrar Straus and Giroux, one of the country’s most prestigious publishing houses. He’s now editor-at-large at Graywolf Press, an independent literary publisher as well as a consultant for the Creative Capital Foundation, where he runs their Innovative Literature Grant program. Of the Literature grant program, Ethan writes, "Creative Capital Foundation mixes venture capital concepts and applies them to the creative field, traditional grant making and artist services — grants average around $35,000. They’ve been around for 10 years and are best known in the visual and performing arts world. But after 18 years in New York City, Ethan is returning to San Francisco where he grew up, along with his wife, Cristina Mueller (also in publishing and a former editor for Lucky magazine). He’ll continue working for Graywolf and Creative Capital from there. As for what exactly prompted the move, Ethan says simply, "I think it was just time. My wife is from Berkeley as well, and the fact that my employer turned to be close by, enabling me to stay in publishing, made everything possible."

I also caught up with Amy Weinrich Rinzler, who is also vacating New York City along with her husband, Brad, daughter, Sophia, and sons, Brody, to nearby Chappaqua, N.Y. I apologize for such a short column this issue, but many of you have been a bit... um... elusive? You know who you are.

Congratulations. I can’t wait to buy your book! Faye Copper ’88ers: Over the next year or so, if it is a nice sunny day, and you find yourself in Brooklyn Heights, come and join me on the Steps, and don’t forget your sunglasses!"

Enjoy summer days ahead, fellow CC’ers.

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Fortunately for this column, I have a CCT scoop because I heard from Friendship House, whose book publishing I have followed for years. Ethan was a longtime editor at Farrar Straus and Girous, one of the country’s most prestigious publishing houses. He’s now editor-at-large at Graywolf Press, an independent literary publisher as well as a consultant for the Creative Capital Foundation, where he runs their Innovative Literature Grant program. Of the Literature grant program, Ethan writes, "Creative Capital Foundation mixes venture capital concepts and applies them to the creative field, traditional grant making and artist services — grants average around $35,000. They’ve been around for 10 years and are best known in the visual and performing arts world. But after 18 years in New York City, Ethan is returning to San Francisco where he grew up, along with his wife, Cristina Mueller (also in publishing and a former editor for Lucky magazine). He’ll continue working for Graywolf and Creative Capital from there. As for what exactly..."
supplement the great footage he already has. He also is looking for backers. Check out www.TheStreakStartsNow.com and http://roarlions.blogspot.com.

That's all for now. Summertime is here. Hope you enjoy it! Until next time…cheers!

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The streak of full mailbags continues. Thank you all so much for writing in! Oddly enough, all of the updates, except for my own, came from the West Coast. Let's get to it.

I received the good news that Sean Rodgers found his name on the Investor's Daily Digest's "Forty Under Forty" list this year. Sean, a corporate partner at Simpson Thacher, has been with the law firm since December 1995, after attending law school at UC Berkeley.

First-time correspondent Bonnie (Carlson) Solmsen wrote to tell of her first Columbia alumni event: a "clean the beach" event in Venice Beach, Calif. Bonnie is taking a break from her career as an architect to raise her twins (4), who pitched in at the alumni event.

Staying with West Coast developments, I heard from Robert Haga '92E. Robert and his wife, April, recently had their second son, Nicholas, on April 15, that he and his wife, Gabby, had a second son, Nicholas, on April 15, to keep brother Ben company. Thad has an exciting year ahead of him, as the New York Jets will be playing in their new stadium this fall.

On the wedding front, Rohit "Rit" Aggarwala married Elizabeth Robllofth '99 on April 10 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan. Rit stepped into an exciting new position in June to move to California with Elizabeth, who began a fellowship in infectious diseases at Stanford University Medical Center in Palo Alto, Calif., in June. Though Rit and Elizabeth spent many years on the Columbia campus, they did not meet until 2002, when they were both on the Board of Directors of the Columbia College Alumni Association.

Seth Rockman is an associate professor of history at Brown, where he is a specialist in revolutionary and early republic U.S. history, with a focus on the relationship of slavery and capitalism in American economic and social development. In April, Seth was selected by the Organization of American Historians to receive the 2010 Merle Curti Award, which is given annually for the best book published in American social or intellectual history, for his book, Scrapping By: Wage Labor, Slavery, and Survival in Early Baltimore. Seth will spend the 2010-11 academic year as the visiting professor of history at the University of California, Berkeley.
Michael Goldwasser '93 Drops the Beat

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE '01

A rabbi's son walks into a recording studio and makes a reggae version of a Beatles album.

No, that's not the set-up to a joke. That's the life of Michael Goldwasser '93, one of reggae's most successful — and perhaps least likely — producers.

Goldwasser, the driving force behind Easy Star Records (www.easystar.com), has received wild acclaim for releasing reggae-flavored song-by-song covers of three classic rock albums. Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon turned into Dub Side of the Moon. Radiohead's OK Computer morphed into an album named Radiodread. And last year Goldwasser produced his most ambitious project yet: The Beatles' Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band became Easy Star's Lonely Hearts Dub Band.

"I wasn't intimidated by The Beatles, and their fans knew I'd treat their music with respect," Goldwasser says. "We just, shall I say, have a slightly different interpretation."

Goldwasser was born in West Virginia, but his parents — including his father, the rabbi — moved the family to New York when Michael was 7. Immediately, music became a major part of Goldwasser's life, and his jazz-loving parents claim he began writing songs soon after he learned to talk.

"Music was always there, and by the time I was 15, I started performing at clubs in New York City," Goldwasser says. "My parents were very supportive. They knew I was a good kid, and they knew that even if I was playing at a bar, I wasn't going to get into trouble.

"Actually, my father drove me to most of my shows," he says with a laugh, "because I couldn't take my guitar on the subway."

Columbia's location in the city, just a few subway stops away from Greenwich Village's thriving music scene, made Goldwasser's college choice a simple one.

But Goldwasser's heart thumped to a reggae beat, and he soon quit a clerical job at Metropolitan Hospital to pool resources with a few friends — each donating $1,000 — to start a new label, which took the name Easy Star.

"It was not my life's dream to sit in an office and wear a tie," he said. "We complained about the dearth of quality reggae at the time, and we decided to do something about it."

The friends started aslishing tracks that had never received a proper release and produced compilations albums. They'd carry the boxes of CDs to small record stores in Brooklyn and the Bronx and slowly began to make inroads in the reggae world, even though their leader didn't exactly look the part.

"I don't think the fact that I'm Jewish and not Jamaican held me back," Goldwasser says. "I was already somewhat known as 'Mikey the White Guitarist' in music circles so I had that credibility already. And reggae stars are down-to-earth, humble people, people who were not getting rich quick, and they weren't judging me."

"What has been astonishing about Michael's reggae career is the speed with which he was welcomed and taken seriously by many of reggae's greatest artists," says Michael Cooper '93, who was in Goldwasser's first band, The Feds. "Any man-bites-dog sense about Michael playing reggae seems to fade when people hear his music and realize that he is the real deal."

Easy Star's big break came in 1999, when Goldwasser was convinced to try a reggae version of Pink Floyd's iconic album, Dark Side of the Moon.

"We were making great traditional Jamaican reggae but selling, at best, a few thousand copies," Goldwasser says. "We had to try something different.

"At first, I was skeptical [and] I knew the album only incidentally. But I came up with a few basic arrangements, listened and thought 'This might work.'"

Using the stage name Michael G, Goldwasser took years to slowly craft the album, using traditional Jamaican instruments and rhythms yet faithfully maintaining the songs' structure and spirit. It was released by Easy Star in 2003.

"We expected a negative response from rock or Floyd fans, but even those Floyd fans who told us they wanted to hate it, couldn't," he says.

"I'm not suggesting that the Easy Star versions are likely to eclipse the originals, but I can't stress enough how ingenious they are in and of themselves," says Cooper, now a national correspondent for The New York Times. "Dub Side of the Moon is an amazing, painstakingly thought out concept album that I think would stand on its own for a listener who had never heard Pink Floyd."

The album sold an impressive 160,000 copies worldwide. Easy Star found similar success in 2006 with Radiodread, which Rolling Stone praised for its "innovative arrangements and attention to detail."

Snagging a cult following, Easy Star launched a touring band and acquired a famous fan: New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's daughter Emma, who asked the group to play at her wedding.

Goldwasser, who has also written original compositions for TV shows such as CSI: Crime Scene Investigation and movies such as Woody Allen's Cassandra's Dream, tackled history's biggest band for his third tribute album, which was released last year.

"Radiohead has said very nice things about our work, which is very satisfying," says Goldwasser, who lives on a kibbutz an hour north of Tel Aviv, Israel, with his wife, Ami, and 2-year-old daughter, Tali, and runs his business remotely.

"I haven't heard from anyone in the Beatles camp yet," he says, chuckling, "but I would love to get a phone call from Paul McCartney."

To hear Easy Star cover The Beatles, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Jonathan Lemire '01 is a staff writer for the New York Daily News.
year at the Huntington Library to write a new book for University of Chicago Press about shoes, chop-suey, hats and boxes manufactured in the North for use on Southern slave plantations.

Finally, congratulations to Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt '96, who won the Pulitzer Prize in the drama category for their play, Next to Normal, which was a "distin-
guished play by an American au-
thor, preferably original in its source and dealing with American life."

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Some of our classmates have been in the news lately:

Karlik Ramanathan, who has been overseas with the Treasury De-
partment’s office of debt management, announced that he is stepping
down from this post in order to return to the private sector. Karlik
joined the Treasury Department in July 2005. Before that, he worked for
Goldman Sachs.

Amanda Peet welcomed her sec-
tond child on April 19 in New York.
Molly June joins sister Frances.
On the more personal news front, I
caught up with Ayanna (Parish) Thompson and her family on a
recent trip to Arizona. Ayanna
is doing well and continues her work
as a professor of English at Arizona State University.
That’s it for this time. Please
send news!

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We all appreciated the Core Cur-
rriculum when we were students.
Roosevelt Montás holds the title of
Director of the Core, a job he’s had
since summer 2008.
Roosevelt teaches CC these days and
did a stint teaching Lit Hum while continuing his Ph.D. in the
English department; he graduated from GSAS in 2004.

“I am one of those people who
never left,” said Roosevelt, who
grew up in the Dominican Repub-
lic until age 12, then in Queens.

Roosevelt often calls upon to
give talks about the Core at various
events, including Alumni Reunion
Weekend. We hoped to see him
in June.

Congratulations to Michael
Schaffer, who returns to his home-
town of Washington, D.C., as editor of
Washington City Paper.

Mike began his career at City
Paper, first as a staff writer and then
as the second-in-command. He then
spent two years at U.S. News and
World Report, where he reported from Pakistan after 9-11 and from a
dozen U.S. states, covering the 2002
Florida recount, poverty issues and
scandals in the Catholic Church. He
then headed to the Philadelphia In-
quire, where he covered City Hall.

Last year, Mike’s first book, One
Race: Urban Dog: Adventures in the
New World of Pooping Puppies, Dog-Park Politics, and Organic Pet
Food, a critically acclaimed exam-
ination of America’s mania for
pets, was published. He spent
two years on the project. [Editor’s
note: CCT featured this book in
college.columbia.edu/cct/sep-
ct/09/09/bookshelf2]. His freelance
work has appeared in Slate, The
New Republic, The Daily Beast, The
Washington Monthly, The Washing-
don Post, The Boston Globe, New York
Press, Philadelphia Magazine, Philadel-
phia and Men’s Journal.
Mike and his wife, Keltie Hawkins,
have a daughter, Eleanor, who
will be 3 in August.

“I'm looking forward to recon-
cnecting with Columbia cronies in
D.C.,” writes Michael.

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Not even baby news? That's hard
to believe. Please write so we can
fill this column.

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CC '97, where’s the love? Not one of
our classmates has been in news
today. Things are quiet today.
Our East Coast premiere was at the
Charles-
ton International Film Festival, and
I won the award for Best Actress
in that festival. We are hoping this
is the first of many awards for the
film.
I am hoping this is the second of
many updates. And I am hoping to see Rachel’s award-winning performance someday.

Here’s another update from Shazi Visram: “My husband, Joe, and I
had our first baby surprise on January 31. His name is Zane
Amirali Vismal Kalak. And the little feller is so sweet and happy. We live
in Jersey City with our other son, with fut, Willy, and are loving how
different life is with a baby.”

More great news: Jenn Kaufman and her husband, William Haft,
recently celebrated the arrival of Aaron Kaufman-Haft. Aaron was
born on April 21, weighing 7 lbs., 7 oz.; measuring 20 inches; and sport-
ing an adorable coif. Jenn, William and their dog, Anderson, moved
to Chicago in fall 2008 and settled into a cute house in Lincoln Park a
month before Aaron’s arrival.

And there’s still more great
news, but not really baby-related.
Recently, I checked in with the
hardworking intern, intern, the rock star in our class, Scott Hoffman,
aka Babydaddy, whose band,
Scissors Sisters, is about to release
its third full-length album. Here’s
what Scott had to say: “Been in
the studio for most of the 2½
years since we got off the road;
the last one. We got our buddy Stuart
Price to co-produce this one (he
had just done Madonna’s Confes-
sions on a dance floor and the Killers’
last one). The album’s called Night
Work and it came out on June 29
in the United States and June 28
everywhere else. We started our
world tour in June beginning in the
United Kingdom.”

Scott will surely be in a city near
you soon (the tour starts with the
U.K., followed by Europe, Japan,
Australia and more), so definitely
check scannersisters.com for a sneak
preview and the complete schedule.

I received this tidbit from the
CCT crew, via Business Wire:
“Stephen M. Gracey has joined the
litigation department at the law
offices of Ulmer & Berne. As
an attorney with Ulmer & Berne,
Steve’s practice focuses on product
liability and life sciences litigation.
He is well versed in prescription
and drug product matters, consumer product liability matters,
toxic tort and exposure matters. He also represents clients in com-
mercial litigation including breach of contract, fraud and other business
disputes. Prior to joining Ulmer & Berne, Steve was an attorney with
Frost Brown Todd. He received his J.D. from the University of Cin-
cinnati College of Law.”

And this happy news was spot-
lighted on CCT last week. Lauren
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Hello there. I’m happy to report that Rachel Jackson has written in
gain: “Here is another update re-
garding my film 3 Things. Our
East Coast premiere was at the Charles-
ton International Film Festival, and
I won the award for Best Actress
in that festival. We are hoping this
is the first of many awards for the
film.”

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY
JULY/AUGUST 2010
66
The Rev. David P. Dwyer, a Roman Catholic priest, performed the ceremony. Dr. Robilotti, 32, is keeping her name. She is a third-year resident in internal medicine at St. Vincent's Hospital Manhattan, and is to begin a fellowship in infectious diseases at Stanford University Medical Center in Palo Alto, Calif., in June. She graduated cum laude from Columbia, from which she also received a medical degree at New York Medical College. [...] Mr. Aggarwala, 38, known as Ri, is the director of long-term planning and sustainability in the office of Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. He oversees plans for the city's infrastructure and environment. He is also Mr. Bloomberg's chief advisor on environmental policy. He recently announced plans to step down from those positions in June, and will join Dr. Robilotti in California. [...] Though the couple spent many years on the Columbia campus, they did not meet until 2002, when they were both on the board of the Columbia College Alumni Association.

Yay! Elizabeth has promised to write sooner with details and will be sending an alumni-filled photo, so watch out. I saw a ton of Columbia people at Jen Song's wedding in May, and here's a brief, alumni-filled summary. Before the ceremony, on a barge in the East River, I chatted with the nation's newest naval intelligence officer, James Boyle, who bragged that he's able to arrest anyone claiming to be a pirate. Jay Cosol, an avid swimmer, giggled nervously in the background. Then Jen married Josh Oberwetter, an all-around super-awesome guy, and everyone was very happy. Back on dry land, I milled around with Konrad Fiedler, recently in from Los Angeles, and Eli Sanders, mainstay of Seattle's The Stranger. Eli is a terrific writer and also does a weekly summary. Before the ceremony, on April 34th, 2010, the couple lived in Providence, R.I., where Corinna is finishing her pediatric residency and looking forward to a “normal” schedule this coming year as chief resident. Matthew still is working in Cambridge but for a new company, Forrester. They are adjusting to life with a newborn and loving all of it.

Emily Huters announced that she and her husband, Trey Hatch ’01L, “welcomed our son, Henry, on February 25. As you can imagine, we are still pretty sleep-deprived at this point, but we are so in love with our little guy and love being parents.”

“Somewhat surprising to me as a new mom, but it is a fact that I am currently in training.”

Congrats to all the new Columbia parents. Please keep in touch!

The way from Copenhagen for the festivities.

Sitting across from me at dinner, Dr. Emmy Pointer and Dave Burkoff, who live on the Upper West Side with their dog, Walter, and cats, Dr. Furr and James, shared a plate of vegetable selections from the truly astonishing buffet of Korean delicacies. The estimable Mike Erman and his fiancée, Sneed Carey (you!), were close at hand, keeping tabs on Konrad’s kim chi intake. I had to give a toast and was too nervous to eat even half the things I wanted. Esther Chak, who sat next to me, was supportive, and distracted me with news about Aaron Kaufman-Haft, and soon everyone was back on the dunes floor celebrating with Jen and Josh and Total Soul (the band). It was way too much fun.

That’s all for now. Please write with your news, complaints, updates, questions and so on. Thank you!
Mike Jones writes, “I went to Albert Einstein for medical school, finishing in 2007. I matched in emergency medicine at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx and was recently selected as chief resident. During that time, I also have continued to work as a medic in NYC and am the director of a small nonprofit ambulance squad, the Central Park Medical Unit (www.cpmu.com). I have also made it my passion to travel the world, having hiked the Scottish Highlands, backpacked across Italy a few times, hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu and recently returned from Tanzania, where I summited Mount Kilimanjaro.”

Joseph Lyons, who works in Houston as a v.p. in derivative sales in the global commodities division of Citigroup, married Kristin Elizabeth Olson in Austin on March 27.

Fiona Sze-Lorrain’s first book of poetry, Water the Moon, was released in February. Her website is www.fionasze.com.

Raj Patel writes, “I recently left private practice to become in-house corporate counsel for United Airlines in Chicago. I’ve saved several complimentary flight passes for Columbia friends who’d like to visit!”

Matt McMillan, a political consultant living in Washington, D.C., won his 12th Pollie Award from the American Association of Political Consultants and was named to the prestigious “Democratic Campaign Dream Team” by Aristotle International. He has advised several high-profile foreign and domestic leaders, parties and advocacy organizations on communications and new-media strategy.

Sanoh Secules Smees writes, “Ryan Smees and I are proud to announce Beatrix Eleanor, born December 17.”

Adam Libove writes, “I moved from the Upper East Side to Greenwich Village. After nearly 10 years of living uptown, it is a welcome change. In addition, I took the opportunity to make another big move: I proposed to my girlfriend of five-plus years, Barbara Luxenberg ‘05 Duke, and we are starting to plan a wedding for next spring.”

This summer, Alan Lue is working on the Research & Investment Management Team at Research Affiliates, an investment manager in Newport Beach, Calif., before returning to UCLA Anderson to finish his master’s in financial engineering. Also in California, Victoria Sharon is entering her final year of her dermatology residency.

Katori Hall is the author of the play The Mountaintop, which was awarded England’s 2010 Olivier Award for Best New Play. It is scheduled to be performed on Broadway next fall. Referencing TheMountaintop, The Wall Street Journal writes, “The two-person production is set in a hotel room on April 3, 1968, the night before King was murdered. A hotel maid, Camae, brings King coffee, and the two start a conversation. It turns out that Camae is not who she initially seems. The play depicts King in private moments: taking off his shoes, talking to himself and, later, smoking and flirting with Camae.”

Angela Georgopoulos 200 Water St., Apt. 1711 New York, NY 10038 aeg90@columbia.edu

Greetings, fellow alumni! I hope you’re all doing well and getting the chance to enjoy summer. On the news:

Mike Ren is v.p. of a U.S. private equity firm in Shanghai, focusing on private, pre-IPO and cross-border investments in tier two and three Chinese cities. In May, Mahrina Rotheman earned a Ph.D. in comparative literature from Rutgers with a dissertation examining emigration in contemporary Senegalese novels and music.

Tarek Adam ‘04E and Robert Reyes ‘05 have been in touch recently despite the distance between them. Tarek is finishing a biomedical research fellowship in Heidelberg, Germany, while Robert completes the last semester of his pre-med post baccalaureate program in Carbondale, Ill. Robert and Tarek met up in January when Tarek made the transatlantic flight to St. Louis for a medical school interview. Both are excited about beginning medical school in the fall! Tarek and Robert will attend The Saint Louis University School of Medicine and The University of Texas Medical Branch Medical School at Galveston, respectively.

Vishal Arya writes, “I am finishing my first year at University of Chicago Booth School of Business. I am spending the summer as a product manager intern at Apple and plan to see if California living is all everyone says it is (I am pretty sure it is). Before starting at Apple, I was in South Africa for 10 days attending four World Cup matches.”

Congratulations to my good friend Miklos Vasarhelyi, who will be returning to Columbia’s campus this fall to attend the Business School. Congratulations also go out to Alex Hardiman and Brian Ferrara, who were married in June, and Logan Schmid and Christina Tobajas, who were married in Manhattan on July 18, 2009. Logan divulged: “We met at a party in Wien our sophomore year. The party was broken up by campus security, but we’ve stayed together all these years!”

On April 17, the Young Alumni Fund held its annual Spring Benefit in Manhattan. Our class had a strong showing, including Vignesh Aier, Etel Bugescu, Avram Drori, Juliana Dudas, Daniel Goldman, Adam Kaufman, Igor Margulyan, Harish Mehta, Denaka Perry, Eric Requenez, Yekaterina (Kat) Reznik, Julia de Roulet, Richard Tosi, Miklos Vasarhelyi and Ashley Vereschagin. A fun evening, please don’t forget to send me any and all updates!

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Summer is upon us! Hope you’re all doing well.

Claire McDonell and Ramsey McGras live in San Francisco’s ”Ro neighborhood. The highlight of their year has been joining the volunteer faculty of the Prison University Project’s College Program at San Quentin State Penitentiary. The only operation of its kind in California, the College Program offers hundreds of men the opportunity to start their college careers and earn associate degrees. As part of a faculty composed largely of professors and doctoral candidates from UC Berkeley, Claire teaches developmental math and is working to restructure the pre-college math program, and Ramsey teaches English courses including “Critical Thinking” and “Modern World Literature,” the Prison University Project’s answers to Logic and Rhetoric and Lit Hum. If you want to learn more about the Prison University Project, please e-mail Claire and Ramsey at claireandramsey@gmail.com.

David Mills writes: “My service as a small enterprise development Peace Corps volunteer in Cameroon ends in July. Then, I’ll be heading back to the States to eat as much pizza as my body can handle and get settled in Philadelphia as I prepare to start the J.D./M.B.A. program at Penn this fall.”

Shaanan Meyerstein writes: “Following graduation, Ariel Daube and I traveled the world for medical work and tourism. We then moved to Israel and for the last four years have attended the Ben Gurion University of the Negev / Columbia Medical School for International Health in Beerseha (the southern region of Israel). In addition to the regular American medical curriculum, our school focuses on training healthcare professionals who will work in underserved, poor areas around the globe. We have been exposed to a diverse patient population of Bedouins, Ethiopians, Russian and South American immigrants, African refugees and so on as well as diverse medical pathologies. One of the most impactful experiences we had was working in a hospital that same under a rocket fire during the Gaza War in 2009.”

“Upon graduating in May, Ariel planned to begin a three-year residency in pediatrics at National Children’s Hospital in Washington, D.C., and Shaanan a three-year pediatric residency at Schneider Children Hospital / Long Island Jewish Medical Center in Queens.”

Monica Pasternak writes: “I am finishing my third year of medical school at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and have decided to pursue an M.D./M.B.A. I will be completing my M.B.A. during the 2010-11 school year and will graduate from medical school in May 2012. I am dedicating spare time to research in high-risk obstetrics (maternal fetal medicine) and volunteering with the medi-
cally underserved via our school’s Department of Community Service. As I write this, I am in Key West for a month doing my family medicine rotation, and spend my mornings kayaking before work; living the dream.

In May, Jessica Fjeld graduated from UMass, Amherst, with an M.F.A. in poetry. She is planning to return to Columbia in the fall for law school and is excited to be back in the city. Anna Brian Lee also graduated recently, with an M.B.A. from UC Berkeley Haas School of Business. And Steph Katsigianinis graduated from Fordham Law. She will join Kasowitz Benson Torres & Friedman in New York in the fall.

Jeanelle Folkes writes: “I graduated in May from Teachers College with an M.A. in higher and postsecondary education. I recently purchased my first home, so I’m incredibly excited about living in my own ceremony, lol).”

Loren Crew, who joined the Army on the day of his last final in May 2005, writes: “After being commissioned as an infantry officer and graduating from the U.S. Army Ranger School, I spent two years as a rifle platoon leader with the First Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. After being promoted to captain, I returned from a deployment to Afghanistan last year, where I was stationed with my guys along a volatile stretch of the Pakistani border in eastern Afghanistan. I’m getting ready to head to Georgia for continued training, and I hope to deploy to Afghanistan again in the near future.”

Thanks for the updates, and hope to hear from the rest of you soon!

06

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As always, there are exciting updates from our classmates on academic, professional and personal fronts. Hope you enjoy the column! Have a great rest of the summer, and I look forward to updates from you for a future column.

Emily Bean has been living in a 15-person cooperative house in Berkeley, Calif., for the last 1½ years. She works in Oakland as a bilingual kindergarten teacher and plans to use my time off to improve the system and educating the future world-changers for at least another few years. Emily eagerly looked forward to her (well-deserved) two-month summer vacation in Argentina and Brazil, where she planned to continue her intense study of aerial acrobatics and hopefully learn some Portuguese.

Jeremy Kotin co-produced and co-edited the hit of the Tribeca Film Festival, Mongamony, directed by academy-award nominee Dana Adam Shapiro and starring Chris Messina and Rashida Jones. On his producing team were Jeff Mandel ’96 and Tom Heller ’05 Business. The film will be traveling the film festival circuit for the rest of 2010 and will hopefully have a wide release shortly thereafter. Sean Wilkes is done with his tour at the Pentagon and is in Cambridge for the summer to study biology at Harvard.

After two years of working at Scholastic Publishing on its website, Carly Miller has moved on to FoxNews.com as a strategic editor to improve the website in its entirety. Marc Pimentel recently returned from a month of learning acupuncture in China, where he climbed the Great Wall and saw the Terra Cotta Army. He graduated from P&ES in May and is at Brigham and Women’s Hospital for an anesthesiology residency. Emily Ross has had an exciting couple of months. After applying to graduate schools during the winter, she has accepted an offer to return to Columbia in the fall and will study for a master’s in public policy at SIPA. While leaving Washington, D.C., after almost four years will be hard, Emily is looking forward to going back to NYC. Stephen Kunen is a legal intern this summer in Las Vegas for the in-house counsel of Zuffa, the parent company of the Ultimate Fighting Championship.

Elizabeth Berkowitz married Marc Tobak ’05 in October 2009 in New York City. Several members of the Classes of 2005 and 2006 attended and were in the wedding party. Marc graduated from Harvard Law in 2008, clerked for Federal Judge Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum (who witnessed the civil license at the wedding) and is an associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell in NYC. Elizabeth has interned or worked at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston and the JPK Library and Museum, and is interning with the 20th Century Drawings & Prints department at the Morgan Library. She completed a graduate certificate in museum studies at Tufts in 2008 and completed an M.A. in modern art criticism at GSAS in May 2009. Elizabeth will begin a Ph.D. in art history at the Graduate Center at CUNY in the fall.

Samuel Schon became engaged to Katie Wray, a cousin of Robert Wray, this past spring. They are planning a fall wedding in South Carolina. Tova Katz recently gave birth to a boy, Amiel David. She, her husband and son will be moving in July to Boston, where Tova will pursue an M.B.A.

07

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CC ’07, hardly missing a boat. You are all up to amazing things. Here are some exciting updates:

On April 17, many of our classmates attended the annual Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit held at the New York Tennis and Racquet Club. Attendees included Arvid Kadaba, Geoffrey Karapetyan, Jessica Sen, Todd Abrams, Benjamin Baker, Gerard Barrett, Matthew Bansamian, Aaron Bruker, Christian Capasso, David Chait, Colanina, Tamzin Davies, Caitlin Shure, Charlotte Cowles, Adrian Demko, Samantha Feingold, Emily Hoffman, Daría Leonyuk, Jessica Wong Zhen, Jacob Olson and Andrew Ward, among others.

Erik Lindman participated in a four-artist show held at London’s Hannah Barry Gallery. Titled New Work, New York, the show highlighted contemporary abstract painting from New York City and ran from April 30—May 27. Erik writes, “This is my first major show outside of the States!”

Kasia Nikhamina’s debut play, Redhead & Domicile, a bold retrospective of her young marriage told in “he said/she said” fashion, was performed at the Too Soon Festival at The Brick Theater in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, in June. Please e-mail themayorshotel@gmail.com if you’d like to join the mailing list.

Xavier Vanegas writes, “An animated kids show I’m developing with Catherine Connolly ’08, The Fork Friends, won the Fred Rogers Memorial Scholarship from the Television Academy of Arts and Sciences Foundation in March! The award was presented by Mrs. Rogers (she is a pistol) at the Fred Forward Conference in Pittsburgh, a convention of child development psychologists and children’s TV programming executives. Other than that, I am still directing music videos and commercials as steps toward directing feature films.”


Eric Bondarsky, Nina Cohen ’08 Barnard, Lindsay Schachke ’08 and Lena Hourwitz visited Sara Pollack ’07 Barnard, Reina Potaznik ’07 Barnard and Isaac Greenbaum ’06 in Washington Heights for an enjoyable Sabbath experience replete with excellent food, plenty to drink and Kattan to settle. The occasion was the visiting of a few Ukrainians, who were in town briefly for business and pleasure.

Edward Fox writes, “I’m off to pursue a Ph.D. in economics at Michigan in the fall. My plan is to also pursue a concurrent J.D. at Harvard or Yale. It’s a long program, but on the plus side, by the time I’m finished with it, everyone will have flying cars.”

Phillipa Ainsley shares some exciting updates. “Join Wardell ’09 GS, ’10 GSAS, and I got engaged on April 10 in the Brooklyn Botanic Garden! We’re moving to Berlin and then to Stockholm, as I will be doing my master’s at the Stockholm School of Economics starting this autumn. The wedding will probably be in 2012 and horribly inconvenient to travel to.”

Mimi Arbet writes, “I’m finishing my third year of teaching in Boston-area public schools. I will be starting an M.A./Ph.D. program in child development at Tufts in September. Additionally, I recently got engaged to Matthew Lowe ’05 GS, ’05 JTS, and we’re planning a July 2011 wedding in Boston.”

Among those in NYC, Zak Kostro writes, “I’m bartending at Son Cubano, a restaurant and nightclub in the Meatpacking District. I work Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Great food, live music and a D.J. on Friday and Saturday spinning the hottest house, Latin and pop. Best of all, no cover. Great happy hour Monday—Friday, 4:30—6:30 p.m. Would love to see some fellow Columbians at my bar!”

Riddhi Dasgupta writes, “Christian Capasso and I backpacked around Morocco and Spain. It was a rewarding, sobering and fun experience. We received excellent tips from Julian Himes and Nishant Dixit, who had waded the same waters a little while ago. The Djema el Fna (Assembly of the Dead) in Marrakech was a fave. On a separate note, some Kiwi friends and I recently ran the Chris Hoy..."
Half Marathon in Edinburgh. It’s my second demi-marathon, and I hope to graduate to a full one soon. Sore muscles, soaring spirits.”

Riddhi said, “In April, we held a Columbia College young alumni punting and pinning event in Cambridge, England. It was very nice to share this place with old friends and new.”

Francesca Butnick graduated from Harvard Law in May. Beginning in September, she will be clerking at the Supreme Court of Israel for Justice Neil Hendel.

Karen E nslen graduated from law school to student-at-law, and thinks that “Toronto is the new Brooklyn.”

Thank you again for all of the submissions! Have a great summer!

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

CLASS NOTES

JULY/AUGUST 2010

08

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Elizabeth Carmel Grefrath is engaged to Joshua Khalil Sessions. Elizabeth studied history and English and has worked at the Columbia University Oral History Research Office in various roles since 2004 and now directs the Rule of Law Oral History Project, which focuses on civil and human rights abuses in the post-9-11 United States and the history of the Guantanamo Bay Detention Center. Joshua is the author, under his pen name, Joshua Furst, of the acclaimed novel The Sabotage Café and the story collection Short and the story collection Where the Mountains Meet. He travels to South Africa for the World Cup with Alternate Endings. It will be designed by Dan Tae young Lee ’09, who plans to attend the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation next fall. “The Book Museum is neither a library nor a college, but is what the author wished and was able to express in the form in which it is expressed,” explains Irina. If anyone knows or lives a fairy tale with (preferably) an alternate ending, please contact Irina.

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The Class of 2009 continues to amaze with its travels, studies and work across the world. Our updates for this issue come from Boston, India and points in between.

Ernest Herrera is studying law at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He has spent the first year trudging through mandatory courses, but he is looking forward to next year, when he will study immigration and criminal law. Ernest bought his first snowboard and is enjoying the slopes. This summer, he is taking law classes in Guanajuato, Mexico, through a program run through UNM. He also will be an extern for the Office of the Attorney General, New Mexico, D.C., for a two-year fellowship in biotechnologies research at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center. Gabe Saltzman looks forward to seeing friends while he works in New York until November. He then plans to move out of the city for the summer. Those hoping to be invited — and maybe even get free lessons — should take the chance to talk him up this summer.

Esha Gupta returned home to Oklahoma and stopped by New York for a wedding before she moved to Los Angeles in June. There, she lives in Santa Monica on Ocean Avenue. Esha plans to study for the GMAT and find a job in the entertainment industry while she’s there. If any Columbians are in the L.A. area, Esha would love to hear from you!

Last but not least, some of us will be returning to New York City. Jeff Schwartz will be producing The Unsilent Film Series at Le Poisson Rouge. The series will feature acclaimed live musicians playing over classic films. Jeff also is looking for a full-time job in the entertainment industry. Laura Taylor will be traveling to Singapore and Brazil this summer. Next year, she plans to dance with Alvin Alley Dance Theater, work at Steps Dance, most likely teaching babies, and audition for Broadway shows. Adam Bulkley, having retired from his duties as head of the 2010 Senior Fund, went home to Baltimore for a few weeks and then returned to New York City to watch him perform July 4.”

As always, don’t hesitate to reach out to me with your news. I hope you are all enjoying the summer!

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

09

Julia Feldberg
Columbia Alumni Center
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Amidst the flurry of final papers and exams, class dinners and ceremonies, it is hard to imagine life beyond school. Alas, by the time you are reading this column, we will already be Columbia College alumni. Whether you’re excited or panicked about your new life in the “real world,” take a moment to check out what some of our classmates are doing this summer and in the year ahead.

Some are revving up for school mode once again. Alana Sivit deferred admission to a J.D. /M.A. program in cultural studies of comparative law and education policy at Loyola Chicago in order to teach first grade for a year at Harlem Success Academy in East Harlem. Devora Aharon is traveling this summer and then will attend Mount Sinai School of Medicine in the fall. Aliise Green is spending the summer working in New York City before moving to England to receive her master’s in econometrics from the London School of Economics.

Kevin Bulger and Patrick Foley are going on a cross-country road trip starting in New York. They plan to visit Ohio, Madison, St. Paul, the Dakotas, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon, California, Arizona, Texas, New Orleans, Tennessee, St. Louis and finally Chicago. If anyone wants to house this road-tripping duo along the way, please let them know. Following their adventure, Kevin will be doing a post-graduate year at Durham University. He will be getting a master’s in modern history while playing basketball for the university.

Isabel Broer moved in early June to Colorado, where she will teach secondary math for two years with Teach for America. Isabel hasn’t had enough of Columbia yet, though; she will be back on campus for law school in fall 2012.

Jad Hernandez-Vasquez also will join the ranks of TFA in Phoenix, where he will teach eighth-grade special education. Jad writes, “The recent institutionally racist bill will not hinder this Latino from pursuing his goals!”

If you need friends to visit in other parts of the country, look no further. Ruqayyah Abdul-Karim will be moving to Washington, D.C., for a two-year fellowship in bioethics research at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center. Gabe Saltzman looks forward to seeing friends while he works in New York until November. He then plans to move out of the city for the summer. Those hoping to be invited — and maybe even get free lessons — should take the chance to talk him up this summer. Esha Gupta returned home to Oklahoma and stopped by New York for a wedding before she moved to Los Angeles in June. There, she lives in Santa Monica on Ocean Avenue. Esha plans to study for the GMAT and find a job in the entertainment industry while she’s there. If any Columbians are in the L.A. area, Esha would love to hear from you!

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SERVICES


PROMOTE YOUR BOOK on tv-radio talkshows, print. Columbia alum offers free consultation. Frank Promotion, (914) 238-4604, frankpromo@aol.com.

HEARTSTONE Senior Living for Engaged Graduates. Santa Fe Luxury Affordable Heartstonecommunity.com.

WAR BRIEF ALPHA: Understanding & Fighting World War IV at melos.us.

RENTALS

Naples, Florida: Luxury condominium overlooking Gulf, two-month minimum, 802-524-2108 James L. Levy CC ’65, LAW ’68.


Englewood, FL: Brand New Luxury 2 BR/2 BA Waterfront Condo w/ Pvt. boat slip. Walk to the Gulf, pool, floor to ceiling glass, awesome water views, Lanai, elevator. Professionally decorated. Contact Evan Morgan, CC ’85 at (330) 655-5766 for details.

St Croix, VI: Luxury Beach Villa. 5 bedroom house, East End (949) 475-1475; richard.waterfield@waterfield.com CC ’94.


Jupiter Island Condo, 3 br, 2.5 bths., pool, splendid ocean, intracoastal. Sunset views from wraparound balcony; boat slips available. Sale or Seasonal Rental, min. 2 months. (772) 321-2370; Edward Kalaidjian, ’42C, 47L, eckalai@aol.com.


REAL ESTATE SALES


Litchfield Cty. Connecticut — Contemporary Townhouse 3 Br/2 BA gated community. Fishing, indoor/outdoor pools & tennis, camp, horseback riding & skiing. Paid $134,000 — all reasonable offers considered. sing2bill@aol.com, Bill Wood CC ’65, GSAS 67.

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Deadline for September/October issue: Tuesday, July 27, 2010
Many thanks to the Columbia College alumni, parents and friends who supported the College this year. On behalf of the students you support, thank you! Enjoy your summer.

Columbia College Fund
Office of Alumni Affairs and Development
More than 3,000 alumni and guests celebrated reunion weekend from June 3–6 and Dean’s Day on June 5 with events on campus and in venues around New York City.
Whether it was catching up with old friends, making new ones or just seeing how the campus looks today, alumni made the most of the opportunity to revisit Morningside Heights.
Lectures, panel discussions, original music by Nathan Gross '60 for the 50th anniversary class, affinity receptions by Spectator, WKCR, the Glee Club and Marching Band, and the presentation of the President's Cup to Michael Behringer '89 added to the festivities.
Fun for All Ages

Alumni Reunion Weekend included events that appealed to all, from future Lions to proud Columbia families to young alumni on the intrepid to alumni young and old on the dance floor at the Starlight Reception.
Class Photos

Class photos were taken on Saturday. To view these pictures (and print out copies, if you wish) as well as lists of those who registered for Alumni Reunion Weekend by class year, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul_aug10.
2010 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 1945
Walter Holland

CLASS OF 1950
Philip Bergovoy
Joseph "Bud" Kassel
Leonard Kliegman
Alexander MacDonell
Joseph Mehan
John Noonan
Mario Palmieri
Norman Skinner
Ricardo Yarwood

CLASS OF 1955
Larry Balfus
Jim Berick
Jeffrey Broido
Robert Brown
Herbert Cohen
William Epstein
Jack Freeman
Charles Garrison
Alfred Gollomp
Elliott Gross
Allen Hyman
Jay Joseph
Stuart Kaban
Richard Kuhn
Don Laufer
Ezra Levin
Stanley Lubman
Alvin Martz
Don McDonough
Lew Mendelson
Robert Pearlman
Roland Plottel
Stephen Rabin
Mort Rennert
Bob Schiff
Arnold Schwartz
Ferdinand Setaro
Gerald Sherwin
Alan Sloate
Chuck Solomon
Berish Strauch
Jack Stuppin
Joseph Vales
Anthony Viscusi

CLASS OF 1960
Robert Abrams
Bob Berne
Stephen Brown
Paul Chevalier
Arthur Delmhorst
David Farmer
Richard Friedlander
Nathan Gross
Tom Hamilton
Robert Hersh
Gary Hershstoffer
David Kirk
Steve Lerner
Bob Machleder
Bob Morgan
Paul Nagano
Bob Oberhand
Tom Palmieri
Rene Plessner
Lee Rosner
Larry Rubinstein
Peter Schweitzer
Steve Solender

CLASS OF 1965
Allen Brill
Michael Cook
Brian Fix
Dean Garmanos
Laurence Guido
Paul Hyman
Michael Krieger
Barry Levine
Ed Malmstrom
Leonard Pack
Michael Schlagner
Steve Steing
Bernie Weinstein
Derek Wittner
Jay Woodworth
Bob Yunich

CLASS OF 1970
Michael Braun
Bob Douglas
Leo Kailas
Tom Keenan
Arthur Kokot
Michael Passow
James Periconi
Mark Pruzansky
Fred Rapoport
Philip Russotti
Steven Schwartz
Spencer Wilking
Rip Wilson

CLASS OF 1975
Paul Argenti
Glenn Bacal
Barry Berger
Louis Dalaveris
Jim Dolan
Steve Jacobs
Bob Katz
Charles Lindsay
Ira Malm
Terry Mulry
Randy Nichols
Walter Ricciardi
Bob Schneider
Wayne Turner
Richard Witten

CLASS OF 1980
Richard Balekjian
Mike Brown
Joseph Ciulla
Jonathan Dahl
Jeffery Field
Eric Goldstein
Ivan (Van) Gothen
Bill Hortz
Steven Kane
Keith Krasney
David M. Leahy
Kevin Matthews
Ian Parmiter
Bruce Paulsen
Ricardo Rodriguez
A.J. Sabatelle
Gayle Rendleman
Neil Sader
John Schutty
Jeff Slavitz
Ariel Teitel
Herbert Thorndyke
Dante F. Walker
Mark Van Allen

CLASS OF 1985
Amr Aly
Paul Bongiorno
Michael Cho
Brian Cousin
Adam Fischer
Richard Froehlich
Kevin Kelly
Brian Margolis
Heather Paxton
John Phelan
Steve Quackenbush
Colin Redhead
Michael Reilly
Daniel Wolf Savin
Thomas Scotti
Leslie Dreyfous Smartt
Joe Titlebaum
David Zapolsky

CLASS OF 2000
Antoinette Allen
Prisca Bae
Mama Behbin Baltimore
Andrew Bautista
Cle-Jal Brown
Nadla Carter
Alexandra Conway
Armand Dawkins
Krista Deitemeyer
Kimberly Fisher
Susan Freeman
Michael Glynn
Veronica Good
Matthew Greer
Laurence Guido Jr.
Benjamin Hellman
Cyrus Modanlo
Laura Piropoto
Juliet Ross
Claude Roxten
Charles Saliba
Jacqueline Seidel
Michael Shen
Christopher Totman
Michelle Wang

CLASS OF 2005
Diana Bento
Alexandra Berken
Guillaume Bich
Michael Camacho
Jeffrey Engler
Amalia Goldvaer
Matthew Grossman
Tehmina Haider
Erich Jaschik
Peter Kang
Stephanie Katsigianis
Jennifer Legum
Keren Mizrahi
Martha Drake Reeves
W. Garner Robinson
Philip Sandick
Elizabeth Silva
Michael Sin
Salwa Touma
Demetrios Yatrakis
John Zaro

Alumni Reunion Weekend

1754

TEXT: LISA PALLADINO, ETHAN ROUEN '04J AND ALEX SACHARE '71
PHOTOS: BARBARA ALPER, EILEEN BARROSO, DIANE BONDAREFF, MICHAEL DAMES,
LYNN SAVILLE, JOHN SMOCK AND DAVID WENTWORTH