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.
Columbia College Today

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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 Germanic Languages Professor Stefan Andriopoulos.
Letters to the Editor

Professor Karl Kroeber
I and no doubt countless other Columbia College alumni read with sadness the news of Professor Karl Kroeber’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 Kroeber, 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 (arctic.atmos.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 slope around the industrial revolution. A related source (www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/temperature-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 ’83
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,
Hoops Hopes: Coaching at Columbia

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 in 2006–07, the Lions were 7–7 in Ivy play (fourth in the league) and 16–12 overall. Clearly, the program was moving forward. But after two more 7–7 Ivy seasons, Columbia dipped to 5–9 this year, and has been on the south side of .500 overall in each of the last three years. At a time when campus unrest was about to bubble over.

Joe Jones led Columbia to the top half of the Ivy League in three of the last four years.

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 seniors, including stars Ryan Wittman, Jeff Foote and Louis Dale, so Donahue realized this was his time to cash in and not risk being in the position of overseeing a program that had passed its peak.

The key to success in the Ivies, like any other league, is recruiting. But recruiting for Columbia, or any Ivy school, is challenging because of the shallow pool of prospects who are capable of, and willing to, combine a rigorous academic program with the demands of Division I basketball. Not only is Columbia competing with the seven other Ivies for these select prospects, but also with top academic schools like Duke, Stanford and others that can offer athletic scholarships and have much higher athletic profiles.

That does not mean the job is hopeless. Between a Columbia degree and all that New York City has to offer, Jones’ successor has much to offer to recruits. And the beauty of basketball is you don’t need a bevy of players to turn a program around; Donahue endured six losing seasons at Cornell before catching lightning in a bottle with the convergence of an all-around star (Wittman), a floor general (Dale) and a 7-foot center (Foote).

I’m reminded of the Lions of my college years, when Brooklyn’s Jim McMillian ’70 turned down UCLA to stay in the city and blossomed into an All-American, 7-footer Dave Newmark ’69 was a pivot presence and Heyward Dotson ’70, ’76L provided backcourt leadership and scoring. That team won the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden when the tournament 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.

There are plenty of family-friendly activities throughout the weekend.

Reunion is the time to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

bath 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).
Benjamin Jealous ‘94, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will address the Class of 2010 at Class Day, Monday, May 17, on South Lawn.

Jealous, a lifelong civil and human rights activist, has been a tireless and vocal advocate for his constituents since taking over the NAACP in 2008. In his brief tenure, he has seen what many consider historic victories for minorities in the United States, including the election of a black president, Barack Obama ‘83, and the recent passages of a sweeping healthcare reform bill and a bill to overhaul student loans.

In 2009, Jealous received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement and was the featured speaker at his class’ 15th reunion dinner. He was profiled in the March/April 2009 issue of Columbia College Today: www.college.columbia.edu/cct/mar_apr09.

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.

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.

How to realize leadership potential

1. Recognize Organizational Problem
2. Call for Help
3. Address the Issue
4. Apply Resolution

As a graduate of Columbia University, you – and up to four colleagues in your organization – are eligible for a 25 percent tuition benefit on any Columbia Business School Executive Education program of six or fewer days. To find out which program is right for you, visit: www.gsb.columbia.edu/execed
LENEST 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 ’58L 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.
Four students and one alumnus — Shlomo Bolts ’10, Max Horlbeck ’11, Hannah Perls ’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.

Bolts is the third Columbia student to win the award, founded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000, in the last two years. To read about last year’s winners, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct/mar_apr09.

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 Milikowsky ’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).

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Financial Aid Fills in the Picture

Did you know . . . about HALF of all Columbia College students receive financial aid—each averaging about $30,000?

All admitted students—regardless of their financial status—deserve full access to the Columbia experience.

We’re doing more for students than ever, but recent enhancements are costly. The College awarded nearly $59 million in financial aid last year, almost 65% more than just five years ago.

Only your gifts make this investment in access possible.

Two ways to help:
• Endowment giving (Kluge matches available)
• College Annual Fund

GIVING.COLUMBIA.EDU/SCHOLARSHIPS101
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 Gatrarl, 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 ’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

8:00 a.m. • Registration Opens — Alfred Lerner Hall
8:30–10:15 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
10:30–11:45 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

REGISTER TODAY! • WWW.COLLEGE.COLUMBIA.EDU/DEANSDAY
Renovated, and ready for you.

Brand new Bar & Grill. Brand new fine dining. Elegant new state-of-the-art meeting rooms. And a Roof Garden! We’re renovating the clubhouse, and you’re invited to enjoy it all.

See how the club and its activities could fit into your life. For more information or to apply, visit www.columbiaclub.org or call (212) 719-0380.

The Columbia University Club of New York
15 West 43 St. New York, NY 10036

Columbia’s SocialIntellectualCulturalRecreationalProfessional Resource in Midtown.
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 ’58L). 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 of spirit overlap with 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. Nearly 40 percent of New Yorkers are born abroad, so I don’t go every week. But whenever I’m there, I really like it. Wave Hill in the Bronx is very beautiful. They remind me of a German landscape.

What is your favorite place out of the city?
The Berkshires are really beautiful. 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 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. I also recharge by reading crime novels. It’s a way of distracting myself.

What is your favorite food?
A Greek salad is very long. I am extremely fond of these banquets with many courses where you have to pace yourself.

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. 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 spot in the city?
Close by, I like Riverside Park a lot. I’m also a fan of Brooklyn, especially the area around Prospect Park. I have friends there. It’s a long subway ride, so I don’t go every week. But whenever I’m there, I really like it. Wave Hill in the Bronx also is very beautiful.

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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 Buffett ’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 Pulitzer Board, the award is one of the most highly regarded American prizes. 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.”

■ Tae Chun ’02’s Children of Invention was a favorite at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, and the movie about two children left to fend for themselves after their mother’s arrest was making headlines at this year’s festival, too. Children of Invention was one of only 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.

■ Sam Bisbee ’90 needs to make room on his shelf. He was the producer and sang the closing song for The New Tenants, which won the Oscar for Best Live Action Short Film at the Academy Awards in March. The Dutch film focuses on two men who move into an apartment and find themselves entangled in its horrific history.

■ Be careful not to step on Doug Morris ’60 when walking down Hollywood Boulevard. Morris, the worldwide chairman and CEO of Universal Music Group, was honored in January with his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Morris is one of the most influential people in the music world, and his labels have 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
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 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 Kobe, Japan, in May 2008. Chan and other climate champions from around the world first met 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 boat house 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 LastMayores.com, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language Web site.
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■ MILESTONE: Kyle Merber ’12 became the first Columbia runner to run a sub–4-minute mile when he won the Columbia Last Chance Meet at the Armory on March 5 with a time of 3 minutes, 58.52 seconds. His time, which was four seconds better than his previous lifetime best, set an Ivy League record for the indoor mile, breaking the mark of 3:58.70 set by Bill Burke of Princeton in 1991.

“Crossing the finish line and looking up at the clock was an unbelievable feeling,” Merber said in an e-mail interview with Hept-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.”

■ 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 Tzu Moy ’91, ’02 P&Es, in 1990. Ross earned first-team All-America honors for the second time 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 saber 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, Noruwa 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-

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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. The College is committed to maintaining small class sizes in the Core Curriculum, and sections were added in both Lit Hum and Art Hum to accommodate the 50 students added to the Class of 2013.

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 (www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/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 Schapiro 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 dazzling 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.”

Ethan Rouen ’04

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.


Images: Courtesy the Artist and the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery


Edward Koren. “And on my right is Joe Nast, representing an opposing viewpoint.” 1982.

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.

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- Tickets will be available for purchase at the Intrepid the night of the event or in advance at www.college.columbia.edu/intrepid.
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Columbia College Young Alumni Party on the USS Intrepid
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 grammar 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 fit 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 teach in the Core, at least as I see it, is not to come in determined to insist that there are these great books that must be worshiped as great by the students,” he says. “I come to the Core interested in the problems raised by these texts and by world outlooks conveyed by the texts and by introspection probed by these texts.

“The texts, for me, interrogate aspects of human experience and aspects of human psychology. I find that students become very interested in thinking about the way lives are written about and about how the written experience within those texts relates to their own lives. In that respect, it is an experiment in immersion in the writing of experience across the ages.”

The universality of the syllabus shows up in almost every lecture Williams gives. Current events blur with ancient writings to instill in his students the shared experiences that reach across time and culture.

The earthquake in Haiti in January served as a chance to examine how ancient cultures wrote about and experienced the same traumas we suffer today, to prove that the value of the books that are taught over and over is not in the recording of history but in the emotions and realities those writings evoke.

“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 Yatracis, 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 MartinSEN, 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 is 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-
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 conversation 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 that 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.
Columbia College Today

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 Dworin, executive director of the Organization of News Ombudsmen.

“I think Clark has set the standard,” says Dworin, 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 less. 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. Hoyt 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 benefited 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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Clark doesn’t deliver strong medicine, because he does. He just has a better bedside manner than I did."

Even with his journalistic even-handedness, Hoyt acknowledges that his columns can sting. While his interactions have in large part been collegial, with Times editors and reporters responding to his questions with professionalism and candor, he says there have been occasional brush-ups with those he has called to task.

“No one likes to be called on these things,” says Hoyt. “Many journalists have very thin skins. They are able to be tough when it comes to reporting and holding an unblinking eye to others, but can be unenthusiastic to be held accountable themselves.”

Hoyt’s love affair with journalism dates back to his childhood in Hawaii, where his family lived in 1949 during one of his father’s postings as a Navy dentist. When Hoyt was 8, he and his brother, Charles, published a neighborhood newspaper, The Maleolap Snoop. It kept the Navy families updated on the latest coming and goings in the neighborhood not far from Pearl Harbor, where dogs roamed free and Hoyt occasionally brought home an unexploded hand grenade.

It was then that Hoyt discovered he had what it took to be a journalist — an instinct for finding things out, and a desire to tell people about what he had found.

“We’d report on whose dog left their calling card on a lawn,” recalls Hoyt. “People loved it, they really did.”

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.”

Freefall

In this excerpt from his latest book, University Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz argues that the GDP might be a poor way to assess our standard of living.

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 drastically 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 readers to show confidence in the face of the unknown as a way of ensuring a happy and tranquil life (Knopf, $23.95).


Jefferson’s Louisiana: Politics and the Clash of Legal Traditions, Revised Edition by George Dargo ’57. Dargo describes the conflict between local and national legal policies that occurred in the Louisiana territory during Thomas Jefferson’s presidency (The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd., $39.95).

Sell Your Nonfiction Book by Crawford Kilian ’62. An advice manual for would-be nonfiction authors, covering everything from developing an idea to submitting manuscript proposals (Self Counsel Press, $17.95).

Tapestry of the Sun: An Anthology of Ecuadorian Poetry edited and translated by Alexis Levitin ’63 and Fernando Iturribur. This bilingual poetry collection is devoted entirely to contemporary Ecuadorian authors (Coimbra Editions, $29.95).

Snark: It’s Mean, It’s Personal, and It’s Ruining Our Conversation by David Denby ’65. Denby defines and decimates “snark,” or unproductive ad hominem attacks disguised as satirical wit (Simon & Schuster, $15.95).

Clio & the Crown: The Politics of History in Medieval and Early Modern Spain by Richard L. Kagan ’65. The author examines the political aims of official Spanish court histories from the sixth to the 17th century (The Johns Hopkins University Press, $55).

Contested Will: Who Wrote Shakespeare? by James Shapiro ’77, the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature. Shapiro chronicles the historical controversy over the authorship of Shakespeare’s plays and discusses its cultural implications (Simon & Schuster, $26).

Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain, and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness by Alva Noë ’86. Noë 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).

Emergency: This Book Will Save Your Life by Neil Strauss ’91. Strauss reports on his experiences during a year spent trying to acquire the basic skills that would be necessary to survive after a natural catastrophe or economic collapse (It Books, $16.99).

Picking Bones from Ash by Marie Mockett ’92. Mockett’s novel alternates between the perspectives of Satomi, a talented Japanese concert pianist, and Rumi, her American daughter (Graywolf Press, $24).

Looking at Art in the Classroom: Art Investigations from the Guggenheim Museum by Rebecca Shulman Herz ’93. The author explains how elementary and middle school teachers can improve their curricula by using art as both a subject of study and a teaching tool (Teachers College Press, $23.95).

A Novel Marketplace: Mass Culture, the Book Trade, and Postwar American Fiction by Evan Brier ’95. Brier analyzes the role of the novel in post-WWII American mass culture (University of Pennsylvania Press, $49.95).


Cute Yummy Time: 70 Recipes for the Cutest Food You’ll Ever Eat by La Carmina. 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 (Perigree, $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 Sansom 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 to 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 rooftop gardens, landscape architect Steven L. Cantor ’73 is aiming to assist students, professionals and the general public with his book, *Green Roofs in Sustainable 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 his approach to learning, Cantor studied under landscape architect Arthur E. Bye Jr., who taught at the Architecture School. Cantor earned a M.L.A. in landscape architecture from the University of Massachusetts in 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 Forschungs-gesellschaft Landschaftsentwicklung Landschaftsbau guidelines, which highlight terminology for green roof installation and upkeep. Green roofs have a long history in Europe, dating back to thatched roofs, but they are relatively new in North America. 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 restart.”

*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

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 stigmatized groups when they fear that they will be judged according to a stereotype (W. W. Norton & Co., $29.95).

Grace Laidlaw ’11
Richard “Dick” Silberstein, retired radio engineer, Boulder, Colo., on November 30, 2009. Silberstein was born in New York City on September 18, 1906. He first became fascinated with radio when at age 9 he saw a demonstration of a radio transmitter. In college, he earned a degree in electrical engineering and began his career with Fordham University. After World War II, he joined the Radio Section of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) in Washington, D.C., and later Boulder, Colo. During the last six years of his career, Silberstein did similar work for the U.S. Army Radio Propagation Activity at Ft. Monmouth, N.J. At the end of 1966, he retired and returned to Boulder.

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 to East St. Louis 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 WWII. He later worked in accounting for a ladies’ shoe factory in Norwalk, Conn., and for Long Island Ice and Fuel Corp. in Riverhead and for the Otis 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 Matituck Rod and Gun Club for many years. He is survived by his sister, Bernice Duke; and cousins, Roy W. Fuchs and Edward Hammel.

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. in electronic engineering, both at the University of Rochester. Fellers was an executive at Eastman Kodak Company from 1955. He 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, Billings, Mont., on September 8, 2009. Goulding was born in Cambridge, Ohio, on November 29, 1920. A graduate of Weill Cornell Medical College, he was 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 Clinic. He was a member of the boards of Sterling Drug, NYU, J. Walter Thompson, FW Woolworth and GTE. In 1975, he co-founded the steering committee of major New York banks, which

Richard “Dick” Silberstein ‘29

1929

Obituaries

Columbia 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) may also 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.
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 local 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 CCT 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.”

Beichman was known for a buoyant, infectious energy. “He was 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 CCT, 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 drawer-of-lines-in-the-sand with a gift for friendship.”

Beichman is survived by his wife, the former Carroll Caldwell; his children, J. Andrew, James, and his wife, Kathy, and Jeffrey and his wife, Kathy; and his stepchildren, lan and his wife, Kathy, and Jeffrey and his wife, Kathy. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mayhew Program, PO Box 120, Bristol NH 03222.

HAROLD SAMELSON, research scientist, Berkeley Heights, N.J., on September 15, 2009. Samelson was born in Manhattan on June 23, 1923, and raised in the Bronx. He was a Pulitzer Scholar at the College, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received a B.A. in 1947. Samelson earned an M.A. and a Ph.D., both in physics, in 1948 and 1952, respectively, from GSAS. He spent most of his career as a research scientist in the field of optics, working on the science underlying lasers and television. Samelson was awarded several patents in these areas. He worked for several companies, including Bell Labs, Allied Signal, Aroco Solar and GTE Sylvania, and served on several presidential commissions involving the export of technology. He was a professor of physics, particularly in Electronics, at the University of Lowell in Massachusetts. Samelson delayed his studies from 1942–46 to serve in the Army Signal Corps and was sent to the European Theater during WWII. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Bernice Staff; daughter, Elizabeth Cuthill; son, Matthew ‘85; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., 3rd Fl. MC 4530, New York, NY 10025, or www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline.

photo: Edward W. Souza/Stanford

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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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date of Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>Irwin W. Smith</td>
<td>retired insurance agent and teacher</td>
<td>Wallingford, Conn.</td>
<td>February 18, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>John R. Phelps</td>
<td>music teacher</td>
<td>Sun City Center, Fla.</td>
<td>March 4, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Lloyd D. Flint</td>
<td>physician</td>
<td>Myrtle Beach, S.C.</td>
<td>February 2, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>Merrel P. Callaway</td>
<td>clergyman</td>
<td>Charleston, S.C.</td>
<td>January 31, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>Willard N. Failing</td>
<td>ophthalmologist</td>
<td>Utica, N.Y.</td>
<td>May 25, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Edward J. Amontree</td>
<td>retired dentist</td>
<td>Sarasota, Fla.</td>
<td>February 4, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>David P. Harrison</td>
<td>retired market analyst</td>
<td>Madison, Wis.</td>
<td>February 3, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>Henry Corey</td>
<td>attorney</td>
<td>Falmouth, Mass.</td>
<td>February 27, 2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>John J. Donohue Jr.</td>
<td>retired market research manager</td>
<td>Hamden, Conn.</td>
<td>February 4, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>Bruce L. Schalk</td>
<td>retired accountant</td>
<td>Whiting, N.J.</td>
<td>March 4, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Wayne J. Hallenbeck</td>
<td>retired insurance executive</td>
<td>Mansfield, Ohio</td>
<td>February 10, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Donald J. Goodell</td>
<td>international trademark attorney</td>
<td>Chappaqua, N.Y.</td>
<td>February 16, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>Alfred Arees</td>
<td>Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y.</td>
<td>March 25, 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>John W. Garrett</td>
<td>transportation safety research expert</td>
<td>Asheville, N.C.</td>
<td>January 14, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Jay A. Levine</td>
<td>professor</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>February 22, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Thomas J. O’Grady</td>
<td>surgeon</td>
<td>Toledo, Ohio</td>
<td>February 28, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>James C. Gherardi</td>
<td>Great Neck, N.Y.</td>
<td>March 4, 2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>Merrel P. Callaway</td>
<td>clergyman</td>
<td>Charleston, S.C.</td>
<td>January 31, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Albert J. Anton Jr.</td>
<td>oil analyst</td>
<td>Louisville, Ky.</td>
<td>April 10, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Marvin Finkelstein</td>
<td>Sharon, Mass.</td>
<td>March 6, 2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Michael D. Hein</td>
<td>teacher and librarian</td>
<td>Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.</td>
<td>February 7, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Albert J. Weisel</td>
<td>freelance writer</td>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>February 27, 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in American Studies and was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and at Woldson College, Cambridge University. He also served on the U.S. permanent committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise. Mishkin 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 Brooklyn, 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 the Holy Name in Bloomfield, Conn., and a member of the Electric Trolley Museum, in East Haven, Conn., and a member of the Electric Railroaders Association of NYC. He is survived by his sister, Janet Walker. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lions Club of Oneonta, PO Box 575, Oneonta, NY 13820.

1952

Donald J. Engel, retired controller, Howell, N.J., on September 1, 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. He 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 Brantford Electric Railway Association, 17 River St., East Haven, CT 06512.

1958

William G. Covey, physician, Easton, Conn., on May 28, 2009. Covey was born in New York City and earned a degree in 1962 from 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 Multorin Covey; children, Anne, David and his wife, Robin, Aaron and his wife, Cinthia, Michael and his wife, Alec, and Laura; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the William Grayson Covey MD Memorial Fund, c/o The Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield.

1962

Conrad M. Sherman, stockbroker, Howell, N.J., on September 24, 2009. Born in Brooklyn, Sherman lived in Marlboro, N.J., for 20 years, before moving to Howell nine years ago. At the College, he was an economic major and wrote for Spectator. Sherman earned a J.D. from Penn and served in the Coast Guard. He was a first responder at Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls. He also coached and was an umpire for the Marlboro Little League for more than 10 years. Sherman is survived by his wife, Ingrid (née Chait); sons, Blake, and Tyler and his wife, Catherine; brother, Julius; three nieces; and a nephew.

1965

Roger V. Wetherington Jr., journalism professor, Jamaica, N.Y., on July 25, 2009. After working as a reporter and editor at the New York Daily News, Wetherington began his teaching career in California at Long Beach State University, earning his master’s communications/journalism Ph.D. at the University of Southern California. He was a journalism professor at St. John’s University in Queens. Wetherington taught additional classes on Staten Island and spent a year in Kazakhstan teaching on a Fulbright Scholar fellowship. He was also a part-time editor on the weekends at The New York Times. Wetherington is survived by his wife, Andrea Miller; son, Brady; sister, Janice Evans, and cousin, Omar Katherine Smith.

1967

John A. Shayner, college v.p., Hackettown, N.J., on September 23, 2009. Shayner was born in Ipswich, Mass., in 1945, and spent his childhood in Hazlet, N.J. He earned a Ph.D. from Stanford and held numerous titles during his 30 years at Centenary College: v.p. for global initiatives, v.p. of administration, director of international programs, acting president, professor of English and executive assistant to the president. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the college was in the creation of Inter-Governmental Council on Planning, which he served as co-chairman of for six years. Shayner was a technical adviser on the 1993 film Philadelphia. He created a consulting practice assisting nonprofits in fundraising, grant writing and creating public-awareness campaigns and was director of development for Calcutta House. Flannery was interested in historic preservation and served as chairman of the West Whiteland Historical Commission. He is survived by his partner, Otto Perrone.

1984

Marshall B. Wright, finance executive, Williamsburg, Va., on September 10, 2009. Wright was a native of Williamsburg. After graduating from the College, he worked with the private banking division of the Bank of New York, rising during his career as a v.p. with JP Morgan Chase in New York. He returned to Williamsburg 4½ years ago. Wright was an avid reader and an animal advocate. He is survived by his parents, Margaret and George; sister, Capri Wright; brothers, Wayne and Andrew; and several nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions be made to the Heritage Humane Society or the Williamsburg Public Library.

Lisa Palladino

COLUMBUS COLLEGE TODAY

MAY/JUNE 2010

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Lions Club. Lipari is survived by his partner, Cheryl Carter; children, Robert, Joseph and Katherine, and their mother, Cynthia Lipari; sister, Louisa (Martin) Berger ’66 Barnard; sister-in-law, Bobbie Harlem; and a number of nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife of 61 years, Marjorie; and his sons, Paul and John; daughter, Nancy Hamilton; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1994

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 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 62 years, Myra; sons and daughters-in-law, Louis and his wife, Susan Miller, and Michael and his wife, Auneea; brother, Walter; sister-in-law, Shirley; and two great-grandchildren.

1950

Paul McCoy, businessman, Dunedin, Fla., on October 27, 2009. McCoy was born on January 28, 1929, in Vero Beach, 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 Golden Chief 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 carobxylate 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.

1958

William G. Covey, physician, Easton, Conn., on May 28, 2009. Covey was born in New York City and earned a degree in 1962 from 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 Multorin Covey; children, Anne, David and his wife, Robin, Aaron and his wife, Cinthia, Michael and his wife, Alec, and Laura; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The William Grayson Covey MD Memorial Fund, c/o The Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield.

1968

Michael S. Lipari, business executive, Oneonta, N.Y., on August 9, 2009. Lipari was born on October 30, 1946, in Baltimore. He was the president of Empire Abstract of Oneonta and was a member of the Oneonta Lions Club. Lipari is survived by his partner, Cheryl Carter; children, Robert, Joseph and Katherine, and their mother, Cynthia Lipari; sister, Louisa (Martin) Berger ’66 Barnard; sister-in-law, Bobbie Harlem; and a number of nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife of 61 years, Marjorie; and his sons, Paul and John; daughter, Nancy Hamilton; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1977

Bruce W. Flannery, director of development and marketing, activist, Exton, Pa., on August 14, 2009. Flannery grew up on Long Island and earned a degree in political philosophy from the College. His early career was as a copywriter, copy reader, and marketing and public relations consultant in New York and Philadelphia. His latter career was with organizations devoted to helping people in need. Most recently, Flannery was director of fund development and marketing for the Maternity Care Coalition. He was a founding member and president of the Pennsylvania Coalition of AIDS Service Organizations. Gov. Tom Ridge named him to the Internet Governance Council on Long-Term Care and Gov. Ed Rendell appointed him to the Department of Health Transition Team. He also was named to the state’s HIV Planning Council, which he served as co-chairman of for six years. Flannery was a technical adviser on the 1993 film Philadelphia. He created a consulting practice assisting nonprofits in fundraising, grant writing and creating public-awareness campaigns and was director of development for Calcutta House. Flannery was interested in historic preservation and served as chairman of the West Whiteland Historical Commission. He is survived by his partner, Otto Perrone.
Class Notes

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

George Leonard ’67, ’68 GSAS, ’72 Columbia College Today classmates all her life — and went remembered double dates with his married Adele Shapiro — Mom reported. She had been cherished regulars at our January 26 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 Shayne at 212-737-7245.

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 Montauk, N.Y., and Tenafly, N.J.; and Dr. Arthur “Wizzer” Welington 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 Albohn, widow of Arthur Albohn; Marlene Green, widow of Gerald Green; and Avra 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 36–35 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 golf, and women’s archery. 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, Joe 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. Wien Stadium/Kraft Field is an attractive and comfortable site for watching football games. Our gymnasia 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 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
Department of Radiation Oncology
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Donner 2 340 Spruce St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104
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Ensign Leininger’s recollection in the March/April Class Notes that former University President Nicholaus Murray Butler (Class of 1882) shook hands with all ‘43 graduates prompts this inquiry. Some background: The 2006 biography Nicholas Miraculous: The Amazing Career of the Redoubtable Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, by Michael Rothenthal, 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, very much the image of what a university president should be. I never remember seeing or talking to Butler during your college years? If so, send me a note (suitable for publication) describing the occasion and what interaction there might have been with him.

A portrait of my wife, Dr. Audrey Evans, was unveiled on November 30 and hangs in the main auditorium of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Hers is the only woman’s portrait in that august hall.

Dan Liebowitz writes on his return from Central America. He is a deserving member of the Explorer’s Club and a Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society. A New Yorker, Dan’s travels started as a child in Europe before returning to the States for his pre-college school years and then Columbia. He enlisted in the Army after Pearl Harbor and as part of the Army Specialized Training Program was sent to NYU School of Medicine as an army private, first class. Dan eventually served in Germany as chief of psychiatry at a station hospital there, and it would seem he has never stopped traveling since. He has been to sub-Saharan Africa six times, to the Congo twice and has lectured in three countries of the Near East. There was time between journeys abroad, however, practitioners from the staffs of the Redwood City and Stanford Hospitals in California, attaining professor emeritus status at the latter. The author of medical articles, he also has written several books including Cook to Your Heart’s Content: Low-Salt Diet with two co-authors. The Physician and the Slave Trade: John Kirk, the Livingston Expeditions, and the Crusade Against Slavery in East Africa, and The Last Expedition: Stanley’s Mad Journey through the Congo.

John Vicario writes from South Carolina. Originally Class of ‘44, he graduated in ‘43 because of the wartime speed-up. A stint in the Navy during the war years was followed by work with Western Electric (now Lucent) that he found rewarding and interesting. John and his wife now enjoy the great outdoors in their lakeside home on Lake Keowee. It is not far from Clemson, which affords cultural as well as collegiate sport and educational activities. John adds that he objects to some of Columbia’s positions, such as the banning of a military presence on campus.


Alvin S. Yudkoff, Water Mill, N.Y., died on May 27, 2009. He was a writer and filmmaker and the ‘43 CCT class correspondent from July 2003 to March 2006.

Connie Maniatty, Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame athlete in two sports, and a philanthropist and prominent member of the business world, died on January 8. Connie was our longtime Class Agent, and for several years, her 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 Obituaries (www.college.columbia.edu/cct/mar_apr10/obituaries0).
“These thoughts precede 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 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 Associate Editor Ethan Rouen at the postal address at the top of the column, at ecr21028@columbia.edu 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.

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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 curious to learn more about 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 magna 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, is 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 me with the foundation of a good and happy life. I do very much hope that you and your classmates will not feel 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 Levninger 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 bookies were no longer won, 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 had kidnapped the president 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 manufacturing manager of the Astronautics Division. During his career, he was involved with missile defense and programs for the Mach 2 Fighter F104G, the Patrol Bomber F2V ASW 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 rubbing 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: jmcsr@live.com.

Please note my new postal and e-mail addresses, at the top of the column.

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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 sold. As for my novel, (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:

“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 nighttime turning slowly; the quiet total, 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 this bird 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 ripple 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 hers 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 not moving, I made a sound. I don’t know quite what it was—a low sort of almost whistle, not a question—whooooo.

She stepped toward me. Not ten feet separated us. Her ears, ears that could hear a meadow vole’s 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.”

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She seemed to carry still the faint spotting of the fawn. Her coat was as if 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 alert, nonetheless, she came within my reach.

Cautiously, only millimeters at a time, I raised my right arm, let hand approach her wet black muzzle, left it cupped, extended, palm up where she could sniff it, sense the me in it.

Then she raised her head again to see my gaze and let me place my hand on her. The fur set fur of the side of her neck. I felt her flesh tremble under my touch, felt her warmth, sensed something passing between us from one to the other, both ways, and was frightened.

The rail flew up out of a ditch beside where the doe was standing. I saw the white patch in the wing before the bird dropped into a stand of phragmites and vanished.

When the rail shot up under our feet, the doe went into the air like a tennis ball bouncing. Airborne, she soared over the creek and would have been out of my sight in seconds, but at the edge of a cluster of black alders she stopped and turned, looked back at me. I could swear that in her glance there was something akin to longing, or was it just the faint stirring in me of a feeling I couldn’t define that made me imagine this?

Seconds later, I stood alone in the marsh, but life in the grasses, the cattails, the creek bed was waking. Soon insects, a marsh wren, redwings, song sparrows, a trio of green-winged teal rocketing by and of course crows without number, were filling the moment with their voices. Sunlight came over the tops of the tupelos to the east, swallowed the mists, and a breeze came bearing all the mingled odors of marsh much and shrubs blossoming and spring’s freshness. I’d been back there a dozen times. Twice that same doe came forth from the early dawn, as I waited, and stood close, but never again as close as that first time when I placed my hand on her.

How do I know it was she, not another? I can’t tell you. I only know that the way that she looked at me was the way that you look at someone who has touched you and made you vulnerable, lighted a place within you unknown until then, stirred an unanswerable need.

And the last time I went there I knew she was gone, knew I would never see her again. Swallows were there and blackbirds and jays but not the doe was gone forever. I cannot go back there now.

Ed McAvoy 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 Biosphere2 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 serious arguments between 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 Biosphere2 campus with friend and previous dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, Robert Weiss. They reviewed the situation with the then-president of Biosphere2. It was decided that the project would be helped by the backing and 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 50 miles of Phoenix. Mailing labels were quickly sent from the New York Alumni Office and local recruitment work begun.

Within a few weeks Ed, ably assisted by Pam Parry ’71 CSAS, ’73 LS, “signed up” more than 100 paying members from 20 CU schools.

College alumni included Adam Weisman ’85, Dr. Benjamin Senitzky ’43, John Piazza ’99, Sarah Palestrant ’03, Kimberly Hans ’89, Kun Sun Kim ’02, Dick Kelly ’63, Dr. Richard Kanter ’36, Dr. James Hays ’54, Sal 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 Melvin Kohn, now, 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 Biosphere2. As a result, improved acceptance 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.

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[Editor’s note: CCT thanks Durham Caldwell for his more than seven 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 filling the streets each morning with his 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 quite civilized,” Peter told me.

Peter is retired from National Geographic after being a writer there for 37 years, covering “all kinds of subjects.” Those 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, and 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 perusal 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. “There were some real 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 general, 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 while doing 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. Badly marked 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 to 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 Van Doren, sociologist Paul Lazarsfeld (“a pioneer in polling”) and Raymond Weaver, specialist in Melville novels.
did so well that he was allowed to take graduate courses while still working toward his B.A. And one more Columbia connection: Peter’s only son, Norbert ’87, is a member of the first class that included women.

Joe’s fondest recollections of Columbia stem from singing with the Columbia University Choir, a professional choir of 40 men and women who sang every day but Saturday at services in St. Paul’s Chapel. As a Junior, Joe was the first male singer to sing in the choir. The group specialized in Renaissance music and, according to Joe, was the best choir in New York City at the time. Among the performances he remembers is singing for Winston Churchill when the wartime British leader visited Columbia to receive an honorary degree. “I guess you might say we were the royal entertainers,” Joe says.

Chapel speakers in those days included Reinhold Niebuhr and Paul Tillich (“his daughter was in the choir”) from nearby Union Theological Seminary. “It was a great experience intellectually as well as musically and socially,” says Joe. “An unforgettable experience.”

He also remembers going to Columbia classes with Barzun, Lionel Trilling ’25, Raymond Weaver and George Nobbe, along with violin teacher Herbert Dittler and Paul Henry Lang, Otto Luening and Douglas Moore of the music department. (Are there any among us who don’t remember Moore’s “Guide to Musical Strategies: From Madrigal to Modern Music”?)

Joe is retired after a career as a classical music teacher, including serving as music director at the Putney School in Vermont and the Cambridge School in Weston, Mass. He also played the violin or viola in a number of groups including Sarah Caldwell’s Opera Company of Boston, the Boston Philharmonic, the Boston Ballet Orchestra, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and Berkshire Symphony Orchestra, and the Wantastiquet Chamber Orchestra assembled by Irene Serkin, wife of pianist Rudolf Serkin, who was one of many notable soloists who performed with his wife’s group.

Joe has done guardian ad litem work for Vermont’s Family and District Courts since 1998 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 in entering Columbia in 1944. Joe later spent several summers with the Barzun and Lowell families at Cotuit on Cape Cod, where he was a companion for the couple’s children and performed other duties.

Joe’s fondest recollections of Barzun are of Joseph Schaff of Bennington, Vt. He got to know Barzun after being a violin student of Barzun’s then-wife, Mariana Lowell, at Bennington College. It was she who got him interested in entering Columbia in 1944. Joe later spent several summers with the Barzun and Lowell families at Cotuit on Cape Cod, where he was a companion for the couple’s children and performed other duties.

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George Koplinka ’51, CC ’51 secretary and class correspondent, presented a Columbia College shirt and cap to incoming freshman baseball pitcher Zachary Tax ’14.

of Low Memorial Library. The remainder of the evening, we find you free to do as we please; you can arrange a dinner party with whomever 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 join. Topics will include the recently highly publicized question of medical care for veterans.

Evening: Class of 1950 dinner in Butler Hall in an upper-floor room overlooking South Field.

June 4 is not far off as you read this. If you have not yet registered for our Class of ’50 events, do so now: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

We have two recently published books to call to your attention. Roland Glenn has recounted his experiences as an officer with the Seventh Infantry Division in the Battle of Okinawa, the final campaign of WWII. In his book, The Hawk and the Dove: World War II at Okinawa and Korea, Roland tells about not only what it was like in the foxholes and rice paddies, but also his postwar struggles with what is known today as PTSD, or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Having read the book, I can tell you that it is an unsetting and brutally graphic look into every detail of an infantryman’s existence in that historic battle. “Crickete,” as Roland was known on Okinawa in order to prevent the enemy from divining his identity as an officer, tells it like it was.

Ted Reid, whose medical specialty is psychiatry, has brought his 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.ISBbookstore.com/3rd.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. Garofalo, 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
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Here’s an inspiring story about a young man from my hometown of White Plains, N.Y. Zachary Tax, an 88-mp pitch, 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. His Mets in Dearborn, Mich. He did some work for TWA 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.college.columbia.edu/ctt/giving or mail a check, made payable to Columbia College Today, to the address on the masthead.

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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, powerful, 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
Filippo Galluppi ’52 founded Efficient Energy Devices, a company that will focus on developing efficient methodologies or hardware.

usually just a rain storm. Of course, we do occasionally get a nor’ester, but that just turns the area into a winter wonderland. Most welcomed addition to our winter experience is a new device called a transistor, which I’m sure you're familiar with.

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 meeting place for health-care reform advocates, I became a vice-president and in December 1966. 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 Columbia College Alumni Association. In 1970, my firm merged with two other brokers and the atmosphere changed dramatically. 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 rural 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, Hartford 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 tornados 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’ester, but that just turns the area into a winter wonderland.

In October 2009, he was inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. His many U.S. major military aircraft such as the B-2, F4, F16, F18 and hundreds of others. In 1982, we had 300 people working for us and the company was sold to Ferrant.

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 Retter. 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 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 him and all those who knew him, he was a grand guy and teammate who will be remembered and greatly missed. Wes was interested in Westwood, 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 chairmain. I served in the latter position for 22 years.

Henry Donaghy
donaghy@comcast.net

During the course of a delightful telephone conversation, Henry Donaghy talked about his Psi Upsilon fraternity brother, Bob 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 on active duty (one year in Korea). He became an account executive and v.p. of the well-known, successful advertising agency Young and Rubicam. According to Hank, Bob married Peggy, a beautiful nurse in training at the Columbia School of Nursing. They have a son, daughter and one grandchild. Bob retired in 1988 and lives in New London, N.H.

As a former enlisted man in the Navy, I was intrigued to learn that when he was only 17 and still in high school, Hank enlisted in the Naval Reserve and eventually became a Quarter Master Second Class. Although he volunteered a number of times, he was never accepted for active duty. However, in 1960, after he had completed his obligation as an enlisted man, the Navy gave me my discharge. I never regretted my decision. Now I’m enjoying (and I mean it) what I call my retirement planning and fee-based commerce. During the course of a delightful handwritten letter from Gus Fulkin:

“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 grand, and I’m still working! I had a little surgery. Same house for 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 one of the many offices we own. My son is an executive. 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 to 3½ 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 can report that he still has the same wonderful sense of humor and southern way of communicating.

Keep running, Gus! You are an inspiration to the rest of us.

Howard Falberg

I hope that by the time this issue goes to press the weather will be better. I still find 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 Tansey when he e-mailed me, “Ann and I just talked about 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 ’99 Barnard, 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 it as a professor of surgery [Hank is professor of surgery and biomedical engineering at the University of Minnesota],” he wrote. “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 of Mrs. America and is currently the founder/publisher of Mrs. America, an annual publication of Mrs. America, at one time the largest nonprofit literary press in the country, but unretired two years later to found a for-profit press, the Gryphon Press, which publishes award-winning children’s books. We enjoy the 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.”
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 Rollie Toppin’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 Plottel, Anthony Viscusi and many other hardy ’50sers.

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 astronauts, 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 visits 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 — we have to get in a joke about Jack Stuppin change!) and need we say more Herve Gardner and Elliot Gross in the group?) and need we say more about the Glee Club and other vocal 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 Sternsfeld and his magic camera make it from Los Angeles? We heard from Marty Molloy — hopefully without his shaving cream on 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 should be raised to Messrs. Elliot Gross, Bob Pearlman, Lew Mendelson, Don Lauffer, Alfred Gollop, Bob Brown, Dick Kuhn, Don McDonough, Steve Rabin, Larry Balbus, Chuck Solomon and of course, Jim Benick, 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 Haggetti, John Nelson, Bob Mercier, Dick Benckedick 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 Rigatti from Sturbridge, Mass. John was born in Manhattan and was a lifetime practitioner of medicine. Condolences 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!

Alan N. Miller 257 Central Park West, Apt. 9D New York, NY 10024 eldocal@aol.com

Guys, 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 locales? When I was at 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 he 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 Stanford, 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.


Kenneth Silverman: Taught at NYU and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for The Life and Times of Cotton Mather.

Gilburn Smith: Wrote Off-Broadway plays.

Dan Wakefield: 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, we will have had our 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-mails from many classmates with suggestions and opinions: Alan Broadwin, Bob Lauterborn, Lou Hammerdinger, Dan Link, Ron Kapon, Phil Liebman, Alan Press, Maurice Klein, Grover Wald, Lee Seidler, Steve Easton, Mark Novick, Art Saltzsa, Ken Keller, Bob Siroty, Ed Botwinick, Al Franco ’56E, Jerry Fine, Ralph Kaslick, Peter Klein and Lenny Warm, and many more. We do need to put together a mini-reunion (http://reunion.columbia.edu) and if so, let me know.

Some guys, but only a tiny minority fortunately, claim I talk too much myself in this column. This stems from the failure of classmates to give me info to write about. So given more info than usual, only one personal comment: Kudos to Columbia, where I am taking these courses this term, a great literature course; a super jazz course to include art, music and literature; a great course on the life of Robert G. O’Meally, the Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Comparative Literature; and a Bible course with Professor Michael Stanislawski, the Nathan J. Miller Professor of Jewish History and chair of his advisory board. If anyone is interested in taking courses at Columbia, which I heartily recommend, do contact me.

Finally, a sad note about another classmate death, which is getting too frequent.

Stephen Schenkel 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, is wishing us all health, happiness, a little wealth and some longevity. We always hope for concerned children and grandchildren. Keep contributions coming in to the Columbia College Fund (www.columbia.edu/ giveonline) to continue funding our 10 annual scholarships, which we set up at our outstanding — an Armed Forces — 50th reunion.

Love to all.

Herman Levy 7322 Rockford Dr. Falls Church, VA 22043 hldleditor@aol.com

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 52½-year reunion, as a tune-up for No. 55 in New York. The day itself was typical for us, high of 70, low of 70, with 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 reflections. The consensus of the group is to meet as close as possible to a quarterly basis. Those at the lunch live in areas ranging from Pacific Palisades to Newport Beach, so part of our challenge, unlike that for most of our New York classmates, is to find locations to meet that are relatively convenient for all. Fortunately, we can all still drive. Kind of.

“If any of you reading this ever [plan a trip] to southern California, 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, Pisa, Bologna, Ravenna, Reading/London and Amsterdam. In addition to the well-known sights of Florence, a real gem is La Sinagoga (synagogue). Located somewhat off the beaten track in a nondescript neighborhood, it was designed in Moorish style after Haggia 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 are Christ with saints and angels, Emperor Justinian and his entourage, and Empress Theodora with her court.

In London, a real standout is the Cabinet War Rooms, the underground suite in Whitehall where Winston Churchill, other British officials and staff members lived and worked during the Blitz. Adding to the realism and quite stirring are recordings of some of Sir Winston’s wartime speeches. Particularly touching is a series of exhibits attesting to Lady Churchill’s heroic role in bolstering her husband’s spirits even as she retained her independent streak.

In Amsterdam, an infrequently visited find is the Begijnhof (pronounced beCHAYNHoef), an enclave of small typically Dutch gabled houses built around a lawn and two chapels. It forms an oasis of calm a few steps from a bustling and otherwise nondescript shopping street. Easily it suggests a movie set, especially with fresh snow on the street. It easily suggests a movie set, even as she retained her independent streak.

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Related? Who knows? Trajetenberg turned up in D.C. recently for a meeting at the World Bank and had lunch with Steve. He is now minister of education, and Steve is going to go over to do a bit of consulting for him.

Steve then traveled to London for four days to see some shows, eat, visit museums, shop and catch up with old friends.

Steve did not teach during this spring semester. He hoped to find time to finish a book, which is due in May 2008. He also owns several journal articles and works for Korn/Ferry International looking for the next generation of university leaders. Steve has been invited to give a commencement address at the USC School of Pharmacy. The dean heard him speak in D.C. at a meeting and thought he would be good.

“I have clearly flunked retirement. I am going to milk all the sweetness I can out of life before I sit down. And I do like working.”

Frank Wilson writes, “As some of you are at least dimly aware, last fall I decided to take advantage of Portland State University’s enlightened policy toward senior citizens under which any geezer so inclined could audit virtually any class offered, tuition-free. For various reasons — but mostly because of a long interest in America’s comprehensible persistent mis-understanding of Iran (beginning with the Dulles brothers under Eisenhower, right about the time we all met one another) — I decided to see if I could take advantage of PSU’s offer by enrolling in a Persian language class.

“With the second quarter midterm just over and all the writing, this class now stands at the halfway point of year one. It has been a humbling but profoundly refreshing experience. I’m still there, along with about 15 other students, all young enough to be my grandkids.

“One of the hopes I have used as a buttress against the impulse to bail was that I should eventually acquire enough facility in Persian (aka Farsi) to be able to travel to Iran. I guessed that with luck (if I could get off the Alzheimer’s just a little longer), my persistence would bring me to that point in a couple of years — right about the time the politics of Iran’s current military theocracy might have become less toxic.”

Steve learning that Frank was about to head for Portland’s air-port, and having read of an American student’s recent detention by Philadelphia’s airport security on account of having Farsi vocabulary flashcards in his backpack, a neighbor cautioned Frank in verse about taking his homework along on the trip:

“Ah, forgive my needless noisy urgin’
You to journey sans the book of Persian.
’TSA is fine with wine and bread;
But quick to shout ‘Renounce the 70th virgin!’”

Gibbs Williams writes, “A book I have been researching for 50 years is finally being published in the next couple of weeks. It has truly been a labor of love. At 19, during my sophomore year at Columbia, I (and I have come to realize, many of my compatriots) was thoroughly confused with respect to everything imaginable.

“I began a journal that I diligently contributed to for 37 years. (I stopped at that point, as I ran out of ink). During a period of some 12 years or so in my mid-20s–mid-30s, I had what I considered to be 19 major meaningful synchronicities (named synchronicities by Jung).

“This led me into an immersion into the esoteric occult, which further led me to attend The First Universal Spiritualist Church of New York, where I met some truly fascinating people. Among them was a psychiatrist who went into trance and purportedly channeled poetry and messages from Freud and Jung, which I dutifully recorded in my journal. This preceded the Seth movement — whoever or whatever he is.

“I found meaningful coincidences happening as events in and of themselves but much more interesting because they seemed to defy scientific investigation, thus challenging Freud’s laws of psychic determinism. I was particularly challenged when Jung appeared in no uncertain terms that these seemingly uncoupled but exceedingly meaningful occurrences were incapable of rational explanation.

“Although I don’t think I was ever up to the professional philosophical capabilities of Bob Nozick (whom I sat next to in philosophy class, and marveled as to how he could think the way he did), nevertheless something was internalized enough for me to realize that Jung — who has had the undisputed mantle of authority in the synchronicity scene for the past 54 years (can you imagine?) — was raising more unanswered questions than providing absolute answers.

“So I started to systematically generate and then explore one question after another, such as, ‘What is the meaning of meaning?’ until I put together an original naturalistic theory of meaningful coincidences, which is the subject matter of my book.

“Through the years, I have observed that the awareness and fascination with meaningful coincidences has started to explode. Five years ago, when I Googled ‘synchronicities,’ there were something like 700 references. Today there are something like 120,000.

“In this light, I think there are probably few of my college buddies who would probably be interested in the above.” (You can check out Gibbs’ Web site at www.gibbsonline.com.)

Stan Feld set up a Class of ’59 Web site (http://columbia59.nning.com). He asks us all to visit and contribute to it.

“I am saddened to report the death of M. Marvin Finkelstein on March 7, 2010.

“Take care. Please send me pictures to incorporate into the reunion picture, e-mail addresses so that I can communicate with you and, most of all, contributions for our Class Notes.”

Robert A. Machleder 69-37 Fleet St. Forest Hills, N.Y. 11375 rmachleder@aol.com

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 2,399th 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 the entertainment industry rang-ing from Bud Abbott (with three stars, one each for radio, motion pictures and television) to Adolph Zukor (motion pictures), to one U.S. President (Ronald Reagan), two California governors (Reagan and Arnold Schwarzenegger), several cartoon characters (Bugs Bunny being the first so honored), at least two写了 (Lassie and Rin Tin Tin) and Gene Autry (the only person honored with a star for each of the five possible categories: television, motion pictures, live theater, recording and radio). Doug’s star now shines in sparkling company.

Neil Markee advises that he is “mostly retired” and splits his time between lower Manhattan, N.Y., and Palm City, Fla. While in Florida, Neil and his wife, Susan, visit with their daughter, Jennifer, and grandson, Jack, in nearby Wellington.

Laurans Mendelson and his sons, Eric ‘87, ‘89 Business and Vic-tor ‘88, are in an article that appeared in January in The Mi-amid Herald. Twenty years ago, the Mendelsons took control of Heico Corp. in a proxy fight. Larry, as chairman and chief executive, and Eric and Victor as co-presidents, have built Heico into a dynamo in the manufacture of aviation replacement parts and electronics components used in defense, space, medicine and homeland se-curity, while producing exceptional benefits for the company. The article points out that since the Mendelsons took control of Heico, profits have risen at a compound annual rate of 18 percent; the market value of the company has grown from approximately $25 million to about $61 million; and a $100,000 investment in the company’s stock in 1990 is worth about $3 million today. Meticulous attention to detail is one of the keys to the company’s success; as an example, the article cited Larry’s comment on the development of one of the items manufactured by Heico, a compressor blade, a small sliver of metal: “It took three to four years to develop this compressor blade. If a blade activates at the wrong time, it may cause a destructive effect.” Maintaining a low debt level has also been a factor in the company’s success during the recession.

The article highlights the Mendelsons’ ties to Columbia, Larry having served on the Board of Trustees and the trio hav-ing contributed significantly to scholarships, professorships and programs.

A kind, decent, thoughtful man. Those were the first descriptive words that came to mind when informed that Mike Hein had died at his home in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., on February 7. The cause was cancer, a disease Mike had encountered and survived.

My history with Mike goes back to high school and junior H.S. in the Bronx, where we had been classmates. I immediately reflected on my last talks with Mike. He had been concerned for the comfort and well-being of a longtime friend now living in a small town in the southwest, homebound by the pro-gressive deterioration of his health.
Steve Simring ’61, a supernumerary for the Metropolitan Opera, had a show and tell on opera during a class luncheon in New York City in September. Joining the party were (left to right) Phil Smith ’61, Fred Teger ’61, Tom Gochberg ’61, Richard Neel ’61, Oscar Garfein ’61, Stan Futterman ’61, Simring, Mich Araten ’61, Philippe de la Chapelle ’61, Ira Hayes ’61, and Anthony Adler ’61. Not pictured are Bill Binderman ’61, Marty Kaplan ’61 and Stan Weiss ’61.

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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, 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 take in some of 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 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 condolences to Ann and Rebecca. It is hard indeed to grasp the reality that we are on the threshold of the half-century anniversary of our graduation. The Reunion Committee has made every effort to ensure that the celebration will be memorable. We have been importuned to attend Alumni Reunion Weekend, which for us begins Wednesday, June 2, with the opening reception on campus at the President’s House and concludes Sunday, June 6, with brunch and farewell in the Low Faculty Room. And we have been “mugged”: this, a gesture to express the committee’s earnest desire that each and every one of us participate in the events of the weekend, or in so many as we are able to attend. Some other absolutely delightful surprises await us, including a class picnic, a tour of the Intrepid Museum, a class discussion, several dinners and cocktail gatherings and the chance to take in some of the best cultural happenings the city has to offer.

If you haven’t registered, do so now: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Mention of the mug requires special recognition to David Kirk, who handled every aspect of its production and distribution with the diligence and attention that earned him the rank of Captain (ret.) in the Navy. So singular were his efforts that the committee’s co-chair, Richard Friedlander, was inspired to cite David with the following e-report, Richard having developed his proficiency in preparing evaluation reports during his distinguished tour of duty as clerk-typist in the U.S. Coast Guard. (For those not familiar with military nomenclature, “Com Mbr” below signifies “committee member”)

“CITATION
“as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has successfully navigated turbulent merchandising waters and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has brought his cargo safely to Port Mailing Fulfillment; and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has cleverly folded the ‘60C letter without sustaining water damage; and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has suffered no casualties during this assignment; and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has damaged no ‘60C property, Now Therefore by the power vested in me by classmates, this Reunion ‘E’ is awarded to said Com Mbr Kirk; D. on this 24th day of February 2010 by

“Co Chr Reu Comm Friedlander”

And this occasion shall not pass without a tip of the cap and three rousing hurrahs for the extraordinary time and effort devoted by Bob and Sue who pulled the每个人 together, kept the committee together and involved, tended to every last detail and brought the program together whilst his co-chair professed to have spent the winter lost in the ceaseless snow falls of Forest Hills engaged in hand-to-hand combat with snow shovel and ice-chopper. Here’s hoping for a magnificent turnout. Look forward to seeing you in June.

Michael Hausing 19418 Encino Summit San Antonio, TX 78259 mhausing@yahoo.com

Reminder: Our 50th reunion will take place the weekend of Wednesday, June 2– Sunday, June 5, 2011. A committee is planning 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.

Stuart Newman is an avid New York Jets fan and season ticketholder for more than 30 years. He flew to San Diego in January with his son, Mike, and daughter-in-law, Shinko, for the Jets playoff game against the Chargers. The Jets pulled off a come-from-behind victory. The San Diego trip was a blast. San Diego fans were unbelievably gracious. Stuart’s granddaughter, Jackie (8), attended the Jets games this past season, with face paint of course, together with Stuart and her dad, Steve ’67E, making it three generations of Jets fans.

Last August, a nonprofit that Dave Blicker has been associated with since returning from the Peace Corps got itself in financial trouble. As the board chair, Dave was asked to investigate the issues and identify the problems that needed to be addressed, and by October he found himself accepting the executive director position. Since then, Dave has been working full-time to stabilize the agency’s finances and reinvigorate the programs. Opening Doors, the non-profit, resettles refugees in the Sacramento region and provides them and low- and middle-income underserved residents with important and basic development training. ODI focuses on entrepreneurship, an engagement that Dave also had while in the Peace Corps.

ODI has a loan fund, with about $360,000 currently out on loan. It also has a great staff, with members from nine countries and who are multi-lingual, allowing them to do their micro-enterprise trainings in the recipients’ language and in a culturally appropriate manner.

So, according to Dave, it’s a good job and a good opportunity. My wife, JB, and I had a busy month of February, spending it at Copper Mountain (Colo.) skiing with a three-day break to Las Vegas for our son Jeff’s wedding and an opportunity to catch up with Sue and Jack Kirik and Gerry Brodeur. Gerry lives there, and Jack spends the winter there playing golf. The last week in February, Denise and Alex Liebowitz came out to ski with us, and Lisa and Bob Rennick drove up from Steamboat Springs to celebrate our collective 70th birthdays (21 Celsius) about two weeks apart (Bob and Mike).

John Harvey writes that he is having a great life. He and his wife, Joan, recently returned from Paris, and last October, they spent his 70th birthday in southern Italy. This sure beats working for a living, especially having retired from the newspaper business. Joan works for The Oregonian, but a 12 percent reduction in the newsroom staff is expected shortly so her situation is fluid.
John informed me that Bob Trestad 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 until 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, chalkling up a 4.0 GPA for his three years. He was also a wickeed shot from the foul circle, which made him a valuable sixth man on the basketball team. He attended hometown Willamette University for his freshman year, where he again rang up a 4.0. His academic hometown Willamette University to the basketball team. He attended made him a valuable sixth man on shot from the foul circle, which chalking up a 4.0 GPA for his three weeks prior to this writing hospice care. He had been hospitalized to speak and then continued to temporal dementia, a disease that died on February 15 at John informed me that ex-teenagers. He lives with his wife in Suffield, Connecticut.

Meanwhile, his high school sweetheart, Barbara Henken, moved to New York to attend classes at Columbia. They returned to Salem and married in summer 1961 and then struck out for Cambridge, Mass., where Bob had been admitted to Harvard Medical School, following in his father’s profession. John graduated the next year magna cum laude, and his medical degree came with a thesis in genetics, co-author of U.S. patent 7,624,068.

Co-founder of an American company and a visionary in the use of computers in education and medicine, Bob played a key role in developing the Child Health Institute of New Jersey, serving as acting director for the seven years prior to its opening in 2005. Bob also found time to be chair of the Health Professions Advising Committee at Print and president of the prestigious Edward J. Ill Outstanding Medical Educator Award for 2007, the chairman of the award cited Bob “as a true example of an outstanding medical educator. His commitment to students and teaching has been a profound and lasting influence in making him an extraordinary teacher of physicians.”

Barbara has kept equally busy, and currently is on the Princeton Borough Council. They have four sons, Derek, Graham, Brian and Jeremy, and numerous grandchildren. Bob also is survived by his brothers, John, and Donald ’69, who has had a distinguished career as a cardiologist in Portland.

Robert Randall and David Blicker informed me that Leslie and Max Cohen’s son, Adam, a Ph.D. in the field of English literature, died in January at 38. Adam was a Shakespeare scholar, an author and a favorite teacher of many of his students at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, where he joined the faculty in 2005. On behalf of the class, I offer our deepest sympathies to Max, Leslie and Adam’s wife and daughters on their heartbreaking loss.

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Tony Wolf practices child and adolescent psychology in Longmeadow, Mass. He is the author of six parenting books, including the widely acclaimed Get Out of My Life, but First Could You Drive Me & Cheryl to the Mall? A Parent’s Guide to the New Teenager. Tony also is on the advisory boards of Parenting Online and The Century Club, a nonprofit organization working to combat underage drinking. Tony speaks widely about teenagers and parents. His newest venture is a regular column for the Toronto Globe and Mail. He has authored columns in several other publications and has published articles about adolescents and parenting in Child magazine, Parents and Family Circle as well as others. Tony earned his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at CUNY shortly after graduating from Columbia. He lives with his wife in Suffield, Conn. They are the parents of two ex-teenagers.

Allen Young has been in touch with David Tucker, who is really enjoying retirement and has two sons in college. As you can see, we need news from you. Please write!

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You’re probably enjoying a lovely spring day, but it’s been one heck of a winter here on the East Coast and I’m Keeping my fingers crossed that we’ve made it through the worst. Indeed, Joe Applebaum 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 Gorin from southern Delaware that he had two feet of 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, we 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 graving bars, lining up for raw oysters, crowding around about 20 or so stands with holes cut out in their centers for shells to be tosed in, volunteer firemen turned waiters shouting, ‘Hot stuff ... hot stuff,’ carrying tubs of steamed oysters to be ingloriously poured onto the stands and generously 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 too. Hopefully we’ll be able 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 94 out of 94 the way public school students to visit Columbia in two groups in March. 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 our trip this spring 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-based classmates, I would be pleased to hear from them.”

Sounds like a great trip. You can reach Steve 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 clients win our cases, we will have seen articles and published legal notices about the settlements. A FAQ about those suits and settlements can be found at www.twwriterscounsel.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 attorneys, historians or people who like bar bets.”

OK, Frank, I take that as a challenge for the class. I want to hear from the first of you who is working on something right now 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 pre-basketball game buffet dinners 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.”

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CLAS NOTES
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 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 narrative,”

Alexis Levitin 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. Consecration of the Alphabet, published by Scortecchi Editora, Sao Paulo, Brazil, is a collection of 22 rhymed sonnets by Brazilian poet Leonor Scliar-Cabral. Each poem is dedicated to one letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The original Portuguese poems are accompanied by my English translations, 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 Ecuadoran writer Fernando Iturburu. Brazil: A Traveler’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 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 a fellow of the American Physiological 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 he is being confused “with a person with the same name who was a leader of the Kurdish guerilla movement; as a result, for years I was routinely stopped and interrogated at the Tehran airport.”

Farhad, I hope that this issue has resolved.

Paul Lehre writes, “All of my friends are talking about retirement plans, but I think I have just learned how to do my profession way after being there for about 30 years. I am a clinical psychologist and professor of psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ). I am a past president of the Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback. I 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 academic careers of their own. I also enjoy my clinical practice through UMDNJ.”

“My wife, Phyllis, is an accomplished piano teacher and pedagogue, and is a professor of piano at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. My daughter, Suzanne, lives in nearby Princeton, and has two lovely children (3 and 18 months). She also is a pianist and teacher. She is married to a lovely fellow, Jonathan LeBouef, who is an associate registrar at Princeton. My son, Jeffrey, is a diplomat 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 Philippines with a friend whom I met in Cebu last year. He’s an ex-Navy SEAL, and we met on Macan Island at Chief Lapu-Lapu’s shrine. ‘Macan 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 chieftain during the general 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 hair stand up with the ex-SEAL, seem like a smart move. The last time (in Subic Bay, WWII fame), I had to abort the morning dive because I ate too much oatmeal for breakfast and, coupled with my hiatal hernia, found myself 15 feet down and unable to catch a breath. Picture a diver roaring up towards the surface with such speed that he rises out of the water up to his waist. I was mildly panicked. After much eruption, there was room for my lungs to expand and down I went on the afternoon dive, this time successfully. I hadn’t gone off the density of any 20 years. I didn’t realize what time and a bad stomach 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 in downtown New York (233 Broadway). “I have been offered, albeit at an unaffordable five times my current rate, replacement space in the Nash building, where the Manhattan Project got its start. Given the interdisciplined nature of our quest, this is a most appropriate location to gather the best vehicle design and construction minds. They could help to heal the potentially fatal environmental and economic (and ethical) wounds one letter one at a time. Sustainable 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 portion 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 advocate a fait accompli. Light Wheels Park devoted to the evolution of these vital devices (www.LightWheels.com). We 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 develop a creative design program to engage students and others in prototyping, testing and putting together the crucial elements of the next generation of urban transportation.”

“When I provided the space for my book, ‘The Great Role, Why It Must Be Protected’ to 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 nation’s crown’ face a host of serious threats.”

Jack Leitner has retired as an internist after 23 years in Fram ing ham, Mass. A local newspaper, The Daily News, published a long
piece about his career, from which I quote. “After graduating from the College, and then from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, he and his wife, Margaret, spent a year on a kibbutz in Israel while he was a resident in a hospital in Tiberias; I have to have lunch with the shepherds.” After returning to America, he became chief resident at a Veterans Administration hospital in Boston where he first became involved in the treatment of lung cancer, a disease common among hospital patients. He also learned the importance of house calls. “I had a patient in Milford. When he was dying, I went out to see him a couple of times. I’d never been to Milford in my life, but when a patient is dying, his physician shouldn’t abandon him.” After 10 years as an oncologist in Framingham, “It got to be too much,” and he became an internist in 1985. In his examining room was a map of Israel, and when giving men a prescript to say, “Turn around and face Israel.”

Jack estimates he treated 5,000 patients in his career. It was a privilege: “For most of the time, I didn’t consider it a job,” he said. Jack beam庖s the fact that most internists do not go with their patients to the hospital. “One of my pet peeves is internists are giving up their care to hospitalists … I mourn the fact that we have hospitalists.” He is disappointed in President Obama’s efforts to reform health care and in his leadership, and told him so in a recent letter.

Jack has three children and two grandchildren. He wrote to me that in March he was going to Israel to visit Israeli victims of suicide bombs and the Lebanese war. Jack can be reached at 774-279-6139.

Mike Cook ’65 is being honored in May by the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group of the UJA — Federation of New York’s Lawyers Division.

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 year, for example, I waded into citizenship in a ceremony conducted in my courtroom the Israeli-born wife of Michael Brous ’98. 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 time, at the Los Angeles Convention Center, the Los Angeles Sports Arena and other venues. The large ceremonies are very colorful. The new citizens happily wave small American flags they are given, and I invite them to identify the countries where they were born or raised before coming here. Usually, there are more than 80 countries! As the son of an immigrant, these ceremonies resonate deeply with me.

Bob Caserio, whose note appeared in the November/December ’09 issue: Were you surprised by the breadth and depth of Bob’s publications and other projects? I wasn’t; he was never good at saying ‘no’ to an important professional engagement. How impressive that Bob’s dedication to the world of literature and writing remains so deep.

“So many Columbia students now come from Southern California that [Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development] Derek Witner and his wife, Kathryn, come here annually to host a luncheon for newly admitted students and their families. My wife, Jane, and I often attend those events. This year, we had the pleasure of sitting with the new dean, Michele Moody-Adams. She is remarkably thoughtful, eloquent and gracious. The College made a wise choice in selecting her.

“I hope that the organizers of the upcoming reunion somehow will have the time and the ability to put together information that goes beyond the usual self-written brief profiles. Wouldn’t it be refreshing to learn something about ourselves as a group — such as how many of us became teachers? Writers? How many ever served in the military? How many returned to where they grew up after leaving Columbia? How many sent children to Columbia? (Jane and I sent two of our three sons, Jeremy ’93 and Jonathan ’02.) There are undoubtedly many ways to begin to paint a composite picture of our class; these are just a few examples. I hope they lead to something.

“See you in June!”

Mike Cook will be the honoree of the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group of the UJA — Federation of New York’s Lawyers Division at its 2010 luncheon on May 3 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. Mike will receive the Professor Lawrence P. King Award for Excellence in the Field of Bankruptcy.

Sad news: Donald E. Welsh died suddenly on February 6 in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. He was 66. A native of Boston, N.Y. Don launched numerous magazines during the last 28 years. He attended the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and was admitted to the Ohio bar. He worked initially for the Cleveland Trust Co. and then in the magazine business, starting at Fortune in the advertising department. From there, he moved to Rolling Stone, rising to the position of associate publisher. He went on to be the founding publisher of Outside, founded by Rolling Stone publisher Jann Wenner. Don also was a publisher of US (now US Weekly). Don then started Welsh Publications with Muppet Magazine. Numerous “kid power” titles, including Barf the Boogier Bird, crash the scene. He was an active player in the world of magazine colleagues. In fact, the Outward Bound board of directors stated in its sponsored obituary, “Don believed intensely in the life-changing experience of
We recently received the sad news of the passing of Harold Hotelling Jr., of Rochester Hills, Mich., at the end of December 2009.

**Albert Zonana**
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Leigh Dolin wrote from Portland, Ore.: “Forty-three years ago, I was the only pre-med/Russian major in our class. I really loved my Russian studies, and it was hard to break them off when I entered medical school and my medical career. Being a primary care doctor (internal medicine) became increasingly frustrating, and when I retired two years ago, I decided to live out my fantasy of returning to college. So here I am, again immersed in Russian studies at Portland State University and loving it. I usually (but not always!) the oldest guy in my class, but I have no problem keeping up with the youngsters, and I love being back in college.

And I don’t miss practicing medicine at all. I did it for 36 years, but now I’m a student again and plan to stay in college indefinitely this time around.”

Many of you may be engaged in similar adventures. Your classmates would love to read about them. Do write.

**Arthur Spector**
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Greetings from sunny, almost-spring New York.

So just a moment on Columbia sports news: The basketball season was less than I expected, but the team did beat Penn twice this year, the first time since — you guessed it — our senior year. Must be a sign. And recently, Kyle Merber ’12 broke the Ivy League record in the mile, 3 minutes, 58 seconds — just incredible. [Editor’s note: See “Roar Lion Roar” in “Around the Quads.”] And for the swimmers, at the recent Ivy League championships, Columbia finished third behind Princeton and Harvard with a fabulous third day of the event.

**John Roy** reported he ran into Pete Benitez, a State Superior Court judge for 15 years, but then didn’t report anything else. I assumed the line was amiable.

Hollis Petersen and his wife, Ann, spend their winters in Islamorada, in the Florida Keys, to get out of the frigid north, and their summers in Weekapaug, R.I., where Hollis is involved in local land trust activities. He claims to be busier in “retirement” than when he was on
Like he took Tom Sanford’s advice from our reunion luncheon.

I recently spent a few days in Washington, D.C., with a number of state treasurers who are clearly focused on the impact of their short-fall in revenues on their respective state budgets and programs. Fascinating to hear their views. I guess the cherry blossoms will be out by the time you read this.

I continue to be busy at work and was looking forward to the opera this weekend as I write this. Hope you are all well and enjoying the spring weather. A number of your promised updates, so soon your promissory notes are coming due. Looking forward to hearing from you.

I spoke to Seth Weinstein, who was biking down the West Side to the Battery with friends like he took Tom Sanford’s advice from our reunion luncheon.

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Talk about running into news. I attended a reception for users of Bloomberg Law, a new legal research tool that I have been testing, and Bill Rockelle spotted me and came by to say hello. Bill now works for Bloomberg News, and naturally I asked him to provide some details about Bill’s career. After 35 years as a bankruptcy lawyer to become a columnist 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. “I 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 writers I came to know over the years.”

Bill added: “I had two houses, two kids, two cars, 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 refer to my column every day for Bloomberg News describing the prior day’s events in 20 or so bankruptcy reorganizations. If you want to know what’s happening in the bankruptcy and turnaround community, my column is the privilege to work to Bloomberg, the financial news and information service owned by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, which is the leader in supplying information for 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 calls the “ills 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 led me to check in with Robert Friedman, also now with Bloomberg, to ask about his current job and how it is different from his prior jobs. From Robert: “I am now an editor-at-large at 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 edited a number of stories I’ve run on the Bloomberg terminal, in Bloomberg Markets magazine and now also in Bloomberg Business Week. What’s different? Working for a media company that is actually expanding and truly global.”

Another news lead came in the mail, by the way of the March 2010 issue of Vanity Fair, featuring Bill Stadum’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 Head, which Bill’s article says was a “triple entendre.” (The first two are obvious; as to the third, it is obvious that Peters is first and foremost a hairdresser who “refoiced the editors” they pitched.) Bill’s article, in turn, is called “Studio Head: The Greatest Story Never Sold!”

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 appear as if it had gone to anew.” (Page through Vanity Fair to discovering a new line of clothing called “Gap 1969”; how nice to have items ready-made for our class.)

And, lastly, I also got news because of a factual error. Rick Winston wrote: “Last month, CCT printed a letter of mine responding to an article on [Attorney General] Eric Holder [’73, ’76L]. For some bizarre reason, though, I was listed as living in Chevy Chase, Md. (where I’ve never been) instead of Adaman, Vt. (where I’ve been for almost 40 years). I’d like to assure my ’69 classmates that I haven’t gone anywhere.”

I agreed to run this correction, as long as it came with some news. Rick writes, “Happy to oblige: In other news, in December my wife, Andrea Serota, and I sold our one-bedroom art house in The Savoy Theater. Times have been increasingly tough in the art firm world (and especially with only one screen). Just being a local institution does not pay the bills. We count ourselves fortunate that in these times, we were able to find an enthusiastic buyer who wants to carry on the tradition. We will be taking more time to enjoy the glorious Vermont outdoors and will be spending more time with our first grandchild.”

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 May 10 will be eligible for publication in the July/August CCT.
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 “Watneys 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 van-guard artist or musician. On this day, he’s wearing a black t-shirt and beat-up black Levis, his hair and unkempt. 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.

“I was very lucky,” he says. “I was 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

In terms of putting him into a category, he was a sensitive guitar strummer but with a poetical attitude liberally — unusually — 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. We really 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 classmates 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., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025, and make that note your contribution 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 defining rehab as a vehicle for celebrity spin. ‘Get the ‘rehab’ career bump before you actually being an addict,’ Gawker wrote.

“After being picked up by a number of blogs, ... rehab 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 e-newsletter that I was then writing (and may revive). So I contacted Ron, who confirmed that he had coined the word, and here is his definition:

“’Prehab’ appears in one of the fictional stories in my book, The Velvetta Underground, which was published during the weekend 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 Zorro, her long-haired dachshund, Dr. Lisa Covardale breeze 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-slung jeans and black and white checked Vans sneakers, her look resonated with that of the early 80s...”

“Prehab” originated with Ron’s band, Jersey Shores (including the Siberian snow tiger) and the Emo scene in New York. It was a tongue-in-cheek way of presenting a group of people and their stories. It was then picked up by the mainstream media and became a popular term.

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 Igassu Falls, Brazil. During most months, you might see Mike in his blue kayak on the Hudson River.

Geoff Zooker 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. The two children later, we empty-nesters and happy to visit the boys in Brooklyn and Boston.”


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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 ‘prehab’: ‘Prehab’ made its debut on February 25, the handiwork of Glasgow Rose, a commenter on Gawker, a subsidiary of The Daily Beast. The news came on February 18, a day after the company announced that the 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, Testosterone, was released 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 Punxsutawney 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 Levin 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 came out with a 73-72 victory, seemingly no-look 17-foot jumper by 6-foot-7 forward Brian Grimes ‘11, who, ironically, hails from Philadelphia. The home crowd went wild.

“Among those enjoying the game and rejoicing in Columbia’s triumph were Hillary and Dick Fuhrman, Bob Gailus (who still could improve the BB team), Chris Moriarty and his son, James (who’s smarter and better-looking than his father) 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 ham-burgers, etc. (up on the under-ground) 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 to get to the gym, everyone has to pass by and admire Greg Wyatt’s Scholar’s Lion sculpture, which...”
CC ’71 helped make happen, and which was crowned and crested by freshly fallen snow.

“We are beginning to ramp up and rev up for our 40th (believe it or not) reunion, taking place in June 2011, more than a year away, yet not all not far off.”

“We will bring together ’71 classmates sometime this spring, as our class’ reunion planning and preparation get serious, and we build momentum. Please watch for notices about this next event. For now, any classmates with any interest in joining our reunion committee or coming to our 40th reunion, please contact Jim Shaw (jes200@columbia.edu), Dick Fuhrman (rafuhrman@gmail.com) or me (rhsia@wrightrisk.com). We look forward to your ideas, help and participation.”

Had a great time at the last reunion and it was wonderful to see so many classmates. Make your plans now to attend in 2011.

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For this issue, we have both professional and personal items of note.

Ron Weigel, 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 time dancing, foot-stomping and dancing Argentine tango.

H. “Hap” Arm Veessen's new book, Edward Said: The Charisma 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, Veessen uses never-before-published interviews, debate transcripts and photographs to discover who Said was said to have had few inhibitions and loaned conventional routine. He stood for originality, loved unique ideas, the weather. Her ‘music interests’ have shifted from classical to death metal.”

Finally, we received the sad news that Glenn R. Switkes, who was an environmentalist, died on Santa Paula, Brazil, on December 21. [Editor’s note: An obituary will be published in a future issue.]

**Barry Kelnier '73 was named team lead for Wells Fargo Elder Services in Minnesota.**

Nick Lubar is in Ashiya, Japan, on temporary assignment. Ashiya, he says, is the “Beverly Hills of Japan… where my Honda Accord stands out from the BWMs and Mercedeses. 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.

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The American lexicon seems to morph at an increasing speed. A phrase that seems awkward when first introduced 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 fitness pool at my 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 “shucking up.” Or, as the New York Post put it, allowing couples to “live in sin on their parents’ dime.” Now that 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 Abdul-Salaam with Phil Schaap ’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. However, Sharif was there as a fellow WKCR host. By day, Sharif is a superintendent at the NYC Transit Authority. His wife, Sheila Abdul-Salaam ’74 (Barnard, 77L, 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 cocktail party for eighth-grade parents where the school announced the plans for its new high school. Imagine my surprise when Larry Marner appeared before me. Ends up that Larry’s firm, Marner Architecture, was selected unanimously to design the 60,000-square-foot 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 moors 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 wanted to be a journalist, so I became a naval officer. After eight years of the sailor’s life, during which Sue Horton and 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 private, high- and lower-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’m a one-woman man, but not a one-job man.”

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.

Gary Brill attended the UCLA School of Law, where he was chief articles editor of UCLA Law Review. He clerked in the United States Court of Appeals and practiced complex civil litigation at Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue and then at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. Eight years ago, Dov synergized his two careers and now is a pulpit rabbi at synagogues in New Jersey and Los Angeles along with a two-year stint during which he co-founded and lived with his family in Naveh Aliza, a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank, which he characteristically calls “liberated Samaria.” Dov attended the UCLA School of Law, where he was chief articles editor of UCLA Law Review. He clerked in the United States Court of Appeals and practiced complex civil litigation at Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue and then at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. Eight years ago, Dov synergized his two careers and now is a pulpit rabbi at synagogues in New Jersey and Los Angeles along with a two-year stint during which he co-founded and lived with his family in Naveh Aliza, a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank, which he characteristically calls “liberated Samaria.”

A visit of two Columbia “double alums,” Vic Fortunato ’77L invited U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, ’76L, to the Legal Services Corp.’s celebration of Black History Month. Holder is quoted as saying that “the LSC has proven to be one of the nation’s most effective agents for meaningful change.” As mentioned in another column, Vic is president of the Legal Services Corp.

That old television classic My Three Sons has nothing on Christopher Pea. Chris recently wrote in to give us an update on his four sons: Jesse (29), a photographer; Jordan (28), a marathon running “free spirit”; Zachary (27), who has left Citigroup to do premed; 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 and 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 had the fun that 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.”

It seems 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 class-mates throwing their vigtettes. All of this makes up the mosaic that we call the Class of ’74 of Columbia College.

Gary Brill ’75 co-founded the Humanist Chaplaincy at Rutgers at the beginning of this academic year.

Reunion June 3-6 
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MAY/JUNE 2010

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 Klasel ’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://rutgershumanist.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, Tamra, are still in the same jobs at Rutgers; 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 funding for Turkish projects and 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 established.

While you may have known him as Dov Fisch in our college days, he now identifies as Rabbi Dov Fischer. Dov has pursued careers both in the Orthodox Jewish rabbinate and in secular law. After 10 years of this makes up the mosaic that we call the Class of ’74 of Columbia College.

Yes, it is time for another reunion. Plan to meet your classmates, their families and Columbia alumni from other years and schools.
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 or not — we're in for a treat!) and heard some already (Dead Head nars, parties and dinners. You've flown F-18s for the Marines, when every airplane I flew during my Navy career is now retired, as is every aircraft carrier on which I've landed.” Ouch. (Mike served for 18 years, incidentally, and has filled T-4s to mach 2.4.) Anyway, after spending most of 30 years in Virginia Beach, Va., Mike has moved into his new home in Yorktown, Va. Next door to Charleston, S.C., where he is a principal in GPALled, a new global maintenance and reliability engineering and consulting company. His youngest daughter is also in Charleston, where she is a freshman at the College of Charleston, that incredible liberal arts program. Downtown Charleston is a great place to learn how to be a chef. My middle daughter is off on a successful career as a professional dog handler with a few top dogs nationally. 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 thoroughly enjoy living on Daniel Island and might have considered moving here sooner if I’d known the ratio of women to men was 101. I still have my condo in Miami and ‘gets’ away at want it or not! Couldn’t sell it in the current market if I wanted to, so just enjoying an occasional getaway … Maybe in 10 years.”

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 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.”

And to Daniel Blunt: Jo Trachtman has published four books in the last two years? The Economic Structure of International Law; Developing Countries in the WTO Legal System (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 this fall, college that I'm hoping to bring 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 504 W. 110th St., where I spent my undergraduate years.”

Mark says that he “recently reconnected with Robert Martinez and would love to hear from others.”

Chad Reed at the University of Virginia writes, first, that it is getting close to 20 years 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 Dellhoff Cup,” in which he notes that “several CC alumni have participated.”

The other things we usually write about — work, hobbies, boards of directors, blogs — you know, all the master of universe things we do, seem to fade into the background when juggling the real-world items. Oh, and I just ruptured my Achilles tendon playing racquetball and will be in a cast for six weeks; how do I fit that in?

On the traditional job front, I am having a blast working with many of the candidates for governor in Connecticut and dealing with a lot of interesting people. And many of you “50-somethings” are finally being taken seriously — lost jobs, growth and technology.

Did the young me assume he would be a candidate by now for governor himself? Sure.

But the real me says this is OK, too. Bottom line I am enjoying becoming an elder statesman of my community and just feel comfortable being the leader of my family. It no longer seems odd to be leading the Seder or giving advice up, down and sideways to the kinfolk.

Anyway, send me some stories
about how you are adjusting to real life in your 50s.

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Gil 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 cardiology, 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), 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 don’t tell the fans when they play the Bulldogs).”

Recently, I was elected the Connecticut Governor of the American College of Cardiology and will serve on the ACC Board of Governors beginning in 2011.

“I live in the city and Morningside 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!

“How all is well with you.”

Gil, 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 works[s] at home as a freelance writer.”

Robert, nothing in life is free.

Partner Thomas Kligerman and the architectural firm Ike Kligerman Barkley Architects have published 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 obtaining grants enabling these families to remain in their apartments.

When not advocating for the poor, Jonathan is helping the environment. He was president of New York City Friends of Clearwater from 2007–09. The organization helps to educate people in protecting the Hudson River.

Jonathan writes for the Envirolibrar newspaper and has reported on New York City’s water contamination issues.

Jonathan, 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 College, 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. Competitions, winning best delegation 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 TerraCycle (www.terracycle.net), which collects non-recyclable packaging waste from more than 60,000 proprietary 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 lightweight crew team ... God, that was a long time ago. At the top of the hill in my hometown (where I surf every Sunday), there is a 12½-foot-long wooden oar from those days. The first day at crew practice, the octogenarian 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 oar, 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, or if you wanted to start in the first boat of the lightweights, he would let me weigh 154.9 pounds, the maximum for the lightweight crew. Each day, I went to practice and on some days, double practices (I’m told just thinking of that). I would look for the 89-year-old manager and request the same oldest oar in the boathouse. I pulled on that oar for a whole year, rowing on the Harlem River watching floating condoms, 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!)”

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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 way!

We had a great night making calls at my office for our reunion and reunion gift. I want to thank Jeff Field, Ariel Teitel, Jim Gerkins, Kit main, Paulsen, York, Schuttly and David Leahy in D.C. for all of their help. We have a wonderful event planned from Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6 for our Alumni Reunion Weekend, and we hope to see you there!

We are all counting the days until the reunion. If you have not already done so, please register at http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

There will be plenty of chances to raise a glass with classmates as well as meet in the courtyard and schmooze.

We are all counting the days until the reunion. If you have not already done so, please register at http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Kevin Fay, who traveled from Virginia to New York for the ceremony, reports: “The event was held to a packed audience at Cipriani 42rs St., near Grand Central Station. In an interesting display of support, co-workers from all three [of Brian’s] firms were in attendance, each vowing to outdo one another in applauding Brian for reaching this milestone. Brian’s speech covered three decades of life at the firm, in addition to what he had received by the large audience.

Joining Brian in celebrating this honor were his lovely wife, 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 Aslani-Far ’90, Adam Barrison ’91, Michael Behringer ’89, Steve Coleman ’83, Ed DexSear ’68, Eric Hopp ’98, Tony Santos, Anthony Leitner ’65, Pete and Arline Behringer ’82, Penny Moroney ’82, Bruce Sargent ’66, ’68 Business, Fred Wang ’95E and Robert Yunich ’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 Transportation 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 increasingly on climate change issues, and am involved in a significant pro bono project for the Rainforest Alliance in Latin America. My oldest son is still playing high school football. I tried unsuccessfully to convince him to consider Columbia, but he wanted a small, rural setting (Williams). The good news is that his best friend wisely chose to attend Columbia.”

Paul Marcovich and his wife, Christine Young, adopted Mali Marcovich (f/k/a Hsiangyi Wu) in Taipei, Taiwan, on October 16. She is currently being spoiled in Chicago. For those who would like guidance on where to direct that good instinct, Harvey Cotton has a suggestion: “Recently, my wife, Cathy ‘83 Barnard, our daughter, Leah, and I had the pleasure of attending Spectator’s annual Blue Print Dinner to honor Dean Susan Riesel. Our son, Benjamin ‘11, is editor-in-chief, and I promised him that I would spread the word to any and all that Spectator’s $400,000 capital campaign is underway and gladly accepting donations at http://alumni.columbiaspectator.com/campaign. Sitting next to me at the dinner was Dan Tamkin, whose daughter, Emily ’12, is editorial page editor of Spec. Dan and I go way back. In our eighth-grade social studies class, he supported Nixon and I supported McGovern. Our son, Benjamin ‘11, is editorial page editor of Spec. Dan and I go way back. In our eighth-grade social studies class, he supported Nixon and I supported McGovern. Thankyou, Emily reports that she has not followed in her father’s political footsteps, at least those he left in Mrs. Lewis’ class. It was great to be back on campus, which looks terrific. The event was inspiring. Spec is going great guns and deserves support.”

Daniel Gordin reports from Israel: “My most recent book, Seeing Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War that May Never End, was recently awarded a 2009 National Jewish Book Award. www.jewishbookcouncil.org/external_links/2009_National_Jewish_Book_Awards_FR.pdf.”

Don Weinreich writes: “I am starting my 24th year with Polichink Partnership Architects, and my fifth as a partner in the New York firm. My current projects include the Brooklyn Museum, the Utah Museum of Natural History and the Stanford Law School. The last son is (18) and Max (15), have been thriving at Bard H.S. 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: “I 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 Roberts’ second son, Michael, received his master’s in biomedical engineering from SUNY-Stony Brook in December. His second son, Chris, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a B.A. in economics in February. His daughter, Lauren, a high school senior, will follow in her brother’s footsteps at UMass, as she has been awarded a chancellor’s scholarship to begin this fall.

Charles Murphy, previously of Fairfield Greenwich Advisors and now a partner at Paulson & Co., has been appointed to the board of Conseco, an insurance company.

Send stories of selflessness and otherwise to jqundyk@yahoo.com.

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Ralph Rivera ’83 has been appointed president, online, of Major League Gaming, a professional video game league.

Stiles ’05, but what does she know about managing a long gamma convertible bond portfolio? Frank made the following comments during his acceptance speech: “I am extremely honored and humbled to be given this special award. Columbia, as we all know, is an outstanding institution. For each and every one of us who attended the College, the Columbia experience was unique and personal. Columbia presented us with a great educational platform, but it was up to each of us to define the experience beyond the academics.

“Being in New York City made a huge and positive impact on my college experience. Columbia was, and is always will be respected for the great education it offers. But Columbia education extends 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; I 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, very much.”

Fixed income guru Tracy also expressed his appreciation for the fine education and opportunities that CC 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 Filosa, Louis De Chiaro, Fred Katayama, Martin Moroney, Tom Nevitt, Joe Piscina and Joe Cabrera.

Also checking in this period was architect, athlete and true Renaissance man Charlie Shugart. In his own words:

“I am still in Seattle surviving the challenging economy. Our doors are open and the lights are on. For an architecture practice, that is saying something these days. We are learning what Columbia offered me, but it may take a while. In the meantime, my wife, Shannon, and I are enjoying spending time with our boys as they grow, now 13, 13 (twins) and 11. They keep us busy with school and sports. I also coach a local high school track team. This will be my 22nd season. I even find time to pole vault. I recently won the World Masters Pole Vault title at the World Masters Track & Field Championships held in Kamloops, Canada, in March.”

Well, I have to say, that’s really amazing! As a former track guy, the thought of a 50-year-old, angry, desk jockey butt around a track at full gallop is nothing short of frightening. The idea of my launching my carcass over a landing strip at full gallop is around a track at full gallop is...”
Tom Watson '84 launched CauseWired Communications to work with nonprofits and foundations on using social media and storytelling.

Steven Greenfield writes, "Check this out on the Web site Culture Catch: it's Steve Holtje's roundup of the best albums of the decade. Really a phenomenal survey: www.culturecatch.com/mus (scroll down a bit to find all 101 records; they're divided into three parts on the site.)"
Marty LaSalle ’07 in the March/April CCT. In fact, my wife and I witnessed their first-place performance at the 2001 International Juggling Association championship in Madison, Wis. I also took my children, David and Rebecca, to see them perform at the Big Apple Circus. As the founder of Columbia’s first juggling club, instructor in Columbia’s alternative education program and featured juggler with the CU marching band, I take huge pride in knowing that Columbia continues to attract the best juggling talent in the Ivy League.

Congratulations to fellow 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!

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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 with Tom here.

Batter up! Doug Softy is in the house! “I have been living in Pleasant Hill, Calif., for eight years with my wife, Sue, to whom I’ve been married since 2002. We entered into our marriage with one son each, both of whom have left the nest. Our oldest, Adam, is in his second year at West Point, having studied the functions of a research vessel uncashed. Our youngest, Chase, graduated from high school last June and enlisted in the Marine Corps. Having completed basic training and combat training, he is ‘enjoying’ his time at Ft. Leonard Wood. Many awaiting the next stage of his training before getting his first duty assignment. We are extremely proud of the decisions that they have made to serve their country. “Sue and I own a manufacturer’s representative agency in California, providing products for the electric utility industry, in which 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-olds 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 two years ago. 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, have work from companies and banks and share the same office. They and their daughter, Sophie, live in Berkeley, Calif., where the politics are entertaining, the chicken coop across the street is unremarkable and the Priuses are beyond counting.

In the words of proud papa Andrei Holodyzn, “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, Martha, at Barnard Hall at that college 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 the chief of neuroradiology and director of the Functional MRI Laboratory at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. I also am professor of radiology at Weill Cornell Medical College, although I have never actually been to Cornell’s Ithaca campus. I think that this has set some kind of dubious record.”

When asked why 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 south. I moved to Miami in March and welcome any help getting adjusted or learning Spanish. The French I learned to learn at Reid Hall while at Columbia will serve me only marginally better than the Latin I failed in school.”

Thanks to Matt Greenough for pointing out that journalist Matthew Cooper has joined the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission as a senior adviser. FCIC is a 10-member commission appointed by Congress with the goal of investigating the causes of the financial crisis of 2007-09.

Carlton Wessel, a lawyer previously with King and Spalding, has joined the litigation practice in the law office of DLA Piper. Carlton has extensive white-collar experience, particularly in the representation of pharmaceutical clients in government and internal investigations and government enforcement actions. Carlton has held in-house roles at major pharmaceutical companies, serving as assistant general counsel and head of the Government Investigations Group at Pfizer and senior legal director for litigation at Schering-Plough.

Earlier in his career, Carlton served as assistant U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey, where he prosecuted healthcare fraud, political corruption and other white-collar crimes. In recognition of his superior performance, the Attorney General honored Carlton with the Director’s Award, the highest award given by the Department of Justice. Carlton also was a law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the U.S. District Court in New Jersey.

Last January, yours truly, Dennis Kleinberg, and wife, Dana, had the distinct pleasure of celebrating my 47th birthday at a Columbia event on Broadway: Arthur Miller’s A View from the Bridge, as arranged by the Columbia Alumni Arts League. Not only does Malvina E. Lys-Dobradian ’05 and her crew arrange for the best in NYC cultural events at discounted prices, she managed to inveigle director Gregory Mosher (also in charge of the Columbia Arts Initiative) to bring director Liev Schreiber and Scarlett Johansson to an after-party to meet all 100 Columbia attendees! If you are not aware of this great project, join via www.alumniarts.columbia.edu or call 212-851-1879.
Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lynn Collins.

Jon Surgal (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, Post: Essays on Love and Consciousness, 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. Jon’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-Alongs (PBS), Howdy Doody and Friends (NBC) and Emily of New Moon (CBC), and creator of Mugguy and GO-USA (NBC) and The Big Game Hunt (New York State Department of Education).

Brian Margolis 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 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. Here You Seen My Dinosaur? is a fixture of a seminar 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 PLF’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.

It is so on! John Chachas is officially back in the Nevada Senate race. John took the plunge, quitting as managing director in media banking at Lazard to devote himself full-time to the Republican primary race. I’m quoting from an interview he did with the Las Vegas Review-Journal. “I hit my 45th birthday and I concluded it was time to do something good for the country. I guess I looked at the financial crisis of October-November 08, and the response of the people in Washington, I have to confess, left me cold — the depth of misunderstanding. So I felt something calling me to stop being angry about it and actually put myself in the game.”

Lawrence Holtzman ’88 and Felicia Needleman ’88 recently won the Theater for the American Musical Prize in the New York Musical Theatre Festival.

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 Nevada — he and his two brothers were raised on a cattle ranch in Ely, 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 businesswoman 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 Senate 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 appointed counseling courses. I’m the editor of the Ecopsychology journal (www.lieberpub.com/eco) and was recently involved in the American Psychological Association’s Climate Change Task Force (www.apa.org/science/about/publications/climate-change.aspx).” Additionally, Thomas was recently quoted in a New York Times article on ecopsychology.

Thomas lives in Portland with his wife, Chelsea Harper, and their daughter, Eva (2). He has kept up with Kurt (Bekebrede) Ganrath and said they enjoyed reminiscing recently after Kurt took his oldest son for a college admissions tour of Morningside Heights.

Anthony J. Salvadito, an attorney, has been named co-chairman of Fletcher, Tilton & Whipple’s commercial lending department and an officer of the law firm, following the merger of his practice with the firm. He will continue to concentrate his practice in commercial and business law and estate planning. The firm is located in Worcester, Mass.

Abha Jain Sinha
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As I write this in March, it is that time of year when we all long- ing to be gone — at least spring vacation. After four days without power or heat here in D.C. during the February snowstorms, I know I am ready for warmth. After a busy winter, I am off on an adventure trip with REI to Belize; I hope I survive the kayaking! I thank those classmates who have sent me messages. It is always interesting to get back in touch with lost friends and see the different directions our lives have taken.

I recently heard from Brett Miller, who writes, “I live on the Upper West Side with my wife and two boys (12 and 8). We get up to Morningside Heights now and then. The neighborhood certainly has changed for the better. I am an attorney at Morrison & Foerster, where I am co-chair of the Distressed Real Estate Group and a partner in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group. I keep in touch with a few of my Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity brothers and lightweight crew teammates. As I write this, I happen to be on a call with Ilana Volkov, as we are co-counsel in a case.”

It is certainly true that Morningside Heights looks different. A classmate from the Engineering School commented that she barely recognized the neighborhood when she visited for the first time after many years.

I also received news that Miriam Kievan was dropped from New York to Chicago by her husband, Steve Meier ‘98L, where she now is happily studying for a Ph.D. in human development and social policy at Northwestern and running after Nathan (5) and Layla (2).

I also was delighted to hear from Laurence Holzman, who sent the following correspondence: As a partner in Bard Theatricals, Laurence is one of the producers of the new Broadway play Looped, starring Valerie Harper. He and Felicia Needleman have collaborated on writing libretto and lyrics for several musicals. Their holiday musical revue, That Time of the Year, which premiered Off-Broadway at the York Theatre, now is being licensed by Theatrical Rights Worldwide, and the original cast album recently was released on JAY Records. Laurence and Felicia’s original musical comedy, The Jerusalem Syndrome, recently won the Theater for the American Musical Prize in the New York Musical Theatre Festival, and they are developing their musical drama, Wallenberg, about the WWII
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.hampdirect.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

Look me up on Facebook or send me an e-mail. Happy spring!

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Some of you might have recognized another ’89er on television — Julie Jacobs Menin, who has been a frequent political commentator on national networks such as MSNBC, CNN and Fox during the last year or so. Based in New York, Julie also chairs Community Board 1 (representing Lower Manhattan) and has done so for the past five years. She also launched her own show, Julie Menin’s Give and Take (www.juliemenin.com), earlier this year. The show is a 30-minute interview format featuring newsmakers in politics, business, media, science and the arts. I enjoyed watching Julie politely challenge author Ann Coulter on healthcare. You can also find her writing on The Huffington Post. Julie has three young boys (6 and 5 twins) who are “my pride and joy,” and she somehow manages to get it all done by doing a lot of work after the children go to bed. Julie intends to continue to be involved civically and in public

Steve Heroux ’91 at the Hampton Direct warehouse, home of the “As Seen on TV” line of products.

PHOTO: TOD GUNTER

hero, for Broadway.

Laurence and his wife, Lara, have two sons, Andrew (10) and Zachary (8). Felicia and her husband, Rich Levinson, are the proud parents of Simon (15), James (12) and Annabel (8).

Congratulations to Laurence and Felicia! “I hope more of you will contact me and let your classmates know what you are up to nowadays.

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service in New York in the years to come. Last March, Julie was among several of our classmates who gathered in 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 Columbiaians featured. Carol Becker, dean of faculty, School of the Arts, and Donna H. MacPhee, v.p. for alumni relations and president of the Columbia Alumni Association, hosted the fifth annual CAA at Sundance complimentary reception in Park City, where Columbia University School of the Arts Film Program Associate Professor Eric Mendelsohn was honored. Mendelsohn won the Sundance Film Festival 2010 Directing Award in the dramatic category for his film 3 Backyards.

Utah residents Anne-Marie Wright and her husband, Fred Lamprououlos, 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 Choices, 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.

I should thank Jake Novak for my next piece of news, Jake is the co-creator and senior producer of Business’ new show, Varney & Company, which airs every weekday at 9:20 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 wrapped up his third season of doing color commentary for Lions football along with play-by-play man Jerry Recco, on www.gocolumbias.com. Jake continues to document the past, present and future of Lion football on his blog, www.roadions.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, Andrew 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 newspapers as the 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.

Leila Charles Leigh ‘92 is producing a new romantic comedy, Conception.

David Kunian lives in New Orleans and received the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities “Individual Achievement In The Humanities” award for 2009. Congratulations!

We have a 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 Gotof) wrote to tell about an exciting new movie project that is truly a team effort (her husband wrote and will direct). Leila said the movie, in pre-production now, is a romantic comedy called Conception and is about nine couples on the non-profit Environmental Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget for the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it’s been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the government and is about nine couples on the non-profit Environmental Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget for the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it’s been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the government.

Leila added some news on one of our classmates: Valerie Chase left Leila in December. According to Leila, Valerie lives in Basel, Switzerland, with her husband, Ralph.

I attended a pre-game alumni event hosted by the Columbia University Club of New England in Cambridge, Mass., before the Lions played Harvard in February (and unfortunately, lost). It was great to hear about the team from the coach and to catch up with local alumni. Some “unnamed sources” (i.e., Bill Walsh ‘89, Larry Walsh ‘86 and Fiona Walsh ’00) filled me in on their brother’s coaching practices and how he’m having a lot of fun. Lots of work!” Leila added some news on one of our classmates: Valerie Chase left Leila in December. According to Leila, Valerie lives in Basel, Switzerland, with her husband, Ralph.

I am excited to see many of you in a few weeks at Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. If you’re on the fence about going, just go. It will be fun. It will be packed with events that take full advantage of what NYC and Columbia have to offer. There will be cultural happenings as well as class-specific cocktails, dinners and more. The festivities will culminate with a champagne toast and dancing on Low Plaza on Saturday. If you haven’t registered, do so now: http://reunion.columbia.edu.

Speaking of fun, I heard from Eric Haxthausen. He lives in Washington, D.C., and is in his third year as the director of U.S. Climate Policy for The Nature Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget for the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it’s been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the government and is about nine couples on the non-profit Environmental Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget for the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it’s been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the government.

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I should thank Jake Novak for my next piece of news, Jake is the co-creator and senior producer of Business’ new show, Varney & Company, which airs every weekday at 9:20 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 wrapped up his third season of doing color commentary for Lions football along with play-by-play man Jerry Recco, on www.gocolumbias.com. Jake continues to document the past, present and future of Lion football on his blog, www.roadions.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, Andrew 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 newspapers as the 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.

Leila Charles Leigh ‘92 is producing a new romantic comedy, Conception.

David Kunian lives in New Orleans and received the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities “Individual Achievement In The Humanities” award for 2009. Congratulations!

We have a 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 Gotof) wrote to tell about an exciting new movie project that is truly a team effort (her husband wrote and will direct). Leila said the movie, in pre-production now, is a romantic comedy called Conception and is about nine couples on the non-profit Environmental Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget for the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it’s been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the government and is about nine couples on the non-profit Environmental Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget for the non-profit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it’s been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the government.

Leila added some news on one of our classmates: Valerie Chase left Leila in December. According to Leila, Valerie lives in Basel, Switzerland, with her husband, Ralph.
to address the civil rights issue of our time: inequity in education for children from low-income communities, Alex writes. One of the regions he is working with includes his hometown of New Orleans.

Thanks to the power of Facebook, Alex caught up with Jimmy Hung, who lives a block away in Cambridge.

This gave me a great reason to check in with Jimmy, a physician who has been in Cambridge for five years. He is an ophthalmologist in private practice. Jimmy is working in glaucoma, an eye disease that affects mostly older people.

He reports at least five ophthalmologists from our class: Susan Liang, Peter Maris, Anil Shivaram, Newman Sund and himself, and three are glaucoma specialists.

Jimmy attended Alllyson Baker’s wedding last year and caught up with Jessica Zimmerman, Emily Hu and Elise Feldman.

I look forward to catching up with you all at Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. The weekend will be packed with activities for the whole family. There will be dinners, cocktail parties, lectures, dancing on Low Plaza and Camp Columbia for kids. It’s a great time to catch up with old friends and relive good times in Morningside Heights.

If you haven’t registered, do so now: http://reunion.college. columbia.edu.

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CC ‘97 has a number of arrivals to report! Rokeia Smith Gravely gave birth to a girl, Tyla Elaine, in November. She weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., and was in just time for Thanksgiving. Carrie Sturts Dossick and Stephen Dossick welcomed Charles Ellis and Sara Verde 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 Conny gave birth to her second child, Amalia Grace, on May 14, 2010. Amalia joined her brother, Nevin (2). Rushika is halfway through her fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at Columbia University Medical Center.

Eric Wolf is married to 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 Fuster tells me that he made money, then lost it, then wrote a memoir, Repeat Until Rich: A Professional Card Counter’s Chronicle of the Blackjack Wars, published in March. Josh can be reached via http://axelrad.net/blog. Congratulations on your book, Josh!

Alexandra Speck Crowley and her husband, Jamie, live on Cape Cod, where Alex is a weekly on-air arts and culture reporter for a National Public Radio (NPR) affiliate on the Cape and Islands. Alex has randomly run into some of the Fiji men recently — first Dave Mullinix and Brendan Mullinix in Nantucket, and then Carter Burwell in Turks and Caicos. She keeps in touch with Marissa Heller Triestman and Maria Rodriguez, who are both doing well.

Doron Barnes was named managing director at Goldman Sachs in January. Anastasia Thanopolous (née Yatракis), whom I recently ran into in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn, is a real estate broker after having worked at Nike for several years. For a little levity in your lives, I leave you with this:

“My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was 60. She’s 97 now, and we don’t know where the hell she is.” — Ellen DeGeneres

Send in more notes! Until next time ...

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Greetings, classmates. Josh Axelrad sent in an entertaining piece of news: “I stayed under the radar for a long time due to combined shame and paranoia. I worked in finance for a while and hated myself, then, for five years, I played cards for a living, but turned out to still hate myself. I was a card counter at blackjack, doing the sort of stunt associated in the public consciousness with MIT. Columbia kids are all right at it, too.”

David writes that he made money, then lost it, then wrote a memoir, Repeat Until Rich: A Professional Card Counter’s Chronicle of the Blackjack Wars, published in March. Josh can be reached via http://axelrad.net/blog. Congratulations on your book, Josh!

Alexandra Speck Crowley and her husband, Jamie, live on Cape Cod, where Alex is a weekly on-air arts and culture reporter for a National Public Radio (NPR) affiliate on the Cape and Islands. Alex has randomly run into some of
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 legal coverage, as well as the law 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 Welsh. If you’re reading this, there are alumni 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.

First, though, I’m pleased to offer you some trivia. On a brisk day in February, I saw one of our classmates dodging 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 a large white scarf. The afternoon passed without incident, but after dinner I ran into yet another man from our class. His coat was dark and his wife and her 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 photos 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 Valenti. 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 movie 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 soon 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.george demos.com.

I also received a helpful e-mail from Ethan Rouen, my long-suffering editor at C.C. “Subject: PW News Alert: The Walt Bodine CC99 - 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 gobbled a lot and ordered food by color. Though I haven’t been back home much these past couple of years, hearing Gina Kaufmann 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 walks a fine line between art and journalism. I didn’t invent creative nonfiction writing, not by a long shot ... What I mean is that I have been writing things that are 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 Walt 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 Herb 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 Herb Storytelling event and was asked to put on the first Herb 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/is been a live-in-studio gig, which I love 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...
Nancy Perla ’01 and Matt Michaelis hosted a “star-studded” wedding in Phoenix in November. The stars in attendance included John Balzano ’01, Andrea Cherkerezian ’01, Joyce Chou ’01, Dina Epstein ’01, Billy Kingsland ’01, Annie Lainer ’01, Patricia Marinoff ’02, Dr. Sarah Palestrant ’02, Joe Rezek ’01, Jamie Rubin ’01 Barnard, Chelsea Scott ’01 Barnard, Victoria Spodek (née Vinarsky) ’01 Barnard, Melissa Tominac ’02, Brandon Von Tobel ’01, Susan Wilsey ’01 (née Pereira) and CCL class correspondent Jonathan Gordin ’01.

WHAT I'M WRITING

I'm writing about last summer on a sheep farm. All of our stories are 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 intertwine 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 Garcia 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. Wow! 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 Colel 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 Erman, now residing with a charming foreigner, made some excellent chilli 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 Mattemi ’01 were seen at a Columbia 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 Worley 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, Bambi and Sifaka, 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 education 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 Intrrepyl!, Saturday night cocktails 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 long-time girlfriend, 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 DunnA22.cn and maybe Mars (www.maybemars.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/chinesesinontour-2010).”

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: CCH 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 journal Psychoanalytic Perspectives. My husband, Dan Burstein, is a senior associate at Willkie Farr & Gallagher and does a lot of pro-bono work in election law. We recently saw Annie Ulevitch and Susie Freeman, who both live near us on the UWS. We spent a lovely weekend in the Berkshires with Sander Cohan and his wife, Katie; Don Saelinger and Katherine; and Maxwell. Maxwell 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 just days before Whitney Weems Mogavero gave birth to her daughter, Hadley Brooks Mogavero, on February 8. Joining me were Laura Hearn, Marian Lee ’00 Barnard, and...
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 as the Boy Scouts of America, while Mariel is set to get married in just a few months in Jamaica! Mariam is married and lives in New York a stone’s throw from campus and works for Condé Nast. The night was filled with fun and 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 living the life 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.

“I also occasionally get to see Natalia Mehman-Petrezela. Natalia, who is a full-fledged professor at the New School, spends her free time running her business and young son and as an InterSati 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 Annapolis as the mother of three children with her husband, Peter Martino, and as the founder/owner of Capital Teas in Washington, D.C. "We are 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.”

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 finally engage 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 the kids’ programming at her 15th reunion and the adult evening events, and is booking the sitter now!"

Finally, Omosede Idehen and Grigor Licul were married in a gorgeous mountaintop ceremony in Lovran, Croatia, in September. Several friends flew in from all over the tech to help with the wedding, including myself. Other guests included Erica Easley; Alicia Dooley and her husband, Danny Rappaport; Rana Yates and her husband, Ivar Draganja ’03, Ben Giesmann and his wife, Yuliya Smy; Louis-Simon Verland ’06 Business; Tami Chuang ’06 Business. The festivities lasted all weekend and involved pasta, truffles and exploring Grigor’s hometown, Opatija. The photogenic wedding lasted for 12 hours and was the first wedding I attended where guests danced between courses. The last course — a traditional Croatian soup — was served well after 2 a.m. The happy couple resides on the Upper West Side. [See photo.]

Some highlights from June at reunion! Please register at http://alumni.college.columbia.edu. Don’t forget to also make a donation to the Columbia College Fund at www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline. Our class goal is 200 donors and we are currently at 102 donors.

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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 Outsource with an emphasis on human capital. 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 Jamie will continue to take the business to even higher levels!

Now for some exciting baby news. Simon Sandoval-Moshen and his wife, Paola, welcomed Camilo on February 18. He weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. David Beatys and his wife, Kim, welcomed Asher Josef on February 26. He weighed 8 lbs. Congratulations to the moms, dads and future Columbians (maybe?).

Camille Delaite reports: “2009 was a big year for us! Akhill 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. Colombians in attendance included Chitra Talwar, Sejal Shah, Amy Kimpel, Namrata Tripathi, Elspeth Wilson, Rodman Williams, Cassia Mosdell, Sofia Berger, Sheila Lavu, Krish Devidoss, Gareth White ’02 Barnard, Lina Chopra Haldar ’03E 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 sneak 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 rightmedia. 2009 was a whirlwind. Here’s hoping 2010 is half as fun!”

Almost nine years after their wedding, Grigor’s hometown, Opatija. The festivities last all weekend and involved pasta, truffles and exploring Grigor’s hometown, Opatija. The photogenic wedding lasted for 12 hours and was the first wedding I attended where guests danced between courses. The last course — a traditional Croatian soup — was served well after 2 a.m. The happy couple resides on the Upper West Side. [See photo.]

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Daniel Dykema ’03 and Nikki Thompson ’03 Barnard were married in Brooklyn, N.Y., in October. Joining the fun were (back row, left to right) Gaurav Shah ’03, Anand Venkatesan ’03, Amanda Gates ’03, and Meri Scherer ’03 and William Hu ’03; and (front row, left to right) Michelle Hodara ’03, Priya Purushothaman ’03, the bride, Rebecca Capua ’03 Barnard, Shelly Mittal ’03 and Alison McDonald ’03.

PHOTO: ANDY ROGERS

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...
**CLASS NOTES**

**COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY**

**02**

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Michael Novielli
World City Apartments
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Carter Reum writes, “Still working hard 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, *Samayam*, 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 *Armless*, a dark comedy about a man with no 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 Entertainer’s Documentay*. 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.

Eliana 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 ’05; Seth Fruithandler ’05; Alona Silverman ’06; Michael O’Mara ’06; Rachel Landau ’06; Max Ploeg ’06; Laura Vranic ’06; Geoff Sipe ’00; Rachel Pomerantz ’06; Erin Kade ’03; Jonathan (Yona) Reich ’04, ’07; Zachary Jacobs ’07; 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; Steve Melzer ’03; Seth Wax ’03; Brian Tang; Kari Shinnar ’06 Barnard; Judith Samuels Meirowitz ’73 SW; Carol Singer ’74 TC; Jessica Horwitz Fruithandler ’06 Barnard; Danielle Holtz ’05 Barnard; Rachel Grant Meyer ’05; Suzanne Schneider ’05, ’13 GSAS; and Joanna Kabat ’06 Barnard.

**03**

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I hope you’re all doing well! Please don’t forget to send me any and all updates you have. On the news:

Tia Sherringham moved back to New York in August 2009 and is clerking for the Hon. Barbara S. Jones (Southern District of New York). She is thrilled to be back and reconnecting with old friends.

David Neidest lives in Tribeca and is at Goldman Sachs, where he has been working for 5½ years. In Washington, D.C., Nyia Noel has been practicing yoga and enjoying some time off before starting her residency program. She received an M.D. and an M.P.H. from the University of Michigan Medical School and School of Public Health. Nyia has been reconnecting with old friends and classmates in the D.C. area such as Natassia Rozario, Alodia Gabre-Kidan and her freshman-year roommate, Karen Lowe.

Congratulations to Ben Falik and his wife, A.J., who are proud to belatedly announce the birth of Judah Matthew (CC ’317). Jamie Hodari was on hand for the bris, and Jordan Heimer stopped in Detroit while driving cross-country in order to meet the lad. Plans for his first trip to New York are in the works.

Finally, a fantastic update from past Class President Khalid Ali: “Once upon a time a long, long time ago (July 2007), I quit my job at Pepsi in New York, sold most of my worldly belongings (including my beloved limited edition (not really) 1998 Nissan Maxima), packed a backpack, bought a one-way ticket to London along with a Eurorail Pass and took off on a journey to fulfill one of my lifelong dreams of seeing Europe and South Asia. I didn’t know how long the trip would last or what I would do if and when I returned to the United States. It seemed a bit mad, and older relatives minced words. It certainly was mad. It didn’t matter, though. It was time for something new.

It was a mad time in world affairs as well (although no one seemed to have a clue about the greater madness — the global economic meltdown — to come the following year). Just recently, some Muslim guys of Pakistani origin (like yours truly) had tried to ram a truck into Glasgow Airport...
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.

“I wanted to do something drastically different,” Cain remembers.

So the San Diego native set out on a path he never imagined for himself taking — one that would wind through Rwanda and Paraguay only to drop him in London, where he is devoting himself to helping students access higher education across the developing world with the microloan company Vittana.

Cain’s journey began when a law firm colleague mentioned his work with Orphans of Rwanda, a nonprofit dedicated to helping young people who were affected by the 1994 Rwandan genocide attend college. Remembering a particularly inspirational class on the treatment of minorities taught by Liz Ouyang his senior year, Cain was intrigued. Within a few months, he had accepted a six-month job with the organization.

In March 2008, Cain packed his bags for Kigali, Rwanda’s capital city. It was a long way from his desk in Manhattan, and not just in air miles.

“You can’t prepare somebody for that,” Orphans of Rwanda executive director Michael Brotchner says. “What I was looking for was somebody who would not get flustered. Somebody who could see a situation that was completely unusual to them, and not panic.”

In Cain, 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 sifting 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 stateside in September 2008 just in time to work on the home stretch of the Obama campaign in North Carolina.

But Cain felt the need to go back to the developing world. 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.

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 previous two 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.

“Told you I wouldn’t get flustered,” Cain says. “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.

in England. As such, suspicion of anyone resembling me was pretty high everywhere, and so I was in London without immigration issues and criss-crossed the continent during the next few months. During the course of my travels, I partied with gangstas 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.

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many of you can make it! It will be held Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. There will be tons of events all weekend, including dinners; lunches; cultural events; and the Saturday wine tasting, class dinner and dancing on Low Plaza. If you haven’t registered, do so now: http://reunion.college.columbia.edu.

Here are some updates from your classmates.

W. Garner Robinson celebrated the Saints’ Super Bowl victory on Bourbon Street in his native New Orleans. “WHO DAT!” he writes.

Jeremiah Boswell’s writing on international basketball has been published in Hoops Addict. He has written about Derrick Alston, a former NBA pro who has flourished in Europe the past 12 years. He also has written about Stephon Marbury’s arrival in the Chinese Basketball Association.

Benjamin Blaise was born January 27 to Martin and Bridget (Geibel) Stefanskis. The Stefanskis were visited by KwiilNa Kim ’05 Barnard, Lindsey May ’05E and Alexandra Seggerman. Congrats!

Caitlin Vernilli writes: “I live in Bonn, Germany, at the headquaters of a consulting company where I’ve worked for a few years. I’m thoroughly enjoying ‘Study Abroad II,’ this time with a little more money in my pocket!”

Nicole Callahan will be returning to Columbia in the fall to begin a doctoral program in English education at Teachers College.

In February, Peter Lerman, who wrote music and lyrics for the Varsity Show, won one of the 2010 Jonathan Larson Grants for musical theater composing and lyric writing. Congrats!

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6
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Excited for the upcoming five-year Alumni Reunion Weekend? Hope

Joe Winters ’06 married Angela Suber in Jacksonville, Fla., on December 19. Fellow alumni Mike McAndrew ’06 (top row, first from right), Wade Fletcher ’05 (top row, first from right), Alex Ehrhart ’06 (middle row, third from right) and Shay Murphy ’06 (middle row, second from right) were groomsmen. Not pictured are Matt Kaplan ’06, Brooks Hansen ’05, Brandon Bowser ’06, Colby Blitz ’05E, Arun Ramachandran ’06E and Jeff Coles ’06.

PHOTO: KARA PENNINGTON

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PHOTO: KARA PENNINGTON

ary 2008, Leena went back to Saudi Arabia, and I finally returned to the U.S. However, later that month, I got confirmation from the Dubai Pepsi team that they had a role for me, and by mid-March, I packed up once more and left for Dubai.

“Dubai has turned out to be an incredible place. One of the initial perks also was the fact that Leena was only an hour’s flight away in Saudi Arabia. She and I got legally married in June 2008, but we had the public ceremony in December 2008. Leena then joined me in Dubai.

“On December 9, 2009, Leena and I welcomed our son, Zayan Rafiq, into our family. He’s truly been a ‘bundle of joy’ and has changed both our lives for the better. In January of this year, I achieved a personal breakthrough when I finished the 10k in the Dubai Marathon in less than one hour. Never before did I think I could walk more than five kilometers at one stretch, let alone run 10! I think part of the motivation came from becoming a father and wanting to prove to myself that I was still young!”

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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. Sin’s ’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 DiLallo, Jason Fernandes ’05 and Michael Krulwich ’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 Benderin, Michael Brown, Schuyler Brown, Theodore Orsher and Jonathan Lung ’06.

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 with a tribe of kids she met on a beach. I now live in Wellington and any Columbia kid who ever makes it down here is forever welcome in my little villa on a hill overlooking the twinkling night city.”

Daniel Sanchez recently returned from a five-month journey through South America with his girlfriend, who included stops in Peru, Bolivia, Argentina and Uruguay. He’s looking forward to the next big thing when he moves back to Brooklyn this summer. Sarah Maslin Nir ’08 is a freelance writer for The New York Times. She recently returned from the wild Alaskan bush on assignment. Marc Pimentel traveled to Beijing to study acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine for a month.

Dennis Schmelzer joined White & Case in November as an associate. For the month of March, Joe Lemonik’s artwork hung in Gimme!Coffee on Mott Street on the Lower East Side. The work was all made with office supplies during his employment at NERA, where he worked with Stephanie Willis. More of Joe’s art work is at www.jolemonik.com. Tanya Khan will graduate from Duke Medical School this May and will complete her ophthalmology residency at LSU-Ochsner. Schuyler Brown writes, “I’ll be heading back uptown for business school at Columbia with Dodson Worthington and Nathaniel Greenberg. Hope to see some familiar faces around campus! Victoria Baranetsky is tirelessly trying to amuse her CC friends with her Class Notes entries. Haiku style: We is 12 percent. Defining it all the time. We cause waves. Oh my!”

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I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable spring with some nice summer plans 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 Darnall 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 also is a composer and member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.

Alan Weeth writes, “[I recently] quit my job and moved to Yojakarta, 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 ‘08, Jeffrey Feder ‘07E, ‘08E, Aryeh Falk and Eric Bondarsky are interested in the interesting conversation about the Class Notes section in C77. It felt like old times when you could have an intellectually stimulating conversation about almost anything! It also is so great to see what everyone is doing with their lives. We were all very proud.

Hagar ElBishlawi 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.”

Victoria Baranetsky is tirelessly trying to amuse her CC friends with her Class Notes entries.
Columbia students for internships,” says Eric.

Calvin Sun has been doing public speaking around the country including at Penn, Columbia, the 5 College Network (Smith, Amherst, UMass, Hampshire and Mt. Holyoke), Rutgers, Florida and Virginia. “I also have been giving keynote addresses, including one on student leadership at the University of Florida (www.eceaus.org/site/?p=676) and one on global justice and social issues at the University of Virginia in April (www.students.jfschool.edu/pursuit). I’ll be starting medical school in the fall, haven’t picked a place yet though, but it’ll be in the NYC area or Yale.”

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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 ’08 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 ’08 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 TAPA, 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 relief 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 long-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://twc.convio.net/site/TR/TeamWorldVision/General?px=1048841&p=g-personal&fr_id=1160. Also, feel free to e-mail her at gabriellea@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 likes to play 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 anthropology 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 staffed 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 alumna, reminisced about College Walk, New York and snowstorms.

Oriana Isaacson lives in Seattle, right under the Space Needle, with her cat, Lucy. She works in admissions at The Bush School, a private K–12 school in the city. Last month, Dean Li and Sara Ovadia visited her from California. That weekend was Tristan Naumann ’09E’s birthday. Tristan, Sara, Boris Mindzak ’09E and Oriana had a mini-John Jay 9 reunion. Max Czapanski, Kim Manis ’09E and Valerie Smith also attended.

Oriana is happy to report that she recently planned a massive interview day for applicants to the Class of 2014. Talking to them about NYC made her miss the city, but she still thinks Seattle is pretty awesome, too!
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 Saia 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 downtown Manhattan and putting 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&G 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 being 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 a week 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 Arianna Bastianini and traveling around Europe for a month.”

Emily Lampert will be just a train ride away in New Haven, Conn., where she will join 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!”

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+5energy-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 ‘48’s mother, “who had gone insane when he was in high school, lived in the attic.”

First of all, Naomi Ginsberg began having psychotic episodes before Allen was born. When she got worse, she was sent to the Bloomington Asylum in White Plains, N.Y. (This is the same asylum that had occupied land on Morningside Heights until Columbia bought it in 1882.) 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 selective 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 a 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 assertions.

J. Peter Rosenfeld ’59
Evanson, 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 on 1959. It enlightened for me the source for the writing of Allen Ginsberg ’48 and Jack Kerouac ’44. But it also reminded me one of the great characteristics of Colins: wowing talented young men who were expelled or suspended for rowdy misbehavior, like Ginsberg and Benjamin Jealous ’94, to return to the College and mature into useful citizens and leaders in their fields.

Sol Fish ’56, ’58L
Pleasant Hill, Calif.

The Rule of Law

The article on Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, 76L (November/December) starts, “Did he write it?” Mr. Holder states that the “whole idea of social segregation is disturbing.” Yet the article states that he was “active in promoting it as 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
Collin 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 more sophistications; they do not explain the decision nor make it right.

Because they are graduates, Columbia publications have, as did CCT in November/December, ostentatiously displayed Attorney General Holder, who claims responsibility for the decision, and President Obama, who from a constitutional standpoint could and should only have made it. However, such boldly public correlations between Columbia and indefensibly stupid decision makers lead me, with more than one degree from Columbia, to duck for cover. Friends who are decently 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 circumspect with its support.

Daniel F. Johnson ’61, ’62 GSAS, ’66 GSAS
Charlotte, N.C.
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Columbia Blue and the Four-Minute Mile

By Liam Boylan-Pett ’08

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, becoming 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 for a guy in Columbia blue to do it.

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.
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Edward Koren. 24-Hour Banking. 1990. Courtesy the artist and the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery. 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.