

Pearls & seaweed

The New Mountain School Barn

By Pat Barnes

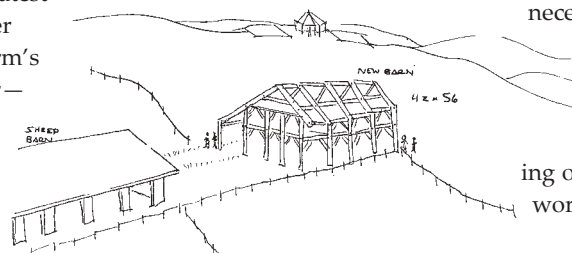
Eight dollars per square foot. That's about what it would cost the Mountain School to order a barn over the Internet. It's actually possible! Type in your specifications: width, length, height, location of doors and windows, the color of the siding and roof...and before you know it, the components will be produced in some faraway place and then brought to the school by truck. We could have our new barn—some assembly required—in a matter of days. Imagine that.

Of course, we're not purchasing a barn online. In fact, we're going to the opposite extreme: From identifying the individual trees to be felled this autumn, to sawing and chiseling joinery in each individual beam, to raising the frame next August, teachers and students are working side by side to construct a new Mountain School barn *ourselves*.

But while it seems easy to understand the reasons for building a new barn (see box, page four), the reasons for building it ourselves are less readily apparent. Isn't it more time consuming to do it that way? More expensive? Less safe?

Perhaps it is best to begin by considering the oldest and most durable building on our campus—the library. Our new barn will share many characteristics with that structure, a converted timber frame barn first constructed approximately two hundred years ago. Timber frame structures are the longest lasting wood structures built; kept under good repair, some European examples of timber frames are approaching eight hundred years of use. The investment we are making with our hours of labor and dollars of purchased materials will provide centuries of rewards. This is a remarkable lesson when one considers that most contemporary buildings (especially those ready to order online!) have a projected life span measured only in decades.

More important than money is this: By building the barn our animals and farmers need and deserve *ourselves*, we are providing one of the Mountain School's greatest educational opportunities ever. Never before has the integral nature of a farm's woodland—for both fuel and lumber—been as clear to students as it is this autumn. In fact, many of the timbers that will form the frame of our barn will come from the Mountain



Let the daily tide leave some deposit on these pages, as it leaves sand and shells on the shore...This may be a calendar of the ebbs and flows of the soul; and on these sheets as a beach, the waves may cast up pearls and seaweed.

Thoreau



photo by Pat Barnes

Jack Kruse and Margaret Niemiec (Fall '02) collaborate on a wall post tenon.

School campus itself—from trees that our consulting forester identified long ago as ready for harvest. We've taken these trees to a local sawmill where they've been cut to the proper dimensions; later this winter, we'll have a local sawyer come to campus with a portable sawmill to render the boards needed for the barn's flooring and siding. Our relationship with this kind of local businesspeople (in addition to loggers, foresters, sawmills, and truckers) is introducing us to the power of local economies in an age when the global economy gives little feedback about the impacts of our consumptive choices or the costs of long distance transportation.

There are other educational rewards as well. The farmers who built the original barns in our region possessed skills borne of a lifetime of hand tool use. However, they were not craftspeople who specialized in a single technique; rather, they were people willing to learn the skills necessary for their lifestyle. We have found it possible to teach the faculty and students the skills

necessary to use a handsaw, to split a fine pencil line with their cut, to wield a razor-sharp framing chisel with exactitude, and to develop the teamwork necessary to move safely timbers weighing over five hundred pounds. The result of our work to date has been joints cut with

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Letter from the D I R E C T O R



photo by Laura Healy F'01

Interim Director and English teacher Alden Smith

*And if you're lost enough to find yourself
By now, Pull in your ladder road behind you
And put a sign up CLOSED to all but me.
Then make yourself at home.*

- "Directive," Robert Frost

On a bright August morning, my English students pile into the back of the one-ton truck. As the engine roars to life, I call out the window for the students in back to sit down. I turn left at the end of the school driveway and take a quick right up Taylor Valley Road. Along the way, I make frequent stops to point out the monolithic granite boulder by the side of the road, a dying apple tree darkened by the shade of aspens, and a stone pillar sunk into an old, roadside maple by the former town commons. My students should recognize these as images from Robert Frost's "Directive," their homework for today's class.

After I park the truck near the height of Taylor Valley, the students spill into a grove of hardwoods, where a stone-lined pit awaits them. This cellar hole is the destination of our class and the setting of "Directive." While the students comb the area for clues that might uncover the history of this place, I lean against a thick maple that projects from the jumble of stones which once comprised the house's foundation. I ask the class to sit silently a few minutes and to imagine the early 19th century dwellers of this house: where did they get water, what did they eat, and what did their kids do for fun? A breeze draws through the rush of maple and birch leaves above us. Now we are ready to discuss the poem.

The students learn early in "Directive" that the motives of Frost's speaker are suspect. As the guide of this double journey through the woods and through

Beyond Confusion

By Alden Smith

the poem, he admits that he "only has at heart your getting lost." His intent seems not to clarify, but to unsettle and disorient. Along the way, he mentions the many pairs of animal eyes that watch us from the dark recesses of the forest, and alludes to a glacier "still said to haunt this side of Panther Mountain." He also points out clues to the natural history of this area—overgrown roads, glacier-carved ridges and shattered dishes—without clarifying the story that they tell. The speaker's intent and the poem's setting are mysteries that I hope my students will begin to solve during this field trip.

One reason I like to begin my English class with "Directive" is that it introduces a theme—*lost enough to find yourself*—that will recur throughout the semester. On many occasions, the faculty will play the guides who seek to disorient, and it will be the students' job to find out where they are. We will drive them three miles from campus and ask them to find their way back on foot using map and compass; we will have them follow animal tracks in the snow until they are so lost that they have forgotten the way home; and we will lead each student to a spot along a remote stream to spend three days alone.

Being lost in the woods is the easy part. Far from giving clear answers, academic and community life might disorient them further. Some students will find that their assumptions about other people, when scrutinized, may collapse around them; that their textbooks present interpretations, not facts; that enlightenment may come as much from a chore well done as from an English class; and that difficult issues discussed in school meeting often lead to more questions than answers.

But isn't the Mountain School supposed to be a clarifying experience? What does Frost's speaker mean when he asks "if you are lost enough to find yourself"? I have to confess that although I've had plenty of

experience being lost, I'm not entirely sure what it means to "find yourself." I do know, however, that finding does happen here. I witness moments of stunning clarity, brilliance or epiphany in my students. It is also true that this sort of finding, more often than not, involves disorientation and turbulence.

The work of this faculty, first and foremost, involves creating a safe place for this disorientation and turbulence to happen. It takes a special group of guides to get their followers lost without losing trust. It takes a special group of followers to keep faith that in the midst of being lost, finding will happen. If our work at the Mountain School is to promote *inquiry*—to provide tools for self-educating rather than simply offer information—then we must provide a learning culture where disorientation is not only tolerated, but encouraged.

In the closing lines of "Directive," the speaker urges us toward reorientation and self-discovery. He invites us to share a drink with him from the stream's headwaters, and to "be whole again, beyond confusion." Even after he has offered me this communion, I'm not sure how comforted I feel with his encouragement to become beyond confused. What lies "beyond confusion"? Do I dare go deeper and find out?

The discussion of "Directive" is wonderful. On the way back to the truck, I remove several logs from a gaping stone-lined hole in the forest floor. The students peer into the depths of the old well that served this nineteenth century home. Because this is only the second English class of the semester, I cannot tell whether my students feel clarified by our field trip or beyond confused. I do know, however, that I feel clearer than ever about my vocation. As I start the one-ton truck and drive back down Taylor Valley, I am thrilled we have four months to read poems and landscapes together.

Making it Ours

By Lise Clavel

Around the time of the fall equinox, sunset starts joining us for dinner. Anyone who has sat facing Colton Hill out the dining hall's west window as the light scatters below the horizon knows it's hard to see much across the table beyond the silhouettes of faces and bread baskets. But the lack of light does not compromise our closeness: You can still recognize the person by the voice, the expression by the tone, the freshness of the rolls by the warmth in your hands. Lately I've been thinking about this kind of negative space—the light around the obscured face—where darkness illuminates the questions, where the gaps in your vision encourage you to see.

Sharing a meal, in particular the last one of the day, is an inspiring concept to those of us who value community as something we participate in rather than something we use as an easy, palliative label. In practice, however, it can be a rushed, clumsy thing. Lost napkins and spills threaten the enjoyment of a meal, as does a shortage of the vegetarian option for last-table stragglers who happen not to like turkey pot pie. But there is something important in the clumsiness, too. After one night where I tried to keep a straight face while telling students not to throw compost at each other during a food fight—both to no avail—I returned to the kitchen to see a bright clean floor and spotless sinks. The same students who broke eggs down each others' backs also mopped up the pumpkin pulp from the floor, just moments later.

There is no invisible hand here: The food they throw is also the food they clean up. The squash in the casserole has been harvested on Garden Hill, the pale flowers that hang to dry from the rafters of the dining room have been cut and bunched and tied just down the hill by the frame garden. The turkeys we eat for dinner have been fed daily in their mobile shelters; they have shed their feathers just outside the harvest kitchen, and there, visible from the dining room window, they have been gutted and cleaned.



photo by Marc McKee

Latin teacher Lise Clavel (Fall '96) picks flowers with Justin Kaviar (Fall '02)

It is through this process of carrying out the chores that scatter us around the farm—the same chores that bring us back together with the fruits of their completion—that we transform work into learning and a farm into our home. For the time that they are here, students make the school their own; this is not evident just by their name cards tacked to chores or by their leadership of morning meeting every day, but also by half-knit scarves left in the library and bikes piled on Derby lawn. This place belongs to us, then, in the structured hours when we gather for a hike, a class, or a dish crew; and, conversely, we belong to the place in the sometimes distracted moments between those hours, the moments that bring us to something of beauty through a hitch in the scheme.

A few weeks ago on the anniversary of September 11, Susie and I drove several students down to Hanover to participate in a peace vigil. The morning was rainy and quiet and strange, and as we were leaving the Mountain School, we decided to stop at the bottom of the hill to share a moment of silence with each other and much of the country at 8:46. I opened the van door and the low chatter ceased, and just as the air began to settle with our

stillness, two students appeared from around the bend, walking up the hill to the dining room. Their voices interrupted and ended our moment of silence, and I remember thinking that our watches must not be synchronized. Somehow, however, the dissonance felt right just then, not only as an insight into the limitations of constructed time but also as a poignant reminder that part of what we do here is let moments like that one propel us from organized complacency into sudden awareness.

And in a way that is the work of our community, I think—to adopt a routine and then to regard the deviations from this routine as blessings that open up our ways of living. As we returned from the silence and drove away, I realized it's sometimes when things don't work perfectly that they are working most beautifully. Somehow the mistakes we make, and the flexibility we must embrace in order to fix those mistakes, clear out space for new thinking: As our shadows creep up to meet the pressing sunset, the light floods in as a challenge to feel around among these shadows for what we are and what we are about to become. And the things that go wrong work best in their telling, when solo survivors brandish purple-green

(Continued on page four)

The New Mountain School Barn

from page one



Barn Project Manager David Hooke looks up from chiseling out a mortise.

precision—and, most important, not a single injury. The satisfactions of working shoulder to shoulder on a meaningful project are substantial, though we are also learning patience and diligence as we strive together to meet the stringent standards required for each joint. To provide instruction and guidance for our project, the school has contracted with Josh Jackson, a respected member of the Timber Framers Guild and an experienced timber frame instructor. Josh led a “faculty barn camp” in August to train the teachers to cut the necessary mortise and tenon joints, and to provide important safety instruction. After the faculty introduced these skills to the students at the beginning of the semester (through chiseling joints to make clothesline racks for use around campus,) Josh returned to give a professional’s introduction of each “stick” to the team of students who would begin cutting that timber. Josh will return to campus throughout the year to check on our progress, teach new skills, and help coordinate the barn raising in August, 2003.

The faculty and students of fall '02 and spring '03 are fortunate to be at the school to share in this barn project; however, we'd like the entire

precision—and, most important, not a single injury. The satisfactions of working shoulder to shoulder on a meaningful project are substantial, though we are also learning patience and diligence as we strive together to meet the stringent standards required for each joint.

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Features of the New Barn

- Adequate dry space to shelter cows during the winter for the animals’ comfort and health.
- Excellent manure management to retain nutrients that are needed to enhance our garden and field fertility.
- Livestock handling facilities for proper veterinary care.
- A sow and piglet room to allow the school to breed and raise piglets rather than buying piglets each year.
- A heated room to brood turkeys (turkeys are currently brooded in the basement of the dining hall).
- Efficient use of labor when providing feed and bedding (all feed and bedding hay will be stored in the barn’s loft and will be delivered to animals by gravity, without the need for regular winter time restocking from the satellite storage areas we now use).

Mountain School community to share in the fun. Are there graduates, family and friends who would be interested in helping out with a spring break or summer barn crew? Would a weekend barn workshop fit into your schedule? Of course we hope everyone will come help with the August barn raising—there will be jobs for all, from pounding oak pegs to providing food and entertainment. Drop us a line and tell us how many to expect!

Making it Ours from page three

bruises, when someone has braided her still-soapy hair after a shower was disrupted by our drought. (Put to the test by a water shortage this fall, students have learned how the well and plumbing systems work here, how to clean the whole kitchen with the last few gallons of water from the weakening pump, how a long shower might translate into empty toilets for an afternoon.)

It is what we choose as a community to revise in our daily life, then, what we make out of the lack—the compost we scoop off the kitchen floor, the water we conserve, the broken moments we give shape to—that ultimately provides for us. When we confront our blind spots and use

the light around the edges to try to see, things begin to come into focus; and in this are the moments that shine, those ones that urge us to shift our places at the table and meet the faces we’ve only known so far as silhouettes. Sitting around the table at dinner, we’ll discover the comfort in change, the certainty that things are uncertain, the negative space challenging us to pose questions and revise what we thought we knew.

As Samuel Beckett once wrote, “The creation of the world did not take place once and for all time, but takes place every day.” The light changes quickly here, and soon we will be waking before sunrise to participate in the creation of a day, a home

and a world whose mercurial weather we will incorporate into our own transformations. Soon the morning will offer Colton Hill in silhouette, an outline of land stamped into the sky, a promise of day collecting itself around a place that we create. We pass through many communities in our lives, but there are only a few that we can hold and point to and say, We hung those flowers. We shucked that corn.

By Jack Kruse

Erik's Thing

On Tuesday, April 13, 1991, Exeter student Erik Anderson pointed out in a school meeting that farm work was always cut short after two-and-a-half hours in order to return to class at four o'clock. He proposed that we designate a day to see what it would be like to work a full day on the farm. We did, and ever since, once a semester, we cancel classes for *Farm Day*.

On Tuesday, June 12, 2001, Erik had another brainstorm. He had returned to the Mountain School after college to teach Environmental Science and stayed on to cover Pat Barnes's sabbatical. Just before he left us again, to teach at nearby Chelsea High School, he made another observation: our schedule also thwarted expedition. With classes on Saturdays and homework on Sundays there was never time for a real adventure, like "following a compass due North for a day just to see how far you could get."

We tried it last spring, groups of teachers and students heading out Saturday morning with a project in mind: Andy Dahlstrom's group biked on back roads to the Connecticut River, Anne and Dave Stephens led a group of birders in search of a chestnut-sided warbler, Alden Smith took a crew to Moody Swamp to release apple trees for black bear forage, I took some students to Old City Falls to clear out a log jam and rebuild the stone embankment it tore into.

The day was so successful we thought

we'd schedule one this September. Putting it on the calendar, of course, meant calling it something other than *Erik's Thing*. We settled on *Activity Day* for the time being, but we're still taking suggestions. Here's what happened this term:

- Sue Kruse and her group marbled paper, something Sue learned last year and taught this summer. The process involves swirling thin, oily paints on the surface of a seaweed gel and picking up the pattern with a sheet of paper—the sort of thing you see inside the covers of old books.



- Lise Clavel and Noah Bopp stenciled a van MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR, and persuaded ten students to board with pads of paper, sharp pencils, and no idea where they were going. It turned out to be a creative writing adventure: poetry in Emily Dickinson's garden in Amherst; short fiction just off J.D. Salinger's driveway in Cornish.

- Pat Barnes and four students made a scale

model of the new barn. Pat's model, of kiln-dried Eastern White Pine, weighs two pounds; the actual frame, of air-dried Eastern White Pine, will weigh 48,000 pounds.

- Gerry Coleman and Karalyn Parzych manufactured and canned garden products: green salsa from the tomatillos and hand salve from fresh-wilted calendula flowers. According to Ellen Zimmermann of the Austin School of Herbal Studies, calendula salve is good for burns, bruises, insect bites, rashes, frostbite, hemorrhoids, chapped lips, eczema, and psoriasis.

- Susie and Kurt Rinehart took a group canoeing down the Connecticut River. Some boys capsized but stayed with the boat and made it back in good shape. Their cameras did not.

- Gwynne Durham led a hike up a mountain that was called Camel's Rump until in 1830 Governor Crafts changed Rump to Hump—in 2001 the Treasury Department began featuring it on Vermont's quarter.

- Kathy and David Hooke made Tibetan momos, a pastry dish they learned in Ladakh, India. Ingredients: one pound ground meat of freshly-killed goat, one small onion, one egg, two cups flour, salt, pepper, garan masala. Preparation: make dough into pleated package with filling inside, then steam for fifteen minutes. Protocol: Sit cross-legged in nomad tent. Refuse momos the first three times they are offered, then eat with gusto and yak-butter tea.

Technology at the Mountain School



Have any thoughts on the use of technology at the Mountain School? We're revising our technology plan and would love to hear your thoughts! Send them to info@mountainschool.org with the subject line "Technology."

New Faculty



New faculty members (from right to left) Lise Clavel (Fall '96: Latin), Noah Bopp (History), Karalyn Parzych (Spring '95: Environmental Science), Susie Rinehart (Interim Assistant Director: English), and Kurt Rinehart (Outdoor program/dorm parent) share a moment on Derby lawn.

Farm Notes

By Gerry Coleman

photo by Marc McKee



Gerry Coleman

The back cover of the Fall 2002 Vermont Life Magazine pictures a Vermont dairy farm with cows in the foreground and the caption, "Come meet some of the hardest working Vermonters around." Before I had read the fine print and learned that the ad was referring to farmers, I had assumed it was paying homage to

the cows. Cows *are* among the hardest working residents of Vermont. Even eating is work for them, which is why the quality of the pasture is so important, especially if we want rapid growth and good milk production. We do our best to give them (and our sheep) the best forage with rotational grazing, but sometimes our best efforts succumb to the more powerful anti-pasture forces of nature, such as the drought and heat we experienced this summer and last.

This summer was a little better than last since we had rain in the spring and in June (in June I felt a bit silly for having mentioned my worries about drought conditions in the last Farm Notes column!) Then no rain fell from July until mid September. The lack of water forced us to feed hay, corn stalks and some melons from the garden to the cows and sheep to tide them over until we could put them on the new growth in the hayfields. They were there for several weeks, quite content, but went to the barn about two weeks earlier than usual, about the tenth of October. Aware that we might be feeding hay for a longer period this winter, we made some late hay at a neighbor's.

The cows will spend this winter in the same barn they have been in since 1996, but this will be their last winter there, as the future cow barn is progressing well with all the faculty and students working on it. A few Saturdays ago we celebrated the "Blessing of the First Bent" with speeches, photo ops, and much applause. We have a ways to go, but it was still a day for celebration. This week David Hooke and Marc McKee began cutting pine from our woods and we will have enough for all the siding and some of the timbers; they will also cut some "popple" (poplar) for planking next summer. Marc says they are doing good things for the woods by removing many trees damaged by the pine weevil, and leaving the young straight pines behind.

The garden did better this year than last because of the moisture in the early part of the summer. However, by August we needed to irrigate the most sensitive crops, which put a burden on the well that supplies Conard and Underwood dorms. If drought

photo by Pat Barnes



Murray

first month, when it is almost expected that people can lose up to 10% of the total to disease or miscellaneous deaths. However, we did lose nine in all (eight to coyotes or another predator, possibly a red fox, who jumped their electric fence, and one to the turkeys pecking each other). To make sure we didn't lose any more to predators, once school started I (inspired by Nigel's example) began to spend my evenings and nights deterring predators by

conditions continue we will have to consider either moving at least part of the garden closer to Derby Pond for irrigation or possibly drilling a well for irrigation.

The meat chickens and turkeys are safe and sound in the freezers. We started with one hundred turkeys, and didn't lose any during their

reading and sleeping in the farm van which I parked on garden hill next to the turkeys. Like Nigel I took this job seriously and enjoyed it.

For his part, Nigel continues to keep the sheep safe from coyotes and foxes. He looks very responsible and self-important from a vantage point in the pasture overlooking the sheep. Because the sheep will be returning so early to the barn, breeding this fall will take place in the barn with a

photo by Marc McKee



Nigel

border Leicester ram borrowed from our shearer. Once again, Sue Kruse probably won't like his appearance as much as Murray, our "pet" Romney ram, who fortunately has recovered completely from a recent gorging on grain, thanks to a very large bottle of Pepto-Bismol. He is oblivious to his appearance and his Pepto-Bismol dyed pink lips and is once again demanding apples and love—we are only too happy to comply (although the apple harvest is puny so he won't be getting too many!)

Our experimental fall raspberry bushes planted in the spring of the first drought have done beautifully. One morning I picked almost a gallon that Marilyn used for the Harvest Feast raspberry pies. The berries are big, red, beautiful, and tasty, though not as tasty as some less hardy varieties of fall raspberries—but at least these thrive here.

We continue to grow and to dry flowers for wreathes and recently added calendula salve to our line of Mountain School products. Karalyn Parzych, the Environmental Science intern, made some with students and me, and is now making a batch for herself. Calendulas are easy to grow so soon she'll be growing those too.

“Sure, I’ll Help Get the Skunk Out of the Henhouse”

By Susie Rinehart

I am writing a book of mistakes. It began the day I visited a friend’s art and bookmaking studio in Los Angeles. There was a tall stack of pages spilling off her desk onto the floor.

“These,” she said proudly, “are my mistakes.”

I picked up a handful of them. “You keep your mistakes?”

“Of course! My best stuff always comes from this stack.”

I wanted to see if she was right, but it’s hard to believe that anything will come of my own little book of mistakes. It looks more like a compost heap, torn pages full of misunderstandings and half-finished drawings. Yet, as a new faculty member, I love the notion that our mistakes are the fertile ground from which something good might grow.

The first days at The Mountain School are rich in mistakes. On the first Thursday of the semester, I overheard two students talking while harvesting beans. They were discussing what the period on their schedules called “Restoration” might involve.

“It means we restore the barn, you know, make it a nice place for

cows to hang.”

“I think it’s when they make us fix Jack’s truck.”

We may not know what “Restoration” requires of us, but by moving boldly forward anyway, we learn to take time out of our busy schedules to go for a walk, play a little Ultimate Frisbee, or write a long letter home.

After all, the Mountain School is a pretty safe place to make mistakes. The students are not selected based on whether they know how to build a barn or manage 300 chickens. It’s a given that you are going to misstep for a while here. Everything is too new. Too different. We are all, as Sue Kruse puts it, “works in progress.”

The writer Annie Lamott says, “There are cracks, cracks in everything and that’s how the light gets in.” By acknowledging, even celebrating mistakes in a little book, I am giving myself permission to fail. And I am taking chances I might never have taken. Who knows? Maybe a little light and some of my best stuff will come out of these moments.

Excerpts from *The Book of Mistakes*:

- Slept out on garden hill for quiet and stars, right next to the snoring pigs
- Thought “Cabinet” was a piece of furniture, not an administrative meeting
- Sat looking at fresh bear tracks with a basket of blueberries on my lap
- During Barn Work, I used all four fingers to guide the saw
- Thought ‘undercut’ meant ‘not cut enough’ and kept chiseling
- Heard that students raise and lower “flags” on solo and thought it was some kind of patriotic gesture.

Alumni Notes

If you are looking for the current address of a classmate, please don’t hesitate to contact the school.

Fall ’84

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Greetings, Pioneers. As I write this, the leaves are finally turning color down here in the valley, almost two weeks late this year. Coincidentally, I’m submitting this column almost two weeks late this year, too.

Corey Ohama provides a beautiful dose of reality for us: she met a TMS alum last spring who had not yet been born when we were students. Ouch! Corey married in May; she and her new husband Bill started off their honeymoon with a stint on the TMS farm crew. They continued on to a house building course in Maine and are traveling in Peru this fall. Now THAT is a honeymoon.

Caroline Walsh Sabin is working part time at a variety of teaching gigs and full time as the mom of Michael, 4, and Jocelyn, 2. She and her husband Paul live in Needham outside of Boston. Her non-maternal jobs include tutoring,

teaching a writing course for international MBA students at Harvard, and teaching a business writing class.

Leslie Roby Ray and husband Tim are the proud parents of Rebecca Nicole, born October 20, 2001. Leslie is now a full time mom. She and Tim live in Madison, Ohio.

Kara Lynch has returned to grad school in sunny San Diego to get an MFA in visual arts. She has a new short piece entitled “Mi Compañera,” a coming-out travelogue in a foreign land. She is also writing critically about art, taking on such issues as “post-black” and “irrational bodies” in visual culture. She is taking

a break from her faculty position at Hampshire College, where she teaches video, cultural studies and media literacy. This fall she takes on tour her feature documentary “Black Russians”—send Kara a note and she will contact you if she is having a screening in your area.

We maintain a large contingent of Pioneers in Seattle. **Michael Dohan** continues to stay busy writing business plans and remodeling his house. Last year, he was laid off on September 13, remodeled a bedroom, and wrote a business plan for a car parts reclamation company (which never got off the ground). This year, Michael worked for Immunex, a biotech

Fall '85

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I hope you all are doing well. I am amazed how far-flung the people who updated us this year are. We have coverage throughout the country!

We have more and more additions to our extended class! **Johan de Besche** and his family are doing well and enjoying their second child, Violet Jean de Besche, who was born April 18. Johan writes, "She's now four and a half months old, and doing the fabulous things that babies do when they really start to be little people—smiling all over, cooing (and in Violet's case, yelling: she's not content to be quiet), rolling over, starting to sit, etc. She's great, as is Zach, our 3 year old, who just started pre-school. My job as the physical therapist at a school for deaf children continues to be great, and my wife Sara enjoys her work at the public radio show *From the Top*. I love being a parent, and so I'm a happy camper."

Joanie Dalbey Donahue and her husband, David, had their third child, Kate, on April 3, 2002. She is now five months old and doing very well, loving her big brother Jackson and big sister Emma. Joanie took 5 months off, and has just returned to her legal work on a part-time basis. David's doing well and enjoys his work at Middlebury College. Joanie adds, "Hello to all TMS folks, and if you're ever in the neighborhood please call me! We should start working on our 20th reunion now so a lot of us can plan to be there. Hard to believe it's been that long."

company, was laid off on September 13 (when Amgen bought Immunex), and is now starting a new business providing competitive intelligence to biotech and pharmaceutical companies. His latest passion is running—he will run his first half marathon this fall, after not being able to run more than a mile just one year ago.

Across town, **Sam Tucker** continues to work for the Wilburforce Foundation, where he is responsible for a grant program to protect wilderness in British Columbia and Alaska. His grueling business trips this summer included a trip to the BC coast for wolf and bear viewing, and a raft trip with his wife Lindsey down the Taku River through northern BC and Southeast Alaska. Says Sam, "I'd complain about my busy travel schedule, but I think it would result in little sympathy." Yup.

Jeff Van West and **Jenny Pettit Van West** may deplete the Seattle contingent sometime in the coming year, as they contemplate a move back east. Jenny decided to close her publishing business and put her energies into son Charlie, 19 months, and his sibling, due in February. She reports her decision as "one of the toughest ego-reduction plans I've ever been on, but it's worth it." She still plays fiddle at contra dances, but most of her music these days revolves around Old MacDonald and Five Little Monkeys.

Jeff just finished writing his second book for Microsoft Press. The latest effort, 240 pages in seven weeks, is a user's guide to the new Tablet PC. His office is in their backyard—the most wired tool shed in their neighborhood, with DSL, three computers, and a handful of spiders. Jeff hasn't had much time for flying, although he did spend two hours flying the 767

simulator at Boeing recently, so he can add that to his log book next to all the Cessnas and Stearmans and the Ford Trimotor. For future work, Jeff hopes to develop aviation training programs.

From Ohio, **Chip Bartlett** writes "our second child (another boy!) was born April 15 and is doing quite well. If we can just add another .2 children, we'll be the exact typical American family."

Kristen Richards Parnes has just bought a new house in Chevy Chase in May and spent most of the summer either moving or unpacking. She says, "We love it and have plenty of room for TMS visitors to Washington!" Kristen is starting a real estate class next week and is hoping to pass the exam for her license this fall.

Here in Vermont, **Jamie Holmes** writes that he and wife Aarin "have the Go bug, so we are looking for our next adventure. I still work part time for the Cold Regions Research Laboratory in Hanover, where I had the pleasure of running the acid mine runoff studies at Ely Mine in Vershire this year. I am also working part time for a company based in Salem, MA, doing similar acid mine remediation work. We don't have kids yet, but we are now in training, with a Bernese Mountain Dog puppy to go along with three cats. Aarin and I are considering a move to the Seattle or Olympia area, if gainful employment can be found. At this point we are still mulling over our options. In the mean time, we still have this nice house here in the beautiful upper Connecticut River valley, and we'd be happy to share it with you if you come this way."

Lost Graduates: Sunny Kim, Josie Ostrander Ozbeytemur

Peter Keim writes that "my wife of almost four years, Katy, and I are expecting twins in November. Now that the initial shock has worn off we are busy getting ready for their arrival. Sexes not known and therefore, no names chosen yet. After that news not much else seems that important! We still live in Noe Valley in San Francisco with our large dog Jezebel and I am still working (5.5 years!) at the food and beverage strategy consulting firm, Swander Pace & Company. While I am bad at keeping in touch I do think about TMS and our class quite a bit and hope all are doing well."

Josh Brown will complete his medical residency in January. He has accepted a job in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He, his three-year old daughter, and his wife can't wait to move.

Liz Campbell writes that not much has changed this year, but she is very happy. She still lives in Kentucky and works for Lexmark. She and her boyfriend, Mike, now live together. Liz loves animals and says she is close to "developing one of those unfortunate reputations in my neighborhood—you know, 'crazy lady with all those dogs.' I did get to see two classmates—**Eliza Booth Paolucci** and **Anthony Austin**. Eliza was doing great in New York City. I got to meet the newest member of their family—Ella Blake Paolucci, born this past April. She is adorable, as is her older sister Anna. Later in the summer I got to visit with Anthony. He was on his way cross-country from the Northwest to Boston so he stopped off in Lexington. In September he started grad school in Cambridge."

I am still living in New York City with my husband, Ted, and our two year-old daughter, Madeleine, or Mimi, as she prefers to be called. While I continue to work, I am now

part-time and I am thrilled with my lighter schedule. I hope you all have a wonderful year!

Lost Graduates: Lyle Robinson, Vic Uebele, Jessica Hadley

Fall '86

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This past year has been a roller coaster ride for the **Black** family. On the downside, my business saw better days prior to 9/11; the upside is the baby boy expected in January. My wife and son battle daily over the name. Colby believes his brother should be named after him while Lisa has been testing other options. I will be entering the Lobsterman Triathlon in Freeport, Maine next September and would love to have anyone join me.

Eric Himmer stopped by the other day to show off his new son Owen Van Himmer. Owen boasts two of his father's distinctive traits—the chin and the bald head. Speaking of Eric, I heard from **Cris Gerez**. Cris returned to Mexico eight years ago longing to be home and with family. There she opened what sounds like a fabulous restaurant in a downtown (17th century) historic building. You go, girl! Cris has not forgotten her TMS training. Spare time is spent in her garden tilling the soil and picking insects off her organic herbs and edible flowers.

Julie Bosak decided to leave Washington, DC and... well... the entire USA. After back-packing through Asia for 4 months, she decided to settle in Auckland, New Zealand. "Anyone passing through the door is always welcome," she writes. **Sandra Comstock** is pursuing a PhD in Sociology

while "enjoying life in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where my marvelous husband Hugo works as a professor of Spanish Literature at the University of Michigan." She has spent a year in both Bangladesh and Mexico to study the international garment industry.

Last but not least, **Arthur Bradford** has some interesting projects going on that may turn into a television series. He produced a pilot for HBO starring handicapped individuals interviewing the public. Rumor has it that Art is running for a sheriff's position and his idol, after watching *Walking Tall*, is Buford Pusser.

Lost Graduates: Joseph Sutton, Sarah Kate Einstein

Fall '87

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Scant news to report from classmates this year. Perhaps this means that everyone is waiting to tell their story in person next June 13-15 at our 15th reunion!

Congratulations to **Mike Malik** who reports that he is getting married in the Dominican Republic in December. "My fiancée's name is Naomi, and she is also a chiropractor. We are remodeling an old house in Barrington, Rhode Island, but that won't be done until January—that's my time estimate; if you ask the builder he will probably tell you July." Mike recently bought an Australian Cattle dog to help herd patients in to the office.

Ed Curtis writes, "I accepted a new job as assistant professor of religious studies at UNC

Chapel Hill, arriving just in time to defend the University's decision to require all of its first year students to read a book about the Qur'an. My book, *Islam in Black America*, also appeared this year from SUNY Press. This is a dream job—what I dreamed of when I decided to become an academic."

Lydia Siegel is living in San Francisco and finishing her fourth year of medical school, hoping to come back East for residency in internal medicine. Last spring, Lydia visited **Dana Bowden** and writes, "characteristically, Dana is starting an amazing charter school in Los Angeles."

A green 3x5 TMS postcard arrived from **Selina Rossiter** who graduated this past June with a Masters in Ecological Landscape Design from the Conway School. She is now back in Colorado looking for work, "helping people understand that while there is NO water in Colorado, it is still possible to have a beautiful landscape without it!"

I am still living in San Francisco, working for Eyetide Media, and enjoying life in my new North Beach neighborhood. Hope this column finds everyone well and please don't forget to save the date for a return trip to Vershire this June 2003!

Lost Graduate: Justin Campbell

Fall '88

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Hello, all! I hope this edition of *Pearls & Seaweed* finds the F'88 semester happy and healthy. Lots of good news to report this year.

Chris Weber writes, "I proposed to Susie (Rankin) near Independence Pass, Colorado, a couple of weeks ago, and we're planning a June 14th wedding in Jackson Hole. I spent the summer traveling throughout Europe, rock climbing and seeing family, while Susie did Masters work in Oxford. We both teach at a nearby high school and are trying to have as much fun as we can when not working. I'm mountain biking the 100 mile White Rim trail in Canyonlands in two weeks with my Dad. Hopefully we'll make it!"

Stefan Henryson also writes in with good nuptial news: "Last summer I got married to a wonderful woman named Karis Gibbs. We promptly celebrated by climbing to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro and diving the reefs of the Andaman. After a quick trip around the world we are back in Belgium where I am teaching at the International School of Brussels. I have been teaching history and working with teachers to integrate technology into the curriculum for the last five years. We will be in Belgium for some time and would love to welcome you and others in this land of fine chocolate, excellent beer, and Seattle-like weather."

Nancy Newman is also getting hitched! She reports, "I was just on 'The District' on CBS. I continue to train seals and sea lions part time at the Long Beach Aquarium, and I am getting married next year here in LA!"

For **Jon Mirin**, it sounds like marriage is also on the horizon. He writes, "I'm spending the year in a graduate playwriting program at B.U. which is turning out to be a fine use of time with some inspiring teachers. Marriage is looking imminent to a young lady with Swiss-French origins (at least that's what she tells me, in French, so I'm going

with it.) Love to hear from anyone in Boston or even, you know, Other Places."

Kate Macneale writes in from graduate school, "I hope to be done with my PhD in Entomology within the next 6-8 months, and am planning on sticking with research in the aquatic ecology/invertebrate ecology fields. Wet bugs are great as a day job, but life with my husband Adam (married a year now) is much more fun. We're having a great time living in Ithaca—good music, good coffee, and deciding between the Democrats and the GREENS in elections is a refreshing change from New Hampshire (where the choice is between Republicans and Republicans posing as Democrats). Too much of our time recently, however, has been spent thinking about how the U.S. is abusing its position in the global community with the administration's pending preemptive strike resolution—I urge all TMS alums to write their representatives. Sorry for the politics—it's just been a pretty tough year, and just mentioning job, family, and good coffee seems like it would be ignoring the elephant in the corner—or however that expression goes. Regardless, we'll be in Ithaca for at least the next six months, so if anyone is here or passing through, we'd love to fix you dinner, etc."

From **Liz Stites** we hear, "I am doing freelance consulting on humanitarian and development issues, based in Washington, DC. I spent much of the spring in Afghanistan, conducting a food security assessment throughout the northern part of the country. It was a fascinating experience, with a ridiculously steep learning curve. I expect to be the U.S. until February, when I hope to begin field work again."

Rob Cahill writes, "I'm living and working in Brooklyn at a

non-profit social service program called The HOPE Program, an employment program that assists people with barriers to work in job readiness and other soft skills. We place our students in internships and then help them with job search and job placement. I do recruitment and outreach for the program and assist students with benefit and entitlement issues. I frequently travel to DC since my girlfriend is in graduate school at Johns Hopkins SAIS program. I occasionally talk to and see **Allison Gunn** and **Charlie Stanier** and I are in contact over the phone and via email. I went to **Jon Mirin's** 30th B-day party last year with Allison at **Andrew Bray's** (S'89) and that was my biggest TMS gathering in a long while."

Carolyn Kemp is still teaching special ed. in Exeter. In addition, she started teaching an adult education GED class two nights a week. She reports that she had a great summer, with good backpacking trips in Washington state and Utah.

Heidi Dunham starts her new job in October as Catering Sales Manager at the Sheraton Four Points in Leominster.

As for me, I recently resigned from Bain Consulting in Boston and will be relocating to Washington, DC this fall. My next career move will likely be in a more creative field than consulting. I'm looking forward to a new city and new job! And while you're still reading, I'd like to plant the seed for our 15th reunion, which, if I'm not mistaken, will be in approximately a year and a half (June of 2004). Who knows where we will all be by then, but hopefully we'll be able to arrange a visit with each other in Vershire, Vermont. Pencil it in. Would be great fun to see everyone again. Take care.

Lost Graduates: Antigone Parker, Michelle Heuer, Janel Johnson, Victoria Chiou

Fall '89

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Hard for me to believe that so much time has passed since sitting atop Garden Hill gazing at the stars was my favorite evening activity—not much has changed, but it is hard to see the stars from the top of my apartment building! Here is what some of our classmates are doing:

Christina Luke, her husband Chris, and dog Homer have made the transition from Turkey to Maryland where Christina is working as a Latin American archaeologist at the Department of Cultural Heritage. **Emily Borod** has moved with her boyfriend and dog to Portland, Oregon to start an MD/PHD program at Oregon Health Sciences University. Because the world is so small her interviewer at OHSU was David Grant's closest childhood friend, which just made her decision even easier! She invites anyone in the Pacific Northwest to look her up! **Nat Bacon** is still in Vermont as a crop consultant for a dairy farmer co-op, scouting corn and hay for weeds/pests/crop conditions and making nutrient/fertilizer/herbicide recommendations. He also works part-time on a dairy farm, milking the cows and helping put hay up. He too wants people to come visit when they are in Northern VT and has this shout out: "Luke D—where are you these days?"

Our former class agent, **Diana Zipeto**, is in Massachusetts at art school and working in

graphic design. She says that she can't escape New England and she recently did a neo-"solo" in the wilds of western MA.

Lucie Flather has just returned from "soaking up the contradictions of life in Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia" and is now beginning her masters in architecture at Harvard. Recently she had dinner with **Alexis Hasiotis** and wants to know if **James Brown** moved to Boston. Did you, Jamie?

After living in Dublin, Ireland for four years playing rock and roll, **Bill Watterson** has returned to Cleveland to start "a few" bands: Uptown Sinclair ("a sanitized pop project" — opened for Blondie, The Strokes, Jacob Dylan, Phantom Planet, etc.), Dakota Floyd ("more creative indie-rock" — will be on tour in October), and a Pogues cover band called Boys from County Hell. So look for them at a city and CD store near you! Fellow Fall '89er **Tif Laufer** filmed videos of Bill's bands. Tif reminded me that the last time we saw each other was during a pro-choice rally in DC in 1993, small world. She is now studying cinematography at The American Film Institute and looking to write and direct both fiction and documentary work (check her out at lauferfilm.com/2002.htm.)

Lindsay Packer reports in from Chicago where she just received an MFA in Fiber and Material Studies from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She is staying in Chicago for the next year making puppets, scarves, and art (not necessarily in that order). She received a Fulbright Student Award for Installation Art so she will be spending the academic 2003-2004 in India (I am jealous...)

I think that is it from our class. To all those people out there who have lost touch, please

contact me. I know everyone wants to know where everyone is and what they are up to! Me? I am still a social worker in DC. Part of my job is running the Ben & Jerry's Partnership employment training program—so if you are in DC. I can hook you up with some free ice cream!

Lost Graduates: Kate Twitchell

Fall '90

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So let's begin. Reports from Fall '90 alumni were distressingly scarce. Apparently most of you haven't figured out how to navigate our email update system. Here's a primer: Hit send!

Despite the paucity of responses, good news was hardly in short supply. First and foremost, our tribe has grown. From **Jake and Jessica Sussman** comes word of "the birth of **Julia Isobel Sussman**, born August 3rd, 2002 at six pounds, one ounce. Julia is doing incredibly well and her parents are obviously thrilled to have her around. It is clear already that she has impeccable timing: Julia arrived three days after Jake took the bar exam and only three days before he had an emergency appendectomy." Quite a week! Jake and Jessica are living in New Haven, Connecticut for the year while Jake clerks for a federal judge. Jake graduated as a Root-Tilden-Kern Public Interest Scholar from NYU School of Law in May 2002. After teaching high school English for four years, Jessica is now a student again at Columbia University's doctoral program in Literature

(although she is taking the fall semester off). After this year, the whole family plans to return to New York City." Congratulations Jake and Jess!

Charlie Grandy, meanwhile, just had his second baby. Whoops, I mean won his second Emmy, this one for his work writing for Weekend Update on *Saturday Night Live*. Charlie also finds time to perform stand-up comedy, and says that he "spent the last year trying to adjust to the fact that Lexy now calls himself 'Alexis.'" He can call me what he wants; I'm still hitting him up for tickets to the show.

In addition to my occasional dustups with Charlie, the Derby—NYC connection continued to thrive this year. On more than one occasion **James Perry** and **Andy Schell** were known to have taken the L-train across the East River to a jazz dive in Williamsburg. **Tim Sheldon** also ventured down to the big city every now and then, usually to collaborate with James on music or multimedia projects. Sadly for those of us in New York, James packed his rucksack in early September and returned home to the perpetual sunshine of Los Angeles. Rumors that his departure had something to do with an imminent vice-squad bust involving himself and the aforementioned Mr. Schell have been greatly exaggerated, at least as of this writing.

Though saddened by the loss of James, we're excited to add **Sarah Newton** to the list of TMSers who've landed on the shores of the Hudson. Sarah writes that she "spent the past year living in Barcelona where I studied Spanish and substituted at the American School of Barcelona along with other odd jobs. Barcelona is a beautiful city and I would be happy to share suggestions with people who are looking to

travel or live there. I just moved to New York and am living in Brooklyn and working in Manhattan in the national headquarters of AFS Intercultural Programs. I help to coordinate the hosting and sending programs for certain regions and love working with the volunteers, host families, students, and schools. It's especially fun meeting students from all over the world."

Where are the rest of the East Coast alumni hiding? News from the Hub was limited to **Ceara McNiff**, who has decided to take some time off after completing two years of medical school. "I've become obsessed with the novels of Louis-Ferdinand Celine," she writes, "and plan to spend the next eight months retracing his travels from *Journey to the End of Night*." You go, girl!

Moving westward, **Ellen Berrey** "spent a month studying Spanish and surfing in Costa Rica this summer. Besides that, I'm plugging away at my PhD in Sociology at Northwestern University in Chicago. Some day soon you can call me Dr. Smellen' Berrey and I'll be indoctrinating your kids to burn down the (White) house. Just kidding. Sort of."

Further west brings us to **Lynn West**. Lynn writes "It feels like my life hasn't changed that much since the last update. I am wrapping up my last year at UCSF studying to become a family nurse practitioner. My husband and I bought a house in Redwood City (about 30 miles south of San Francisco), one of the only affordable towns in the Bay Area! Doesn't seem like there are many TMS folks out this way, but if there are any I'd love to hear about it!"

In other news, **Mel Heath** says, "I've had a great summer. I'm getting my MBA and going to modeling school. I've been busy with work (I'm a public

sector consultant) and have been traveling a lot." **Kia Walcott** informs us that she "completed her first triathlon over the summer. I was happy with my splits, but I've got to work on my transition times" **Lee Chilcotte** is being detained at a Naval brig in Virginia. No other information is available **Sage Platt** continues to keep it real down in Baltimore, where he's just moved into some posh new digs. Sage also won my Fantasy Baseball League this past year, a regrettable occurrence.

Leaving behind our American pastoral, **Jeremy Faro** writes "I've just finished a Masters degree in European Studies at Cambridge, and am now considering whether to finish a PhD here or find a new job somewhere. I spent about a month in Slovenia and northeastern Italy last spring conducting research for my dissertation, and in my spare time (to pay my extortionate tuition, of course), I re-branded the Republic of Estonia. I'm sorry that I haven't seen more of you all this side of the pond, but you're all welcome to come and stay so long as I'm here."

As for me, **Alexis**, I recently made a significant career change. Leaving behind the lucrative unemployment field, I was accepted into the New York City Teaching Fellows Program, which is paying for my Masters while I work in the public school system. I recently completed my first month of teaching freshman English at Midwood High School in Brooklyn, which in practical terms means that I spend my days instructing sullen 14 year-olds how to write in complete sentences. Some guys have all the luck. The other day one of my students told me, "That's why no one likes you." In retrospect, I wish I'd asked her to elaborate; think what it might have saved me in therapy bills! The work is

exhausting, but never boring. And though I'm very busy these days, I always have time for any TMSers who find themselves passing through New York. Particularly if any of you are licensed substitute teachers.

Lost Graduates: Courtney Brennan

Fall '91

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Let's get right to it. The award for most incoherent e-mail message goes to **Betsy Lowenhaupt** who wrote to me during her 4am shift at a hospital where she is training in pediatrics and child psychiatry. She recently took a break to welcome **Becca Haines** to Providence where the two of them lost their car in the mall parking lot. Betsy has also been in touch with **Malaika Moses** who just got her MBA from Babson. In other education news, **Anna Fincke** is working on her MBA at Dartmouth and starting the job hunt for when she is finished in June. **Matt Clavel** is taking classes toward an MPA degree at NYU and is writing a book on school reform. Also in New York, **Emily Siegel Gilman** has finished her masters in social work and is working at an agency in Brooklyn. **Matt Feinberg** completed his Masters thesis this summer and is teaching three sections of English at Colorado State University. Matt attended the wedding of **Xan Bessent** last May. He stayed at Xan's house and was described as "the sixth bridesmaid." Rounding out the list of us who have been bettering themselves at school is **Aaron Solomon**, who

graduated from law school and has begun a year of clerkship for a federal magistrate judge in Chicago. He has just moved in to a new apartment with "a nice back porch."

Jara Chaikin is also recently married and living in Mississippi. Unfortunately, she will not be running in to **Brian Gyovai**, who has "traded up swamps for the beach, armadillos for alligators, and the T-38 for the F-15" in a big move to Panama City, Florida. Brian had been living in MS for several years. He keeps in touch with **Todd Enders** who is working for a software company in San Francisco and tells me he has been "traveling to Greece to lie in the sun with no clothes on..." Anyway, **Tatum Nolan** is working for a family foundation with a focus on youth service, activism, civic engagement and entrepreneurship.

Kate Walker is a teacher naturalist for the Massachusetts Audubon Society and playing with a new Ultimate Frisbee team. The rest of the group is living in New York (not that I see them as often as I should, ahem...). **Sonya Posmentier** has just moved here and is teaching at the Trinity School. **Mark Boulos** made a short documentary last year about a young African immigrant who lives as an Osama-supporting Muslim fundamentalist in Brooklyn, but who fought in the jihad against the Soviets in Afghanistan. It's called 'Self-Defense,' and is distributed by Third World Newsreel (and is available at twn.org). Steve Lee and I have just moved to Brooklyn (not together, don't get any ideas), and I am still working as a teacher and Director of Admissions at the High School of Fashion Industries in Manhattan. **Tim Morningstar** is still at Columbia, and engaged to be married next fall. I should think that

stories from the wedding would entertain you next time I write. Take care, everyone.

Lost Graduates: Ted Sears, Jackie Zimm, Philip Swiny

Fall '92

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If you can believe it, this marks 10 years since we played in the leaves and huddled in the snow at TMS. The number of times I have recalled my experiences at TMS to others is proof of what an impression the school and all of you made on me. So this year's *P&S* gives some info on a few that we haven't heard from in a long while, and a yearly update on the old favorites (like me of course!)

There have been more wedding bells, more love affairs, more coastal migrations, and—the growing theme—more education. Let's start with those wedding bells. **Baxter Wasson, Lawson Allen, and John Rosenberg** all tied the knot this last year. Baxter's wedding had a new twist with the honeymoon coming before the wedding. With the big event scheduled only four days after September 11, Baxter and Lauren decided to postpone the event for several months, but take their honeymoon as a time to reflect on life and love. They spent a month in Australia hiking, sailing, snorkeling and "loving everything about being unabashedly in love and carefree." When reality beckoned them home, Baxter started his job as a lawyer at Winston & Strawn in DC, readjusted to life post-9/11, and then had the wedding. **Albert Lee and Kate Surman**

were both in attendance with Albert standing tall as a groomsman. Baxter says without hesitation that being married to Lauren is the best thing out there, ever. As for John, he tied the knot as well, marrying an awesome girl named Rachel who hails from Seattle. He's still hunkering down and keeping San Francisco hopping, but now he's got a girl on his arm. Lawson, meanwhile, left SF. She is still working for The Gap but is now in New York City, strutting herself on the West Side and working on the maternity clothing business. Her busy year was capped off by her wedding in Massachusetts to Lars Albright and then her island-hopping honeymoon in the Caribbean. I heard through the grapevine that the wedding was stunning and totally fun. **Cacky Nolan, Will Coleman and Parker Baxter** were all in attendance. Cacky is still working as a sous chef at Rialto's in Cambridge and living with her sister. Will just got back from six months of travel in Southeast Asia that combined both fun and research for a business consulting project.

Ryan Harter, Kate Surman and I also left SF this year. Ryan moved back to Los Angeles to pursue new professional opportunities and rediscover his roots. Kate Surman moved closer to Palo Alto to ease her transition into the MBA Program at Stanford. Tired with the more than 9 to 5, Kate took the application process by storm while keeping me sane and entertained. I too left SF after a brief 11 months of mixing it up, and am now getting my MBA at Georgetown. My months in SF would not, however, have been as fun or adventurous or entertaining without Kate and her husband Mike. My TMS connections took care of me on the west coast and are now

watching out for me in DC since Baxter and **Coddy Johnson** are both here. Coddy is still working for the Man (that would be President Bush in case you weren't sure), wearing a suit, and trying to wear matching socks every day. He's doing the long distance relationship thing with his girlie in NYC and has realized he can't keep up with the city that never sleeps. NYC, he says, has shown him 1) that his dress-style is ten years behind the curve (what were we wearing at TMS?) and 2) his best partying hours are from about 10:30pm to 10:45pm. As long as the Man doesn't mind, though, why should we?

Also married this year was **Kate Averett**, now Kate Kiekhaefer. Kate is practicing as a small animal veterinarian in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Taking her work home with her it seems, Kate has three horses, seven cats, two dogs (and now one husband) all her very own.

The ones hopefully burning the midnight oil are our comrades in school (in this case that includes teachers and students.) **Daphne Walker** and **Lisa Horner** are both teaching these days. Parker, **Kit Aldrich**, and **Laura Kleger** are all hunting down greater knowledge. Lisa has moved from NYC to Santa Monica and is teaching 8th Grade at Campbell Hall, a private school in Studio City. She shares her home with a 5 month-old puppy and is readjusting to life behind the wheel versus life on the public bus. Daphne, meanwhile, is still in Cambridge starting her second year teaching first grade at Shady Hill. Daphne can't make-up for Coddy's quiet ways, though. When not visiting other locales she admits she is home in bed in Somerville by 10pm AT THE LATEST. (We have to promise to stay up at least until 1am at

our reunion. It will be madness!) As for the students, Kit and Laura are both at Columbia. Laura is getting her MFA in Visual Arts. In addition to studying and being creative, she is also temping and TAing, and celebrating her new role as an aunt to her sister's baby, Garrett. She even had time to travel before school began, taking a trip to Alaska with her boyfriend Justin. Kit is in a fast-paced nurse midwifery program. She says she is really a hippie home-birther at heart, but wants to work with teenage mothers and with high risk populations so the program is taking her closer to that goal. Kit hopes one day to establish a community family health center that incorporates birth center and home births, holistic care and community education. I think we would all be so lucky to have Kit's big smile welcome our bouncing babies into the world. In all her moving, Kit also was able to get in touch with **Maxine Burkett** and says she is jealous of her Hawaiian location. Sounds awesome, but sadly I have no other details than that. We'll just have to imagine. As for Parker, he's still trudging through his joint MD-MPA program at NYU and trying to figure out how to pay off his school loans without selling his soul. Just like CJ, he's also adjusting to life in NYC where he has realized that everyone is cooler than he. (As a freaky six degrees of TMS, whose desk should Parker's application for a summer internship fall on? Baxter Wasson's. In another example of six degrees, Kate Surman went to a Stanford dinner, sat next to a cool alum named Liana who was talking about the great guy she had met and recently gotten engaged to and how they were moving to Australia for a few years. So who is that great guy? **Jamie Twiss**. Check out a press release from Stanford

Business School to learn more about Jamie's summer last year. He worked on the sale of two state-owned telecommunications companies to private investors in Georgia (not the U.S. state) as well as traveling to Germany and Azerbaijan for the Georgian International Oil Corporation negotiations. Sounds incredible.

So that's the update folks. If you are lost and want to be found, email me and I'll make sure that the info about our 10th year gets to you and that you are included in *Pearls and Seaweed* next year. Meanwhile mark your calendars for June 14th—16th and be there!

Hope everyone not represented is even happier and healthier than we can imagine.

Lost Graduates: Jonathan Roche, Elizabeth DiGirolamo

Fall '93

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This year's notes are grouped thematically. The themes are: people with marriage plans (and people who mentioned those people), people who told me about a dream, people who moved somewhere with someone they are dating, grad students of all kinds, people who are Kate Abernathy, and finally, people whose lives seem very different from one another.

Starting with the fiancés, **Maya Brown**, after returning from her Peace Corps term in Mongolia last year, married on September 14. **Ben (Nebu) Smith** was in attendance. Maya is working at a youth center for kids from low-income families in Burlington and at a step-house for brain-

injured adults, and planning a trip to Japan with her husband next August. **Alison McLennan** is not having a wedding, but she does *photograph* weddings as a second job. She's still living in Oakland, and has been working with an artist/furniture maker who believes himself to be one of the "big cheeses" of the art furniture world. Alison herself has had work shown in galleries in San Francisco, and I trust she herself will soon be a big cheese. The biggest one-two punch comes from Maverick Records's newest talent, **Wil Seabrook**. Not only is he getting married in November in Hawaii, but his major-label debut is being released sometime next year. Maverick is very excited about Wil's band's progressive social message, and his first single will be out in early 2003. In the meantime he has been immersed in press kits, photo shoots, video crews, and shows. He sounds rightfully excited about life. When his album comes out, I'll try to email everyone so we can buy it and help it chart. One recent member of Wil's audience was **Kathy Blanton**, who is still living in DC, working for the EPA (is there still an EPA?), and playing rugby. She highly recommends Wil's show. She also mentions seeing **Judy Zamore**, who has decided to pursue domestic violence law. Judy is living in DC too, and applying to law school.

The next section: people who told me about dreams... **Maggie Pouncey** recently had a dream that Fall '93 had a reunion bash at her mom's apartment and we all went crazy, "like something out of an 80's movie starring Molly Ringwald." She is still living in New York City, working at a magazine called *My Generation* which is actually for our

parents. She sees **Kate Abernathy** from time to time. **Ruth Arras** had dreams recently that 1) She had braces, and 2) She was pregnant with a fish. This may be because she now lives on a boat in Southern California with her boyfriend. She has quit her desk job, and is now teaching art and working on boats. She says her house rocks, especially when it's windy.

Ruth is the segue into people who have moved somewhere for/with someone they are dating... For the past few months **Rossana Rossi** has been traveling back and forth between South Carolina and NYC, between boyfriend and family. She hopes to settle soon, but in the meantime the New Yorker has finally invested in a driver's license.

Doug Cuthbertson is living in Japan for one or two years with his girlfriend, teaching English through the JET program in a public Junior High School. He is having a good time despite the usual cultural hurdles of a country where you don't speak the language. He is learning Japanese as fast as possible, with hopes of soon knowing which bus to catch.

Grad students galore: **Rob Johnston** (UVA Law, second year) is loving virtually every minute of school. He spent last summer working at a firm in Virginia, then went hiking and fishing in Alaska. He even saw **Ahmed Kirdar** in San Diego, who is working on films in Los Angeles. **Nola Riedel** writes, "I'm still happily living with my boyfriend, Torrance, and I just got my BA from Columbia, finally, on October 16th. I've started a new job at Goldman Sachs, still on Wall Street, but am much happier in a new area of the business. **Scott Belsky** (S'97) started with me, and it was a lot of fun to find a kindred, relaxed spirit within

such a competitive environment, which can be overwhelming. Plus he's cool. **Nathalie Goodkin** (MIT/Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute PhD program in Chemical Oceanography, first year), after leaving CSFB this summer, took a fabulous trip to Belize, then moved back to Cambridge for school. She has seen **Nola Riedel** in New York a couple times, and the soon-to-be Dr. **Angie Yim**. (NYU Med, fourth year). Angie wrote to me as she was finishing her psych rotation. She is applying for a residency and is starting a knitting club. She was kind enough to invite me as her date to Shakespeare in the Park this summer. **Becca Lowenhaupt** is back at Harvard in the education school. She expresses reservations about the program, but hopes to study inner-city alternative education. She is taking time off from that very thing, but is still teaching drama to fifth graders at a new charter school that a friend has started based on "rhetoric and civic-mindedness." **Ninian Stein** (Yale School of Forestry and Env. Science, second year) is finishing her MES and contemplating her return to Harvard to finish her doctorate in archaeology. We see each other from time to time, as I too am still at Yale (School of Art, third year) finishing my MFA. Right now I'm taking five classes and TAing, and trying to do freelance work too. I'm drowning, but work is going well. See my website mistersloat.com to follow my thesis development.

The Kate-Abernathy-themed section: **Kate Abernathy** is in NY working for Focus Features, a film production company. She's thinking about taking some time off to live in Stockholm for a bit next spring, but for now is happy in NY.

And finally, "People whose

lives seem very different from one another" which is just a way of saying I ran out of categories: **Ben Hartshorne** finally finished his BA last December and is still living in Berkeley, working for a company that makes wide area signaling hardware. "SS7, frame relay, and various Sigtran protocols." He spends his winter weekends skiing, and his summers camping and playing on snowless mountains. **Nick Stern** is of course still in New York, working at Atlantic Records as a rock band publicist. He has an assistant, I was amused to find out, although he notes that he is apparently a tyrant, since he goes through them awfully quickly. And finally, **Lizzy Katz** is teaching at Cranbrook School outside of Detroit. Her job includes advising the gay-straight alliance and the junior class; the latter entails organizing a fashion show "which is diametrically opposed to just about everything I like about teaching, which is everything else. I miss New England."

Please let me know your email addresses, and if they change. TMS seems to be making an effort to do more communication that way, and many of you are off the e-radar these days. Drop me a line if you're ever traveling and need a bed to crash in; I'll try to connect you with a fellow alum. Can't wait to see you in two years... Love, Andrew

Lost Graduates: Paul Costello, Carrie Finnerty

Fall '94

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I am writing to you from Cambridge, where I am pursuing an MPhil in Environment and Development from the Geography Department. I just returned from nearly five months of living in Arusha, Tanzania, where I was the program coordinator for Global Service Corps. I was in charge of 52 HIV/AIDS and Sustainable Agriculture volunteers, which was wonderful yet exhausting.

After returning from Madagascar last fall, I lived with **B Chatfield** (S'95) in San Francisco. We had numerous guests from TMS, including **Georges Dyer**, who came to my birthday party/drag bash dressed as a gorgeous buxom brunette! Georges spent most of last year in Telluride building houses, and now lives in San Francisco.

While traveling to Seattle for a conference in April, I was on the same flight as **Chris Gordon** as he was returning to Alaska to fight fires for the second year. **Johanna Callard** is still living in Albuquerque working for a public policy organization called New Mexico Voices for Children. She is currently looking into applying to masters in social work degree programs.

Leslie Cushner is in grad school in Chicago studying Sanskrit and Tibetan. She lives with her dog-extraordinaire, Hannah B; whose hobbies include eating garbage, tail-wagging and swimming in Lake Michigan.

Sarah Koteen is in the Peace Corps in Senegal, West Africa, where she is working as an environmental specialist in a small village outside of N'dioum (in the northern part of the country). She is enjoying her work, her village and her family. She will complete her program in May, 2003 and

return to the U.S. where she hopes to go to grad school.

Julia Turner is living in Brooklyn, working at *Sports Illustrated Women*, and playing defense for a street hockey team with **Rachel Stein-Hulin**. Rachel is starting an MFA in photography this fall. Julia also sees **Annie Falk** from time to time when they meet for burgers and explanations of arcane points of English usage (Annie is a masters student of applied linguistics).

Laura Hedges had her second child, Andrea, on April 5, 2002 (five days before Gabriella's second birthday). She and Vince were married on September 14, 2002, after almost six years of being together. This is her last quarter at the community college, and she hopes to go to Western Washington University next winter.

Isaac Souweine is in Hawaii for the year on a fellowship from the East-West Center. His program is called the Asia Pacific Leadership Program and it focuses on developing leaders for the Asia Pacific Region. This past summer he fulfilled a personal dream by driving the circumference of the United States. Hello all.

Julianna Dempsey just moved back to New York City to pursue a master's degree in music (voice/opera) at the Manhattan School of Music. Last June, she had her professional debut, singing Nabucco in Boston's Jordan Hall. In the spring, she stayed with **Carlynn Houghton** and her mom in New York when she was auditioning for conservatories. **Eliza Halsey** is still living in Nepal with her husband, working with street children and traveling in Asia.

Lost Graduates: Emily Shaw, Byron Kanoti

Fall '95

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It seems that we have been changing cities and jobs, though we continue to remember our days at the Mountain School and want to connect with each other again.

In that spirit, **Dave Sandler** offers "Hotel Sandler" to us in New York City. It is a likely place to see someone who has lived in Miles, Conard, or Derby! Dave is in law school in the city. **Allison Connolly** has completed a program at Columbia and is preparing to go to medical school. **Katie Sawicki** and **Marc Ruben** have just moved to the city. They are sleeping on couches and searching for apartments. Even **Max Overstrom-Coleman** was spotted on Broadway. He graduated from College of the Atlantic and had accepted a position to live on a boat and sail the seas. **Sarah Montante** is also currently in NY, working three jobs in writing/editorial and doing some freelance work. She sees a lot of **Anna Hess** and **Kristen Case** (S'93), **Colin Cheney** and **Steve Tynan** (F'94). Sarah loves Brooklyn and says, "I'm hunkering down in my garden studio to read, write and make up for all that time I spent studying in college. Anyone who swings through the Big Apple should give me a call."

Along the East Coast, **Drew Sheriff** has made a home for himself in Boston. He works at Cambridge Associates, a firm that helps non-profit institutions manage their endowments. He takes time to fly fish, farm, and coach soccer on the weekends. Although he has

gotten used to Boston, Drew is toying with the idea of living in Italy again. He writes that he would love company! **Natasha Velickovic** is in Boston too. She graduated from Northeastern in the spring and celebrated that milestone by bungee jumping and sky diving in Europe this summer! **Julianna Connolly** and I have rented an apartment in a neighborhood of Boston. Julianna is studying to get her Masters degree in Environmental Engineering at MIT. I am teaching 6th grade and coaching squash.

Further down the East Coast, **Evan Rick** has moved to Washington, DC to teach Acting, Musical Theatre, and Algebra at the Field School. She just said goodbye to **Alex Boni-Saenz** who has gone to study at the London School of Economics for a year.

Nowhere near the coast, **Marcelle Ferguson** is pursuing a PhD in Chemistry at the University of Michigan. She lived with **Katie Fiordalis** on Martha's Vineyard this summer. They worked on **Diana Waring's** father's construction crew. Marcelle has since returned to Ann Arbor to begin her second year in a PhD program. **Casey Pickett** also lives in the Midwest. He works as the Co-Director of the Oberlin Design Initiative, a not-for-profit that he helped to establish in Oberlin, Ohio. He is enjoying small town life: riding his bike to work, reading on his porch, and playing basketball with the neighbor's kid. He writes that he wants to simplify his life, improve his "joy-to-stuff" ratio, and travel around the world in 2004! If you want to climb mountains in Nepal or do farm work in New Zealand, let him know!

Further to the West, **Shauna Daly** is living in South Dakota.

She is working on a House race, her third campaign since she graduated from Smith. She says that South Dakota is a hotbed of political activity this year, and she loves her job as a researcher: "I remember thinking at TMS that I had found a group of people who made sense to me because they were passionate about the same things I was. It's the same on campaigns—everyone is crazy to live this transient, work-obsessed, low paying life, but we all share a common goal that we're willing to make those sacrifices for, and therefore we have a great time together." She will be in Boston in November if anyone wants to get together.

Although **Sam Goedecke** is building a retreat center in New Hampshire at the moment, he has plans to move west for the winter. He's doing well, loving construction work and excited to be on a mountain this winter.

As we move around the country (or world), I hope that we will continue to stay in touch with each other and TMS. Please let Marilyn know of your address changes! Best to you!

Lost Graduates: Laura Yee, Katie Fiordalis

Fall '96

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Nothing helps a red-shirt Class note-taker like a reunion—especially one that over half his class attends! At last count, twenty-six Fall '96 faces showed up at June's 5-year celebration. Add to that those who sent me their promise-to-be-there-next-time alibis and I'd

say we did ourselves proud. For those who didn't make it (and even for those who did!), please close your eyes and picture 26 familiar faces sprawled out on the Dining Hall's octagonal sofa-set, busy licking fudgy-oat fingers. All of a sudden, an angel swoops down from the rafters and perches on **Matt Oransky's** head. It turns, points to me, and whispers, "These are your people, make sure they stay in touch." As it turns out, the angel was none other than **Johanna Steinhaus**, who decided mid-May to take a break from class note-taking and dive head-first into the world of Museum Decorative Arts. Johanna's now studying for her MDA MA in New York, where she recently bumped into none other than **Sasha Statman-Weil**. The two classmates plugged up the subway with a giant hug, but before they could exchange words—WHOOSH!—Sasha was off on the J-train en route to Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Headed neither home nor to one of those hip, W-burg coffee hang-outs, Sasha was on the job, working as NY state senator Connor's liaison to Brooklyn's sizable Hassidic community. As he wrote, "it's going to be a crazy crazy year."

Looking back through my heard-from files, I'm shocked to see that Johanna and Sasha are the only Big Applers among us. Of the New York natives who wrote me, not one has taken advantage of in-house, rent-free accommodations—not even with a nightly meal to boot! Take **Danielle Posen**, for instance, who graduated from Brown with me and **Marie Gavilanez** this past May. Danielle began a year long sojourn in Berlin this past September, during which she plans to brush aside the city's literary cobwebs in search of Turkish and Jewish

women. Both groups have known life on the margins of Berlin society all too well, notes Danielle, leading her to believe that a comparative reading of their writings could reveal some striking parallels.

Though not nearly as far from home as Danielle, fellow-New Yorkers **Ollie Kramer** and **Chris Lentz** continue to receive care packs from their mothers. Both remain ensconced in the Big Green of Dartmouth College, busy polishing off their undergraduate studies. Ollie, who has spent the past few years flitting back and forth between indie-film openers (he worked on *Boys Don't Cry*) and Dartmouth lecture halls (he had the chutzpah to take a course from Nick Rutter's dad), has settled down to the task at hand, his film BA. Needless to say, we're all looking forward to seeing O.K.'s name grace the screen sometime soon. Ollie and Chris bid farewell to a whole slew of F'96 alums this past June, when the likes of **Nell Boeschstein**, English major and poet extraordinaire, decided to move on to even bigger and greener pastures. Nell's exact whereabouts are at the moment unknown, though I did have the chance to share a beer and a few laughs with her this past January. For those of us who've forgotten, the Boeschstein belly-laugh counts as a beer unto itself! Unlike Nell, **David Skeist** and his alma mater have yet to part ways. He recently stunned all but those who know him by winning the lead part in the renowned Loeb Theater's production of *Amadeus*! Hungry for more applause than the Loeb's Cambridge crowds could muster, David decided this past June to join his Derby chums in a grand opening like no other. Met by screams of adulation, mad dashes and starry eyed hugs,

their arrival at June's reunion were enough to make us Miles boys queasy. Admit it Derbies, John, Paul, George and Ringo never had it so good.

Wearing his trademark playboy grin, **Connor Kriegel** led the way, one arm wrapped around a pig skin and the other around **Tom Adkins'** neck. Tom, who is hard at work as a consumer rights advocate up in Portland, Maine, made a mad dash of his own, over to the Dining Hall's Garden Hill fresh buffet. Judging by his intake, Tom clearly hadn't adopted the no dairy, eggs, sugar or soy diet that governs his present appetite. The diet, writes Tom, along with Buddhism and a daily meditation routine, has worked wonders in "helping with allergies."

Next up was **Middy Tilghman**, who returned to Wesleyan this past fall after kayaking the Canadian Arctic for much of the summer. Middy writes that he arrived home "A little hungry, but immensely happy and with a well fed mind." Last but not least of the Derby dudes was **Jon Altman**, who, get this, "had the wonderful opportunity to share the stage with Mr. Rogers" (yes, *the* Mr. Rogers) "at Dartmouth's commencement this past June" Jon's academic triumphs at Dartmouth lead me to believe he'll have no trouble finding work down in Boston this fall.

Work or no work, one thing's for sure: Jon will have no trouble reuniting with former classmates. In contrast to New York, Boston is bursting at the seams with familiar faces. **Anne Fishman** is putting her Yale-taught savvy to work for a Boston-based janitors' union. She's got her hands full at the moment, given the union's decision to go on strike this past October. Good luck in the

good fight, Annie! Across town, recent Columbia-grad **Mari Wolfson** is juggling a part-time position at Concord's Thoreau Institute, a stack of as-yet uninked grad school apps (Medieval Studies), a volunteer spot at a local food bank, and—this takes the cake—introductory violin lessons. Mari's Concord Academy classmate **Anna Lee** is yet another Boston native who's retraced her steps back to Beantown. Anna took up work this past summer at an economic consulting firm in Harvard Square, commenting, "I like the work, really like the people, and am working my butt off." Anna, along with Annie, has done her best to see fellow F'96ers, among them Wellesley alumna **Ashley Benner** and Wesleyan alumna **Talia Pindyck**. When I asked Talia, "What's next?" in Vershire this past June, she grinned back Talia-style and growled: "I don't know." Bowdoin-grad **Lydia Lundgren** would have said the same, that is, before she decided to give the law a run for its money. The choice, she writes, was tough: "I was making the decision between law and the theater, and I got a job in law, so I took it." If lost in the North End, be sure to yell "Lydia Lundgren" at the top of your lungs; there could be a cappuccino and slab of lasagna in it for you. Kenyon-grad **Kerry Krupka** counts as yet another pilgrim to Pilgrim-country. Kerry's busy recruiting Boston's best and brightest for the few jobs still available, and says she too has succeeded in "occasionally getting together with Annie, Ashley, Anna and **Duncan**." These names aside, the one Bostonian who's been truest to her native city is undoubtedly **Kate Greer**. Just read the resume: first Milton, then Harvard, and now a Boston-based "small non-profit with a really long

name" (see www.aslme.org if you're curious.) Kate writes that she wonders "how Jaime's musical career is going, what length Talia's hair is, whatever happened to Ollie after I saw him that time in Hanover, if Jack wears deodorant yet, and what [Garden Hill's] Lab count is." Does that bring the Boston roll call to an end? Not quite. **David Nesbitt** writes that although he's not there yet, and is far too busy caring for his pet turtle (Mr. T.) and editing his Bates College memoirs to give any precise dates, he plans to move to Boston sometime this winter. **Duncan Hilton**, on the other hand, recently left the Boston area, his Harvard degree in hand. Duncan was able to make the June reunion before taking off for Ireland, where he'll be working at a community for the mentally handicapped for the upcoming year. Like Duncan, **Katie Harper** was able to squeeze the reunion in before jetting off (by car) into the sunset. Joking that her destiny lies "manifest in the West," Harper recently wrote me a note from Montana, where she works as a hotel clerk and looks forward to teaching the frontier youth how to ski the Big Sky state's slopes. Katie and her fellow Swarthmore '02 alums, **Mandy Schneider** and **Matt Oransky**, all made it to the reunion, where Mandy admitted that she'd landed a Fulbright Fellowship, and consequently would be taking off to Russia at the end of the summer for a year's worth of potatoes, vodka, and studies in Cyrillic. As for Matt, I remember scribbling his near future on a paper napkin. Though sorely missed, the napkin didn't include the most important information: Mr. Oransky looked lithe, limber, and laugh-happier than ever.

After four years on the streets

of Philadelphia, **Katie Truitt** is now back home in Colorado, working odd jobs and biding time till she takes off for Nicaragua in November. "I'll be documenting a local group of physical therapists who teach Nicaraguan families and doctors how to help children with debilitating diseases," she writes, adding that she hopes "to publish some of my pictures to help them get support." The American West played host to **Kara Dempsey** as well this past summer. Kara, graduated from Northwestern in May, rambled across the great expanse with her roommates, eventually heading back to Chicago, where she recently began her graduate studies in Environmental Fluid Mechanics and Hydrology. Out of all of us, however, none has been as far West as **Larissa Gschwandtner**, who spent the summer settling into the San Francisco Bay, where she's now editor-at-large of *Selling Power* magazine. "I work from home and love it," Rissa writes. Without knowing it, Larissa could very well have flown over **Page Kyle** on her way to SF. Page wiled away the summer just east of the Sierras, helping biologists plan their attack on an unnamed invasive plant species. Page's employers "made the mistake of giving me weekends off," he writes, "allowing the recent Dartmouth-grad to do oodles of rock climbing." Page is now back home in DC, working for an energy-related non-profit and waiting for his fate to unfurl in full. Not far away, is **Angie Young**, who swears she would have made it to the reunion had she not been so hard at work as the Executive Assistant at the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association. The job, she assures us, is putting both her English and Women's Studies degrees to good use.

David Riedel has been up to all sorts of interesting adventures over the past year. He regrets missing his 5-year reunion, but was in China on a fellowship to recreate sketch books made 70 years ago along the Yangtze River in the area where they are building the new dam, examining the changing landscape and culture. He's in Minnesota now, back studying in the snowy cold, will return to China in the spring for a political economy semester class, then graduate in June. If anyone has any information or leads about doing work/research in the field of micro-lending, specifically in China, he'd love to hear from you.

Relative to China, **Laura Gordon's** doorstep is just a hop-skip-and-a-jump from Dave's dorm room. Manhattan, Kansas, the new home of Laura and her new fiancé, Greg, is home to Kansas State, where the couple recently began their grad work. Laura's enrolled in a four-year "Vet" program, where after she plans to "practice in food animal medicine." On the French leg of their post-grad European vacation, Greg knelt on a Parisian café's floor and popped the question. From all of us, congratulations!

But wait, Laura's not the first! That's right; this past July 25th our very own **Marty Gavilanez** celebrated her one year anniversary. Marie spent the summer in her Armenian-born husband's homeland, doing her best to learn the in-laws names and looking forward to the start of Medical School back at Brown U. "Marriage is exactly like dating," she assures us, "except for the fact that you have to do laundry every week instead of once a month, and you can't pretend that you're allergic to the kitchen." Did you hear that Tom? You're not

allergic to soy beans after all!

Something about **Jaime Bard's** message tells me she may be eating quite a few soy products these days. Jamie, Laura Gordon's graduation-mate at Bard College this past spring, is living in a carriage house and surrounded by the corn fields of rural Pennsylvania. Jaime is a full-fledged editor at *Backpacker Magazine*. "It's one sweet deal," she writes. "I've been rotting foods (soy perhaps) for an article on durable trail foods and testing out hiking boots." Like Jaime, **Kate Knight** has been roughing it a fair amount of late. Though living in Burlington, Vermont, where she and a few fellow Dartmouth grads recently started a nonprofit called the *DREAM* Program, she's been "doing a bit of road biking and a lot of traveling," and plans on heading home to Washington before mud season sets in.

Also in VT is **Lise Clavel** who is currently lodged in a cabin about a quarter-mile down the road from our hallowed Alma-Mountain-Mater! Having spent the past summer in the Vatican Boning up on her Latin (with a monk as a mentor), Lise is now teaching the Roman tongue to the class of Fall '02. She bids us all pay a visit if we're in the Upper Valley, and promises to tend to the sacred sites as best she can.

As for me, I have yet to leave the building here at Fitchburg, MA, B.F. Brown Middle School, where I do my best to teach 7th and 8th graders the wonders of Western Civ. It's an easy job to overwork, and judging by the clock (it's 10:45 pm), I'd say I'm guilty as charged. Working world-responsibilities aside, though, I have to echo a comment Duncan sent me just a week or so after June's reunion. "While doing pots during dish crew at the reunion," he reflected, "I

was amazed at how well many of us had succeeded in maturing so little." I agree, and see fit to broadcast Duncan's final line: "The countdown is on for the 10th."

Lost Graduates: Nisha Kanchanapoomi

Fall '97

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Take all you want but eat all you take! Mark's maple syrup and Marilyn's buttermilk pancakes await us during our first F'97 reunion, June 13-15th. Until then, here is a peek at what everyone is up to:

Colin O'Farrell continues his unsuccessful search for indoor classrooms at Dartmouth. "In the intervening months I made a full foot recovery, sailed to the Dominican Republic and Cuba w/Sea Semester, skied tons of backcountry in the Whites this Spring, ran the Duxbury Yacht Club Jr. Sailing Program, and am currently in Oregon skiing and windsurfing. I start school tomorrow in Montana for a term on the road with the geology dept."

La Velda Charley is predicting an early winter in Durango where she is thriving at school. "I am well into my senior year and loving the classes finally, which are mostly writing classes for my creative writer spirit. Life as I know it to this point is great and I'm loving every minute of it. I am leading the Experiment In International Students. I now know families from Africa, Brazil, Spain, the Czech Republic, DC, New York, and so many other places around the world."

Amber Reed is at Bowdoin for her senior year after an exciting fall and summer. "I was in Belem, Brazil last fall studying Amazonia's people, natural resources, and ecology...an emotional place of beauty and terror. I spent the summer on Kent Island in the Bay of Fundy as the artist in residence, cook, snowshoe hare exterminator, and handyman. I'm in the midst of a busy fall immersing myself in art classes and also trying to be outside as much as possible."

Dane Springmeyer is traveling around the world on a Watson Fellowship studying raptor migration. "Right now I am banding migrant songbirds passing through Gibraltar, an enormous 1,200 ft chunk of limestone cliffs and a British enclave at the confluence of the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, Islam and Christianity, shipping routes, and bird migration. Tomorrow I leave for several weeks of travel and birding in Morocco, crossing my fingers that if the U.S. decides to attack Iraq that things will stay calm in Morocco."

Martha Roberts took winter quarter off to travel from southern Chile to Bolivia. She spent two weeks in Torres del Paine, stayed at an utopian agricultural research center in Argentina, and experienced blockading campesinos and hailstorms in Bolivia. "This summer I worked at an environmental research group in Stockholm through a grant from Stanford. It was an office job, and exposed me to the less idealistic sides of international development and environmental work, but Sweden was gorgeous and inspiringly environmentally conscious. I'm now back in California for one last year of school. I'm continuing to study land management and looking forward to the days when I can decide my

future without worries of grades and degrees over my head, and have plenty of time to visit all of you!"

Brandon Wall decided to study abroad in China last spring. "I spent the spring semester in Beijing, worked for two months doing economic research for the World Bank in Beijing, and finished up the last few months studying at the Hopkins-Nanjing center.

Laura Rickard is in Ecuador taking Spanish, studying ecology and living in the city of Quito between trips to the Cloud Forest and the Galapagos. "I'm living with an Ecuadorian family and hoping to do some hiking and summiting of the major volcanic peaks around here." She completed her EMT training over the summer and will be practicing in Providence this spring.

Michael Kurtz spent the summer at Brown researching visual fields in the neuroscience department. He will pursue medical school either at Brown or Dartmouth next year.

Susan Canny volunteered at Camp Opportunity, which is a camp in southwestern Washington for abused and neglected children who are being monitored by Child Protective Service. "It was one of the most challenging and emotionally draining experiences of my life, but has really helped me develop my career goals." She is working hard on her senior thesis and is doing well.

Max Morange is back at Harvard again after a year away. "I was working on a number of different organic vineyards and pressing olives in Bordeaux and Southern Tuscany last fall and am excited to be back in New England for the foliage. The spring found me in Woods Hole, Cape Cod and then aboard the *SSV Westward*,

sailing through the Caribbean with SEA semester. I was the third Tobold guy within a year to live on that very boat; Hans and Colin preceding me. What a blast the year has been."

Bella Tonkonogy also had an amazing year abroad. "I studied abroad in Chile. Highlights included climbing some Andean snow-covered mountains, being in a Spencer Tunick photo with 4,000 Chileans, finding really good \$2 bottles of wine, and trekking in Torres del Paine, Patagonia." She is in California this year but is considering moving back to the East Coast next year.

Graham Connell is in Rome this year studying art abroad. Graham writes, "The pizza and gelato are amazing, and the vespas are deadly." **Brett Culbert** is five minutes away at the Cornell program. Graham left me, **Aris Sophocles**, to care-take of the most elegant and creative apartment on campus this year. Over the summer I river-guided in Colorado and on the Grand Canyon. The highlight was working a trip for siblings of kids with cancer. I am re-searching ganglion photoreceptors here at Brown and will be studying Bhutanese medicine next fall in Bhutan.

Thank you for your updates. I hope to see everyone in June at our reunion.

Lost Graduate: Emily Fischer

Fall '98

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Hi all. It was great to hear from everyone who wrote. It looks like this year is taking people all over the world and that our summers continue to be filled with exciting adventures.

Patrick Morrissey is studying American and German literature at Harvard, though he hopes never to become an academic. His recent exploits involve backpacking around Germany while writing for a travel guide, painting a garage, and stealing **Isaac Grody-Patinkin's** car. **Isaac**, meanwhile, is travelling around the western part of the country on a program called "Semester in the West."

Jeremy Katzen is also away from school, "staying out of trouble and is trying his best to get around on his rusty Chinese" in the Yunnan Province of China. **Jake Carney** is also abroad, in France for the semester.

Jake wins the prize for most reported visits with semester mates. He met up for a few days with **Jean Hamilton** on Lake Como in Italy this summer, spent a great weekend with **Jen Neubauer** and **Jordan Silidker** in Vermont last spring, and last February spent a fabulous week in Telluride, Colorado with **Harry Kahn** watching the Patriots' Superbowl victory.

Katia Asche is away from Dartmouth putting her theatre major and acting concentration to the test. Last fall she spent a semester at The National Theater Institute in Waterford, Connecticut. While there, she said, "getting up early for tai chi and yoga every morning was a breeze compared to her former days of am turkey-feeding (and, in some cases, wrestling)." This fall she sends warm regards from home where she is interning for the casting director at The New York Theater Workshop. This

winter she'll be in London. "In another life," she says, "I will pursue organic farming."

Karen Tsui is double majoring in Economics and East Asian Studies at Columbia. This past summer she was interning at a bank learning about risk management and did a bit of traveling with her family to Hokkaido—"the farming place of Japan," that produces most of the milk products and seafood for the country.

Jill Patterson also went to Japan after spending the past spring semester at the Australian National University in Canberra. She kept busy there with schoolwork, rock climbing, camping, and traveling. She's now back at Bard for her last year and is working on a senior thesis in math.

Elinore Kaufman spent the summer with thirteen year old girls learning how to holla back and all about Lil' Bow Wow while cooking over open fires and chasing bears in the wilds of New Jersey. She plans to head to India in the spring to run wild and not do any math for a semester. In the meantime, Swarthmore is treating her well.

Harry Kahn sends regards from Middlebury, where he is a sophomore enjoying another beautiful but dry fall and attending the Tunbridge Fair. He spends time at school "eating creemees, fishing, and jumping into the excellent selection of fishing holes the Champlain Valley has to offer."

Paul Stamas is majoring in Engineering at Princeton. Over the summer, he worked at a venture capital firm, lived in Georgetown and enjoyed DC. Bruce Springsteen in concert, however, was the highlight of his summer.

Marie Walcott has found a passion Geo-chemistry, now her concentration. She is

having a very successful rowing career at Brown and spent the summer at school studying hurricane sediments.

Brent Bucknum wrote from Washington, DC where he was at the IMF/World Bank protest—he says it was "sort of disappointing because the protestors didn't really have a unifying mission." His primary purpose for being in DC was the International Honors Program for Global Ecology, a program that will take him from DC to England, India, the Philippines, New Zealand, and Mexico studying ecology and its governmental and NGO application. He is doing well and hopes everyone else is as well.

Lauren Ng is still at Yale and loving it. She is very involved in Habitat for Humanity, and even biked across the U.S. from New Haven to Seattle this summer to raise money for the charity. She is taking tons of psychology classes and enjoying every one.

I, **Biz Ghormley**, am chilling at Wesleyan. The summer took me to Ontario as the assistant director of the camp I've gone to forever. It was challenging and grounding. I have some new eight-year old best friends and got a chance to get some perspective on the crazies of life. Yeah for the woods. Back at Wesleyan, I'm taking some amazing classes, doing a little protesting of my own, doing triathlons, majoring in Latin American Studies and Sociology, and am hoping to go abroad next semester to either Mexico or Chile. I have class with **Max Lesser**, which spurs conversation about *Ceremony* and *Ishmael*. We're continuing to draw on eleventh grade for excitement. I hope you are all well. Everyone seems to want visitors, so don't hesitate.

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This past year has been, as always, a jam-packed and exciting one for us Fall '99 grads. Everyone seems to be enjoying life and the college experience.

Many of us used the summer as an opportunity to travel. **Steve Backer** went to London with **Juliet Lapidis**, and to Bangkok, Hong Kong and Tokyo with family. **Olympia Moy** spent 11 weeks in China, while **Suzannah Holsenbeck** spent some time in Germany. **Shireen Nabatian** worked at a Native Language Repatriation workshop in the Yukon, and reports that "I learned how to butcher a caribou."

Most of us, however, spent the summer working, though leave it to us to find some really awesome and interesting jobs. **Becca Scully** worked in Boston for a stock photo company selling pictures to textbook companies, while Steve interned with the makers of Sesame Street. **Anna Berman** ran a ceramics program at a camp in Maine. **Mick Sherer**, after spending the first half of the summer in Nashville, was back at TMS working at the Liberty Program with Suzannah. **Maggie Kerr** interned at Columbia Teacher's College at the center for children and families and was the librarian on her island in Maine, and **Sarah Sullivan** spent the summer in Berkeley at *Cafe Fanny*.

While many of us choose to follow the conventional path of four years of high school followed by four years of college, a few of us have taken

a different route. Becca is spending a term at the University of Glasgow through a program run by the English Department at Dartmouth. **Tim Colla** is taking this year off from Columbia to “go get lost in Central America on my motorcycle.”

Rachel Fevrier, after starting last year at UPenn, decided to take the year off to work and relax. She is now at NYU and majoring in Engineering. We also had a few transfers. **Lucy Teitler** transferred to Yale, where she reports she is much happier (really, who was going to be happy at Williams?—not that I’m biased coming from Amherst!) while Sarah transferred to Stanford where she “enjoys the sunshine so much she is going to be majoring in sunbathing.”

While most of us are now sophomores, we have freshmen among our ranks.

Ben Ewen-Campen, after a fantastic time working in Italy last year, has started at Swarthmore. **Pete Fishman**, after a year off getting well and traveling through Europe, has joined the ever-swelling ranks at Yale. Both of them report they are loving their college experience thus far.

Though it is still early on in our college career, some of us have already decided on majors. **Sakai Troxell** is an international studies major with a specialty in Italian and a double discipline in Political Science and Sociology—can we say a little indecisive?! Mick is double majoring in Music Composition and English, while Ben E-C. has decided on a science major and a music minor. Hopefully this year will be long enough for the rest of us to make a decision.

As for myself, I spent the summer taking classes in Nice, France and on a “mother-daughter bonding road trip.”

I’m back at Amherst, and if possible busier than ever with diving, dance and the Equestrian team, as well as a bit of school work every once in a while.

As usual, the members of the F’99 class are having fun and living life to the fullest. We all miss TMS, especially now as the leaves start to turn and fall is in the air, though we carry its spirit with us always.

Fall '00

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So here we are embarking on our new lives as college students. I begin with an exciting occurrence. The other day I went online and discovered an email from **Ben Pederson-Wedlock** (pause for gasp). Yes, despite popular belief, Ben has not drowned at sea. “I am still alive,” he wrote to me. Ben spent his summer working as a kayak guide in Essex and is now living on a sailboat in San Francisco Bay. He “drove cross-country at the beginning of September and I am working to get my boat prepared for a trip down to Mexico and possibly Central America.” Most of the trip will be solo but “any one who wants to come join me in the warm weather for a few weeks is invited.” Ben wishes everyone “luck with whatever you’re doing this year.”

From across the ocean in Scotland, **Julia Wieting** is taking Social Anthropology, Linguistics and English at St. Andrew’s. Her classes “have been great so far and I’ve had time to do a lot of clubs.” Closer to home, **Teddy O’Connor** “chilled gangstah style up in NYC for the

summer.” Now he’s at Wesleyan and “everything is going great. People here are mad chill. I miss everyone at TMS except for Jordan because he lives down the hall from me. Hope everyone is having fun across the country. Peace out homes.” **Jordan Smith** worked in a Flute and Piccolo factory for the summer. He also “worked in my free time on my 22 foot Baidarka sea kayak, (thanks to my man Ben for helping me out with that). School has been sweet and I am rowing and am in a coed a cappella group.” Earlier in the summer, Jordan visited **Dianna Garfield** up in Cuttyhunk before she left for the Coast Guard. While many of us were lazing about this summer, Dianna was at boot camp, complete with “the running and pushups at 0500, the squaring your meals and memorizing indoc.” Despite all the rules she’s “really enjoying it; this is the right place for me even though you’d never expect to find the likes of me starching shirts and shining shoes (believe me I miss my Carhartts).” She is also enjoying the varsity sailing team and writes, “so that’s my life as it stands, a girl in uniform, learning the ropes of a whole new world. Who’d a thunk it.”

Our other Wheelerite, **Margaret Chute**, is up at Amherst with **Chee How Yap** (Fall ’99). She’s “playing soccer and the team is awesome. My roommates are cool and I’m having lots of fun, but not as much fun as if you all were here! Miss you!” She ended her update with the perennial question: “Has anyone heard from **Jimenesha** ever? Has she dropped off the face of the planet?” **John Simeone** was another lucky guy who got to visit Dianna and Margaret up at Cuttyhunk. He’s now perfecting his Russian and

living for the coming year in Vladimir, a small city north of Moscow. When he wrote to me he had “just spent a few days in Moscow visiting the home of pianist Alexander Skriabin. Things here are going well.” John hopes to see some TMS alums when he comes back to the States for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Upon Jordan’s urging, he signs off with the following (to quote Bond): “From Russia with Love, John.” John got to see **Luke Wallens** up at Cuttyhunk. During senior year Luke worked the drama scene, acting in several plays. He got accepted into the winter start program at Colorado College so he’s “still in Baltimore for the fall semester, holding down a job at Waldenbooks and taking pottery classes.” He also worked for a vector marketing corporation selling knives(!) He’s looking forward to joining **Sarah Cashman** and **Will Harrington** at Colorado College this January. Sarah spent the summer doing a NOLS mountaineering course in Wyoming. She lives down the hall from Will and is crazy as ever. She spends her geology class “tasting some rocks and going on crazy field trips. My class is very TMS-style—having to go look at stuff outside and figure out what the heck happened there.” She also got her first degree certification in the Reiki form of healing “so if anyone wants it to rain, just call on Cash.” Will told me that he did a lot of hiking back east this summer. He’s “been enjoying college and playing in the mountains.” This past May he went to the Landon prom with **Chris Martin**, Sarah, **Emilie Stark-Menneg** and **Rose McDonough**. Rose is loving UVM and is excited to be back in Vermont. She writes, “College is great but I miss everybody so much, especially now that I’m back in VT

without you!" **Lelia Yerxa** is also enjoying the beauty of at Middlebury. She's taking it easy this fall in anticipation of crew in the spring. This summer she got to "read some pretty interesting documents and watch some interesting cases while working for the Sexually Violent Predators' Unit in the King County Prosecutor's Office." At the end of the summer, she saw **Gabe Belsky** and **Lauren Holliday** in Boston before going up to Middlebury.

Boston native **Dana Ropper** now lives down in DC at George Washington University. Her dorm has 1,000 freshman—quite a change from Miles! She says, "Classes are tough but definitely very interesting. I miss everyone so much and hope that you all are doing well and having an amazing time wherever you are." While Dana moved into DC, **Walker DePuy** moved out and is now settled in at Carleton taking some biology, sociology and late antiquity history and philosophy. For freshman orientation he went on a canoe trip and discovered "Paddling and portaging have never been so fun, rewarding and painful." Also at Carleton, **Sonya Derman** lives on the same floor as Walker. She's having a good time and loves her Intro Psych and Observational Drawing classes. This summer she backpacked around Europe with two of her friends. Another Daltonite, **Anne Kurtz**, spent the summer in style, cruising around Greece and Italy. She also interned in NYC at a classical music public relations firm and "had a great experience there." At Hamilton she's "looking toward a chemistry and neuroscience double major."

Now onto our other dear New Yorkers. **Jon Posen** stayed true to his city roots and is at Columbia. He sees "Timo and

Hinrah (**Tim Stanley** and **Henry Wiener**). He is DJing (erratically) at the Barnard Radio Station with a country show. He is learning ancient Greek and how to play squash. He turned 19, too." Tim is also having a great time at Columbia. "Classes are great and the city is beautiful" (of course!). He's working part time at *Mixer* magazine doing promotions for shows. "Nothing much else is going on except I'm thinkin' about becoming a professional male model," writes Tim. **Susanna Brock** worked at a summer camp for inner city kids this summer. Up at Harvard she has been graced with a "penthouse" suite and is excited about her social anthropology class. She "enjoys running into **Sam Johnson** in the dining hall." Sam got put in the quiet dorm at Harvard. "Every time you say you're from Mass Hall people make a face and say, 'Oh...you're one of those people.' But I like my room." He signed up "for about 500 clubs ranging from martial arts to the Young Republicans' Club." He was careful to add: "I am not Republican; I just accepted anything anyone was handing out." He is still deciding which comedy magazine to lend his talents to.

Jed Resnick "spent the summer performing at his acting program and then working at a scholastic publishing company doing copy-editing for children's books (little girls love horses—it's horrifying)." He's loving Brown and is (surprise surprise) breaking into the theater and a cappella scene. **Merebea Danforth** is at Brown with Jed and says it's "great to have some TMS company!" She's enjoying the sailing team there. **Suzanne Forrest** is also on the water doing crew at Wellesley. This summer she worked in New Haven as a

counselor and mentor for eight low-income girls. She's now "settled at Wellesley and singing in the glee club!" Another former New Havenite, **Dan Walker**, has "been transplanted 3000 miles to the west coast and Reed College, a weird place. People on stilts only come out at night and roam the campus. A river of green ooze called the canyon runs down the center of the school." Dan has acquired the deep wisdom that "predominantly, Reed students smell like teriyaki sauce. I asked and apparently it's a west coast thing. It's all pretty entertaining, but a little confusing."

Another former Hopkins gal, **Leslie Bridgers**, is "trudging her way through life at Bowdoin." She's exhibiting some familiar beginning-of-the-year behavior "by sitting in my room trying very hard to get involved in as little as possible." When she went sugaring in the spring she had dinner with **Erik Anderson** who "presented me with the sign-out slip which I failed to complete on the last day of the semester. Apparently, he'd been keeping it in his back pocket for the past year waiting to bump into me. I know what you're thinking and yes, it was rank." She's excited awaiting **Rachel Wilder's** arrival at Bowdoin next fall. This year, Rachel is seeking adventure on Global Quest. She's spending four months in Thailand and then "in the spring I'm doing environmental internships in Hawaii-Fiji-Australia-New Zealand." When she heads up to Maine next year she'll be neighbors with **Ryan O'Connor** who is having fun at Bates playing fall ball lacrosse. This summer he posed as a grown-up at an internship with DST output and got "an idea of what having to go to work every day and wear a tie

is like." He also played in a Vail lacrosse shoot out with a New England All-Star team. Another Loomis-Chaffee alum, **Lucy Cox-Chapman**, is loving life at Williams. She hopes "everyone is enjoying college or whatever they are doing!" **Nate Sokol-Margolis** is also in Massachusetts enjoying classes at UMass Amherst. After crashing his car the morning of graduation, he worked as a waiter and as business manager of his brother's music company this summer. He also backpacked through Europe for three weeks with friends. He went to "Amsterdam, Paris, Barcelona (where we hung out with SClub7, a famous pop group we had never heard of), Nice, and Venice."

Moving west we meet **Vera Pereskokova** at Ohio Wesleyan. She's "been having a blast and meeting tons of hot football players." As of her writing she was rushing several sororities, working for the admissions office and writing for the independent newspaper on campus. **Sheronda Lawson** moved south of Ohio and is now at Hampton University. When she wrote, she was planning to run for freshman class president and was a member of the sailing team. Her family is planning to move to Atlanta later this year. She "hopes to see you all soon!"

And now to humor my fellow Eli **Josh Morgenthau**, who writes that he "decided to indefinitely defer his admission to Yale and instead invest his tuition money on a ship and crew, enabling his lifelong dream of being a pirate to become a reality. Josh said that while the decision to pursue 'the life of a pirate' instead of traditional scholastic achievements is a gamble, it is still a potentially lucrative endeavor. 'Shiver me timbers,' he added. Josh also spent the majority of

the summer gambling in Las Vegas, during which he married an erotic dancer named Sunshine. Their child, tentatively named Felix, is due in May."

As for me, **Christina Chinloy**, I'm procrastinating lots, never getting enough sleep and loving college life. I signed up for the ballroom dancing team on a whim—we'll see how long my uncoordinated limbs can keep up. I've started writing for the newspaper and love all my classes, especially intro psych. TMS will be happy to know that my dining hall is going completely organic. Though not quite up to par with Marilyn's cooking, the food is quite yummy. It was great catching up on everybody's lives. I miss you.

Fall '01

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Can we say overwhelmed? Maybe that would be an understatement. With college deadlines fast approaching, most of us seem to be swimming in work. Can we reinstate Restoration, please, or maybe naptime? Remember life at TMS when the reason you were sleep deprived was because you were having too much fun? Ah, the good old days, my friends. It saddens me to think that I am here and you are, well, there, but this info should keep us connected for the time being:

Ashley St. Pierre writes: "My school year has got off to a very busy start...I can't believe we're seniors already! This summer I rowed at two rowing camps, one at Boston University and another up in Raymond, Maine. I had a ton

of fun and now I am rowing at school once again for this fall." Another rower, **Anna Leslie**, relates that she will be rowing at the head of the Charles this October. She is alive and well and managed to bike from Seattle to San Francisco this summer. Also on the west coast this summer, **Annie Preis** was in her hometown of Los Angeles working for kids who live in low-income housing with parents who are mentally ill. Not only did she bring her charm and togetherness to her summer job, she is heroically surviving the Exeter grind.

Reports from Milton seem to be equally positive. **Sarah Sullivan** "played a lot of lacrosse, worked at a restaurant as a bus person and dishwasher, and went to the beach this summer." She is playing soccer again this fall and word has it that some Bostonites went to see her play the other day... Admirably, **Darcey Hull** is trying to keep life in perspective. "The whole college thing is feeling like it's too close for comfort," but she is trying to enjoy senior fall all the same. Darcey "can't help but think of TMS every morning I wake up and make my ten-mile trek to school—not the same as walking to breakfast and classes from Tobold but a decent replacement nonetheless. I love/miss you guys and wish you well." Who else would have the courage to be taking belly dancing lessons (besides Darcey) except for **Makenna Goodman**? She recently found a new dance company and started taking classes in New York City. This summer, Makenna was on an island in Maine, however, "reading and playing with my dog," and later took a creative writing course at Columbia. Still at Trinity, she says, "I am playing soccer like a maniac, school and club, and I'm already

overwhelmed." Roomie **Rebecca Mulligan** spent time in Maine as well, in addition to working at the café in Chelsea. Rebecca also got to spend (lucky girl) "two weeks this summer working at TMS as a camp counselor for the Liberty Program, and I absolutely loved it. I'm now focusing on enjoying my senior year and am doing pretty well at it. I can testify that Vermont is as beautiful as ever and if anyone needs proof they are always welcome at my house!"

Is Maine some secret paradise that I don't know about?

Megan Fitz tells me that, "Since December, Peter Albee and I have managed to see several TMSers up here in Maine, the greatest place to be." (Clearly, according to all of these Maine updates.) Notably, Megan says "I spent two weeks at the end of June in Austria training on a glacier for Nordic skiing. The rest of the summer involved working on a community garden project that I started last spring. It has gone extremely well and also seems to be getting a lot of public attention. Articles about the garden have been published in our local newspaper, as well as a New England magazine *Peoples, Places, and Plants*. Instead of running cross country this fall I've decided to audition for our fall musical '*Crazy for You*.'"

Daisy Holman went to a photography workshop in Maine and survived even though the people were awful. Still pursuing fashion, she "did slave labor for a clothing designer, embroidering for six hours straight almost every day" this summer. Outdoor adventures included white water rafting with the other Holmans and visiting the Grand Canyon for the first time. Daisy is currently advising the "freshers" in a Peer Leadership program at

Dalton and trying to balance lots of work but amazing classes. She wishes everyone "spendiferousness!!!"

Fellow New Yorker **Ian Whitehead** has been MIA recently but apologizes and says that, "life can be mad eventful. Due to some cosmic accident, I spent the summer at math camp doing, well, math. I'm back at school now. More school. Yah. Oh, and I met John Cleese. That was actually a while ago, but it should go in the newsletter. Definitely." Equally deserving of going in the newsletter is a message from S2H: **Scott Bulua** reports that he is good although busy. But, as Leonardo Bruni once wrote, "The whole glory of man lies in activity." In other words, Scott is glorious. He should be completing his college apps soon, if he could just get one free moment in. Scott also included the quote from Will-Erich Peuckert, "Inter faeces et unaniam nascimur," but its meaning is lost to me (and 99% of the rest of the world, Scott, because it is in Latin!) **Amanda Pillsbury** similarly wrote to me in the third person (I love it) and says she "is just starting senior year and is ridiculously excited to be a senior. She's feeling the pressures of college applications but is trying to balance them out by hanging out with friends and working on the school play. Her house is always open for people who are visiting the Boston area." **Georgette Kelly** is in Chapin's play, *Once On This Island*. (We must all go to these productions if invited.) She is employing her talent and newly-learned skills after having gone to a theater program at Northwestern this summer. As for summer TMS sightings, Georgette reports that, "Darcey stayed with me, and we played tourist with **Anya**. We saw the Empire State Building and had

frozen hot chocolate at Serendipity's. We also went to a midnight Rocky Horror Picture Show in the village with about 10-15 other TMSers and had so much fun." **Anya Kaplan-Seem** and Georgette have been keeping tabs on one another and "meet for coffee during the day every week to take a break from our respective schools." Anya also says that she "got the urge recently to do some gardening. Since NYC isn't too conducive to gardening, I planted a bulb of garlic in a ceramic pot on my window sill...and guess what? It has sprouted! Needless to say, I was delighted!" Anya soaked up summer sun by spending time with her brother and taking classes in the City. **Marina Weiss** did some planting this summer at the Farm School, an organic farm/camp in Athol, MA, "which was great," she adds. In addition, Marina had a friend visit for three weeks from Spain. She says that, "all has been going really well since TMS aside from withdrawal. But TMS opened some inner doors for me, and showed me all of the places I still need to go and all the ways that I need to keep growing..." Marina is sure to mention, however, how much she misses everyone and "eagerly anticipates all/any upcoming reunions." Any ideas? Hmmm. We must get on this one...

I know **Margaret Munford** wouldn't miss the next reunion for the world. Anyone want to go down to Mississippi? Meanwhile, Margaret writes: "I spent seven weeks this summer in the mountains of Western North Carolina white water canoeing with Camp Green Cove. I've been enjoying senior year thus far. I'm heading up Student Life Committee for Student Council where I run the Recycling Program and Forum Discus-

sion Groups. Woo-hoo." No reports on her singing, but if she knows what's good for her, she'll keep us posted. I also miss **Ernestine Chaco** but she sounds well. She is taking college courses and is "still here at Navajo Preparatory waiting for the time to go back to the east. This summer I spent eight weeks in Los Angeles working on satellites under a NASA internship program. I am very well but I miss everybody."

I hear from **Tonia Simeone** that, "I AM ALIVE AND I LOVE CHEESE AND THE PACKERS FREAKING RULE." She is taking care of her horses and "interviewing at colleges and stuffy stuff like that." It was good to see mid-westerners represent at Daisy's—cheers to Darcy, Tonia, and James. Hats off also to **Laura Healy** who, with patience only she could have, worked with four and five year-olds at a day camp this summer. She also mentions having run into Megan on a tour at Wesleyan. It's a small world but Wesleyan is not such an unlikely spot to see TMS alums... Laura describes school to be, "hectic, but I am so ready for college. I guess I'll just have to hang in there."

I may not have trusted **Kelsey Smith** with nine year-olds (just kidding), but she was at Camp Nellie Huckins in Freedom, New Hampshire. She worked with **Karen Prazar** (F'97). Kelsey is, "in the middle of settling back in at Exeter...and I'm taking a bunch of science classes." It's an admirable feat as far as I'm concerned. **Mara Averick**, not surprisingly, has a million and one things to tell everyone about the past few months: "I went to France with my grade, which was loads of fun. Then I was off to Ellensburg, Washington where I volunteered at the Chimpanzee Human Communication

Center, working with Chimpanzees who use American Sign Language. It was really interesting and eye opening about animal treatment in America. I did an oceanography course off the Gulf of Maine for the second half, which was also quite amazing. I am learning so much!"

Sam Bell has been equally busy and relates that he has, "Just been rockin' life to the fullest. I've been attempting to spend as much time outside in the sun hiking, biking, and boating. I'm taking yoga, reiki, and herbal pharmacology in the evenings. No other education disregarding life. I'll be in Amsterdam for New Year's and Spain in January. Quite excited by doing the Ocean Classroom semester program on Schooner in the spring..."

On the other hand, **Rob Grant** claims that he hasn't done anything noteworthy since TMS, but I hardly believe him. He says: "I am alive, but not well. I have too much to do, and not enough time to enjoy life." He's already focused on the distant future, however, and writes: "I am planning great ice-climbing excursions for next summer, so anyone who doesn't have too great an attachment to their personal well-being should get in touch..." **Mario Aguilar** writes with a classic "Mario" update. "As anyone would assume, I am dealing with the stress of senior fall in a productive, constructive, time effective way. By no means am I 'losing my temper.' The universe is partially in order, especially because of my recent employment with the Starbucks Coffee Company. I bicker incessantly with my Manager, but she can't fire me because she needs me around."

Whoa, time for me? Hi, I, **Helen Lamphere** am doing

well. I was in France for two months this summer and spent a lot of time alone and making myself laugh. It was kind of a weird but worthwhile experience. I read, wrote, drew, worked, and visited lots of museums. I'm getting ready right now to go to Germany in mid-October and represent Deerfield. P.S. Can you believe that I am now in love with Deerfield? I've completely redefined what I do here, and how I approach the mayhem. What's gotten me through has been remembering TMS and everyone out there whom I love... Memories provide the reassurance and confidence I need to laugh and realize how good life can be. It was so much fun to hear from you. The stragglers are on my black list but don't think you can escape me next year...Stay well all of you and keep in touch!

Save the Date

F '87, '92, '97

S '88, '93, '98

Mark your calendar now for your reunion this June 13, 14, & 15, 2003. Come back, see your friends, eat some food, and be a part of our historic timber frame barn project.



photo by Alden Smith



photo by Marc McKee

At noon on Saturday, September 21, 2002, students, faculty, parents, alumni, and friends celebrated the completion of the new barn's first bent. The festivities included speeches, blessings, and a ceremonial "druid christening," performed by timber framing instructor Josh Jackson (right), who "baptized" the bent with a mixture of pine sap, water from Derby pond, and Mountain School maple syrup to hearty applause.

How we are making it happen—the barn building timeline

Spring 2002:	Barn design finalized.
August 2002:	Faculty barn camp.
Fall Semester 2002:	Cutting of the timbers that form the "bents"—the five major cross-sections of the barn. Each student works on a "barn crew" at least once each week.
Spring Semester 2003:	Construction of the timbers that form the rafters, floor joists, and "walls" (pieces that run perpendicular to the bents).
Spring Break 2003:	Possible graduate barn crew to run parallel to maple sugar crew.
Summer 2003:	Possible graduate barn crew to run parallel to farm crew.
Early August, 2003:	Barn raising and celebration.

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