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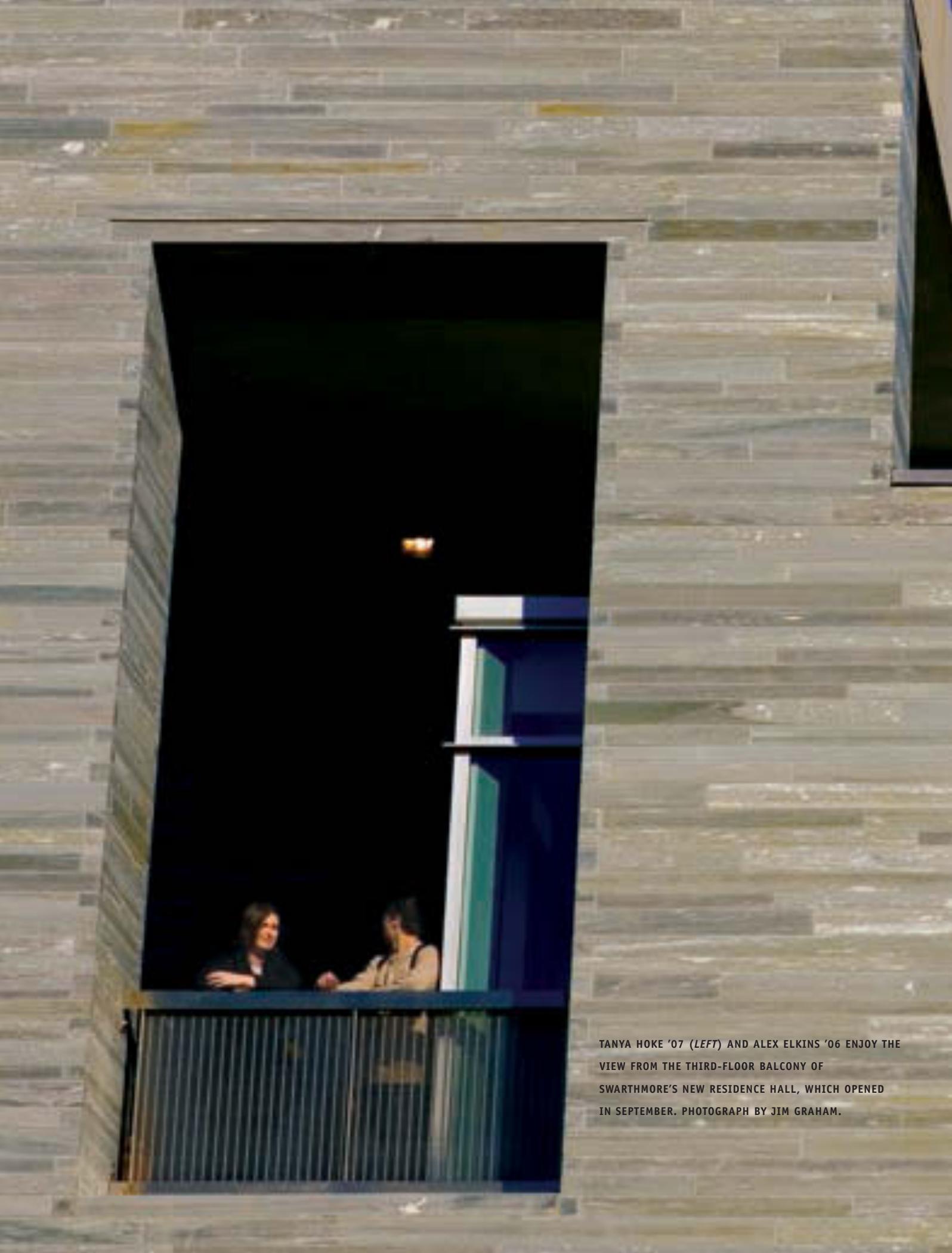
Swarthmore

COLLEGE BULLETIN



A Swarthmore





TANYA HOKE '07 (*LEFT*) AND ALEX ELKINS '06 ENJOY THE VIEW FROM THE THIRD-FLOOR BALCONY OF SWARTHMORE'S NEW RESIDENCE HALL, WHICH OPENED IN SEPTEMBER. PHOTOGRAPH BY JIM GRAHAM.

Swarthmore

SPECIAL FEATURE

A Swarthmore Tapestry

Fifty Swarthmoreans weave dynamic patterns around the world.

By Carol Brévarit-Demm, Laura Stevenson Carter, Colleen Gallagher, Alisa Giardinelli, Andrea Hammer, Jeffrey Lott, Patricia Maloney, Audree Penner, Elizabeth Redden '05, Lewis Rice, and David Wright '69

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T. Alexander Aleinikoff '74
 Charles Bailey '67
 Elizabeth Urey Baranger '49
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 Susan Marie Frontczak '77
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By Alisa Giardinelli

PARLOR TALK

Last month, I had the opportunity to attend a gathering of Swarthmore alumni in Denver. In the dozen years since I became editor of this magazine, I've had occasion to participate in quite a few Swarthmore gatherings, from Alumni Council meetings to Connections events to class reunions. Perhaps because I am not a Swarthmore graduate myself—my alma mater is a similar small liberal arts college in Vermont—I've been able to observe the social habits of the genus *Swarthmoreanus* with a more objective eye. Here is my report:

When Swarthmoreans meet each other, there appears to be a special sense of recognition—an attractive force that, to an outsider, seems almost magnetic. Their poles align and a special sort of secret energy flows between them. This magnetism is exhibited in behaviors that are often curious to the outsider, such as a furrowing of brows or cocking of heads that implies challenges of an intellectual sort.

In the dozen years since I became editor of this magazine, I've had many occasions to observe the social habits of the genus *Swarthmoreanus*. Here is my report.

Although Swarthmoreani occasionally meet each other on unfamiliar terms before discovering their College connection, it has been reported more than once that an intuition is in the air after just a few minutes of conversation. Quickly sensing something about each other, Swarthmoreans (known in today's parlance as "Swatties" or "Swats") soon find a way to tap the button that turns on the magnets. Inevitably, further connections are found—a classmate or roommate; a Swattie mother, father, child, or sibling; a similar course taken a decade apart from the same favorite professor; a

team or fraternity; a shared College cause; or a larger social concern.

But beyond these personal connections, the Swarthmorean's almost measurable magnetism appears to energize the conspicuous display of deeper habits of mind. Swarthmoreans know that it's OK to talk with one another in a certain way—to go beyond the obvious, to take up serious questions more quickly than one might with any other stranger. Their shared experience of this College informs their lives, work, and relationships in ways that crackle with energy and, if you pay attention carefully, actually seem to give off light.

In this issue of the *Bulletin*—my 50th as editor—we have created in our pages another such gathering. It's an almost random selection from our inexhaustible lists of interesting alumni. Try to imagine yourself in a room with them—as you might be at a Connections event in your city. As individuals, you exude energy, but in concert, that energy multiplies. The next time you find yourself with one or more of these people, you will be with a friend. But you knew that already—because there appear to be no strangers in this remarkable genus.

—Jeffrey Lott



Swarthmore
COLLEGE BULLETIN

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CONSERVATIVE REVOLUTIONARIES

We supporters of President Bush try to conserve those “historic roots of American idealism” that Paul Gaston ’52 (“My Yellow Ribbon Town,” September *Bulletin*) values—and those social and governmental institutions that embody and sustain American ideals. To be a conservative defending the slow working out in history of revolutionary ideals is paradoxical—reimposing the old, escaped tyrannies: We are conservative revolutionaries; our opponents are revolutionary conservatives.

Joseph Ellis put the commonalities this paradox implies aptly in *Founding Brothers*: American conservatives and liberals share a debate about liberty, which is the core of our shared values, not an exclusive interpretation of how best to achieve liberty. I hope that Gaston’s smug and self-loving article is not the best that American liberalism can offer the nation in 2004. Much tendentious cant is in it, but the worst is the disdain for “the mansions of the rich.”

If we are not free to spend our money as we will, to build ourselves a good life, enjoyable as we see fit, what good is our freedom? If “idealism” echoes every aristocrat who loathed those merchants and poor men who dared to build themselves a better house, wear good clothes, read books, live without the stigma of deference and inferiority, what sort of idealism is it?

DAVID RANDALL ’93
BROOKLYN, N.Y.

MORAL COMPASS

Kudos to the *Bulletin* for “A Profitable Education” (June), a thought-provoking article that made me question my sometimes skeptical attitude toward corporate careers. Alumni in business such as John Montgomery ’77 and Adrian Merryman ’80 have at least as much capacity to effect positive change as our journalist, civil servant, and physician classmates. How many of us who have chosen academic careers can realistically expect to donate \$100 million a year to charity on our retirement?

However, I was put off by the comment of the alumnus who said, “Some of us have to care about economics and do want to live comfortably.” What is comfortable to an American is egregiously opulent to so

much of the world. This statement suggests that it is acceptable to own a \$2 million house, when a downgrade to a \$1 million home could pay for a basic sanitation project in Chad, Africa, and save lives. We treat ourselves to luxuries out of moral laziness—not because, after thoughtful reflection, a new iPod is more important than vaccines for 300 Congolese children.

Some Swarthmore alumni will earn big bucks in the Fortune 500 honorably. But many better things can be done with money than enhance our own comfort.

MATTHEW LANDREMAN ’03
Oxford, England

EDUCATING FOR LEADERSHIP

In the September *Bulletin*, Peter Darling’s [’84] letter in response to “A Profitable Education” (June *Bulletin*) does not do justice to the curriculum. According to Darling, Swarthmore fails to prepare students for careers in business by emphasizing theory over practice and a “theoretical tolerance and egalitarianism” over leadership and management training. I am not in the business field, yet I value my Swarthmore education for the skills and experiences that Darling sees as lacking.

Swarthmore taught me that leadership is not simply about choosing an “authoritarian” or “egalitarian” approach but involves well-defined leadership tools, building on the best aspects of many approaches. I regret that Darling did not have the same positive experience that I did at Swarthmore. I also hope that the business world continues to value creative thinking as well as concrete skills, theory as well as practice, and respect as well as

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critical thinking, just as Swarthmore does.

CLAIRE FELDMAN-RIORDAN ’01
Durham, N.C.

LIVING WAGE QUESTION

Having received the latest in a litany of publications trumpeting, but not defining, “the meaning of Swarthmore,” I’d like to pose this question: What is the meaning of a wealthy, elite institution that proclaims to the world how its budget reflects its values yet cannot manage to pay its most vulnerable employees a living wage?

MARCIA HENRY P’03
Oakland, Calif.

See p. 7 for news of a proposal that would improve compensation and benefits for staff.

FOR THE RECORD

Farrell Bloch is from the Class of ’69, and Bob Kramer is with the Class of ’61. In “Unearthly Place” (September *Bulletin*), Charles Danforth ’95, Edgard Bertaut ’80, and Tom Kornack ’98 appear left to right.

WHY SWARTHMORE?

I'm still choosing Swarthmore.

By Lawrence Schall '75, vice president of administration

"WHY SWARTHMORE?" IS THE FIRST ESSAY QUESTION students are required to answer on the College's admissions form—and has been since the Dark Ages, when I applied. When did the question first appear on Swarthmore's application? I imagine, with some detective work, I could discover the answer to this bit of trivia; perhaps some of you will enlighten me. Yet whether it was 1901 or 1971, we all answered this question, one way or another.

Can you remember why you chose Swarthmore from among all the other college choices you might have made? I can. My sister, Ellen '69 (see p. 38), and brother, Rich '71, came to Swarthmore before me, so I was able to see and experience the College even before I completed middle school. Over the dinner table, I heard stories about relationships with professors that began in the classroom and continued throughout their years at the College—and beyond. Professor of Philosophy Richard Schuldenfrei and Professor of Anthropology Steven Piker are two who figured prominently in my siblings' stories, and both are still teaching at Swarthmore some 30 years later.

As a teenager who lived near campus and visited often, I was able to experience the magical feeling of sitting in the amphitheater, looking up through the poplars to the blue sky overhead. I hung out with my sister as she studied late into the night in Parrish Commons, her manual typewriter churning out a seminar paper due the next day. I came to know many of my brother's and sister's friends from across the country and around the world, some who came from relative privilege and others from backgrounds I had never been exposed to before. Those kids were able to attend Swarthmore because of their academic achievements—and because of the College's ability to meet the financial

aid needs of every student.

My siblings came home mostly on holidays, looking very different. Richard's formerly short hair now cascaded past his shoulders, and Ellen's look was less refined. Both talked passionately about politics, culture, literature, and philosophy. How could anyone study so many things at such a small college? Already, they were doing important *real* work. Rich was taking his political ideals and transforming them into action, working summers with field laborers picking apricots on the West Coast, and Ellen was working with children on the Lower East Side of New York City. They were on fire with what they were learning, and the heat was contagious.

Why Swarthmore for me? Because it was a genuine community of people who cared about each other and the world. This answer is still the one thousands of prospective students give on their admissions essays each year. Sometimes fervently, sometimes shyly, they choose Swarthmore for the same reason—to get the best education and to make the world a better place. They may not yet fully understand what makes the Swarthmore experience so intense and rewarding. But, we, as alumni, know now.

Swarthmore's faculty members, so deeply committed to teaching each individual student, somehow remain current and productive in their chosen fields. A vibrant student body is drawn from public and private schools; from Bangladesh and Bangor, Maine; from rural cornfields and urban inner cities. These students and teachers come together to learn on a beautiful and enveloping campus. Swarthmore's expectation and mission are that graduates are meant to give back, share our talents, challenge ourselves to improve the planet. In many ways, we have.

I turned 50 last November, and that milestone (or is it a millstone?) has prompted me to examine my accomplishments and the things that have had meaning in my life. To answer these questions, Swarthmore has, once again, become a touchstone for me, and I have been thinking, "Why Swarthmore?" from another perspective.

Right now, the College is in the midst of a six-year fund-raising campaign called The Meaning of Swarthmore. Many alumni, parents, friends, and foundations have already come forward with generous gifts to support this effort. Of the \$230 million goal, Swarthmore has, to date, raised close to \$168 million in gifts and pledges. Two years remain in this effort. As an administrator at Swarthmore, I've seen what is called a "giving pyramid" that sets out how many gifts of each size are needed to reach the goal—from one or two eight-figure gifts down to thousands of three- and four-figure ones. As I've thought about my place in that pyramid, I've wondered what it would mean if I significantly increased my regular contribution to the College and made a substantial capital gift to this campaign—and why I should.

Let's be honest. Swarthmore already has a lot of money. I hear this sentiment with some frequency when I talk to my own relatives about the idea of a family gift to the College (nine of us now share the Swarthmore experience). Isn't the College's endowment valued at more than \$1 billion? Does Swarthmore really need our money? Would it really matter if the College didn't meet its campaign goal?

Those are the questions the College must answer directly. Each of my family members knows how meaningful Swarthmore has been in their own lives. They love this place and are extremely loyal to it. Clearly, the



powerful point is the scholarships the College provides on the basis of need. Swarthmore has avoided making merit awards, choosing not to compete with other colleges and universities that are increasingly trying to attract the best students with financial support. We use our scholarship aid—now \$16 million a year—to provide access for students who otherwise could not afford to come. Without this aid, Swarthmore's student body would not have the vibrancy, vitality, and character that it does. It would fail students in need as well as students who need to experience economic diversity. Even without any substantial enhancements to what Swarthmore offers its aided students, the cost of maintaining the College's current need-blind admissions policy has grown faster than the rate of inflation. Princeton recently eliminated the requirement that needy students take out loans to attend. Brown has announced its intention to match that commitment. It would take additional endowment of nearly \$39 million to allow Swarthmore to be as

generous to its students.

Another consideration is facilities. The current renovation of Parrish Hall and related infrastructure improvements will cost \$18 million. Each year, the College spends millions of dollars of its operating budget to maintain roofs, keep stone facades intact, and replace outmoded boilers. To embark on a project like Parrish—so ambitious yet so necessary—requires new funding sources.

Now consider the curriculum that provides our students with the learning experiences they need to make a difference in a changing world. Fifteen years ago, the College did not offer computer science. Now, enrollment in courses offered by the Computer Science Department reaches almost 300. Three years ago, the College had only occasional offerings in Islamic studies. Today, two tenure-track faculty

members anchor an exciting and developing program. These two enhancements to the curriculum alone have required the equivalent of more than \$21 million a year of endowment.

THE QUALITIES THAT MAKE SWARTHMORE SO DISTINCTIVE cost a lot of money. Our choice to remain small and provide each student with a personal experience precludes increasing income by simply enlarging the student body. From our extraordinary faculty and low student-faculty ratio, to a curriculum that offers both breadth and depth, to our beautiful and contemplative setting, Swarthmore has determined to lead.

Swarthmore can provide this extraordinary education today—meeting the gap between student charges and the actual cost of education—because of the past generosity of its graduates. These were people, just like us, who recognized what their time here meant to their lives. Today, a new generation of donors must step forward to make sure that what others have built remains vital and strong; that the excellence for which Swarthmore is known continues undiminished; and that new generations of alumni are produced, committed to making the world a better place. The College needs you because our country and world need Swarthmore.

The Meaning of Swarthmore concludes in December 2006. More than \$16 million is needed to finish the new integrated science center and to complete the renovation of Parrish. Our goal for new endowment to provide financial aid is \$10 million. It's our turn. I can, in addition to my gift every year to the Annual Fund, make a new pledge, substantially larger than those I have made before. I've chosen to support the Parrish renovation with a capital gift to the campaign.

Why Swarthmore? Because if you don't support the College, who will? ❧

Larry Schall, one of nine family members who share the Swarthmore experience, is the College's vice president of administration. He would love to hear your version of "Why Swarthmore?"—why you have decided to join so many of your friends in choosing the College again. His e-mail is lschall1@swarthmore.edu. For more information about making a gift to Swarthmore, go to www.swarthmore.edu/support.

depth of their affection and appreciation for Swarthmore are not the issue. Why does Swarthmore need their support now? What difference will their gift really make?

I have been working at Swarthmore for almost 15 years. I am not a fund-raiser. I do, however, understand the College's finances because of my position here, and I would like to share the things I talked about with my family:

The total cost of educating one student at Swarthmore this year is almost \$80,000.

Isn't the College's endowment valued at more than \$1 billion? Does Swarthmore really need our money? Would it really matter if the College didn't meet its campaign goal?

That's an astounding figure. As a "full-pay" student, I had always assumed my family had paid the full cost of my attending Swarthmore. I know now that my assumption was incorrect. Of the income on Swarthmore's \$1 billion endowment, more than \$40 million a year goes to fill the gap between real costs and the tuition charged for full-pay students and between need—and ability to pay for our aided students. Today, more than half of Swarthmore's students receive need-based aid, with an average scholarship grant close to \$20,000 a year.

The extraordinary level of budget support provided by the College's endowment is made possible largely by gifts that others have made before us. Yet those gifts will not allow Swarthmore to retain its position among the best colleges in the country. One

COLLECTION



JIM GRAHAM

A BIG HOLE IN PARRISH

THE DEMOLITION PHASE OF THE RENOVATION OF PARRISH HALL provided this unusual view of two familiar spaces. Below beams supported by the building's original cast-iron columns lies the former Admissions Office space—known to older alumni as the College's dining hall. This room will become the College's post office. Above, the familiar windows of the former Parrish Commons will be preserved as part of a new Admissions reception and meeting room. The floor has been partially removed to allow construction of a new central staircase leading from the first-floor hall to the second-floor Admissions Office and administrative floor. The \$18 million project that includes Parrish renovations; remodeling of Sproul Observatory, now the home of the Alumni Relations Office; and related infrastructure improvements is scheduled to be completed in December 2005.

—Jeffrey Lott

BOARD TO VOTE ON LIVING WAGE

SWARTHMORE'S FACULTY VOTED 58-0 in November to endorse a plan developed by President Alfred H. Bloom and his staff that will improve the compensation of the College's lowest-paid workers. Following more than two years of campuswide discussions among faculty, staff, and students, the proposal will be considered by the Board of Managers at their meeting this month. (The *Bulletin* will report on the outcome of that meeting in March 2005.)

If adopted, the proposal would establish \$10.38 per hour as the College's minimum wage. This is an increase from the current minimum of \$9 per hour, set in 2002. The proposal also calls for the College to add a subsidy—conditional on means-testing—to cover the costs of health insurance for partners or spouses of employees who earn up to \$14 per hour, based on a sliding scale. Eligible employees would be expected to make use of the federal Children's Health Insurance Program, administered by the state, to cover the health insurance costs of their children, and the College would assist them in doing so.

The College provides individual health insurance for benefits-eligible employees, plus "benefit bank" dollars that may be used for family or dependent health coverage—or taken as cash salary. Reducing the need to use benefit bank dollars for family coverage will provide an additional 90 cents per hour to employees covered under the proposal.

President Bloom and his

staff developed their proposal after considering the recommendations made by the College's Ad Hoc Committee on the Living Wage in February. (See "Living Wage Committee Reports: Community Examines Options," June *Bulletin*, for more details.) Although the committee's report also included recommendations addressing issues such as child care and wage compression, the proposal before the Board focuses on improving the minimum wage and ensuring access to health care for the College's lowest-paid staff members. In addition, under this plan, annual funding for staff professional development, including staff tuition reimbursement, would increase from \$20,000 to \$50,000.



MATT DRAPER '05/THE PHOENIX

A NOV. 10 PANEL DISCUSSION SPONSORED BY THE SWARTHMORE LIVING WAGE AND DEMOCRACY CAMPAIGN WAS ONE OF MANY CAMPUS GATHERINGS TO DEBATE PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS FOR THE COLLEGE'S LOWEST-PAID STAFF. PARTICIPATING WERE (LEFT TO RIGHT) VICE PRESIDENT MAURICE ELDRIDGE '61, PROFESSOR OF RELIGION ELLEN ROSS, DINING SERVICES WORKER MICHELLE HARTEL, CAMPAIGN ACTIVIST EMILY WISTAR '06, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES WORKER HAMZA WALI, AND AARON BARTLEY '96, WHO HAD BEEN A LEADER OF THE CAMPAIGN AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

Bloom said that he believed the College "must strive, within the context of other priorities of our mission and within the con-

strained budget environment we now face, to ensure that all who work here are able to meet their minimum financial needs."

If the Board approves the proposal, the plan would take effect in the 2005-2006 fiscal year, which begins July 1. The annual cost is estimated by Vice President and Treasurer Suzanne Welsh between \$100,000 and \$130,000. The College annually spends more than \$20 million on staff compensation and benefits. It appears likely that the plan will be funded through a combination of increased tuition revenue and reallocation of other expenses.

"We are already in a highly constrained budgetary environment," said Bloom. "But, by adopting this proposal, Swarthmore will move in a responsible and effective way toward being an even more humane community—and, in that respect, a community with even greater educational force."

—Alisa Giardinelli

THEY SOLD YOUR STUFF!

REMEMBER THAT GOLDEN-HUED BOWLING BALL YOU LEFT BEHIND or the rice cooker you thought you'd never need again? These and other moldering treasures left in dormitory storage rooms (*below*) were sold in late September at a giant yard sale organized by Student Council and the resident assistants. Most items went for a dollar, although some pieces of furniture brought a few bucks more. The result? Cleaner, more useful storage space for current students and \$1,445.64 for ABC House, which provides support for academically talented high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds. So forget about that dog-eared copy of Foucault—it's found a new home.

—Jeffrey Lott



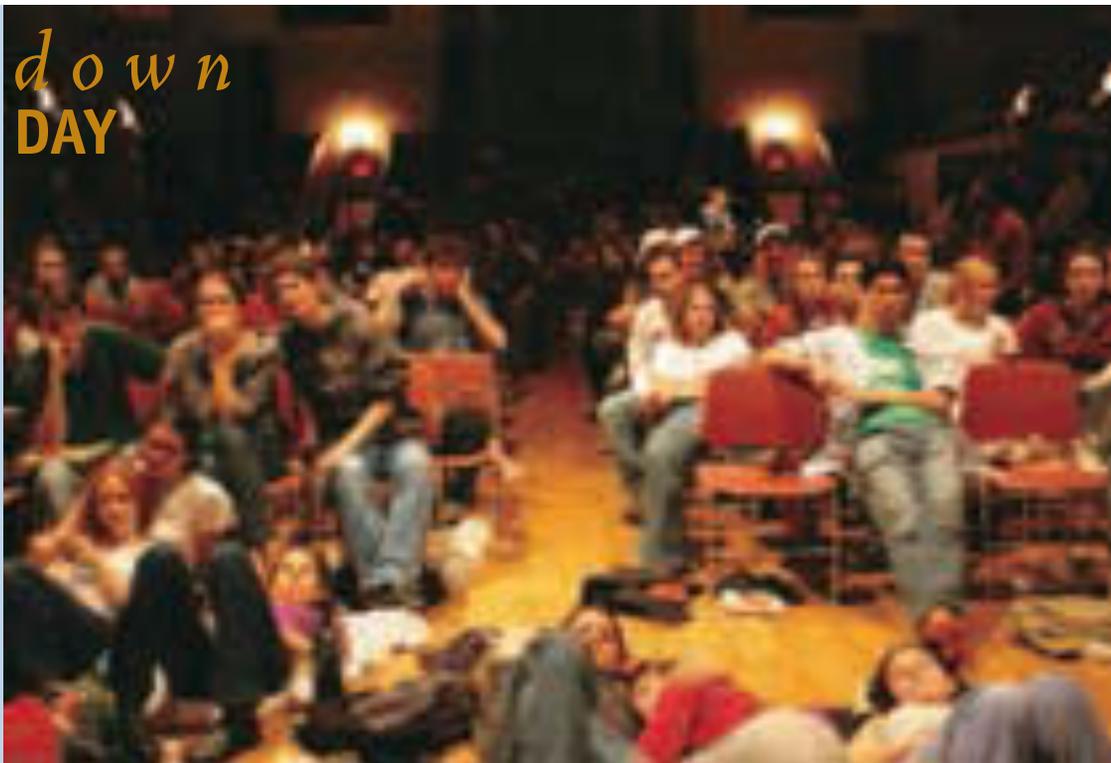
EMILY FIFETOG '07/THE PHOENIX

Countdown TO ELECTION DAY

SPEAKING TO MORE THAN 800 STUDENTS, faculty, staff, and community members on Oct. 28, former Vermont governor and presidential candidate Howard Dean came at the end of the beginning—and the beginning of the end. He came to Swarthmore five days before Nov. 2 as a messenger from the John Kerry campaign for continued perseverance after months of student activism in support of local and national candidates.

“After we leave this room, there are tables outside. We need your help. We need to win Pennsylvania. If we lose Pennsylvania, we’ve lost the election. We need to win Pennsylvania, it’s close, we need your help canvassing, we need your help knocking on doors and getting people out to vote all over this region,” Dean told the near-capacity crowd gathered in Pearson-Hall Theatre of the Lang Performing Arts Center.

Students capped months of get-out-the-vote efforts with a flurry of activity in the final weekend. The Swarthmore Col-



EMILY FIRETOG '07/THE PHOENIX

STUDENTS GATHERED IN CLOTHIER MEMORIAL HALL ON ELECTION NIGHT TO WATCH THE RETURNS ON A LARGE SCREEN. MANY STUDENTS WERE ACTIVE IN POLITICS THIS FALL—ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ELECTION.

lege Republicans brought Delaware County’s incumbent Congressman Curt Weldon to campus on Oct. 31. Weldon endorsed George W. Bush for president and spoke of his work in strengthening American defense by building a strong alliance with Russia. About 40 students attended, many wearing pro-Kerry buttons, there to challenge Weldon on a predomi-

nantly Democratic campus.

“The conservative voice is definitely smaller on campus, but I don’t think it is any way oppressed,” said Swarthmore College Republicans President Maria Macia ’07. There are about 40 subscribers to the group’s e-mail list.

Most political activity this fall, though, was sponsored by the Swarthmore College Young Democrats, led by President Eva Barboni ’06, and the Swarthmore Voter Registration Coalition (SVRC), a nonpartisan group aimed at increasing registration and voter turnout. Celia Paris ’05 (see p. 10) described the SVRC as a clearinghouse for get-out-the-vote activities, and SVRC members sponsored voter registration drives in Chester, Pa., and on campus, while working with local progressive voting groups. Many students volunteered with America Coming Together (ACT) and Move-On

for get-out-the-vote activities aimed at potential Democratic voters. ACT alone had 130 volunteer student canvassers on Election Day, according to a volunteer organizer, Emiliano Rodriguez ’05.

After a night of phone banking, a 3:30 a.m. wake-up call for a morning of putting voter reminders on doors in Chester, and a day spent trudging door-to-door the grassroots way, hundreds of students settled into the Tarble all-campus space on election night to eat pizza and watch the returns on a big-screen broadcast sponsored by the SVRC.

Students and faculty members were there well into the next morning, many bundled in blankets, helpless to do anything but cheer the results they had worked for, scream at the results they hadn’t, and wait to see how Ohio would swing.

—Elizabeth Redden ’05

BOOK AWARD FINALIST

Maiden of Ludmir: A Jewish Holy Woman and Her World (University of California Press, 2003) by Nathaniel Deutsch, associate professor of religion, is a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award. It is the first book-length account of one of the most fascinating figures in modern Jewish history. Hannah Rochel Verbermacher, a Hasidic holy woman known as the Maiden of Ludmir, was born in early 19th-century Russia and became famous as the only woman in the 300-year history of Hasidism to function as a rebbe—or spiritual leader—in her own right. Deutsch follows the traces left by the maiden in both history and legend to explore her story fully for the first time. Deutsch, whose expertise is in Judaism, Gnosticism, and early Christianity, has taught in the Department of Religion since 1995.

—Tom Krattenmaker

PRESCOTT WINS NOBEL PRIZE

EDWARD “CHRIS” PRESCOTT ’62 SHARED THE 2004 NOBEL PRIZE for economic science with his longtime collaborator Norwegian-born economist Finn Kydland, for their work on understanding the causes of business cycles. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, they found that real shocks—not nominal shocks—are responsible for economic fluctuations. Such shocks could be of a negative nature, such as the oil embargo of the 1970s or the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, but they could also be positive, as when the introduction of new technology leads to rapid

increases in productivity.

Prescott, who was Kydland’s Ph.D. adviser—and later colleague—at Carnegie Mellon University, currently teaches at Arizona State University. He is also a senior monetary adviser at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. According to Associate Professor of Economics Philip Jefferson, Prescott and Kydland’s ideas have influenced how central banks conduct monetary policy. “They were among the first to emphasize in an analytical context the importance of constancy and credibility. Their work argues that, although the Federal Reserve had strong incentives to be inconsistent in its policy mak-

ing—especially when reacting to such shocks—a consistent policy over a long time would keep inflation under control and benefit the economy,” he says.

Prescott becomes the fourth Swarthmore alumnus to receive a Nobel Prize. Howard Temin ’55 and David Baltimore ’60 shared the 1975 prize in medicine with Renato Dulbecco for their discoveries concerning the interaction between tumor viruses and the genetic material of the cell. Christian Anfinsen Jr. ’37 won the 1972 prize in chemistry for his work on ribonuclease.

—Jeffrey Lott



COURTESY OF ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

EDWARD “CHRIS” PRESCOTT IS THE FOURTH SWARTHMORE ALUMNUS TO WIN A NOBEL PRIZE.

HHMI TOUTS LIBERAL ARTS SCIENCE EDUCATION

USING SWARTHMORE AS A PRIME EXAMPLE in a special report on undergraduate science education, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) has praised the model of science education being pursued at America’s best small liberal arts colleges, saying that “when it comes to producing science Ph.D.s, liberal arts colleges are at the head of the class.” HHMI is one of the leading biomedical research foundations in the world.

In the summer 2004 issue of the *HHMI Bulletin*, Swarthmore faculty members Julie Hagelin, assistant professor of biology; Amy Vollmer, professor and chair of biology; and Scott Gilbert, Howard A. Schneiderman Professor of Biology, discuss the research opportunities and personal attention that they offer their biology students. And Swarthmore alumni David Baltimore ’60, Hadley Horch ’93, David Page ’78, and Joseph Takahashi ’74—all prominent researchers or teachers at other institutions—tell how their undergraduate experiences shaped their careers.

National Science Foundation data on the undergraduate degrees of science and engineering Ph.D.s show that although liberal arts colleges enroll just 8 percent of all four-year college students, from 1996 to 2002, their graduates earned 15.5 percent of the Ph.D.s awarded. Among such schools, Swarthmore ranks second (after Oberlin College) in doctorate recipients.

Readers interested in obtaining a copy of the HHMI article may call the College’s Office of News and Information at (610) 328-8533, or e-mail apace1@swarthmore.edu.

—Jeffrey Lott



JIM GRAHAM

THOMAS CECH, PRESIDENT OF THE HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE, LECTURED ON CAMPUS IN EARLY NOVEMBER. HE CHATTED WITH AMY CHENG VOLLMER, PROFESSOR AND CHAIR OF BIOLOGY, AFTER HIS TALK. CECH WON THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY IN 1978 FOR THE DISCOVERY OF SELF-SPLICING RNA MOLECULES.

THE CRUCIBLE OF *Swarthmore*

SWARTHMORE STUDENTS ARE DRIVEN TO EXCEL. They come to the College seeking an environment where they can soar intellectually. Celia Paris '05, an education and philosophy major whose mother calls her “too intense,” loved the idea of being surrounded by students just like her. “Intensity, in my mind,” she says, “was equivalent to everything good: intellectual exploration, youthful passion, exuberance, and joy in living.” By the beginning of her junior year, though, she began to recognize that “intensity is a double-edged sword.”

“I was my own pressure cooker,” she says. “At the end of the night, I’d be wiped out and feel like a failure if all my reading wasn’t done. I was anxious about my future. I feared letting people down, being unhappy and trapped, not knowing which was the perfect job for me.”

Paris’ attitude started to change when she began to assist Professor of Education Lisa Smulyan with a research project. Since 1991, Smulyan had been tracking the career choices and lives of 28

Using the wisdom drawn from her Swarthmore experience, Paris has learned to channel her intensity.

Swarthmore sophomore and junior women, who early in their college experiences had shown interest in either education or medicine. Considering the role of gender in occupational choice, Smulyan aimed to examine how female students at a liberal arts college explore, challenge, and renegotiate career in a world where gender has historically influenced career choices. Smulyan interviewed the

students every year for five years, then again in 2001. Paris’ task was to read the interviews, during the fall 2003 semester and summer 2004, and compile a coding system for data analysis.

Paris found her own feelings reflected in the interviews—the stress, the fear of wrong choices, judgments of inadequacy, and failure to find a job. “None of these observations were particularly surprising to me,” she says, “but recognizing the similarity in experience failed to shed any light on how I could better deal with my own struggles.”

In spring 2003, in search of new perspectives, Paris spent a semester in Sweden. “The week before I left the United States, I was miserable and scared because I felt so adrift,” she says. “I decided I would just have to figure out what I wanted to do as I went along—a significant change in mentality for me.” While abroad, she learned about far more than the welfare state, social democracy, and other issues such as multiculturalism. “I learned more about myself that semester than I had in the prior two years of college,” she says, “and not just because I was in a foreign country. Accepting that I didn’t have all the answers and that I didn’t necessarily need those answers allowed me to see myself in a whole new light.”

Returning to Swarthmore, Paris continued her work with Smulyan. Now, she read the interviews more deeply, savoring the triumphs and successes of the women instead of simply seeking motifs for code category headings. “Through their narratives,” she says, “the women shed light on how Swarthmore intensity shapes the process of making choices and how the negative effects of such intensity could be overcome. I began to see the deeper lessons that these women learned, lessons that could be applied to my own life.”

Paris also benefited from the course Practical Wisdom, which dealt with the virtues and skills required to make right decisions and judgments (see June 2003 *Bulletin*, p. 6). She concluded that practical wisdom is cultivated through experience and reflection under the guidance of those who are already wise—she mentions favorite professors Smulyan, Ken Sharpe, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of Political Science, and Barry Schwartz, Dorwin P. Cartwright Professor of Social Theory and Social Action, from whose book *The Paradox of Choice* she learned that choices are rarely permanent—more important is what one does with a choice once made.

Using the wisdom drawn from her Swarthmore experience, Paris has learned to channel her intensity, she says. “My classroom experience, relationships with mentors, summer job, and my own interests and struggles were all fundamental. A crucial intersection is formed in the crucible of Swarthmore, this tightly woven intellectual community. This is intensity at its best—all aspects of life intertwine to shape the person you will become.”

As her time at the College nears its end, Paris is content and even a little proud of her uncertainty about her future career. She expects to pursue teaching certification eventually, but first, she plans to try out the field of politics, possibly seeking a job with a political think-tank or institution-building group. “It’s really important to have gotten to this point where I can say I can do this for *now*—it doesn’t have to define the rest of my life, but it *might*.”

—Carol Brevart-Demm



JIM GRAHAM

"THE CRUM IS A JEWEL"

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY José-Luis Machado has received a \$15,000 grant from the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation to study the Crum Woods in summer 2005. Working with student research assistants, Machado will use the woods to examine how forests in suburban areas serve as storage pools for atmospheric carbon dioxide produced from fossil fuel consumption. For this work, the Crum Woods will effectively serve as an outdoor laboratory.

"The Crum is a jewel," says Machado, a native of Colombia who this semester took his advanced-seminar students for a 10-day field trip to several ecosystems in the Republic of Panama including coral reefs, mangroves, rainforest, mountain, and dry forests. "Some students, even seniors, have never been there. It's cool to show them the woods are a 75-year-old experiment and still going." The woods consist of more than 200 acres of forest and 30 acres of swamps, marshes, and floodplains.

—Tom Krattenmaker



FREE-SPEECH VICTORY

IN SEPTEMBER, A CALIFORNIA FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT RULED that two Swarthmore juniors, Nelson Pavlosky and Luke Smith, had been illegally pressured by Diebold Election Systems to remove what Diebold claimed was copyrighted internal memos from the students' Web site at the College. (See "Students Win Net Fight," December 2003 *Bulletin*.) The case is thought to be an important interpretation of copyright law under the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

The court said that in asserting that the leaked memos—which discussed apparent problems with computer-voting machines manufactured by Diebold—were copyrighted, the company violated the law. Diebold sent letters last year to the College demanding that the memos be removed from the students' site. The College complied at first but encouraged the students to pursue legal action. When Diebold officials then failed to counterfile a copyright-infringement claim, the students were allowed to repost the memos.

Although the controversy came at a time when electronic voting machines were receiving much public scrutiny, Pavlosky told the *Chronicle of Higher Education*: "We're not really interested in voting per se. We were worried about freedom of speech on-line." Pavlosky and Smith are leaders of the student group Swarthmore Coalition for the Digital Commons, which advocates reform of copyright laws.

Their attorney, Jennifer Granick of Stanford Law School's Center for the Internet and Society, called the court decision "a great ruling for free speech.... What it says is copyright owners can't use false claims of copyright infringement to squelch public debate."

—Jeffrey Lott



CO-OP REOPENS

On Oct. 14, the new Swarthmore Co-Op opened its doors to reveal a large, bright space, twice the size of the store's old quarters. Customers wandered through wide aisles dividing shelves stocked with expanded selections of seafood, organic foods, and local produce. Tables near the large window at the front of the store invite visitors to sit and enjoy a snack or a cup of coffee. Planned as the nucleus of an ongoing effort to revitalize the Ville, the new co-op was funded by a loan from the National Cooperative Bank, community membership fees, and a \$50,000 contribution from the College.

—Carol Brévar-Demm

JIM GRAHAM



POETIC VISIONS

The paintings of Professor of Studio Art Randall Exon depict both actual places and those remembered from his past. Characterized by the interplay of light, color, and shadow on objects and scenes, his works transform ordinary subjects into personal and poetic visions. From Oct. 14 to Nov. 20, more than 30 of Exon's recent works, including landscapes, interiors, and still lifes were exhibited at New York City's Hirsch & Adler Modern gallery—Exon's first solo exhibit there.

—Carol Brévar-Demm

POLYGLOTS AROUND THE WORLD

SENIORS GREG AND STEVE HOLT ARE IDENTICAL TWINS. Sometimes one speaks for the other. Sometimes they speak in unison. They both love to dance. Although they attended different high schools, because of their parents' wish that they develop "a sense of ourselves" (they say in chorus), they both ended up at Swarthmore. Although they don't share a dorm room, they almost always eat lunch and spend a lot of time together. Between them, they speak eight foreign languages. And during the past two years, they each pursued various study abroad programs, which culminated in a reunion that took place against all odds.

In spring 2003, Greg, who began dancing in high school, went to Bytom, Poland, with the College's foreign study program, primarily because he was interested in training with the Silesian Dance Theatre. He traveled with the troupe to festivals in Kalisz, Poland; Bratislava, Slovakia; Vilnius, Lithuania; and Kuopio, Finland. "It was amazing," he says.

"It showed me what a life involved in the dance world would be like, when the focus of your day—and that of most of the people you're meeting—is dance. It was very illuminating." Greg learned Polish quickly because of its similarities to Russian, which he had learned at Swarthmore. Since his experiences with the Silesian Dance The-

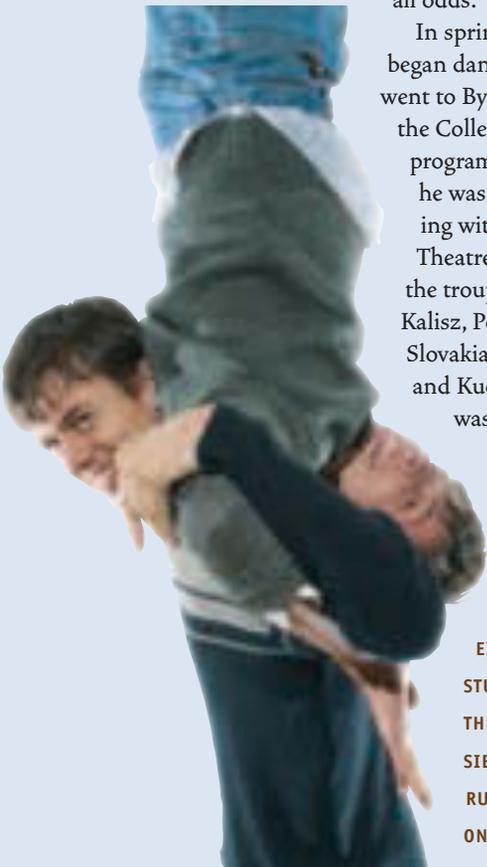
"Thanks to the time-zone change," say the twins in unison, Steve made it back to Berlin 1 hour before his Tuesday-morning class.

atre, Greg is considering a future in dancing more seriously, although he is also interested in the revitalization of endangered languages.

As Greg's program in Poland ended, Steve, who became fluent in Spanish during a stay in Paraguay while still in high school, chose to spend fall 2003 in Salvador, Brazil. "During my time in Paraguay, I lived right on the border with Brazil and was exposed to a lot of Portuguese. Living in Brazil was the only way I wouldn't forget what Portuguese I knew, and the Salvador program was one of only two

Portuguese programs that Swarthmore supports," he says. Steve was interested in more than just the language, however. "Salvador is the center of black culture in Brazil and home to many cultural manifestations such as *capoeira*, *candomblé*, *axé*, and other traditions involving music," he continued. His enthusiasm for *capoeira*, an Angolan dance form that involves singing and playing drums, continues through his participation in a Swarthmore *capoeira* group. "I, too, see dance in my life, although I don't think I'll be a dancer, whereas Greg might," says Steve.

During spring semester 2004, Greg went to Irkutsk, Siberia; and Steve chose to spend a semester in Berlin, Germany. Both studied at universities, taking classes



BETWEEN THEM, IDENTICAL TWINS GREG (UPSIDE DOWN) AND STEVE (STANDING) HOLT, BOTH '05, SPEAK EIGHT FOREIGN LANGUAGES. THEIR FOREIGN STUDY EXPERIENCES HAVE TAKEN THEM FROM SOUTH AMERICA TO SIBERIA, WHERE THEY SLEPT IN A RUSTIC CABIN AND HAD A REUNION ON THE SHORES OF LAKE BAIKAL.

SWARTHMORE HOSTS STUDENTS FROM BELARUS



CHRISTINA TEMES '07/THE PHOENIX

ANASTASIA HERASIMOVITCH AND YULIYA SAVITSKAYA HAD ATTENDED THE EUROPEAN HUMANITIES UNIVERSITY IN MINSK, BELARUS, BEFORE IT WAS SHUT DOWN.

entirely in Russian and German, respectively. Steve also took classes in Galician and Portuguese, continued to study capoeira, and enjoyed the German capital's abundance of public art, either by bicycle or the "cheap public transportation."

Greg, whose choice of Irkutsk reflected an interest in the history and cultural diversity of Siberia, enjoyed the feel of a small provincial city and the proximity to outdoor activities such as cross-country skiing. He also performed with a local dance company and learned to play the *bayan*, a type of accordion.

The three-semester separation of the twins ended in a reunion in Russia in May 2004. "We hadn't seen each other for a very long time, so we came up with this plan for Steve to visit me in Irkutsk," says Greg.

The timing of the trip was crucial. Because Greg's program was ending in May and a summer internship in Alaska awaited him, he had little time. With his German semester running until the end of July, Steve was hesitant about missing classes. In a masterpiece of planning, Steve arranged a 12-day absence, including two weekends and two German feast days, which permitted him to miss only one week of class. Hurling back and forth across Berlin for various confrontations with German bureaucracy, he "flirted" his way into obtaining a German residence permit in record time—documentation needed for a tourist visa to Russia; pleaded for a new airline ticket after his original one was canceled; flew to Irkutsk via Moscow; spent time with Greg and his host family; admired spectacular Lake Baikal; spent 87 hours on the Trans-Siberian Railroad, stopping to tour cities such as Yekaterinburg and Kazan; and, "thanks to the time-zone change," say the twins in unison, made it back to Berlin 1 hour before his Tuesday-morning class.

Now both are back at Swarthmore. Greg speaks Russian, Polish, and Spanish fluently and has studied Hebrew. Steve speaks Spanish, German, and Portuguese fluently, can read Galician, and is studying Arabic. Currently, they are taking ASL classes together.

And as for Greg's trip to Mongolia, his sleeping penniless on Finnish beach, or Steve's camping trip above the Arctic Circle—well, that's another story.

—Carol Brévert-Demm

THIS YEAR, SWARTHMORE IS HOSTING TWO STUDENTS FROM BELARUS whose university was recently closed by the former Soviet republic's government. More than a dozen colleges and universities around the United States are hosting a total of 19 such students. Swarthmore is one of two colleges in Pennsylvania to do so; the other is Cabrini College, which is hosting one student.

"These were students without a home, and we thought it the right thing to do," says Dean of Admissions Jim Bock '90. "We're glad we can be part of the solution while also promoting cross-cultural understanding and the study of the liberal arts."

Anastasia Herasimovitch and Yuliya Savitskaya, who arrived on campus just days before classes began, both had completed three years at the European Humanities University in Minsk, Belarus, before it was shut down last month.

In July, the government announced it was terminating the lease on the university's main academic building because the government needed the space. Two days later, a team from the Ministry of Education announced it would recommend revoking the university's operating license on the grounds that it would soon no longer have adequate facilities.

Herasimovitch and Savitskaya were already in the United States on work-study programs when this happened but with plans—and visas—to stay only through the summer. Instead, they had barely a week to quit their jobs, pack up their belongings, and fly to Toronto to apply for new visas. Once allowed back into the United States, they took a 13-hour bus ride to

Philadelphia, arriving at Swarthmore on Sept. 2. If they want to remain for both semesters, they cannot return home, even for the winter holidays.

"I always dreamed of studying in the United States," says Herasimovitch, who studied international law in Belarus and, after one week on campus, had already helped register people to vote in Chester, Pa., for one of her classes. "If we had prepared for this, it would be great. But not knowing the future is very hard."

It is unclear where the students will be next fall. Even if they do well, Swarthmore cannot guarantee them residency visas. In addition, the College's own policies don't allow for students to transfer in as seniors.

Funding is also an issue. Currently, the students are supported at Swarthmore by assistance from the U.S. State Department and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The Washington, D.C.-based American Councils for International Education administers the project. Whether this support could continue through next year is far from assured.

This is not the first time in its history that Swarthmore has hosted students whose education has been interrupted by government action. As president of the National American Student Relocation Council during World War II, Swarthmore President John Nason helped liberate more than 4,000 interned Japanese-American students from the War Relocation Authority's camps and found places for them in 600 colleges and universities around the country, including Swarthmore.

—Alisa Giardinelli

CHIMES OF *Memory*

THE TOWER ON THE HILL, looming over the Crum's tallest trees as a larger-than-life presence, Clothier Memorial Hall stands right alongside Parrish Hall as one of Swarthmore's most recognizable landmarks. It was named in memory of Isaac Hallowell Clothier, a manager and patron of the College for 47 years.

For Victor Mandes of Ridley Park, Pa., it will always stand for someone else.

"Clothier Memorial to me is the memorial to the genius of my father's ability for his craft, and I do believe it was the one project he was most proud of."

Mandes, 81, comes to campus frequently in summer to "feel the presence of my father." Joseph Mandes, an Italian immigrant stone mason who arrived in New York City in 1890 at the age of 21, fathered seven sons and two daughters and in 1913 moved to Ardmore, Pa., to found Joseph Mandes and Sons, Inc., the construction company that would build Clothier Hall in 1929. The company, which numbered more than 100 employees at the time of Clothier's construction, also built Bryn Mawr College's Rhodes Hall, Princeton University's Firestone Memorial Library, and all of the original stone buildings at St. Andrew's School in Middletown, Del.—the setting for the 1989 film *Dead Poets Society*.

Joseph Mandes had only seven years of formal education. "He was a self-made man," says his son.

Victor Mandes, the only survivor among his siblings, who was only 6 years old at the time of Clothier's construction, built his own career first as a bricklayer, then foreman and superintendent. He climbs the hill toward Clothier slowly on a rainy October day, his father's memory in mind as the 2 p.m. chimes ring from high within the tower.

—Elizabeth Redden '05



JIM GRAHAM



COURTESY OF VICTOR MANDES



COURTESY OF VICTOR MANDES

TOP: VICTOR MANDES OF RIDLEY PARK, PA., WAS 6 YEARS OLD WHEN HIS FATHER'S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY BUILT CLOTHIER. HE SAYS THAT THE GOTHIC BUILDING WAS HIS FATHER'S PROUDEST ACHIEVEMENT.

BOTTOM: JOSEPH MANDES, 1869–1952, IN 1929, THE YEAR OF CLOTHIER MEMORIAL HALL'S CONSTRUCTION (LEFT).

FIRED UP

KEVIN O'NEIL '01 WAS IN CHILE ON A WATSON FELLOWSHIP when he heard the news: A huge fire had raged in the impoverished Bolivian city of Santa Cruz, and no one was there to fight it.

The tragedy led some Santa Cruz residents to start the city's first volunteer fire company—and it led O'Neil to help them do it.

Soon, he and fellow former Swarthmore firefighter Mike Dougherty were pursuing a shared dream: Supporting volunteer fire and rescue squads in some of the most squalid cities in the world.

"It turned out very few organizations do that," said Dan Hammer '07, who will spend a second summer in Bolivia on a Lang Scholarship helping the organization that O'Neil and Dougherty ended up founding—Rescue Corps.

Only after O'Neil had been in Santa Cruz for a while in 2002 were the volunteers ready to turn on their sirens and serve their city of 1.3 million people. Until then, residents had been forced to rely on minimally trained police and prohibitively

expensive for-profit companies.

"I think my presence was more important in terms of, 'Hey, we can do this,'—as a confidence booster."

The arrival of two more Swarthmoreans gave the squad a second crucial boost.

"I was leaving to go home, and I felt my job wasn't done," O'Neil recalled. So Tim Bragg '99 and Abby Lowther '02 went down in 2003 to conduct formal training.

"They really kicked things into high gear," O'Neil said. Besides teaching first aid and helping write bylaws, they raised money in the United States to build a dormitory for female firefighters.

The crew is equipped with American castoffs, including donations coordinated by Ed Kline, Larry Luder, and other members of the Swarthmore Fire & Protective Association. "They're all wearing Swarthmore firefighter jackets," Hammer said of the Bolivians.

Medical and firefighting know-how has turned out to be less difficult to impart than organizational savvy, O'Neil said.

"The Swarthmore fire department has nearly a century of experience in having vol-



HUMBERTO SARAVIA

KEVIN O'NEIL (RIGHT) BROUGHT FIREFIGHTING EXPERIENCE, MATERIAL ASSISTANCE, AND MORAL SUPPORT TO A FLEDGLING BOLIVIAN VOLUNTEER FIRE SQUAD THROUGH RESCUE CORPS (WWW.RESCUECORPS.ORG).

unteers and dealing with crises and managing their budget and just doing day-to-day business," O'Neil said. "In Bolivia, the real hard nut to crack is that lack of experience."

"As we're finding out, this is slow, slogging work," he said. "But the most important thing is, we're seeing results."

—Colleen Gallagher

SCHOOLHOUSE SCORECARD

BLACK CHILDREN SCORE 3 TO 6 PERCENTILE points higher in math and reading when randomly assigned to a classroom with a black teacher. So found Professor of Economics Thomas Dee '90 in a study recently published in *The Review of Economics and Statistics*.

"The persistent achievement gaps between minority and nonminority students are, arguably, the nation's most pressing educational problem," he said.

Ongoing efforts to recruit minority teachers aggressively hinge on the assumption that the racial dynamics within classrooms contribute to these achievement gaps. For example, the role-modeling argument stipulates that simply by their presence in the classroom, minority teachers present minority students with effective professional role models. Another argument claims that teachers may show subtle biases toward students of races other than their own.

Dee based his analysis on data from a large-scale social experi-

ment, Tennessee's Project STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Ratio). Project STAR, which began in 1985, was designed only to study the achievement benefits of being in a small class. Students and teachers from 79 schools were randomly assigned to small and large classes and tracked from kindergarten to third grade for academic achievement. This experimental design also matched teachers and students of different races randomly. His analysis of data from the experiment indicated not only that black students performed better when placed with minority teachers but also that white students excelled when placed with white teachers. White children performed 4 to 5 percent higher in math, and white boys, but not white girls, performed 2 to 6 percent higher in reading.

"What this evidence suggests is that there's something about the racial dynamic in classrooms that does have a substantive effect on student achievement." His study could not address whether classroom dynamics matter in later grades or by gender and ethnicity.

Dee plans to engage some of these questions by using a more representative sample than the STAR data, which contained virtually no Hispanics, consisted of teachers who were almost invariably female, and was available for only elementary school students from one state in the 1980s. In an upcoming study, Dee plans to use data from a nationwide study, the National Education Longitudinal Study of 1988, to determine whether the interactions of race, gender, and ethnicity of teachers and students influence test scores or teacher perceptions of students.

—Elizabeth Redden '05



A STUDY BY A SWARTHMORE ECONOMIST SUGGESTS THAT RACIAL DYNAMICS IN THE CLASSROOM HAVE A "SUBSTANTIVE EFFECT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT," CAUSING BLACK CHILDREN TO SCORE HIGHER IN MATH AND READING WHEN THEY ARE TAUGHT BY TEACHERS OF THEIR OWN RACE.

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Men's Soccer Makes History

MEN'S SOCCER (12-7-2, 6-2-1 CC) With 12 victories, the Garnet posted its most wins and first winning season since 1995. Swarthmore reached the Centennial Conference (CC) play-offs and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Region Championship for the first time ever. Its six CC victories, the most in program history, earned Swarthmore the No. 3 seed in the conference play-offs. The Garnet fell to No. 2 seed McDaniel, 1-0, in overtime in the semifinal match. The team then earned a spot in the ECAC championship as the No. 4 seed. Swarthmore knocked off Lebanon Valley, 4-1, in the first round, and when the top three seeds all fell, the Garnet was called on to host the remainder of the championship. The Garnet dispatched the No. 8 seed Washington & Jefferson, 5-3, in the semifinals to advance to the final. Unfortunately, the Garnet

fell to No. 7 Wesley in the final, 3-1. The freshman duo of Michael Bonesteel and Brandon Washington led the team in scoring. Bonesteel recorded seven goals and four assists for 18 points, and Washington added five goals and a team-best seven assists for 17 points. Three Garnet players earned All-CC honors. Senior goalkeeper Nate Shupe and juniors Alex Elkins and Andrew Terker all received second-team honors. Shupe, a co-captain, finished second in the CC with a 0.765 goals-against average and an 85.9 save percentage and recorded a career-best six shutouts. Elkins anchored the defense at center-back before moving up to mid-field late in the season. As a mid-fielder, the co-captain posted a career-high three goals and three assists for nine points. Terker led the team with eight goals, including four game winners.

—Mark Duzenski



SWARTHMORE'S MEN'S SOCCER TEAM LOST 1-0 IN OVERTIME TO MCDANIEL COLLEGE IN THE SEMIFINAL ROUND OF THE CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT. IN ACTION AGAINST MCDANIEL WERE MIDFIELDER CHARLIE TAYLOR '06 (ABOVE LEFT), DEFENDER PAUL THIBODEAU '06 (ABOVE RIGHT), AND GOALIE NATHAN SHUPE '05 (RIGHT). SWARTHMORE HAD ITS BEST RECORD SINCE 1995, WINNING SIX CONFERENCE GAMES AND FINISHING SECOND IN THE ECAC TOURNAMENT, THE FINAL ROUNDS OF WHICH WERE HELD ON THE NEW ALL-WEATHER CLOTHIER FIELD AT THE COLLEGE.

A STROKE OF PLUCK

A Swarthmore sophomore slipped away from campus recently to help a boatload of his fellow Americans capture a cherished victory in the obscure sport of dragon boat racing. After securing permission to skip a couple of classes, Dan Hammer '07 shipped out to Shanghai for a long weekend in October to participate in the Fifth World Dragon Boat Racing Championships.

By a fraction of a second, the Americans won one of the key events in the international competition, earning a gold medal for the open 1,000-meter race in the so-called Premier category.

The host team from China, where dragon boating originated more than 3,000 years ago, won the most gold medals, 11. But the Canadian team was deemed preeminent for winning a gold and two silvers in the top three events. The gold medal won by the United States, which was host of the previous World Championship in Philadelphia in 2002, was only its second win in a world competition, Hammer said.

Unlike crew, in which the sculls are rowed, dragon boat racers paddle their craft canoe style, each bearing 20 paddlers, a steersman, and a drummer to keep the pace. Dragon boats are also distinguished



EVELYN ORENBUCH

DAN HAMMER '05 (NO. 4 ROWER IN FOREGROUND) WAS AMONG THE AMERICANS IN DRAGON BOAT NO. 1. THEY WON THE 1,000-METER GOLD MEDAL AT THE DIANSHAN LAKE NATIONAL WATER SPORTS CENTRE IN CHINA.

by the fierce eyes and flaring nostrils of carved dragon heads jutting from their bows.

Hammer, 20, began rowing 10 years ago. His crewmates in Shanghai included several former Olympic rowers. "I was by far the youngest," he said.

—Colleen Gallagher



WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY Sarah Hobbs '06 earned a trip to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III cross-country championships when she placed sixth at the NCAA Mideast Regional, covering the 6K course in 22:25 to earn All-Region honors. Carrie Ritter '06 earned All-Region honors by finishing in 32nd place and seventh of 35 in the Garnet team standings. Hobbs placed second at the Centennial Conference championships, covering the hilly 6K course in 23:15, to earn All-Conference honors. Ritter placed 12th, earning All-Conference honors, and Kavita Hardy '08 finished in 18th place to lead the Garnet to a fifth-place finish.

MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY Lang Reynolds '05 and James Golden '05 claimed All-Mideast Region honors in leading the Garnet to a seventh-place finish at the NCAA Regional championships. Reynolds earned All-Region honors for the fourth time with a 22nd-place finish, covering the 8K course in 26:42. Golden earned his first All-Region nod by finishing in 32nd place in 26:59. The duo led the Garnet to a third-place finish at the CC championship, equaling its best finish ever. Reynolds and Golden placed 12th and 13th respectively, earning All-Conference honors, finishing the 8,000-meter run in 27:08.1 and 27:11.11.

FIELD HOCKEY (8-9, 3-7) Junior defender Chloe Lewis was named to the 2004 All-CC second team. Lewis made 16 starts while anchoring the Garnet defense. She led all Swarthmore defenders in scoring with two goals and an assist for five points. She also made two defensive saves. The Garnet

jumped out to a fast start, winning its first four games but struggled in conference play, winning just three of 10 matches. The squad did post a thrilling, 2-1 double-overtime victory at Haverford, as Heidi Fieselmann

'06 scored the game winner with 4:12 left in the second extra frame. Sophomore midfielder Neema Patel led the Garnet in scoring with four goals and seven assists for 15 points. The Garnet displayed a balanced offense with 13 different players scoring goals this season. Julie Monaghan '07 and Saranne Perman '07 each set records for defensive saves to finish in a tie for 10th in the conference, and goalkeeper Melissa LaVan '07 finished in sixth place with a 1.53 goals-against average.

WOMEN'S SOCCER (4-13-1, 2-7-1 CC)

Senior co-captain Jordan Shakeshaft and sophomore Jane Sachs earned All-CC honorable mention. Shakeshaft, a defender, started 16 games at middle back, anchoring the Garnet defense. Sachs, a midfielder, started all 18 games and was second on the team in scoring, with three goals and three assists for nine points. She also scored the game-winning goal in the Garnet's 1-0 victory over Bryn Mawr. Natalie Negrey '07 led the team in scoring with seven goals and one assist for 15 points.

VOLLEYBALL (9-18, 2-8 CC)

Sophomore Erica George was named to the 2004 All-CC team. George, an outside hitter, led the Garnet in kills per game (3.32) and hitting percentage (.211) and was second in digs, averaging 4.4 per game. George, who was ninth in the conference in kills and digs, earned honorable mention. Natalie Dunphy '05 closed out her career with a handful of school records. The two-time captain set school career records for kills (755), service aces (176), and total blocks (235). Karen Berk '08 finished third in the CC in blocks per game (0.97), Patrice Berry '06 finished fifth in digs per game (5.08), and Emily Conlon '06 tied for fourth in aces (51) and was sixth with 777 assists.

—Mark Duzenski



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM GRAHAM



MARK DUZENSKI

SARAH HOBBS '06 (ABOVE) PLACED SIXTH IN THE CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE MEET AND 37TH IN THE NCAA DIVISION III NATIONAL CROSS-COUNTRY TOURNAMENT. SHE IS THE FIRST SWARTHMORE CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNER TO BE NAMED AS AN ALL AMERICAN.

STATE OF THE ART

IN SCIENCE, IT CHANGES.

The College's DuPont Hall, dedicated in 1960, was a product of the *Sputnik* era—a time when American science and technology education was striving to win the space race and the Cold War. Designed by renowned Philadelphia architect Vincent Kling, the modern science complex housed the departments of chemistry, mathematics, and physics. Biology remained a few steps across the quad in Martin, but teaching computer science at a liberal arts college was unknown.

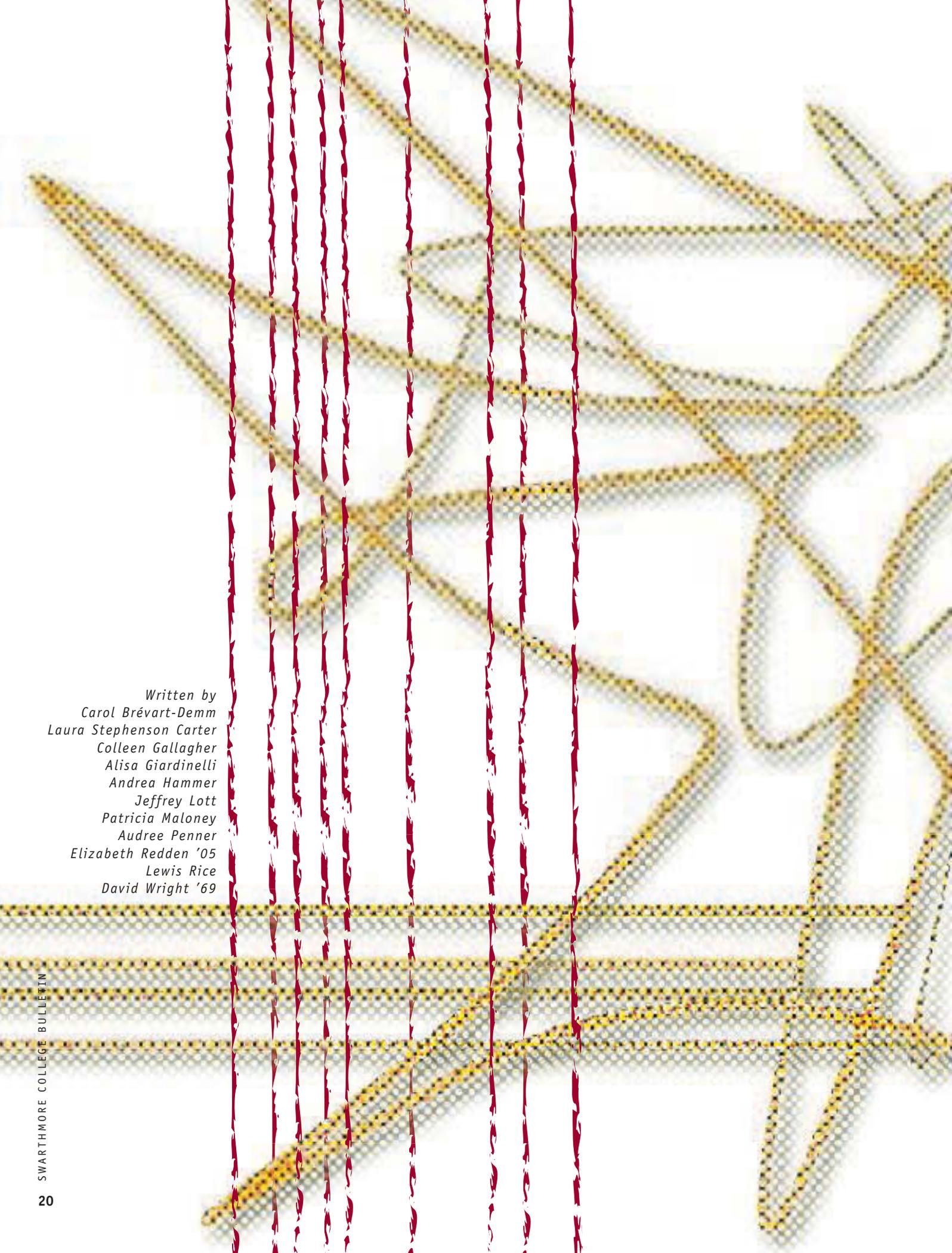
Fast-forward 44 years (and turn to page 44 in this issue), and behold the new state of the art. Swarthmore's new integrated science center, which opened fully this fall and will be dedicated in May 2005, houses five natural science disciplines. It envelops the Cornell Science and Engineering Library

and is joined by a bridge to Martin, which also underwent significant renovation. Two parts of DuPont—the lecture hall and the mathematics wing—were replaced by new construction, and all of the remaining labs, classrooms, and offices were completely renovated.

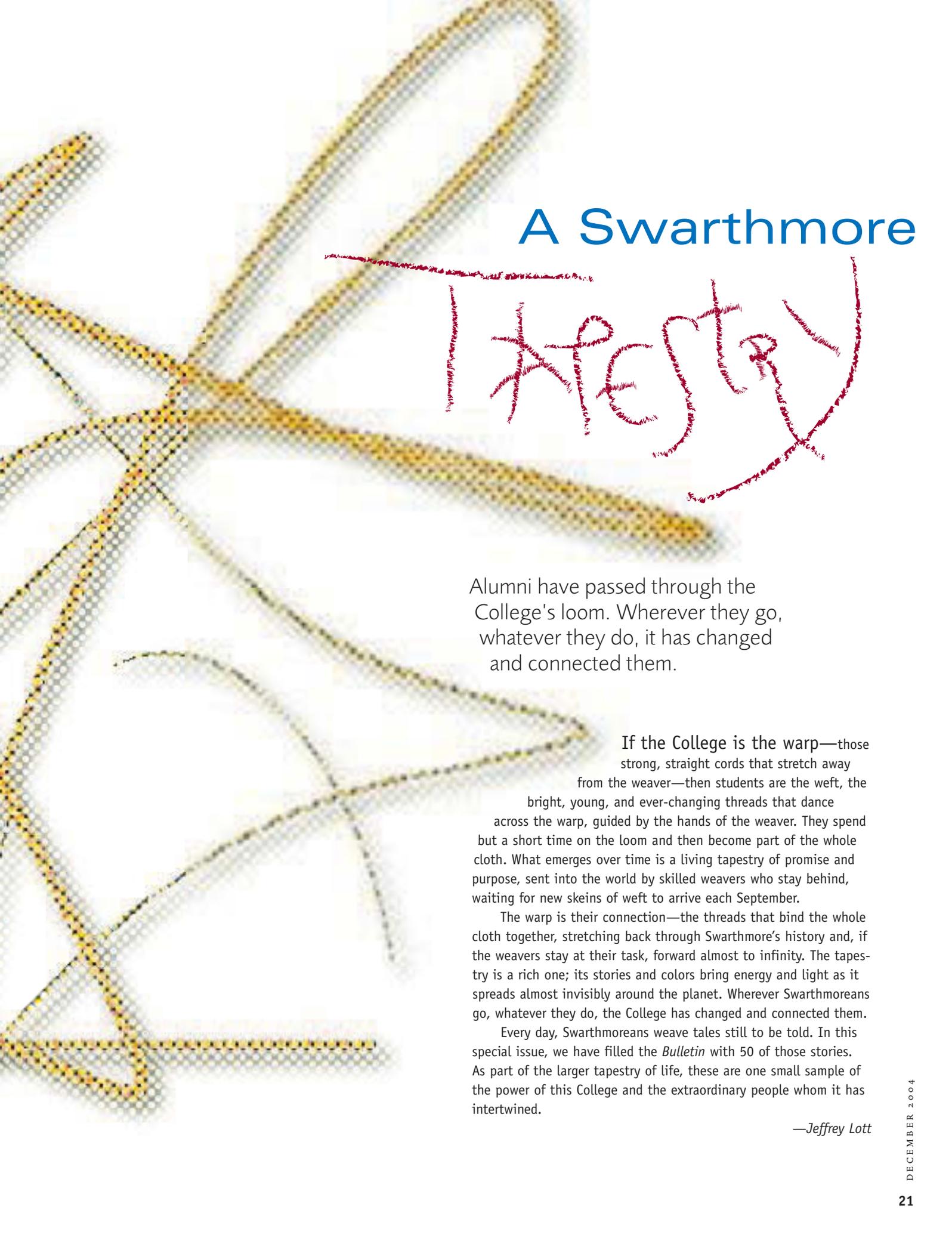
Designed by Helfand Architecture (with principal Margaret Helfand '69) and Einhorn Yaffee Prescott, the soaring, environmentally "green" structure anchors the north end of campus. Two new lecture halls draw classes and events from across the College, and the large commons at the center of the building, recently named in honor of College Vice President Maurice Eldridge '61, buzzes with activity day and night.

—Jeffrey Lott





*Written by
Carol Brévard-Demm
Laura Stephenson Carter
Colleen Gallagher
Alisa Giardinelli
Andrea Hammer
Jeffrey Lott
Patricia Maloney
Audree Penner
Elizabeth Redden '05
Lewis Rice
David Wright '69*



A Swarthmore

Alumni have passed through the College's loom. Wherever they go, whatever they do, it has changed and connected them.

If the College is the warp—those strong, straight cords that stretch away from the weaver—then students are the weft, the bright, young, and ever-changing threads that dance across the warp, guided by the hands of the weaver. They spend but a short time on the loom and then become part of the whole cloth. What emerges over time is a living tapestry of promise and purpose, sent into the world by skilled weavers who stay behind, waiting for new skeins of weft to arrive each September.

The warp is their connection—the threads that bind the whole cloth together, stretching back through Swarthmore's history and, if the weavers stay at their task, forward almost to infinity. The tapestry is a rich one; its stories and colors bring energy and light as it spreads almost invisibly around the planet. Wherever Swarthmoreans go, whatever they do, the College has changed and connected them.

Every day, Swarthmoreans weave tales still to be told. In this special issue, we have filled the *Bulletin* with 50 of those stories. As part of the larger tapestry of life, these are one small sample of the power of this College and the extraordinary people whom it has intertwined.

—Jeffrey Lott



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

HIGH STANDARDS

People have always expected a lot of **Elizabeth Urey Baranger '49**, and she has never disappointed. Looking back, she says that's no surprise: "People flourish when they're expected to do well."

Baranger was a theoretical nuclear physicist and a mother who worked outside the home when women rarely did either. But with a Nobel Prize-winning father who wanted his children to go into science and a department chair at the University of Pittsburgh who expected her to come back to work, she says, "They were not hard decisions to make."

As a Pitt professor in the 1950s and 1960s, she didn't have any women graduate students. There was no day care available. The women's movement got her thinking more about these things. When she became an administrator and had more of a bird's-eye view of her institution, first as an associate dean, then dean of graduate studies of arts and sciences, and ultimately as vice provost, she was startled by how many fields treated women differently from men.

"I had standing in the university," she says. "It was important that I express support for women." And she did—in hiring practices, on committees, and in grievance proceedings, among others.

"It was the quiet pressuring I felt I was supposed to do to make things better," she says. Perhaps it's only natural that someone who benefited from high standards would hold others to her own. —A.G.

FRIENDSHIP BUILDER

For 26 years, **Charles Bailey '67** has been working as a grant maker for the Ford Foundation in Africa and Asia. His assignments have included stints in New Delhi, Cairo, Khartoum, Dhaka, and Nairobi.

During the last seven years, he has been representing the foundation in Vietnam and Thailand, living in Hanoi with his wife, Ingrid Foik, and their two daughters. Bailey oversees grant programs in sexuality and reproductive health, arts and culture, and social sciences. He is responsible for grant making in international relations and poverty reduction in Vietnam's Uplands.

This year, Vietnamese Vice President Truong My Hoa presented Bailey with the Vietnam Friendship Medal, for his "actively contributing to help

Vietnam through humanitarian projects and rural developments and strengthening the relations of friendship between the people of Vietnam and the people of America." —C.B.D.



COURTESY OF CHARLES BAILEY

GYPSY SPELL

Dance has captivated **Ninotchka "Nina" Bennahum '86**. A choreographer, dance historian, and associate professor of performance studies and theatre communication studies at the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University (LIU), she also teaches at the American Ballet Theatre's Summer Institute.

In 1986, Bennahum received a Watson Fellowship to study dance companies in Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary, and the former Yugoslavia—where she moved to choreograph and shoot a film on the avant-garde in modern dance. In 1991, she founded the Route 66 Dance Co., blending flamenco, modern, ballet, and Afro-Cuban styles to develop a "cross-cultural language of dance."

In 1998, Bennahum completed a Ph.D. in performance studies at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts after traveling to Spain to film a documentary about Gypsies dancing flamenco. Her book *Antonia Mercé, "La Argentina": Flamenco and the Spanish Avant Garde* (Wesleyan University Press, 2000) grew out of her dissertation; in this work, she concentrates on the role of La Argentina as a



ELLEN CRANE

MULTIFACETED



Dancer, filmmaker, theater artist, photographer, arts administrator—although each is a different guise, **Patricia Blanchet '88** wears them all. “I may not understand how they all fit together, but it’s completely organic,” she says. “It’s like a cut stone with many facets of the same thing—black art and culture. I just keep moving the stone around.”

Her latest project is a series of photos she took in Burkina Faso in West Africa, all featuring people gazing directly into the camera. “I’m tired of Africans being looked at,” she says. “I wanted to give them an opportunity to look back. The photos are intimate without being voyeuristic.”

Her approach counters the long history of foreigners who have emphasized the “exotic and erotic” when photographing Africans. “I’m not trying to codify them in any anthropological way,” she says. “It’s funny because I studied anthropology and sociology at Swarthmore, and now I’m trying to strip that away.”

Blanchet plans to eventually make her way back to Haiti, which she left at age 3. “It’s going to be a big subject for me,” she says. “My family was among the elites who left under Duvalier, and I’ve been thinking and writing about the impact of that regime on our society. There’s a culture of silence we have as Haitians that I’d like to break.”

When she does, the stone will turn again. —A.G.



PATRICIA BLANCHET

modernist and shows “the variegated character of the nationalist theme as it emerged in her consciousness, her choreography, and her theatrical productions.”

In 2004, Bennahum launched a master of fine arts program in new media art and performance for LIU’s Brooklyn campus. The program, which will open to students in fall 2005, is “an attempt to interface new media with the live performer’s body and to grow avant-garde artists in the neighborhood of downtown Brooklyn who change the way we see,” she says.

Bennahum believes that choreography and performance studies are educational tools for “societal transformation and healing.” She has written about dance and culture for *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, and *Dance Magazine*. Bennahum is currently writing a book about the Gypsy image in the opera *Carmen* and directing the opera as a work of theater—after inviting Swarthmoreans to audition for the production. —A.H.

ACTIVIST

While at Swarthmore in the ‘60s, **Paul Booth ‘64** was an organizer of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), the student political movement that protested the Vietnam War and envisioned a new economic order. He has been organizing ever since.

Today, Booth is executive assistant to the president of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Booth oversees many of the union’s programs and assists the union president in influencing public policy. What began as student activism turned into an unexpected career path—jobs as “professional activists” were unheard of in the 1960s.

“In my sophomore year, my father, who supported my work, told me I had to buckle down because he said you can’t make a living working in the movement.” Booth says. “I am pleased to have proven him wrong.”

Comparing today’s student activists with the “Make Love, Not War” generation, Booth says, “This generation of students is smart and very committed. Freshmen come into college with more savvy than we had. What is keeping them from being a historic generation thus far is the atmosphere of the country as a whole. “In the ‘60s, we had hope and optimism and the warm embrace of the culture. We were told to ‘go ahead and try.’ Today is a much more forbidding climate that activists have to pierce through.” —P.M.



LLOYD WOLF



KIBRA JOHANNES

CLEMENCY

Over haunting music, sons, mothers, and fathers of murder victims speak against the death penalty, as *Deadline*, a 2004 documentary, folds into its conclusion: Illinois Governor George Ryan's blanket clemency for all 167 of the state's death row inmates in January 2003.

The 90-minute film premiered at Sun-

dance Film Festival in 2004 and was broadcast on network television as a two-hour NBC special in July. An estimated 5.5 million people tuned in.

"I have no idea what 5.5 million people look like," said **Dallas Brennan '94**, producer of the film. "We work on something for three years, asking ourselves if it's worth it."

"But after a film like this comes out, we see that people are stopping and talking about the issues, and that makes it so rewarding."

Brennan is a producer for Big Mouth Productions, a New York-based company that specializes in social issue films. Documentary film producing, Brennan said, is an opportunity for her to meld business and creative instincts, "making an idea into a reality."

Researching and creating *Deadline* gave Brennan and the film's two directors, Katy Chevigny and Kirsten Johnson, the opportunity to delve into issues of racial discrimination, poverty, and equity within a criminal system that is not often critically questioned.

"It's not a system we routinely look into. It tends to be people with the least access to communication who are routinely incarcerated," Brennan says.

The film features interviews with former death row inmates, activists, lawyers, and journalists who were involved in Governor Ryan's decision-making process as the final days of his term ticked away.

In granting clemency, Governor Ryan also placed a moratorium on executions that is continuing under current Governor Rod Blagojevich.

Brennan's future projects include *Arctic Waltz*, a documentary about the conflicts that arise when a remote, traditional Arctic community meets the 21st century, and *Election Day*, a profile of how Americans vote. Big Mouth Productions dispatched film crews to 10 different polling locations on Nov. 2, chronicling in particular voters who had been disenfranchised in previous elections.

Brennan is also writing her first novel as a side project: "It's about the responsibility of telling a story." —*E.R.*



GEORGE WIDMAN

LIVING HISTORY

An educator for more than 40 years, **Anna Thompson Burr '25**, a.k.a. Anne Burr, prepared generations of students for their future. As a high school principal for many of those years, she was known as "two-gun Annie" for keeping both hands in the front jacket pockets of her business suits.

After she retired in 1964, she spent almost another 40 years researching her family's past, ultimately publishing four genealogical volumes. Yes, her family tree includes the famous dueling vice president, to whom she is related by marriage. By blood, she can claim William the Conqueror and Alfred the Great. Of her life's work? "I'm glad I did it," she says. "That's all I can say."

Now, she's the oldest resident in her retirement community in Medford, N.J., where she stays busy corresponding with her many family members and friends. A number of fellow residents happen to be her former students.

Although Burr says she's now "on the down hill," she describes her limitations with good humor. "What can you expect at 104? Circumstances are circumstances," she says. "You have to live with what you've got and can hold onto. And be cheerful. That's all I've got for sale." —*A.G.*

THE STORY

UNCOMMON ENERGY

The Brentano String Quartet is only a dozen years young, a tender age in the world of the venerable chamber ensembles with which the Brentano is often compared.

Serena Canin '88, a founding member and second violinist, thinks her group's reputation for energy and vitality stems not from its relative youth but perhaps from its interpretive niche.

"Our style has evolved into playing with minimal vibrato. We don't play with a really lush, romantic sound, which I think suits our interests in early music and 20th-century repertoire. We tend to look for the quirky and bizarre in our interpretations," Canin says. The quartet, which is in residence at Princeton University, gives 60 to 70 performances a year in the United States and abroad. At Princeton, the four musicians coach chamber groups, help students with their compositions, perform works by faculty members, and co-teach music history. This fall, the quartet was off to Amsterdam, Oxford, and Bonn—at the latter they were to perform Beethoven's *Opus 132* at the house where the composer was born. —C.G.



CHRISTIAN STEINER

DOCTOR IS INN

He's a pinball wizard.

At one point, **Arthur "Arky" Ciancutti '65** held the top score on pinball machines all around northern California. That was after he decided to quit practicing medicine but before he built an inn in Mendocino—and a lot happened in between.

After Swarthmore, Ciancutti went to Case Western Reserve School of Medicine in Cleveland where he studied pediatric medicine under the tutelage of the leg-

endary Dr. Benjamin Spock. Pediatrics gave way to emergency medicine where Ciancutti discovered a real need to teach emergency teams how to relate better to patients and each other.

To meet this need, in 1976, Ciancutti launched the Learning Center to teach teamwork skills to medical professionals. Today, the company offers teamwork and executive training to clients in many fields. One of his early clients was a bed-and-breakfast (B&B) in Mendocino. After a visit to the B&B, Ciancutti decided he wanted to live in Mendocino along the Pacific Coast.

He bought an old farm for his family, later refurbishing the original farmhouse and opening it as a B&B. However, the direction of Ciancutti's life would soon change again—because of a game of pinball.

A pinball fanatic since childhood, Ciancutti was playing at a watering hole in Mendocino, when he got into conversation with some bridge workers, who told him about some giant redwood logs submerged in the silt of the Big River. In the 1800s, Mendocino was the primary supplier of redwood lumber to California, and the Big River transported the logs to the mill. Many sank before reaching their destination. Ciancutti decided he would eco-salvage as many of the logs as possible.

For more than a year, Ciancutti and a partner raised these giant treasures from the river, using a specially built river craft pontoon and a winch. "Sometimes it

took days and days to get one log up. We did not use machines because

we did not want to disturb the natural habitat of the river," Ciancutti says. The logs ranged from 40 inches to 12 feet in diameter and were up to 20 feet long. The wood was milled within a year and then needed four years to properly dry.

When sawed, they totaled between 30,000 to 40,000 board feet. Ciancutti started working with an architect to design an inn to be built with the wood. A century and a half under the mineral-rich water had colored the logs deep chocolate, gold, and vibrant red.

The 10-room arts-and-crafts-style Brewery Gulch Inn opened in 2001, and the giant redwoods salvaged from the Big River again stood in the California sun, offering shelter.

Ciancutti is still involved at the Learning Center coaching CEOs on teamwork issues and is co-authoring a second book on business leadership. However, his primary focus is the inn, where his passion for gardening is given full expression.

"The inn is a total joy," Ciancutti says. "I enjoy turning people on to the idea that there can be a balance in life like we have here."

But if you want to play pinball, you're out of luck. "My staff won't let me have one; they say it would be too loud," Ciancutti says. —P.M.



JAY GRAHAM

ELEPHANTS IN SRI LANKA

Naamal De Silva '00, born in Sri Lanka, moved to the United States when she was 6. In 2000, she returned to her homeland for three months to study Asian elephants and their trainers.

She observed elephants dragging trees “felled in hilly areas where heavy machinery cannot be used. Timber hauling is the most important traditional occupation of domesticated elephants in Asia,” says De Silva, who spent time at a Sri Lankan elephant orphanage, where many exhibited behaviors that are characteristic of wild herds. She also interviewed several elephant owners and trainers as well as animal rights activists and others who strongly oppose elephant domestication, which can lead to cruelty to elephants.

“One of the main conclusions I was able

to make while in Sri Lanka was that the working elephant, like the wild elephant, is threatened,” De Silva says. “The majority of working elephants is aging, and the whole institution is in danger of dying out in the next 20 years. As the domesticated elephant has a very long and rich cultural, religious, and historical heritage in Sri Lanka, many individuals are now searching for solutions, which may involve captive breeding. Capture from the wild is no longer an option, nor should it be.”

She added: “I traveled and talked to people and learned the history behind domesticated elephants. It was very valuable from a research standpoint, but it was a cultural experience, too.”

Later obtaining a master’s in environmental management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, De Silva currently works at Conservation Inter-



COURTESY OF NAAMAL DE SILVA

national in Washington, D.C., as outcomes manager for the Asia Pacific Program; in this capacity, De Silva traveled to China and anticipated future trips to Indonesia, the Philippines, and other parts of Asia to help set directions and targets for conservation funding. —A.H.

TOP LAW SCHOOL DEANS

A Harvard Law School faculty member for more than 20 years, **Christopher Edley '73 H'99** had never considered leaving. Then, he had triple bypass heart surgery last year, spurring a midlife crisis.

“It forced me to ask the question of whether I wanted to spend the next 25 years the same way I’ve spent the last 25 years,” he says.

Committed to opening a West Coast outlet of the Civil Rights Project (CRP)—a research and policy think tank he founded at Harvard in 1996—Edley (*top*) began in July as dean of the University of California School of Law at Berkeley, Boalt Hall. He is one of three Swarthmore contemporaries now heading top U.S. law schools: **T. Alexander Aleinikoff '74** (*bottom left*) is Georgetown University Law Center dean, and **Stewart Schwab '76** (*bottom right*) is Cornell Law School dean.

“The search committee at Berkeley was very persuasive about the opportunities I’d have to continue the work I’ve been doing at Harvard and build an important institutional base at Berkeley with the Civil Rights Project,” Edley says. “California is ground zero for all the racial and ethnic changes sweeping the country. What better place to build an institution that can help lead the national discussion of these issues?”

Edley faces major challenges in his new position, including a worsening fiscal crisis in California. He is immediately embarking on a fund-raising campaign, helping to bolster new initiatives like the Berkeley location of the CRP. Among other successes, Edley credits the CRP with influencing the Supreme Court majority that last year upheld affirmative action at the University of Michigan.

Earlier this year, CRP issued a report outlining the persistent segregation of public schools. In his own efforts to increase diversity, Edley must contend with the effects of Proposition 209, a Cali-



JIM BLOCK



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MARK FINKENSTADT

fornia ballot initiative passed in 1996 that prevents the state university system from using race and ethnicity as factors in admissions decisions.

After graduating from Harvard Law in 1978, he served in the Carter administration as assistant director of the White House domestic policy staff and was national issues

director for the 1988 presidential campaign of Michael Dukakis '55. Later, he served in the Clinton administration, including as special counsel to the president, where he led the White House review of affirmative action and helped shape the “mend it, don’t end it” approach to the policy. Although as Boalt Hall dean, Edley will have to juggle several other institutional priorities in addition to civil rights, he will continue as a commissioner with the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights until his six-year term expires next year.

The late Christopher Edley Sr. H'76 devoted his life to civil rights issues. “It was his engagement on racial justice and public policy issues while I was growing up that was really powerful to me,” Edley says.—L.R.

DO THE EXPERIMENT

Susan Marie Frontczak '77 gave up a well-paying job as an engineering manager at Hewlett-Packard (HP) to tell stories.

Her storytelling abilities are a talent that neither she nor her friends could ignore.

"After 15 years of telling, I couldn't fit enough stories into my schedule. So I decided to take a leave of absence from HP in 1994 and officially left in 1995. Coworkers said I was brave to do that. They told me, 'You won't make money at it,' and 'You won't like doing a hobby as a job.' But as a scientist, I decided the only way to find out was to do an experiment. I defined success as *finding out* whether or not I could earn enough while enjoying the process. As it turns out, I do make a good living, and I love what I do. I would advise Swarthmore students, allow your life to be an experiment," says Frontczak as she watches the iridescent origami Sonobe modules (stellated polyhedrons) she constructed blow in the breeze in her Boulder, Colo., office.

Frontczak brings her characters to life in schools, theaters, universities, conferences, and corporate settings. She formed her own company, Storysmith (www.storysmith.org), in 1998.

A recent addition to her repertoire is her portrayal of Polish-born scientist Marie Curie. The depiction is so accurate in voice, appearance and demeanor that it made a Polish woman cry and a hospice worker in Scotland ask, "Are you sure she's dead?"

"The word 'storytelling' is misleading," Frontczak says. "I aim to give stories, not *tell* them. I am a conduit for the story. Stories open avenues for conveying a message, awakening the imagination, and communicating thoughts and feelings that we otherwise have no way to express." —A.P.



PAUL SCHROEDER

BALL, STICK, BIRD

In the Massachusetts Berkshires, fall comes to **Renée Stoetznier Fuller's ['51]** mountain, coloring old ideas and replacing them with brighter and more hopeful ones. Such could be a metaphor for Fuller's career.

Fuller, chief of psychological services from 1967 to 1973 at Maryland's Rosewood Hospital Center, a 3,000-bed facility for mentally retarded patients, is one of the nation's leading experts on mental retardation—and so what she discovered in 1972 baffled her as much as anyone. Fuller's Ball-Stick-Bird reading system uses the three familiar circle, line, and angle shapes to teach children the alphabet. Using developmental linguistics, the student is thrust by the fourth letter into a series of stories she wrote following the adventures of "Vad of Mars," a science fiction hero with rockets

for feet. "What's astonishing is that the system works down to 20 IQ, which means our entire conception of intelligence is not true," Fuller says. She couldn't figure it out.

"It was one of our retarded students who kept trying to tell me, and I just kept brushing him aside—but one day he cornered me, and we went back to my office, and he sat me down and explained what happened.

"I had not understood the importance of story development and what it does to the human brain."

Fuller's system, which has reached thousands of learners with IQs from across the scale, involves readers within a story from the first lesson. Her story-as-engram theory posits that humans develop to think in terms of stories even before they have the words to tell them—"Cookie," when said by a toddler, is said and understood as part of a larger narrative—"I want that cookie." By

tapping into this tendency to think narratively, Fuller not only eased the process of learning to read for those with normal IQs but also facilitated the development of basic communication skills among those with very low IQs. People who otherwise could not communicate at all are able to make very simple sentences, mainly using basic nouns, verbs, and adjectives, as a result of this reading system. "It makes their lives worthwhile," Fuller says. —E.R. '05



TGL/TRAVIS

JUDICIOUS

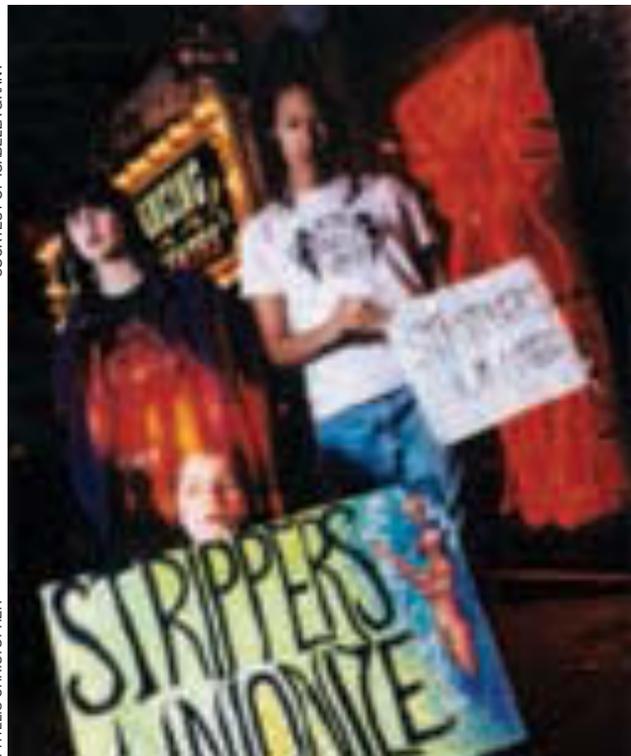
“So sue me,” goes the common epithet. And sue we do, over just about anything—millions of times a year. As a judge in San Francisco, **Isabella Horton Grant ‘44** saw it all—business and family disputes, contested wills, landlord-tenant problems, discrimination claims by workers. First appointed to the city’s municipal court by then Governor Jerry Brown, Grant joined the Superior Court in 1982, retiring in 1997 as the presiding judge of its probate department. In that role, she worked to improve the way the court serves the elderly, especially those for whom the court must appoint a “conservator,” or guardian.

According to Resolution Remedies, a Bay Area group that promotes alternative dispute resolution (ADR), she developed a reputation as a judge who helped litigants reach equitable settlements, using her knowledge of the law and her people skills to get to the heart of the matters before her. Since her retirement, Grant has been active in ADR, serving with other retired judges as a mediator and arbitrator in all sorts of disputes, often keeping those cases from reaching the court system.

She is often asked to provide expert advice in actual litigation as well. One case involved a scholarship fund left over from a class action lawsuit brought by San Francisco’s exotic dancers. The case—which resulted from a dispute over “stage fees” charged to dancers by club owners who claimed that the dancers were contractors merely “renting” their performance space—led to a report by Grant on the proper disposition of the scholarship fund. In that role, she learned “more than I ever knew” about the lives—and legal challenges—faced by the city’s sex workers.



COURTESY OF ISABELLA GRANT



PHYLIS CHRISTOPHER

This year finds Judge Grant as busy as ever. She conducted a study for the Superior Court on access to the court by the elderly, recommending that—in addition to eliminating remaining physical barriers—there be better representation for the elderly and more professional conservators and guardians. Last month, she gave a presentation to the National College of Probate Judges on similar issues. —J.L.

NO SHENANIGANS

As a managing editor at *U.S. News & World Report*, **Christopher Haines ‘86** runs the magazine’s Web site, oversees the in-house programming department, and manages the data collection and analysis group, which is responsible for creating the magazine’s famous rankings of colleges and graduate schools and, most recently, a national directory of hospitals. Haines has worked for *U.S. News* since 2000. Previously, he had managed the Web site for the Tony Awards and worked at an Internet start-up company that collapsed in 2000. He fictionalized the bursting of his own personal Internet bubble in an unpublished novel, *Heaven.com*.

The question begs, though—if a Swarthmore alumnus oversees the college rankings nowadays, why is Williams first among liberal arts colleges this year?



JIM LO SCALZO/U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT



Haines laughs. “It’s usually a horse race between Swarthmore, Williams, and Amherst. The algorithm is pretty complicated; factors like alumni giving or graduation rate make an impact.” Swarthmore tied for

second with Amherst in this year’s rankings.

“Since I’ve been in my role, Swarthmore hasn’t been first, which is a good sign. It means I’m not pulling any shenanigans.” —E.R.

History

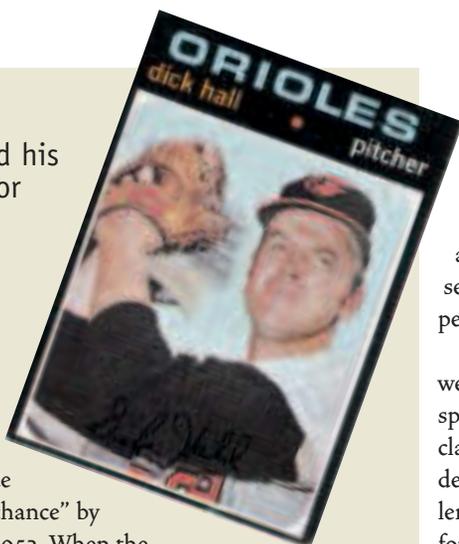
TURKEY

Dick Hall '52 played his first game in the major leagues on April 15, 1952—the spring of what was to have been his senior year at Swarthmore. He had signed a professional contract with the Pittsburgh Pirates the previous fall. After playing for a few weeks in the Mexican League during fall 1951, he “took a chance” by going to spring training in 1952. When the Pirates told him that he could start for the team that very year, he postponed his final semester at Swarthmore until the fall.

Pirate teammate Joe Garagiola nicknamed Hall “Turkey,” a moniker that stuck throughout his career. It was the manner in which the 6-foot 5-inch 21-year-old ate that so impressed the future sportscaster and baseball funnyman, recalls Hall: “Joe said, ‘Hey, look at that turkey gobbler eat!’ And the name stuck.”

Hall went on to a 19-year career with the Pirates, Athletics, Phillies, and Orioles. The Pirates moved him from outfield to the mound in 1956, where—despite an unorthodox pitching motion that one sportswriter said “looks like a drunken giraffe on roller skates”—he became known for his control. “In the equivalent of 14 full seasons as a pitcher,” says Hall, now 74 and living outside Baltimore, “I threw just one wild pitch.”

Hall played in four World Series for the Orioles. In 1971, the last year of his baseball career, he studied for and finished second in the state on the exam to become a certified public accountant. “I figured I had gone to Swarthmore, so I could probably play ball and study accounting at the same time,” he says. A second successful career followed and, currently, a retirement that includes the occasional trip to Camden Yards to see the Birds play ball. —J.L.



THE MAVERICK

This year, as he has nearly every election year since 1958, **Ken Hechler '35** traveled across West Virginia in his red jeep, canvassing for votes. He developed an addiction to this mode of transport during World War II while serving in Europe. Plus, he says, “The greatest vote getter is to pull people out of a ditch.”

Trained to be a teacher, Hechler’s professorial days at Columbia were interrupted by war and then by government service as a speechwriter to his political mentor Harry Truman. Back in the classroom at Marshall University in West Virginia, he told his students they should participate in community service. They challenged him—“What is your excuse?”—and convinced him to run for office.

Hechler loves a good fight, and he’s had plenty. He’s defended himself against charges of being a carpetbagger, a communist, and an “out-of-touch liberal.” He’s tangled with fellow Democrats, including a governor who tried to legislate away his job as secretary of state. One of his most satisfying victories is the legislation he pushed through Congress in 1969—against considerable opposition from the mining industry and a threatened Nixon veto—that greatly improved conditions and practices in the mines. No major mining disaster has occurred since. So it’s no surprise that his most uncomfortable time in Congress was when he ran unopposed. “There was no one to debate with.” Hechler ultimately served 18 years in the House of Representatives.

Hechler, 90, did not succeed in his latest bid for statewide office, but don’t count him out.

“I want to get in there and fight so truth and justice are served rather than the status quo.”—A.G.



LIGHTBULB MOMENT

After an annual potluck dinner with friends in Washington, D.C., several years ago, **Lisa Herrick '79**, a clinical psychologist, had a



life-changing dream.

Weeks before, a physician friend at the dinner who treats Washington’s homeless lamented the small financial crises in her patients’ lives. For years, she had written personal checks to help with basics including rent and medicines. Her small checks had gradually mounted to almost \$10,000, and she needed help.

Herrick conceived of a way to raise donations through potluck gatherings and later dreamed about the name for this new group. In her dream, an airplane with an advertising ban-

ner said: “If you have lemons, make lemonade. If you have women, make Womenade.”

The first Washington Womenade potluck (<http://washingtonwomenade.org>) in March 2001 drew nearly 100 women who had a meal together and donated \$35 each. After raising \$3,500—for items such as dentures, groceries, and heating bills for DC’s needy—the group raised another \$5,000 with a second party and then \$7,000 with a third. The most money that Womenade ever had in the bank was \$14,000; whenever the account is depleted, the

group throws another party.

“Helping people on a small scale makes a huge difference,” Herrick says. “It doesn’t cost much to keep someone from being evicted or to fill a prescription.”

After a story about the group appeared in *Real Simple* two years ago, offshoots based on the original model started sprouting up around the country. Now, more than 23 other Womenades have formed.

“The spread of Womenade across the country has been a surprise—but a total thrill,” Herrick says. —A.H.

SUCCESSION OF CHALLENGES

Marilyn Holifield '69 is joyful today. She has just returned from court, where she successfully defended against a temporary injunction of a noncompete clause.

"There's nothing like calling the client to say we were successful and on the right track," says Holifield (*left*), who primarily litigates corporate governance cases, commercial lawsuits, class action lawsuits, and employment cases. "I like to put my arms around issues and facts and persuade a judge or jury that our position is appropriate," she adds.

In 1981, Holifield was the first African American attorney to join Holland & Knight, the eighth largest law firm in the country, where in 1986, she became Florida's first African American female partner of a major corporate law firm.

Holifield, a Harvard Law School graduate, says her life is not about overcoming barriers but about meeting the challenges set before her.

In a critical civic involvement in 1993 she helped negotiate an end to a three-year tourism boycott by African Americans of Miami hotels when Nelson Mandela was refused an official welcome by elected officials.

"We brought together people who had never engaged in conversation before," Holifield says of the negotiations. "We sought to bring the entire community forward."

The outcome of the negotiations brought about an increase in the number of African Americans in the hospitality industry and the opportunity for an African American group to develop and own a luxury class ocean side resort, a first for the nation.

Even as her practice becomes international, her civic involvement continues. As a member of the University of Miami's Board of Trustees, her challenge is to raise \$5.5 million for the university's museum to support curator positions for African and Latin American art collections and educational programs.

Holifield, with her husband, Marvin Holloway, has acquired a collection that embraces artists of Africa and the Americas including Sam Gilliam, Edouard Duval-Carrié, Purvis Young, Wosene Kosrof, and Manuel Mendive.

"I like to think the work I do is a result of curiosity, interest, or challenge," Holifield says. She credits her parents for her drive.

"The spirit I have is one my parents, now deceased, shared with me. They had a strong spirit and intense view that embraced education and excellence. I live and feel a part of that every day," she says. "They had a belief that all things are possible." She also credits her education at Swarthmore as an institution that supports independent and free thought as "two things that are very important to me."

When asked if she believes she's at the top of her profession, she remains modest.

"I've had high-quality opportunities to be of service to my clients and community. But I feel I'm always learning new things, and because of that, I have a mind-set that there will never be a top," says Holifield, whom *Black Enterprise Magazine* named one of America's top employment lawyers in 2003. "If I'm perceived as being at the top, that's great. But I love learning new things and always seeing if I can be better." —A.P.



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MASTER OF THE BENCH

In 2004, Justice **Randy Holland '69** of the Delaware Supreme Court became only the third American judge to become an Honorary Master of the Bench at Lincoln's Inn, a historic London legal institution. The other Americans who have received this award are U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and John Paul Stevens.

Honorary "benchers" are distinguished lawyers and judges selected from common-law countries around the world. For six centuries, the four Inns of Court in London have educated English trial lawyers. Lincoln's Inn is the oldest, with formal records dating to 1422.

When appointed to the Delaware court in 1986, Holland (*at right, with Justices Stevens and Ginsberg*) became its youngest-ever justice. He received the British honor

in March after completing a four-year term as national president of the American Inns of Court Foundation, an organization founded by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger to promote ethics, civility, and excellence in the American bar. —E.R.



STEVEN PETERWAY, U.S. SUPREME COURT

THE SAME DIFFERENCE

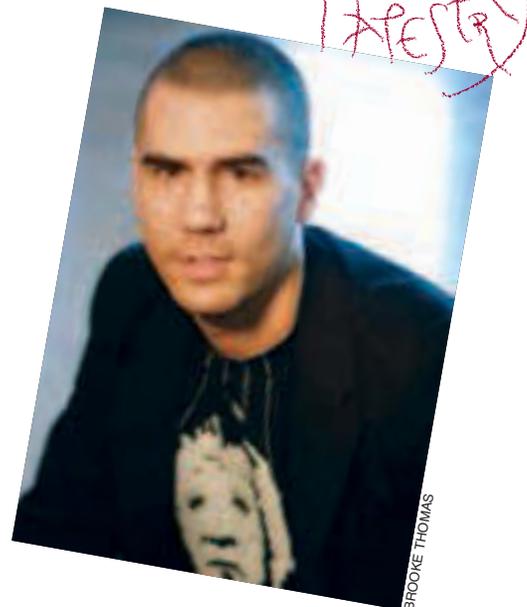
“On day one, if someone had said, ‘Here are all the impediments,’ I probably would have said forget it,” says **Wilson “John” Kello ‘98**. Lucky for the fashion world no one did. Instead, Kello and his partner Karina Erdelyi began SAME in 2002. They based their enterprise on the simple idea that if they put their designs “out there,” people would buy them.

Many trade shows and sleepless nights later, that idea became a reality. SAME clothing can now be found in 52 boutiques

and department stores around the world, including Bloomingdale’s, one of their newest accounts.

“All our energies are going into the fall 2005 line,” Kello says. “The plan is to produce eight to 10 works of fine art, from which we’ll glean inspiration for the apparel. It drives home the point that we’re artists making clothes. Putting art on bodies, getting it out of the gallery and onto the street, that’s still a major goal.”

And the name? “We are all essentially the same,” Kello says. “Just a fraction of genetic data defines us as individuals. Plus, you could have a closet full of our clothes and because they are so different, no one would know.” —A.G.



BROOKE THOMAS



MEGHAN KRIEDEL MOORE '97

FIGHTING CRIME—AND MIND-SETS

Society has tried to fight the crime that wracks cities across America with two very different tactics: One promotes alleviating poverty, racism, underfunded schools, and the whole litany of societal ills widely blamed for warping the young. The other cracks down with tougher laws, heightened sanctions, and more arrests.

Some argue that both approaches are vital.

David Kennedy ‘80 argues that both get us nowhere.

“As prescriptions, they’re empty,” says Kennedy, a senior researcher at the Program

in Criminal Justice Policy and Management at Harvard University.

Kennedy was a prime architect of Boston’s Operation Ceasefire, which gained national acclaim and won the Ford Foundation’s Innovations in Government Award when that city’s homicide rate plunged in the 1990s. A philosophy major at Swarthmore, Kennedy says he embraces the need to address deprivation, discrimination, family disintegration, and other ills—but insists they cannot be the focus of effective crime-fighting.

“No matter what the problem is, we gravitate toward one of those images—either more criminal justice or more prevention,” he says. “Neither one of them works.”

Kennedy’s alternative is bracingly prag-

matic: Call together residents and the community’s prime instigators (usually a core of hardened offenders well known to police); admit to them that traditional tactics have been inadequate and have alienated the community; announce that key acts such as homicide and drug dealing must stop immediately (a message perpetrators rarely hear to their faces); tell them that if they fail to stop, everyone from beat cops to parole boards to probation officers to prosecutors to judges is ready to pounce on even minor infractions (dispensing with the element of surprise so valued in traditional policing); and dangle an array of carrots before them in the form of help with jobs, schooling, drug treatment, and so on.

Then, follow through.

In High Point, N.C., this fall, the approach had immediate results.

“We shut down their worst drug market cold, overnight,” Kennedy says. Drug crime and violent crime fell 60 percent, he says—with “virtually no arrests.”

Sustaining such success has proved difficult in Boston. Gun deaths there began climbing again a few years ago. In an op-ed piece in *The Boston Globe* in 2002, Kennedy declared Ceasefire dead and urged the community to revive it. But police recently reverted to a “sweep” strategy that, according to the *Globe*, resulted in more than 400 arrests in September.

Ceasefire’s phenomenal results helped doom it in Boston, Kennedy believes. “Lots of people treated it like a miracle,” he says, “rather than what it was, which was a job of hard work, and hard work must be continued.” —C.G.

A LIFE IN MUSIC

Seth Knopp '85 has never known life without MUSIC. His music-loving parents took him to concerts as a toddler. Playing piano from age 6 and chamber music beginning in high school, he studied at the New England and San Francisco conservatories. Knopp (*below left*) went on to found a trio that was invited in 1987 to become the ensemble in residence at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Md. It was renamed The Peabody Trio and is recognized as one of the leading piano trios in the world. Winner of the 1989 prestigious Naumburg Chamber Music Award, the ensemble, which also includes Knopp's wife, violinist Violaine Melancon (*right*), and cellist Natasha Brofsky (*center*), has performed all over North America as well as in Europe, the Far East, and the Middle East.

Besides performing about 25 to 30 concerts a year with the trio, Knopp teaches piano and chamber music seminars and coaches chamber music at the conservatory. In addition, he directs the annual summer Yellow Barn Music School and Festival in Vermont. The trio has made several recordings, most recently of *Beethoven's Trios (Opus 70, No. 1 and No. 2)*.

"The most amazing thing about a life in music is the music itself," Knopp says. "The pieces that one gets to live with on a daily basis are just such extraordinary works of art. The nice thing is that when you live with a piece for a while, it's wonderful to feel it become increasingly a part of oneself, even though a great work reveals more of itself every time you play it. You're peeling away deeper and deeper layers and finding more and more in them. It's such a privilege to be living with these works and to be recreating them for an audience." —C.B.D.



SINGING AT THE BAR

Torn between a life singing on stage and an interesting (and more so-called practical) career in law, **David Kravitz '86** did what many sensible people would not do—he chose both. Not that the choice was easy. In fact, quitting his job in the Massachusetts governor's office five years ago so he could have more time for auditions and rehearsals felt a lot like "jumping off a cliff," he says. "But I knew this was my chance to see if it would work. Not knowing would have been worse."

It didn't take long for the verdict to come in. Kravitz found steady work as a freelance appellate brief writer, his expertise honed largely during his clerkships for Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and for future Justice Stephen Breyer, when he served on the federal Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. And his baritone has since been featured in numerous opera productions in Boston and around the country. He's even taken the stage at Carnegie Hall for a solo—twice.

"We do a lot of auditioning in the music world," he says. "It's no fun, and a lot of people get stressed out by it. But don't be too worried. Don't be afraid to try." —A.G.



CAPTURING HUMAN INPUT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

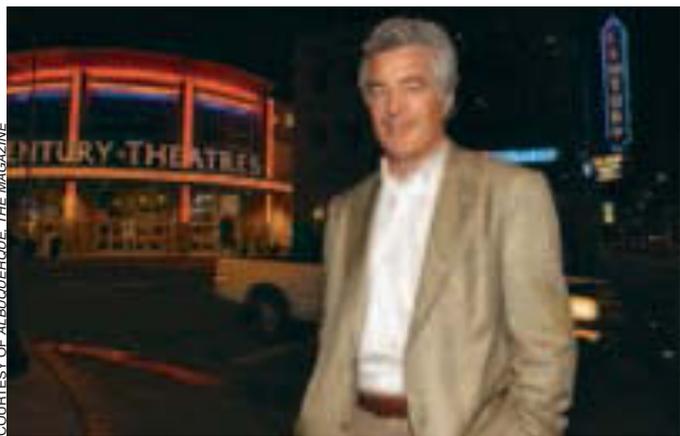
Corinna "Cori" Lathan '88 likes to solve problems using technology. As founder and CEO of AnthroIronix (www.anthrotronix.com) in Silver Spring, Md., she does just that. The company develops advanced human-computer interface technology for wearable computers and robotic systems.

The sophisticated name belies the child-friendly nature of the company's first mainstream commercial project: CosmoBot, a colorful 18-inch-tall interactive robot. The robot is used as an educational and clinical tool and toy for children with developmental delays, including autism or cerebral palsy.

BACK TO THE FUTURE

As managing director of the country's largest independent real estate advisory firm, Robert Charles Lesser & Co., and a founding partner of the development firm Arcadia Land Co., Santa Fe, N.M., real estate strategist and developer **Christopher Leinberger '72** combines business with concern for the environment. "To me, the prime reason for many critical issues like global warming, among others, lies in the fact that, over the past 40 to 50 years, we have been exponentially increasing the use of automobiles, both here and worldwide, because of the sprawling, low-density development patterns. The best way to reverse that is to have people living and working within walkable distance of one another or connected by transit."

Using a "back-to-the-future" approach, Leinberger is revitalizing downtown Albuquerque. In a typically pedestrian-oriented development, seven individually designed buildings—with retail spaces beneath offices—come up to the sidewalk and surround a 14-screen cinema; and across the street, a six-level residential/office/retail building hides a six-level parking deck. "This is the highest-density residential project ever built in the Southwest since the 14th-century, five-story, adobe Taos Pueblo," he says. According to NPR, Leinberger's revitalization of downtown Albuquerque "may be the fastest downtown turnaround in the country's history." —C.B.D.



COURTESY OF ALBUQUERQUE, THE MAGAZINE

Children can interact with CosmoBot through voice and body movement or through more traditional inputs such as a joystick. CosmoBot mimics the child or leads the child in games such as Simon Says. Participating in interactive play, a child experiences movement and control, often for the first time. The robot tracks and records the child's movements via wireless remote monitoring.

"A child may have a hard time concentrating for any length of time, but in our trials, a child with ADHD played with the robot for half an hour. That's almost unheard of for any young child," says Lathan, who with her husband, David Kubalak,

adopted their toddler daughter, Lindsey, 16 months ago.

CosmoBot was named the Maryland Innovation of the Year in 2002. That same year, *Technology Review* named Lathan one of the world's Top 100 Young Innovators for her contribution to transforming the nature of technology. This year, AnthroTronix was named a Technology Pioneer by the World Economics Forum and was featured in *Time* magazine and *The Washington Post*.

In fifth grade, Lathan was chosen "Most Likely to Go to Mars." Her plans have not changed. Chosen by NASA in 2003 as one of its top 100 candidates for the astronaut program, she spent a week in Houston

FROM KIBBUTZ TO CAIRO

To satisfy her curiosity about life on a kibbutz, **Ann Mosely Lesch '66**, a non-Jew, went to work on one after her sophomore year at Swarthmore. "I became fascinated by the political issues in the region and went on to focus for many years on Arab-

Israeli and Palestinian issues," she says.

Her fascination endured through many subsequent visits to the Arab world. In August, Lesch, formerly a professor of political science at Villanova University, was appointed dean of humanities and social sciences at the American University in Cairo.

Lesch is a founder of the Committee on Academic Freedom in the Middle East as part of the Middle East Studies Association of North America and of the Palestinian American Research Center. She believes that fostering intercultural relations is crucial. "When students and professors spend time in the region, they get to know people as individuals, not as abstractions," she says. As dean, she was delighted to face the challenge this year of having to find space for 90 more study-abroad and foreign students than expected. "This is exciting, given the fears that deter people from traveling these days." —C.B.D.



DAVID KUBALAK

being poked, scanned, tested, and measured. Although she was disqualified because of her eyesight, she plans to reapply. In the meantime, a space flight experiment created in conjunction with a colleague in France is under way with NASA. "It looks at the perception of 3D objects in space," she says. "How space affects the interplay between perception and motor control."

Until her space dream becomes a reality, Lathan is satisfied to solve earthly problems.

"CosmoBot is really for all children," Lathan says. "It will forever change the way we think about education and play." —A.P.



COURTESY OF VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY

A Swarthmore
History

WHAT A PERFORMER!

Rhode Island-born actor and director **Julian López-Morillas '68** has been a favorite with Bay Area theater audiences for 30 years. Recently, he toured major regional repertory theaters at Berkeley; La Jolla; Long Wharf in New Haven, Conn.; and McCarter in Princeton, N.J., as the lecherous male lead in *Fräulein Else*, based on Austrian playwright and novelist Arthur Schnitzler's short story. Having performed in every Shakespeare play except *Henry VIII*, he is desperately seeking someone to produce it.

López-Morillas reads books by Einstein and Stephen Hawking for Audio Editions, a books-on-tape publisher. He knows the batting averages of the New York Giants' entire roster. He won \$14,899 "plus a rather good bedroom set" on *Jeopardy*. Because of the program's rules—not because he pleaded while on the show for a producer for *Henry VIII*—he is now barred from *Jeopardy* for life. He has also won \$1,350 of Ben Stein's *Money* and passed the test to be on *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*.

He says, "I begin preparing to perform when I reach for the doorknob to the set." —D.W.



KEVIN BERNE



COURTESY OF DAVID LYON

TACT AND DIPLOMACY

The grandson of a war correspondent who entered Berlin with allied forces in 1918 and son of a diplomat who met Stalin in 1948, **David Lyon's ['73]** career choice—to become a diplomat—might seem a given. Far from it. After spending key childhood

years in Brazil, he resented how behind he felt culturally when he was back in the States. "It wasn't until I got to Swarthmore that I went from being different to being special," he says. After that, a life spent abroad in the Foreign Service became more appealing.

Deliberately staying away from Europe, Lyon mainly chose posts in the developing world—Nigeria, Brazil, Ghana, and China, among others. Along the way, he has successfully navigated a dozen or so coups and civil disturbances. The first happened in Nigeria when, just one year out of college, he was posted to Lagos and played on the national basketball team with a forward who was also a colonel in the Nigerian army.

"One day, I woke up, and he had taken over the country," he says. "Six months later, the new president was assassinated by the uncle of a girl I was dating—the cousin of the guy who was overthrown the first time. I was able to figure out what was happening, and in diplomacy, knowing what's going on is what it's all about."

Another strange experience occurred in China after American warplanes accidentally bombed the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade

in 1999. With the American Embassy in Beijing under attack from students venting their rage, Lyon slipped out during a lull and set up a satellite embassy in his apartment complex for the duration of the five-day siege.

Now in his first ambassadorship—to Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu in the South Pacific—he's also in his last post before retiring. After 30 years in the Foreign Service, following international protocol still holds surprises, such as having to present his credentials in a rented morning coat, top hat, and gloves to Tonga's 86-year-old king, the world's last near-absolute hereditary monarch.

But Lyon's role requires more than adherence to ritual. "I've found that avoiding 'my country right or wrong' rhetoric actually gives me more credibility with foreign audiences," he says.

So after a life of moving every few years, where is home? Three places: Washington, D.C., although he's only lived there a total of nine years since 1959; central California, where his wife's family lives; and Melbourne, his post before Fiji and where his children have chosen to stay. Retiring won't mean settling down anytime soon. —A.G.

ON THE MOVE

Horses. Trains. Cars. Buses. Planes.

The Smithsonian's *America on the Move* (AOTM) exhibit, mounted in 2003, explores the role of transportation in American history from before 1876 to the present day. See <http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove/exhibition/> to learn how people travel for work and leisure as farmland, cities, suburbs, and international economies change—and to marvel at the magic of **Allison Marsh '98**, who offered curatorial support on the massive project.

A graduate student at Johns Hopkins in the Department of the History of Science and Technology, Marsh knew that she wanted to work in a museum-related field. So for the past three years, she has been working as an intern and fellow at the Smithsonian's American History Museum.

"For one of my school requirements, I worked on designing the collections database for the AOTM Web site," she says. "I helped with the database structure, the field requirements for all of the

objects, and much of the front-end user interface. I personally added more than 500 artifacts into the database (with pictures) and wrote two of the thematic tours that appear on the Web site."

Marsh's previous Web site experience creating the international section for Harley-Davidson's e-commerce site helped her as she coordinated the work for the large team of AOTM curators.

"It was a fascinating project," Marsh says. "The goal of the Web site was to expand the physical exhibit and to get more of the Smithsonian's collections available on-line. It was complicated because we were trying to reach a wide range of potential audiences—students, teachers, museum professionals, collectors, and history buffs."

Marsh is currently teaching a museum studies class at Hopkins. "For their final class projects, the students are using the AOTM database to design their own exhibits. If their projects meet Smithsonian approval, they will be posted in the Themes section as guest curators. The undergraduates love that they have the opportunity to post their work on the Smithsonian's Web site—it's much more rewarding than getting an *A* on a term paper," she says. —*A.H.*



COURTESY OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION

BOATLOAD OF BOOKS

In 1999, during a six-month educational voyage on the tall ship *Picton Castle*, teacher **Kate Menser '94** spent a day visiting a school in a poor suburb of Cape Town, South Africa. In a building meant to hold 800 students, Menser (*bottom center*) found 1,200, packed 60 to a classroom, sharing 20 broken desks. And they had no schoolbooks. "They shared notebooks and pencil stubs that most North American children would have thrown away. Yet all the students were friendly, welcoming, polite, and well dressed. They put on a presentation of traditional music and dance, rivaling anything put on by theater groups in the States, and we only had a few boxes of crayons and some stickers to give to them," she says.

Inspired by her visit, Menser founded WorldWise, an organization whose three-fold aim was to collect educational supplies for needy schools around the world; to connect with schools in remote islands and isolated tropical communities throughout the

South Pacific, Indonesia, Africa, and the Caribbean; and to create an interactive Web site that allows schoolchildren worldwide to have a virtual experience of a voyage on a tall ship.

After soliciting in-kind donations from schools, institutions, and organizations from around the United States and Canada, Menser and WorldWise team members set sail in June 2000 on a 20-month, 36,000-mile voyage around the world on the *Picton Castle* to deliver more than 30 tons of schoolbooks, maps, blackboards, and stationery supplies to poor and remote island schools throughout the world.

Since 2002, Menser, who says she suffers "horribly" from seasickness, has been maintaining the organization's land-based



COURTESY OF KATE MENSER

Web site during the ship's most recent voyage. She plans "to continue bringing books around the world, expand beyond the *Picton Castle*, and return to full-time teaching, eventually starting [her] own charter school, based on the values of community service, global understanding, and tolerance."

—*C.B.D.*



JIM GRAHAM

UP ON THE FARM

On a mere 24 acres in a rapidly developing suburb of Philadelphia, **Lisa Mosca '94** is planting ideas: What if kids who live so deep in the urban grit that they've never been in a supermarket, let alone on a farm, could supplement their cafeteria lunches and take-out dinners with heaps of fresh fruits and vegetables—and learn to love them?

What if suburban high schoolers subsisting on soda and chips came to recognize how nutrition affects their brains and bodies—and how international agribusiness affects nutrition levels worldwide?

Perhaps most of all, what if a patch of old cornfield could become a prime source of produce for residents of surrounding subdivisions and Center City chefs alike—and a model for a new kind of American agriculture?

“The average vegetable that people purchase in a store is transported about 1,300 miles and is usually grown in an unsustainable way,” says Mosca, director of Pennypack Farm Education Center for Sustainable Food Systems in Horsham Township, Pa., Montgomery County’s only so-called Community Supported Agriculture project. “We’re fighting a system that’s completely subsidized. A lot of [the work] is very low paid and in terrible working conditions.”

When a group of Ambler-area residents founded Pennypack Farm on a Quaker summer camp’s 280-acre spread in 2003, they envisioned a place where the locals could buy farm-fresh food and where at least a sliver of land would be spared from sprawl. They hired Mosca, who had majored in biology at Swarthmore, to do the plowing, planting, tending, and picking with a staff of four laborers—who she insisted at the outset be paid a living wage of \$10 an hour plus health insurance.

About 200 dues-paying members of the nonprofit experiment come by regularly to pick up boxes of the latest harvest; some volunteer their labor to belong at a reduced rate. The remaining bounty is donated to needy families via Philabundance and Ambler’s Hope Gardens.

Seven or eight local school groups and 1,000 summer campers from the inner-city—some of whom she says had never seen an apple—got a taste of life on the farm this year. Scores of West Philadelphia high school students in the University of Pennsylvania’s Urban Nutrition Initiative got hands-on farming experience to augment their entrepreneurial skills for their neighborhood garden program.

Pennypack’s lease with College Settlement Camp will expand next year to put 20 more acres under cultivation—after intensive amendment to bolster the soil’s badly depleted nutrient level, resulting from decades of growing only corn. The farm’s reliance on only natural soil conditioners and its strict avoidance of chemical pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers mean it could take five to seven years for the farm to live up to its mission as a self-sustaining enterprise.

The goal, Mosca says, “is to not just produce food but make people more aware.” —C.G.

LEGAL EAGLE

Alberto Mora '74 describes his job nonchalantly: “Well, I’m the chief legal officer for the Navy and Marine Corps. As chief legal officer, I am in charge, broadly speaking, of all legal issues of both forces.”

“These are fairly large operations,” he continues. “The fiscal budget for the Office of the Navy in 2004 was \$120 billion.” The

legal office consumes 10 percent of that on about 1,400 cases a year.

Mora was sworn in as the 20th general counsel of the Department of the Navy on July 25, 2001. The former private practice lawyer for DC’s Greenberg Traurig law firm, foreign service officer in Portugal, and editor of the University of Miami’s law journal made national news this summer for his advocacy of humane prisoner treatment in Guantanamo Bay.

As *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times* reported in August, Mora’s private protest led to the rescinding of a memo signed by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld in December 2002 that allowed the use of intimidation by dogs and stripping of detainees in Guantanamo. Mora protested on moral, legal, and policy grounds, and Rumsfeld annulled the document in January 2004, four months before the Abu Ghraib scandal.



ANCHORS AWEIGH

"The greatest satisfaction I derive from being a naval officer in time of war is the feeling, late into the night, when I am standing watch in the dark in a dangerous part of the world, that the fear I have in me prevents those whom I love back home from needing to be afraid."

That's Ensign **Christine Crumley Ney '02** describing how she feels on the bridge of the *USS Hué City*, a Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser. Ney enlisted shortly after graduating with a degree in biology. Although she had considered a medical career, she was looking for another sort of challenge.

"I had the gut feeling that I would be very dissatisfied with my life if I had not served my country in the military," she said in an e-mail interview from the ship, currently sailing in the Arabian Sea. "I strongly desired a broad education—one formed

by experiences—and I wanted to expand my horizons. There's a way of thinking that I still had not experienced when I graduated."

Ney is the communications officer on the *Hué City*, responsible for the ship's voice, e-mail, Web, and cryptographic traffic. She has top-secret security clearance, but she's also a warrior who recently earned surface warfare officer (SWO) classification. To receive this classification, she attended a six-month SWO training course and passed oral examinations in weapons systems, engineering, administration, navigation, and "all warfare areas."

"Swarthmore taught me how to think," she says. "I am a better naval officer because I can think clearly and quickly—and because I can communicate my thoughts to others." Recently married to another naval officer, she's considering a 20-year career in the Navy. —J.L.

HUMAN RIGHTS JUNKIE

"Think globally, act globally."

Noah Novogrodsky's '92]

version of that maxim may sound incredibly ambitious. But as an activist lawyer working on the international stage, he really is changing the world, one case at a time.

While he was attending graduate school in international relations at Cambridge University, the 1994 Rwandan genocide erupted. "The international community failed Rwandans," he says. "To devote my life to state-to-state relations seemed a pale alternative to learning how to advocate for people individually." Yale law school came next, a fix for the self-described "human rights

junkie."

In the 10 years since, Novogrodsky has worked with human rights advocates in Eritrea, Cambodia, South Africa, and Sierra Leone, among others. He handles many individual asylum cases personally. He's involved as an outside party—sharing Canadian case law—in support of California's same-sex marriage case. The international human rights clinic he established last year in his native Toronto—the only one of its kind in Canada—is overwhelmed with requests. He turns many of them down; he simply can't afford the staff it would take to say yes more often. With nine



cases currently open, including one in front of the European Human Rights Court and another in Belize, he and his University of Toronto law students are maxed out.

He admits that the work of addressing human rights abuses, although often satisfying, can sometimes still leave him feeling "soiled." But he draws on other parts of his life—like 2-year-old daughter Ruby with wife and partner Isadora Helfgott '94—for satisfaction. "The singing circle Ruby and I attend every Friday morning is the cutest thing on the planet," he laughs. "I also have a terrific human network. My best friends are people I know from Swarthmore."

—A.G.

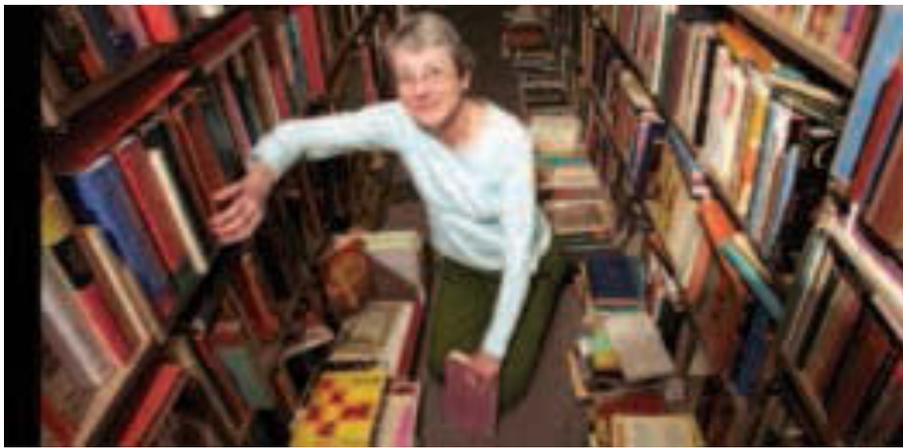
"I think there's a lot of thinking the nation needs to do regarding the legal aspects of the war on terror," says Mora.

For now, though, he is certain detainees at Guantanamo are being treated humanely and can concentrate on supervising the 620 civilian attorneys, 750 Navy judge advocate generals, and 500 Marine Corps staff judge advocates directly and indirectly under his supervision.

—E.R.



CRAIG STRAWISER



ELEFTHERIOS KOSTANS

BOOKLOVER

Something about the look and fragrance of old books invokes feelings of history, of stability and comfort. Inside The Title Page, a used-book store in Rosemont, Pa., just steps away from Philadelphia's busy Main Line, narrow aisles are stacked with piles of books, and floor-to-ceiling shelves bulge with some 30,000 volumes. Title Page founder and owner **Beverley Bond Potter '55** enchants with her wealth of knowledge and anecdotes.

A longtime book collector, Potter, 70, "kind of slipped into" the used-book business well over two decades ago. Besides the store inventory, she keeps a warehouse stocked with an additional 30,000 to 40,000 books, which she sorts through on Sundays, the only day the store is closed. A

multitude of topics and eras is represented, from contemporary children's paperbacks to antique, scholarly books. Among her most prized possessions is a 1490 treatise in Latin by the Greek philosopher Diogenes, enclosed in an 18th-century wood binding. "The printing is gorgeous, isn't it?" Potter says. "That's not the original binding though. I would never have put it in wood—wood's acidic, and that's not what it ought to be in."

Although much of Potter's business is transacted via the Internet, which she began using only two years ago, she cherishes personal contact with her store customers, who describe her as "magical" and "brilliant." The store is a venue for kindred spirits who, she says, may be reluctant to use traditional meeting places like bars but who enjoy books. —C.B.D.

RUSSIA'S ROCKY RIDE

In the years since they toppled Lenin's statue, Russians have been less than eager to embrace capitalism, says **Linda Randall '78**. She recently has been writing on how globalization of workers affects communication styles between distinct cultures while she has served as chair of the Department of Management, director of the Organization Strategic Development Human Resources Program, and associate professor of International Management for the Graduate Division of Business and Management at Johns Hopkins University.

Her research in the former nexus of world communism showed how old practices aren't so easily toppled.

"Historical traditions play a large part in the formation of informal notions of doing business," she says in her 2001 book, *Reluctant Capitalists: Russia's Journey Through Market Transition*.

Randall was preparing to take a new position this fall as associate provost of academic affairs at the University of Baltimore. —C.G.



LOUIS RANDALL



DAVID KATZENSTEIN/NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

CROSSROADS

On the corner of E. Houston and Lafayette Streets in New York City, **Ellen Schall '69** peers out of her second floor window—City Hall and Wall Street lie to the south, the multi-ethnic Lower East Side to the east. As dean of New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, Schall, a native New Yorker, has prime real estate in the school's new headquarters in the historic Puck Building.

NYU, Schall says, is a university in and of the city, a place defined by its surroundings as the Wagner School's 889 students peer from their own windows to question, reframe, and invent solutions for public policy, planning, and management problems from their positions at a crossroads of a city. "We really are a place in which the boundaries are more blurred in our understanding of where learning takes place," Schall says.

Outside her window, the Empire State Building blurs with the stratosphere. —E.R.

DR. SLEUTH

She had dreamed of becoming a doctor from the time she was a little girl but never imagined that one day her profession would take her all over the world.

As chief of the Respiratory Diseases Branch at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), **Anne Schuchat '80** practices and teaches the principles of epidemiology and applies these to infectious disease research, prevention, and control.

After graduating from Dartmouth Medical School in 1984 and completing a residency in internal medicine at the Manhattan Veteran's Administration Hospital, Schuchat joined the CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer. "I really thought I was going to do two years of applied epidemiology ... and [then] go on to clinical work," she says. "But instead, I never left CDC."

One of her early assignments was investigating a mysterious outbreak of listeriosis in newborn babies at a hospital in Costa Rica. The infection is "a rare cause of meningitis and sepsis and pregnancy complications," she says. After about three weeks of sleuthing, she determined that the infection was being spread by a shared bottle of contaminated mineral oil used to wash the newborn babies. "Our team helped put in place a change so that the washing of babies would be done in a safer manner."

Schuchat's primary focus at the CDC has been on endemic, common infections. She spends most of her time doing "research, public health response, surveillance, [and] training—training either EIS officers like I had been, training students or visiting scientists," she says. "It's been a very rich experience in terms of getting to see an impact in a few years."

Schuchat (right, in Beijing last year with CDC colleague

Weigong Zhou) has had some high-profile assignments that she wishes hadn't been necessary. Not long after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, she found herself part of CDC's Anthrax Emergency Response Team. She was the principal liaison for the field team charged with investigating the anthrax spore-laden envelopes sent to the House and Senate office buildings in Washington, D.C.

During the 2003 SARS outbreak in China, she headed the Beijing-based SARS epidemiology and disease control team for the China Office of the World Health Organization. The largest SARS outbreak—more than 2,500 cases—occurred in Beijing, a city of more than 14 million people.

"That was the most incredible experience of my public health career," declares Schuchat. "The people that I worked with on the Beijing task force ... decided to build a hospital when it looked like there weren't enough isolation beds for the cases that were occurring. They built a hospital in eight days for 1,000 patients.... I have quite a bit of admiration for the Beijing public health authorities who led the control measures."

—L.S.C.; adapted with permission from Dartmouth Medicine, spring 2004



ADDICTED TO HORSES

Ellen Singer '83 is a self-proclaimed horse addict. Her love for the strong, elegant creatures led her to veterinary medicine and a position as senior lecturer in equine orthopedics at the University of Liverpool's prestigious Department of Veterinary Clinical Science as well as orthopedic surgeon at the university's Philip Leverhulme Large Animal Hospital (PLLAH).

Singer's work focuses on teaching the veterinarians of the future and improving horse welfare by diagnosing and treating lameness. Her research includes investigating the risk factors for falls in competitive horse trials and those for distal limb fractures in racehorses.

"These fractures often necessitate the humane destruction of the horse, so their prevention is a horse

welfare issue," she says.

Singer and her team provide veterinary cover at competitive events. As a backup hospital facility for six racecourses in Northwest England as well as treating horses that are referred nationwide, PLLAH is the busiest specialist equine hospital in the country.

In April 2003, against all odds, Singer and her team performed lifesaving surgery on Grand National contender Youlnever-walkalone, after he broke his right front leg in a fall during the famous steeplechase. With 10 bone screws in his leg, the horse recuperated for two months and was then released to his owner—with the optimistic prognosis for a full recovery and the possibility of someday racing again.

"I am a great fan of horse racing and other horse sports," Singer says. "Horses are great athletes, who deserve to exhibit and achieve their full potential." —C.B.D.



SQUIGGLEVISION

Tom Snyder '72 still isn't sure he buys it. Buys what he based an entire career and company on, that is.

"I was really pretty obsessed to see if there was any role at all for technology in the classroom. I've always been suspicious, which is odd seeing as how I ran an educational software company," he says.

"Learning is a social function, and I think schools are maybe one of the last public forums, and it's worth preserving that quality in a school, where you get great conversations going and great discussions. I think there's a way in which computers interfere with that project."

Snyder, who retired in 2001 after 21 years from his position as

chairman of Tom Snyder Productions, devoted his career to proving himself wrong. A former teacher, Snyder served as head designer of educational software products—designing, among other programs, *Decisions, Decisions*, a program that placed entire classrooms in simulated situations and required students to do research to develop productive solutions.

Snyder developed his own animation technique, *Squigglevision*, to economize his computer programs. He tested his technique with a short 5-minute sketch involving a therapist, his slacker son, and a scary secretary—and somehow, Comedy Central found it. "Within six months, we had an Emmy," Snyder says of *Dr. Katz: Professional Therapist*. The cartoon was the first animated show to air on Comedy Central, where it was shown for six seasons, from 1995 to 1999. Snyder's completely accidental foray into televi-

sion led to *Squigglevision*, an animated science show aimed for children on ABC's Saturday morning lineup from 1997 to 2000, and is now keeping Snyder busy freelancing for his former company. He just completed writing a pilot of an animated FOX show to feature the voice of Lisa Kudrow.

Snyder is spending his free time since retirement composing a musical comedy, "rewriting it for the eight trillionth time." The comedy follows a jaded young woman Robinhood who steals from the rich and gives to the poor—before, of course, falling in love with one of the rich ones. It's in "the good old, sweet, romantic, sentimental" school, he says.

From a time before computers existed. —E.R.



RACER

Engineer by day, world-ranked competitive cyclist by night (and weekends) best describes **Glenn Swan's ['76]** life. As a research equipment engineer in Cornell University's Engineering Department, Swan builds the tools that researchers blueprint for their projects. Currently, the largest chunk of metal on his desk belongs to a Couette cell he's building for a professor doing research on fluid dynamics.

After he completes his daily 8-mile, round-trip bike ride from work back to his wood-heated house on 50 acres just outside Ithaca, N.Y., he opens the bike shop that is attached to the home he shares with his wife and two Labradors. Here, he

custom builds bikes that range in price from \$1,500 to \$4,000.

Swan's cycling honors include winning the Hill Climb event at the World Masters Championship in Austria in the 1990s. He also won the National Time Trials three times, in his age group, when he was in his mid-40s. This past June, at age 51, he won the New York State Time Trials. He has won this event, in which he competes against riders of all ages, each of the 20-plus times he has entered it.

"The competitions aren't as important to me as they once were. I have enough trophies. At this point, it's not about a ranking, it's about making it a good game, a good challenge," says Swan, who has been clocked downhill at 72 miles an hour.



WAYNE WARNECKE

MUSIC: A LIFE FORCE

"It was very clear from the beginning. I knew I had it. I just didn't want it. But it's one of the things of which I'm sure in this world," says **Vaneese Thomas '74** of her vocal talent.

The challenges of a life in music, with its financial struggles, management complications, complex deals, and promotion issues,

are well known to her. As a Swarthmore student, Thomas tried not to sing, not to be heard. She majored in French and thought she'd be an interpreter. But the music found her, and politics compel her. Both are in her DNA. As the daughter of R&B legend Rufus Thomas, she sang her first professional gig at age 8 and grew up carrying a protest sign with her mother, Lorene, who was active in the civil rights movement.

These days, Thomas welcomes being heard both musically and politically. She has cut her own swath across the music landscape, with three solo projects including her recent CD, *A Woman's Love*; literally hun-

dreds of credits as a backup vocalist the albums of artists ranging from Céline Dion and Bette Midler to Spyro Gyra and The Black Crows; and she is the voice of Clio in Disney's animated movie *Hercules*. Friends hear her distinctive voice "in just about every car and every detergent commercial. They call me up and say, 'Was that you I heard in the Bounty commercial?'" It was.

Her personal musical tastes run the gamut from treadmill-worthy fast-paced West Indian music to the classical station on the radio in her car. In addition to her furthering her own recording career, she directs the youth choir at her church, the Alumni Gospel Choir at Swarthmore, and she is a voice coach to young professionals on their way up.

She and her husband of 15 years, Wayne Warnecke, who is also her recording engineer, produce her music on their own label, Segue Records (www.seguerecords.com), in their home studio and are constantly researching new talent to produce.

As she talked from her Westchester County, N.Y., home, she held a Kerry-Edwards campaign button in her hand. She had performed at the Democratic National Convention in Boston. "People called and said even though they couldn't see me, they knew that was my voice when the balloons were coming down, and we were singing *Celebration*. I got calls from around the country," Thomas says. —A.P.

It's also about giving back. It's not uncommon for Swan to win a charity race—as he did during a recent fundraiser for a children's cancer center—and then give the winnings back.

"It's cool to still be an inspiration to younger riders, even if only because you're old—at least in their eyes—and still competing," Swan says. "What is important to me is that when I show up, others feel the race is better because I was there. It matters little whether I win or lose, as long as I ride my best. When it makes someone's day to have beaten me in a race, I know they respect me—that shared respect is a statement of success in and of itself."

—A.P.



RICHARD FELDMAN

"THE TRESNJAK TOUCH"

Darko Tresnjak '88 is a native of the former Yugoslavia who came to the United States at age 9. Now, at 38, Tresnjak is a renowned director of theater and opera. In 2001, he won the Alan Schneider Award for Excellence in Directing. In 2002, his production of *Pericles* won numerous awards for directing on the West Coast. He has been in demand at theaters and opera houses all along the East Coast, including a two-year stint as resident-director of the Huntington Theater Company in Boston, which ended last season. He is currently artistic director of the Shakespeare Repertory

at the Old Globe Theater in San Diego, where he recently directed *Anthony and Cleopatra* and *The Two Noble Kinsmen*.

Writer Edward Karam described him in "The Tresnjak Touch," in *American Theater* (March 2004) as a lover of "bruised beauties," Tresnjak's name for dramatic pieces in which not everything works but which may yield unexpected and wonderful rewards to those willing to confront the challenge of staging them. —C.B.D.



COURTESY OF BECCA VAN FLEET

POTS WITH PERSONALITY

Rebecca Van Fleet '03, a potter who opened a gallery last year in wooded Eaton, N.H., says that the creative process is integral to her sense of well-being.

“Working in my studio fulfills me in a way nothing else can,” says Van Fleet, who was recently accepted as a statewide juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen. “Never before have I been so attuned to the natural world around me. The way I have come to notice details in my life—the changing location of the sun in the sky and the colors and smells of my surroundings—has been particularly grounding and inspirational.”

After Swarthmore, Van Fleet worried that she had “lost a sense of belonging to something greater” and feared she might never find it again. “I knew no one in my small town when I first moved in alone, but over the course of the past year, the outpouring of support for me and my endeavors has been, at times, overwhelming. To see car after car of new friends pull up my driveway at my grand opening in May was so special.”

Van Fleet believes that “the creation of ritual—whether through morning tea in one’s own mug or a favorite meal in a special bowl—can add joy and freshness to what can so easily become a routine existence. To hold and use a handmade object is to consider more fully our own senses as well as the intimacy of sharing such an object between human hands, an essential element of life that seems to be increasingly absent,” she says.

“I strive to make pottery that incorporates movement, gesture, and a sense of personality. I want each of my pots to be both useful and playful, thoughtful and fun. I am influenced by so many things in the world around me; a day’s work may be made in

response to the undulating shadows of tree trunks on the snow in my front yard or by a moss-covered stone wall rambling along a dirt road. Each time I touch the clay, I am looking to achieve a completeness of form in my work that satisfies my own aesthetic and my commitment to making objects that will be treasured.”

She adds: “To have a stranger admire and subsequently want to make one of my pieces a part of their life is, in my estimation, a very sacred transaction. When someone responds to a piece, I feel that person sees and understands something that I have seen and understood, and that shared moment is special—it keeps me working day to day.”

Van Fleet fires most of her pots in a large downdraft kiln. “The art of pottery and these firing processes can yield both delightful surprise and disappointment, but the unpredictability of the results is fuel for continuing to create and to learn about clay—and, ultimately, about one’s self,” she says.

Visit www.beccavanfleetpottery.com to see an on-line gallery and learn more about the artist, whose work has also been featured in juried craft shows. —A.H.



COURTESY OF RANDY BILLMEIER



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CHIMPANZEE CHALLENGE

In 2003, then rugby co-captain **Kirsten Vannice '04** received a Eugene M. Lang Summer Initiative Grant to study the behavior of chimpanzees and humans at the San Francisco Zoo. She observed both the human-like behaviors of chimps and people's reactions to them. In her thesis, she examined the challenge that chimpanzee biology and behavior presents to human uniqueness and definitions of self.

"I was most surprised by people's seemingly unconscious recognition of relatedness," Vannice says. "A phrase I heard a number of times was, 'look at his eyes.' As with the rest of the face, chimpanzee eyes are very powerful and had a large impact on observant viewers. However, there appeared to be little recognition of chimpanzee exceptionality beyond these initial responses. Personally, after spending hours in front of the exhibit at the San Francisco Zoo, it is hard to deny that there is a cognitive brain behind those eyes."

Vannice is now a research technician in the Laboratory of Neurogenetics and Behavior at Rockefeller University.

"Much of my Swarthmore course study focused on human evolution and genetics and culminated in my thesis. This topic

really excites me, so my current work is perfect for allowing me to think further about these questions," she says. —A.H.



INTERNET EMPOWERMENT

The Internet's potential to boost business productivity has become a given. But its potential to empower the world's poor is just beginning to be appreciated, **Theresa Williamson '97** believes.

Her four-year-old Catalytic Communities aspires to be the chief medium for the disenfranchised to share their dreams, frustrations, and concrete solutions. Its database at www.catcomm.org details 85 projects undertaken in communities from Brazil to Sudan. More than 4,000 people from 50 countries visit the three-language site monthly, she says. It could be "the first time a practical means was developed for such communities to break past the isolation that historically has limited and weakened them." —C.G.



ANDRE WILLIAMSON



THERESA WILLIAMSON

FREE TRADER

As U.S. Trade Representative, **Robert Zoellick '75** has been a member of President George W. Bush's cabinet since the beginning of the administration. Serving as the president's principal trade policy adviser and chief trade negotiator has taken Zoellick all over the world. He worked with Congress to pass the Trade Act of 2002, which revived Trade Promotion Authority, and launched the new round of global trade negotiations in November 2001. He completed Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with 12 countries—Chile, Jordan, Singapore, Australia, Morocco, Bahrain, the Dominican Republic, and five nations in Central America—and launched FTA negotiations with Panama, Thailand, three Andean countries, and the five countries of the



OFFICE OF THE U.S. TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

Southern African Customs Union. He was also instrumental in the ratification of the African Growth and Opportunity Act Acceleration Act.

Zoellick served as a top policy adviser to President George H.W. Bush during his 1988 campaign—a job that mirrored that of Christopher Edley Jr. '73 (see p. 26), who was domestic policy chief for Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis '55. He served as undersecretary of state for economic and agricultural affairs as well as counselor to the State Department. He was the senior American official in the German unification talks and worked closely with Secretary of State James Baker on policies pertaining to the end of the Cold War.

Between stints in government, Zoellick was executive vice president at Fannie Mae, the government-guaranteed mortgage lender, where he managed the company's affordable housing business. He also taught at the U.S. Naval Academy, was a research scholar at Harvard University (where he had earlier received both a law degree and a master's in public policy), and served as a senior international adviser for Goldman Sachs. —J.L.

STATE OF THE ART

IN SCIENCE, IT CHANGES.

Swarthmore's new science center opened this fall, 44 years after the former DuPont Hall was dedicated. Turn to page 18 see a photo taken from the same spot in 1960. The state of the art has changed a lot since then.

—Jeffrey Lott



CONNECTIONS

Boston: Ted Chan '02, Boston Connection co-chair, writes: "Recently, the Boston Connection held a well-attended planning meeting at Anthem, a stylish new restaurant in Boston. During the rendezvous, the group came up with many new initiatives for the coming year, ranging from social events like wine tastings and pub nights to social outreach/community service opportunities to panel discussions.

Building on the success of the Museum of Science event last May, we also hope to find more alumni with unique knowledge to provide expert commentary or lead events. Based on the meeting, we're happy to report that the rest of 2004 and 2005 will be full of great Boston Connection activities for alumni of all ages. Watch your mail for more information."

Cleveland: Sharon Seygarth Garner '89 arranged a wonderful potluck picnic for Cleveland-area alumni at the farm of Jane Dixon McCullam '62. More than 30 Swarthmore alumni and their families enjoyed the day. Many thanks to Sharon for organizing the event and to Jane and her family for sharing their home and farm.

Denver: *Bulletin* Editor Jeff Lott spoke informally about the College and the magazine with about 25 Colorado Swarthmoreans at the home of Amy Blatchford Hecht '52 on Nov. 14. Anne Bonner, associ-



MEGHAN KRIEGL MOORE '97

ALUMNI COUNCIL MEMBERS SAM AWUAH '94, DAVID VINJAMURI '86, AND NEW YORK CONNECTION CHAIR JOHN RANDOLPH '97 (LEFT TO RIGHT) VISITED THE NEW HOME OF THE ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE IN SPROUL OBSERVATORY DURING THE COUNCIL'S NOVEMBER MEETING.

ate director of capital giving, was also a guest at the event, which was organized with help from Phil Weiser '90. At the evening's end, alumni were talking about future get-togethers along the Front Range.

Nominate a Great Community Volunteer

ARABELLA CARTER, who lived in the early 1900s, was one of the great unsung workers for peace and social justice in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Similarly, many Swarthmore alumni dedicate themselves to volunteer activities of all kinds throughout their lives. In 1997, the Alumni Council decided to start the tradition of recognizing such an everyday hero at reunion, and the Arabella Carter Award was created. The award is intended to honor alumni who have made significant contributions as volunteers in their own communities or on a regional or national level but have not been recognized for their efforts.

If you know such a person, please contact the Alumni Office at (610) 328-8402, and request an award application, or visit http://www.swarthmore.edu/alumni/arabella_form.htm to fill out an on-line nomination.

FACULTY TAKE TO THE ROAD

AS PART OF A CONTINUING EFFORT to bring Swarthmore faculty members to alumni across the country, Professor of Political Science **Carol Nackenoff** presented a lecture on the 2004 presidential election in Cleveland, Minneapolis, and on campus in Swarthmore for alumni. The talk, titled

"Election 2004—Why We Are Facing Another Cliff-Hanger," was attended by more than 100 alumni.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Linguistics **K. David Harrison** gave a talk to the newly relaunched Atlanta Connection on the topic of "Documenting Endangered Languages." Chirag Chotalia '03 is the new Connection chair in Atlanta. If you are interested in hosting or assisting in the planning of Connection events in Atlanta, contact Chirag at cchotalia7@yahoo.com.

The New York Connection heard from Associate Professor of History **Allison Dorsey** in October. Professor Dorsey discussed the issues raised and explored in her recently published book *To Build Our Lives Together*.

We plan to send faculty members to Los Angeles; Seattle; San Francisco; Washington, D.C.; Miami; St. Louis; and Durham, N.C., in the spring. If you live in these areas, watch your mail for an invitation in early 2005.

—Patricia Maloney



SHARON SEYGARTH GARNER '89

KATHRYN SHARP O'NEAL '70, DAVID BAMBERGER '62, PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE CAROL NACKENOFF, AND CAROLA BAMBERGER (LEFT TO RIGHT) GOT TOGETHER AT THE RECENT CLEVELAND CONNECTIONS EVENT.

Alumni Book Groups

A Bit of Swarthmore in Your Hometown

In 1997, when book club mania swept the country, Sue Willis Ruff '60 asked a few of her Swarthmore friends if they would be interested in a book group that would function under the guidance of a Swarthmore faculty member. Their response was enthusiastic. Eight years later, the group boasts more than 80 members.

"It is a multigenerational group. The oldest participant graduated in 1945, and the youngest members have just graduated," Ruff said.

Early each fall, the book group members gather for an introductory lecture by the professor, who provides the unifying theme and the book list. Eight or nine smaller discussion groups meet monthly, dissecting each book with the help of discussion questions provided by the professor. Usually, he or she comes back for a wrap-up lecture in the spring. Book group participants contribute \$10 a year, which covers the cost of the faculty member's travel.

This year, with the help of Farha Ghanam, assistant professor of anthropology, the group is discussing "Beyond Orientalism: Voices from Middle Eastern Fiction."

Professors who have participated with the DC group include Philip Weinstein, Alexander Griswold Cummins Professor of English Literature; Ken Saragosa, assistant professor of Asian American literature; Gilbert Rose, Susan Lippincott Professor Emeritus of Modern and Classical Languages; Nathalie Anderson, professor of English literature; Elizabeth Bolton, professor of English literature; and Rosario Munson, professor of classics.

"I give 90 percent of the credit for our success to Phil Weinstein, who immediately agreed to be our mentor in 1997. He provided a list of books and discussion questions," Ruff said. "All of the faculty members have been so generous with their time."

In 1998, Sanda Balaban '94, inspired by the launch of the DC book group, decided to start one in Boston. Within the year, Balaban moved to New York, but she left the fledgling group in the hands of Steve Smith '83. This group also followed the recommendations of Swarthmore professors for a few years but then took a different tack.



FARHA GHANAM, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY (LEFT), CHATS WITH ERIKA TEUTSCH '44 AT THE PLANNING MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY BOOK GROUP.

"We decided to create our own list of books—difficult books—that we wanted to read along with other folks who felt up to the challenge," Smith said.

The group currently has about 20 "hard-core" members who meet monthly at Smith's house, and everyone brings a refreshment to share. They choose the books they will read from a list of about 50 books that Smith prepares with the help of a few group members.

"One of the joys of being part of this group is the fact that we are a diverse group with our one commonality—a connection to Swarthmore," Smith said. "Swarthmore has been the stuff that binds us to the text."

Once settled in New York, Balaban wast-

ALUMNI WEEKEND: JUNE 3–5, 2005

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW for June 3 to 5 for Alumni Weekend on campus. There will be faculty lectures, a parade of reunion classes, Collection, class dinners—and much more. Everyone is welcome, but graduating classes ending in a 5 or a 0 are the guests of honor, with the Class of '55 celebrating its special 50th reunion. Watch your mail for a registration form in late March 2005. We hope you'll join us for a wonderful weekend to enjoy your classmates and the campus again.

ed little time starting a Swarthmore book group, first mentored by Weinstein, in 1999. Today, the New York–area group breaks into between five and eight subgroups—one in Connecticut despite the distance between the group members.

"We work with a professor because it provides sort of an extension cord to the campus and the opportunity to benefit from professors we loved or regretted not taking a class with as well as those who came to Swarthmore after we left," Balaban said.

Balaban also arranges for a meeting in the fall with the faculty member, including an organizing session where members divide into groups that match their location and availability requirements. Balaban says this makes for a random grouping that allows the groups to be intergenerational, which leads to richer dialogue.

Over the years, the New York group has been mentored by Peter Schmidt, professor of English literature ("Border Crossings in 20th-Century Novels"); Carolyn Lesjak, associate professor of English literature, ("Coming of Age in a Global Economy"); Sibelan Forrester, associate professor of Russian ("The Great Russian Novel of Conscience"); and Kendall Johnson, assistant professor of English literature ("Legacies of American Exceptionalism").

"Each month, the professor posts questions for the book of the month; groups draw on these in various ways, but we all appreciate the degree to which they illuminate literary trends on campus," Balaban said.

Anyone can start a Swarthmore book group. A new one is being formed in Austin/San Antonio by Susan Morrison '81 and in Chicago by Marilee Roberg '73. You can follow in the footsteps of the DC and NYC groups and work with a professor—or forge your own path like the alumni in Boston. Either way, the result is the joy of reading with the intensity and depth learned at Swarthmore.

To join a group or to start one in your area, contact Tricia Maloney, assistant director of Alumni Relations, at pmalone1@swarthmore.edu or (610) 328-8404.

—Patricia Maloney

CLASS NOTES



JIM GRAHAM

Clothier Memorial Hall is framed by the newly planted “green” roof of the College’s new residence hall. To reduce storm water runoff into Crum Creek, the roof’s gravel-mulched beds of sedum, asters, ornamental grasses, ice plants, and flowering onions absorb rainfall, allowing moisture to evaporate naturally back into the atmosphere. The green roof will also insulate the new dormitory, reducing the College’s costs for heating and cooling. Windows in six rooms on the top floor overlook the rooftop garden. The dormitory is being named by an anonymous donor from the Board of Managers, who will choose from suggestions made by students. The donor’s \$2 million gift recently completed funding for the 75-bed residence hall, which opened to students in September.

—Elizabeth Redden '05

THE MEANING OF
SWARTHMORE

Care for Sale

Arlie Russell Hochschild '62, *The Commercialization of Intimate Life: Notes From Home and Work*, University of California Press, 2003

Arlie Russell Hochschild's latest book extends her work on the relationships among work and family, caring, and markets. Hochschild, a professor of sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, has consistently challenged her readers to think about what it means to deliver caring as a product sold through a market (*The Managed Heart: The Commercialization of Human Feeling*); to work in the formal labor market and then provide caring work at home (*The Second Shift: Working Parents and the Revolution at Home*); and to blur the lines between family in the traditional sense and the "family" offered by the workplace, with the second sometimes becoming the more appealing and less stressful refuge (*The Time Bind: When Work Becomes Home and Home Becomes Work*). Her new collection of essays builds on and extends the themes developed in earlier works, particularly within the context of a feminist revolution that is no longer new and a global economy that is still expanding.

The book comprises sections on culture, emotion, family and work, and care. It ends with a personal essay that encompasses all of these topics, which she describes as forming a "larger portrait of personal life under American capitalism." At the broadest level, this includes—but is not limited to—examination of the transfer of many functions traditionally provided within the family (child care, elder care) to the marketplace, where the family has become a consumer rather than a producer of care. The essays do not simply document this trend. Beginning with trenchant examples that are achingly familiar to anyone with a family and a job, Hochschild offers a rich and insightful exploration of why it has happened and what has been lost and gained as a result. Her subsequent analyses are not only vivid and moving but, quite often, surprising. In "The Commercial Spirit of Intimate Life

and the Abduction of Feminism," she explores the popularity and content of women's advice books and argues that feminism has been used to create and legitimate "a commercialized spirit of domestic life," drawing a relationship between feminism, markets, and the emphasis on individualism.

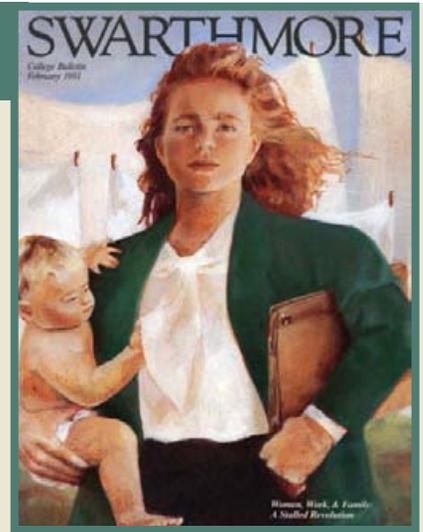
In "Children as Eavesdroppers," Hochschild pursues a puzzle that she first encountered in research she did for *The Time Bind*. She observed two young girls, both of whom had parents working long hours: One child seemed to resent deeply her parents' work commitments and another who appeared more accepting. Hochschild's analysis of these differing reactions focuses on how and what children learn about the relationship between their parents and paid caregivers and how that understanding affects the child's participation in the relationship.

In "Love and Gold," Hochschild examines the related migration of women from

Hochschild's work is readable and engaging, but each chapter deserves a return visit.

low-income countries to become nannies and caregivers in higher-income countries, leaving their own families behind. Economic hardship at home, coupled with higher economic rewards in richer countries, provide the incentive for this migration. This essay provides a nuanced look at the experience of the migrant caregiver, who cares for a child not her own while her own children are cared for by others—and supported, in part, by the higher income she earns caring for another's child. (Readers wishing to learn more about how such work is evolving in a global economic context will also want to read *Global Woman: Nannies, Maids, and Sex Workers in the New Economy*, co-edited by Hochschild and Barbara Ehrenreich.)

Many researchers and policy makers applaud the development of "family-friendly" workplaces. But in "Emotional Geography and the Flight Plan of Capitalism," Hochschild forces the reader to confront the



THIS BULLETIN COVER FROM FEBRUARY 1991 ILLUSTRATES THE WORK-FAMILY TENSIONS EXPLORED IN ARLIE RUSSELL HOCHSCHILD'S BOOK *THE SECOND SHIFT: WORKING PARENTS AND THE REVOLUTION AT HOME*, WHICH WAS FEATURED IN THAT ISSUE. HER NEW BOOK EXTENDS HER RESEARCH ON THE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG WORK AND FAMILY, CARING, AND MARKETS.

problems with that approach. First, these workplaces tend to be provided to only upper-income workers. More generally, workplaces that become warm and friendly "families" may seduce workers into seeking the comfort of their work "family" at the expense of their home family.

The foregoing examples do not do justice to the far-ranging insights this book offers. What is important is that the reader walks away with a challenging new understanding of how everyday relationships are shaped by the culture and economic system in which they exist. Hochschild focuses particularly on those difficult situations in which some elements change while others stay the same (e.g., more women enter and succeed in the formal labor force yet will still take predominant responsibility for managing the family). Hochschild's work is readable and engaging, but each chapter deserves a return visit to grasp fully the challenges she poses and to integrate the insights offered. This book enriches our understanding of the apparently—but not truly—impersonal transactions between work, family, and the market, and it challenges us to find strategies to improve them for all involved.

—Ellen Magenheimer
Professor of Economics

Other Books

Rikki Abzug '86 and Jeffrey S. Simonoff, *Nonprofit Trusteeship in Different Contexts*, Corporate Social Responsibility Series, Ashgate Publishing, 2004. This book draws on advances in neo-institutional organizational theory to explore the environmental and contextual influences on the structure and composition of boards of nonprofit organizations.

Amy Fine Collins '78, *The God of Driving: How I Overcame Fear and Put Myself in the Driver's Seat With the Help of a Good and Mysterious Man*, Simon & Shuster, 2004. This true story describes how the author, a socialite and chief style writer for *Vanity Fair*, confronted her lifelong fear of driving after her instructor gave her a new outlook on life.

Ken Hechler '35, *Hero of the Rhine: The Karl Timmermann Story*, Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., 2004. A master storyteller of World War II, the author offers a full-length biography of Lt. Karl Timmermann, the first officer to cross the famed Ludendorff Bridge in Remagen, Germany.

William "Bill" Hirsch '49, *Passing the Baton: The Norman "Joe" Hirsch Story*, PublishAmerica, 2004. A family saga with ethnic accents, this fictional story travels from Brooklyn's tenements to East Anglia, England—via an ocean voyage, Ebbets Field baseball and football, and a murder case along the way.

Amy Hutchins '93 with the University of Pennsylvania Archives, *University of Pennsylvania*, Arcadia, 2004. This photographic collection focuses on the school's history, providing images of more than a century of student life inside and outside the classroom.

Katie [Moore] Kauffman '64 and Caroline New, *Co-Counseling: The Theory and Practice of Re-evaluation Counseling*, Brunner-Routledge, 2004. Challenging much of "good practice" in mental health services, this model particularly offers support to those facing or recovering from discrimination, prejudice, and oppression.

Arnold Kling '75, *Learning Economics*, Xlibris, 2004. According to the author (arnoldkling.com), this book "tries to improve economic literacy"; others recommend the work for "learning how economists think."

Ann [Mosely] Lesch '66 and Osman Fadl (eds.), *Coping With Torture: Images From the Sudan*, Red Sea Press, 2004. Originally exhibited in Cairo in 2000, these 53 artworks express the pain that Sudanese suffered during the period since the military coup d'état in June 1989.

Murray Levine, Douglas Perkins '80, David Perkins, *Principles of Community Psychology: Perspectives and Applications* (3rd ed.), Oxford University Press, 2005. This updated and expanded edition presents new information on social and physical environmental influences on behavior and well-being, problems in planned change on a statewide level, ways to make community psychology more interdisciplinary, and more.

Darwin Stapleton '69, *Creating a Tradition of Biomedical Research: Contributions to the History of The Rockefeller University*, Rockefeller University Press, 2004. As executive director of the Rockefeller Archive Center, the author developed this work from the Rockefeller University's centennial observance of 2000 to 2001.

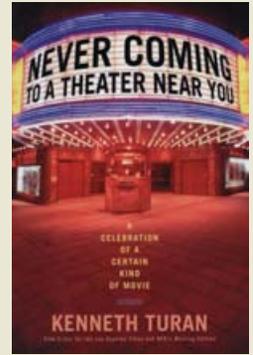
Richard Valeyly '75, *The Two Reconstructions: The Struggle for Black Enfranchisement*, University of Chicago Press, 2004. Comparing the two eras of southern political reconstruction—the period after the Civil War and the period between the 1940s and the 1965 Voting Rights Act—the author fuses historical research and political science theory to reveal the full significance of these periods in shaping American democracy and deepen readers' understanding of the evolution of African American political rights.

Patricia McKissack and Arlene Zarembka '70, *To Establish Justice: Citizenship and the Constitution*, Alfred A. Knopf, 2004. A tool for educators to use when teaching about the Supreme Court and civil rights, this book covers a broad spectrum of cases, from the plight of Native Americans to women's desire to vote.

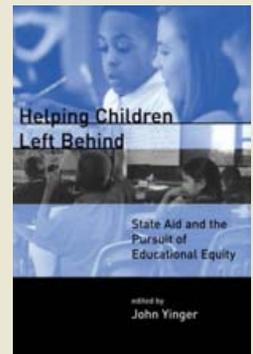
Art Exhibit

Christine Hiebert's ['82] exhibit, *drawing as structure: works in blue tape, charcoal, and graphite*, ran from Nov. 5 to Dec. 18 at Philadelphia's Gallery Joe (www.galleryjoe.com).

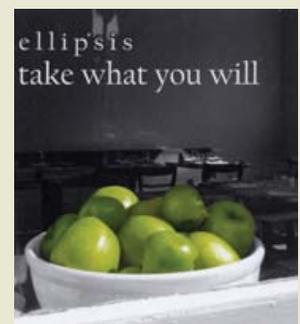
Kenneth Turan '67, *Never Coming to a Theater Near You: A Celebration of a Certain Kind of Movie*, PublicAffairs, 2004. The *Los Angeles Times* and National Public Radio's *Morning Edition* film critic describes his top 155 must-see films in revised and updated reviews. Turan, the director of the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prizes, has been a film critic at the *Los Angeles Times* for more than 10 years.



John Yinger '69 (ed.), *Helping Children Left Behind: State Aid and the Pursuit of Educational Equity*, MIT Press, 2004. This book addresses reform of state aid to education and details case studies of recent school finance reform efforts in Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Texas, and Vermont. In addition to editing this work, Yinger wrote the chapter titled "State Aid and the Pursuit of Educational Equity: An Overview."



Valeria Jokisch '01, Matt Murphy '01, and Joel Price '00, *take what you will*, omission music, 2004. This Philadelphia



acoustic trio was formed while all three members attended Swarthmore. For the last three years, the group has performed in the Philadelphia area and toured around the eastern and midwestern United States. This new album was released at a fall concert at the Friends Meetinghouse on campus.

A Letter From Kabul

AN ALUMNA WATCHES DEMOCRACY COME TO AFGHANISTAN.

By Sarah Hegland '02

Oct. 8

Since I arrived in Kabul in November 2003, a new Thai restaurant, English pub, and a French café—serving authentic cappuccinos at French prices—have all opened in the city. The first traffic light appeared a few months ago; roads have been paved, and banks opened. When I first landed at Kabul International Airport, I was greeted by a runway strewn with airplanes and tanks that had been bombed during Afghanistan's 25 years of conflict. Now the rubble has been cleared, and red flags mark out the U.N. de-mining operation.

The international community has invested billions of dollars here since the fall of the Taliban. Some changes are obvious and heartening: I see fewer women wearing burqas on the street and more Afghan policemen with new, black uniforms and shiny belt buckles. The rocket attacks have become more sporadic and less devastating. But with some of the highest malnutrition, poverty, and maternal mortality rates in the world, the country still faces a daunting development challenge.

With the approval of a new constitution last January, presidential elections were set for Oct. 9 and parliamentary elections scheduled for April 2005. I began working for the United Nations in December 2003, and, since then, I've been watching and participating in the intense preparations for tomorrow's election. The \$200 million project has covered the long process of building a fair and accurate list of registered voters, civic education to teach citizens about their rights and duties, elaborate security training and planning, building the government's ability to run a fair election, and the massive polling day operations, both in Afghanistan

as well as for out-of-country refugee voting in Iran and Pakistan. The sheer logistics of the project are impressive: 97 flights to bring materials into the country, 532 donkeys to transport materials, 6,500 satellite phones used, 21.5 million ballot papers printed, 150,000 Afghan staff working at the polling centers on election day, and 36 different nationalities on the electoral staff.

The last few weeks, in particular, have been crazy with election preparations. Everyone was working 12- to 14-hour days. Every small crisis felt like the success of the elections—democracy itself—hinged on it. The conference room's been triple-booked! It was a logistical nightmare because every meeting was important: an emergency Security Management Team meeting, where final updates on security and decisions on movement in the country would be made; a meeting of all 18 presidential candidates with the U.N. secretary general's special representative in Afghanistan; and our training session for 70 Afghan journalists on polling and counting procedures. All week, I was writing press releases and updates, fielding questions from journalists, coordinating interviews, and preparing talking points for U.N. staff.

Today and tomorrow, only essential staff members are supposed to be in the U.N. offices, and I received permission to work for the U.N. press office at the Media Results Center (MRC) for the duration. The MRC was built for journalists covering the election; it's where the press briefings take place, and it provides reporters with interview rooms, 60 Internet-linked computers, and real-time updates on the election results. My job was to assist the U.N. spokesperson Manoel de Almeida e Silva, with the briefings—three on election day

alone. But I got only as far as noon and one briefing today when my boss called to say that the New York headquarters had decided that the security situation was too risky, and the United Nations Development Programme staff members were to return home immediately. I thought this was unnecessarily risk averse, given that there had been no incidents, but have returned home to hunger down with my housemates over cooking, reading, and DVD watching.

Oct. 9

Last night, there was a dust storm in Kabul. The temperature dropped 20 degrees, the winds picked up, and a thin layer of brown, gritty dust covered everything in the house. It was eerily quiet—there were no cars on the street, and those of us internationals who hadn't already left the country were ordered to stay at home with supplies of water and food, our radios on all the time. Being restricted is called "White City"—no public places, restaurants, or bazaars; 8 p.m. curfew; twice-daily radio checks; and no nonessential movement. Some agencies had issued baby-blue flak jackets and helmets to their staff. We were waiting for the sound of rockets, riots, mad helicopters, or evacuation orders over the radio—and in the meantime watched Tom Cruise in *Minority Report*.

We were hungry for reports all day today, and they trickled in from a variety of sources. I received updates from friends at the press office about "Inkgate," the scandal wherein indelible ink intended to mark the thumbs of voters so that no one could vote twice, proved washable. The ink was supposed to allay concerns that people had registered to vote in more than one location, but it turned out that the ink was a bit like henna—it could be removed if washed immediately. Candidates running against interim President Hamid Karzai seized on the opportunity to call the elections a fraud. The ink problem was a small component of a massively well-prepared process. Everything else went so well that it's a shame to see this taint the perception of fairness. The Afghans I talked to thought it was ridiculous—only a minor flaw. My friends and I exchanged messages all day, making fun of the incident—"Inknerated

“Every small crisis felt like the success of the elections—democracy itself—hinged on it.”

women walking down the streets to the polling stations, eager and calm voters, and effective security forces.

It has been interesting to observe how much influence the American government has had in this election. Some Afghans are cynical—even if they like Karzai, they see his victory as inevitable because the Americans back him. I don’t think American officials did anything overt to affect the election—they had more of a public-image interest in transparent elections than in Karzai winning. What they did instead was to take every opportunity to tie the \$1.2 billion given so far in American aid to the current Afghan government. The American ambassador appeared with Karzai at every ceremony, from the opening of a new paved road to the construction site of a girls’ school, making it clear that Karzai’s development achievements are supported by American money.

Oct. 10

As I write, the vote counting has been put on hold for three days, pending the resolution of Inkgate, and it will take several weeks for all the ballot boxes—some traveling by donkey—to trickle in to the regional counting centers. But Kabul is quiet, and everyone is pleasantly surprised by the lack of violence. A few rocket attacks occurred in the provinces, several narrowly averted explosions, and various reports of intimidation and threats, but my Afghan colleagues came into the office this morning excited about the day and eager to tell stories about their first experience with democracy. ☞

After spending a year working in journalism in London, Hegland—who majored in political science and minored in English—joined the United Nations in Afghanistan in December 2003.



AP PHOTO/ELIZABETH DALZIEL

“I’VE BEEN TRYING TO LEARN DARI, BUT IT’S FRUSTRATING,” SAYS SARAH HEGLAND (RIGHT). “AFGHANS USE SO MANY COLLOQUIALISMS.” SHE LEARNED ONE PHRASE THAT SHE LOVES: “‘CHESHMETAN MAQBUL AST!’ IT MEANS, ‘YOUR EYES ARE BEAUTIFUL!’ YOU USE IT WHEN SOMEONE PAYS YOU A COMPLIMENT,” SHE SAYS. “IT TURNS IT AROUND AND COMPLIMENTS THE OTHER PERSON FOR SEEING BEAUTY.”



COURTESY OF SARAH HEGLAND

elections!” “Taliban conspirancy!”

Despite dire warnings of possible security threats and orders to stay at home, after a year of watching the election preparations, I had to see something. As a woman, it’s unsafe to walk alone on the streets, so I dragged one of our guards with me to go for a walk late in the afternoon. Things were quiet—the government had stopped all traffic coming into Kabul yesterday, and the Afghan National Army, police, and NATO security forces blanketed the city. We walked

down empty, shattered streets to the nearest mosque, today doubling as a polling station. The men stood calmly outside in one line, women in another, and the police stood guard at the periphery. Although my Dari conversational skills have been improving, I was afraid to talk to any of them—there was a sense that after a year of preparations, this day wasn’t mine, and it felt rude to intrude. We walked home.

Journalist friends who could travel freely brought back stories of droves of happy

WHY IS HER GLASS ALWAYS HALF FULL?

LINDA ECHOLS DISPENSES WELLNESS WITH WISDOM.

By Alisa Giardinelli

Because she has served as the director of Worth Health Center for more than 20 years. Because she was one of the first nurse practitioners in the country to run a 24-hour student health center and demonstrate that that model could work. Because she and her staff see about 70 students a day, not including the ones who receive CPR training, attend workshops, or stop by for condoms (\$1 buys five). Because, over the years, she has also served as an associate dean, the equal opportunity officer, and the worker's compensation case manager—a responsibility she still has. Because she still thinks of the Class of 1985, the first she saw through all four years, as “my class.” Because she administers an average of five HIV tests a week. Because she describes most, but not all, of the students who take the test as the “worried well.” Because she is a longtime adviser to the Black Cultural Center and the Swarthmore African-American Student Society. Because her home serves as “Hotel Linda,” where alumni often come to stay, eat, and relax. Because she credits former students with motivating her to finish her Ph.D. dissertation at Penn. Because she provides similar encouragement to them. Because she has worked in all kinds of health care environments but enjoys working with college students the best because “you can have expectations of them,” she says. “The outcomes are good.”

How do the issues Swarthmore students face compare with those at other schools?

First, our pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease rate is very low. We complain a lot about drugs and alcohol here, but these rates do not compare in magnitude to risk-taking behaviors you often see at big campuses. It's easier to disrespect another person when alcohol is involved, so I try to tie sexual health awareness to education about drugs and alcohol. I don't want people to drink until they're drunk. It just breeds so many problems.

What are you most proud of at the center?

Staffing is important. We don't have a lot of turnover, and people see that. We have a family-oriented setting here. Staff members bring their children to work, and the students enjoy them. And our care is accessible. Students don't have to wait weeks or months or deal with a lot of fees to get seen. Oh, let me not forget to mention that we have a 24–7 unit—a rarity among colleges these days.

What do you regard as the lowest depths of misery?

Depression. To see the world dimly is worse than pain and illness.

Your idea of earthly happiness?

Health.

When do you feel most indulgent?

When I'm at my house with my family and friends around me.

What is the quality you most admire?

Joyfulness.

What is your least favorite quality?

Dishonesty.

What is your most treasured possession?

I'm a junk collector. Everything's a treasure.

Who are your real-life heroes?

My parents and grandparents—my father Mr. Pete was patriarch of our street. Also Janet Dickerson and Bill Cosby.

Do you have a dream journey?

I don't think so. I like change, not movement.

What is your best quality?

My smile.

And your worst?

I'm a little outspoken and often say just what's on my mind. No beating around the bush for me.

If you could tell your patients one thing, what would it be?

Stop worrying so much. You're as normal as the rest of us. ☺



JIM GRAHAM

