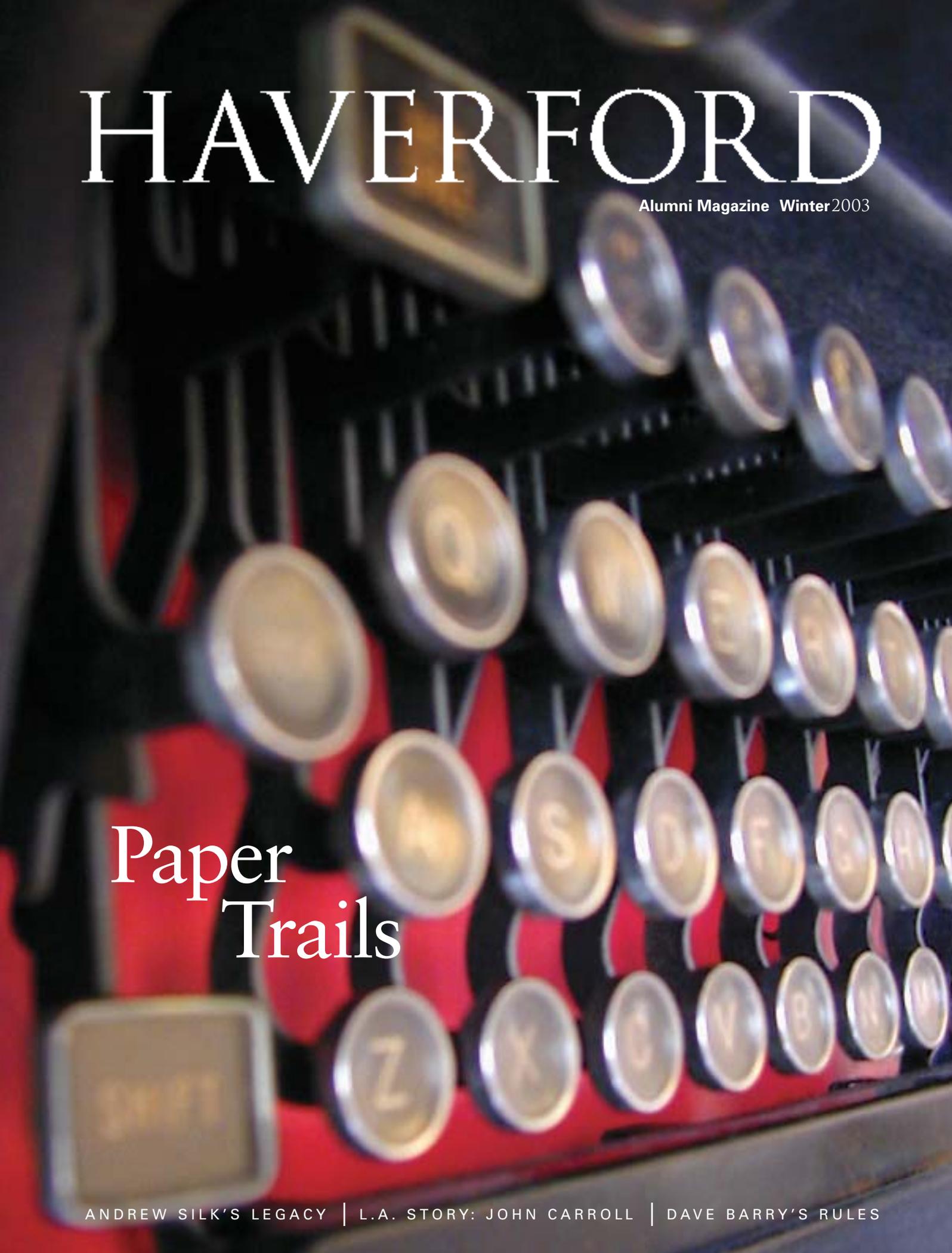


# HAVERFORD



Alumni Magazine Winter 2003

## Paper Trails

ANDREW SILK'S LEGACY | L.A. STORY: JOHN CARROLL | DAVE BARRY'S RULES

## A Natural Fit

There was a time when prominent newspaper journalists were associated with large universities with graduate programs, like Columbia, Missouri, Northwestern, and Syracuse. Times have changed. As Dennis Stern '69 points out on page 38, there is increasing specialization in the newspaper business.

Haverford is not about specialization. In the true spirit of liberal learning, the College does not offer a major in journalism or communications (nor do Bryn Mawr and Swarthmore, for that matter). There are no journalism courses. Even so, Haverford has produced what seems to be an inordinate number of journalists for a college its size. Haverford prepares students for a lifetime of asking questions, a lifetime of thinking analytically. Haverford and journalism are a natural fit.

Haverford also delivers exposure to Haverford alumni who've gone on to careers in journalism. The Silk Journalism Panel (see p. 27), is the annual on-campus opportunity for the bi-college community to meet and hear from journalism's front lines.

There's also some history. Felix Morley '15, left the editorship of the *Washington Post*, where he'd won a Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing in 1936, to serve as Haverford's sixth president. Haverford alumni have claimed four Pulitzers in the past 20 years: David Wessel '75 in 1984; Dave Barry '69 in 1988; Roy Gutman '66 in 1993; and Jack Rakove '68 in 1997.

The person who perhaps best represents journalism on campus today is director of athletics and associate dean Greg Kannerstein '63. Greg uses skills he honed as a newspaper reporter in

Philadelphia and Montgomery, Ala., to bring us "Scoreline." While his carefully crafted prose keeps the Ford faithful apprised of athletic endeavors, he also provides rich reminders of Haverford's history, traditions, and its connections to the world beyond 370 Lancaster Avenue. Greg's guidance has helped dozens of Fords get started on their newspaper careers. Still others work for magazines, broadcast media, and other outlets.

Are newspapers still relevant in this age of the Internet and 24/7 cable news access? I hope the stories and profiles we've gathered here help answer that question. The common thread of a Haverford education pulls them all together. In David Wessel's words, Haverford affords students "confidence, it trains them to ask good questions, it fosters critical thinking. Haverford is the best journalism school there is."



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Executive Director of Marketing & Communications



Felix Morley  
(1894-1982)



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Haverford Alumni Magazine is printed on recycled paper.

# On Cooperation

Most of us enjoy the spirit of competition we have with other colleges and universities. Regular readers of this magazine will immediately recognize our indecorous lack of restraint in boasting about this College. Numerical counts are especially attractive when displaying our competitiveness: the number of books in the library; the SAT scores of our students; the quantity of computers on campus, etc. Less quantitative, but no less appealing, are the famous and accomplished alumni whose stories we love to recount in our publications. This president is also prone to crowing about the scholarly awards, prizes, grants, papers, books, and other accolades garnered by the faculty. And of course, who can resist the outcome of athletic competition as a surrogate for determining the better school on any given day (FYI: Haverford has won the coveted Hood Trophy for four straight years).

Beguiling as statistics, figures, records, victories, and related competitive comparisons might be, in the cold light of reflection most of us also realize the enduring value of cooperation. Franklin Roosevelt had it about right when he said: “Competition has been shown to be useful up to a certain point and no further, but cooperation, is the thing we must strive for today.” Or as the Beatles put it: “All you need is love.”

Academic cooperation abounds. Most recognizable to alumni (and equally attractive to prospective students) is the long-standing collaboration with Bryn Mawr College. It seems nothing short of miraculous that the two colleges manage such a thriving cooperation without contracts, memoranda of understanding, or other legal niceties. Without the slightest doubt, each of our well-earned distinctive characters is not in the least bit threatened by close partnership. We have multiple models: joint departments (e.g., French, Career Development) where a single unit serves both colleges equally; counterpart departments (like chemistry, philosophy and a host of others) whose dual existence extends the intellectual community for students and faculty alike; and non-counterpart depart-

ments (e.g., astronomy, geology, religion, art history, among others) that a small school might be unable to sustain without dividing the tasks. This approach makes so much sense and adds so much to the experience here that I’m surprised more places don’t emulate us. Maybe our Quaker roots provide better lubrication for successful interaction than those with lesser origins!

Tri-college cooperation is also important. Although Swarthmore is a bit further away than Bryn Mawr, we all nonetheless realize that there are big gains to be made through collaborative projects. We do so in Magill Library via a single electronic card catalog for the three collections; in academics through a unified tri-college online course listing; and in technology by sharing a high-speed Internet pipe for all our data and networking with the outside world. Blue Bus service was escalated a couple of years ago to facilitate student movements among the three campuses. We also realized—and it seems so obvious in retrospect—that it is more efficient to move one faculty member than 15 students, so we trade course assignments with faculty on the other campuses to enrich student experience with new professors (I think of it irreverently as “Swaps with Swat”).

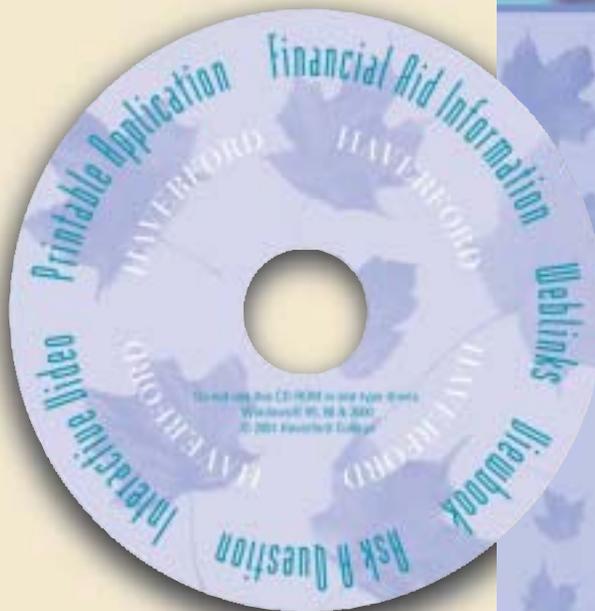
Faculty members with complementary interests commonly teach courses jointly. We also have some interesting juxtapositions of administrators with faculty, who collaborate on imaginative courses that would be much more difficult for either party to create alone. One example that comes to mind is Athletic Director Greg Kannerstein ’63 and History Professor Alex Kitroeff, who teach “Sport and Society,” which examines the evolution of sport during the 19th and 20th centuries. As you might imagine, the course is immensely popular since it deals with the intersection of social change, spectacle, and high performance. Another sample of collaboration is Provost David Dawson and English Professor Steve Finley, who are offering a new course through the Humanities Center called “Interpretation and the Other: Meaning, Understanding,



and Alterity.” This multidisciplinary course focuses on classical perspectives on language and meaning, and examines case studies of interpretation that embody, amplify, or challenge these concepts. The course gives special emphasis to the ethical dimensions of the reader’s experience, as students are invited to ponder literary critic Hillis Miller’s hopeful admonition that “literature is the most serious and responsible form of writing,” for it often seeks to serve “the democracy to come.”

I’ll confess that I have a hankering to teach a course some year on science fiction, possibly with an emphasis on biology and life science in the SF literature. In the spirit of cooperation, English Professor Maud McNerney (herself a medievalist) and I have discussed doing this course collaboratively and even have developed a few surreptitious ideas for the content and syllabus. Do you suppose that the College’s Educational Policy Committee will approve?

Assuming that comparisons are useful, I’ll close by noting that, whereas in competition we seek to gain an advantage over someone else, in cooperation we work together. Admittedly, each approach has an appropriate time and place. Yet, there is a flavor of equity about cooperation that is at once both very Quakeresque and very Haverfordian—the right kind of training/education for students working on “peace and global citizenship” or “integrated natural sciences” (or for that matter for those simply planning to get along with others). So, the next time you are on campus, please go to an athletic event or an interscholastic debate and cheer for Haverford to win, but be sure to also go to a class and give an even bigger cheer for the win-wins of cooperation. ☺



## Admission CD-ROM Wins Gold

Haverford's Office of Admission recently received national recognition for its CD-ROM, "A Place To Grow."

The disk, which includes an interactive video, the College viewbook, links to areas of Haverford's web site, and a printable application, was among the winners of the 18th Annual Admissions Advertising Awards.

Produced by Barrington Communications of Los Angeles, Haverford's CD-ROM won a gold medal in the video viewbook category for colleges and universities with



## A Record Year for Admission

It is taking some heavy lifting to narrow the field for Haverford's Class of 2007. Nearly 3,000 high-school students applied last year, the largest applicant pool in the College's history. The exact number of applicants, 2,981, was nearly 15 percent more than the previous year and 6 percent more than the previous record.

Director of Admission Delsie Phillips attributes this success to the College's vital network of volunteers, her dedicated staff, and her award-winning mini-CD.

"Our staff and alumni volunteers were highly visible," she explains, "and we traveled to as many college fairs, schools, and recruiting events as time and money would allow. We sent out more than 33,000 CD's and handed them out at every venue. We also hosted more groups on campus and were able to increase our mailing and e-mailing contacts using sophisticated recruitment technology. A lot of this can be attributed to plain hard work. We are, like other institutions, enjoying the beginning of a Baby Boom cohort, but that alone doesn't account for a 15 percent jump in one year."

## Whitehead Wins in New York

On Feb. 1, 2003, John Whitehead '43, emeritus member of the Board of Managers and honorary co-chair of the "Educating to Lead, Educating to Serve" campaign, received the Robert L. Payton Award for Voluntary Service at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District II Achievement and Recognition Awards ceremony at Tavern on the Green. The award is given annually to "an individual who demonstrates leadership in advancement programs, furtherance of the philanthropic tradition, and public articulation of needs, goals, and issues in education."

### Conroy Represents Writers' Workshop in Washington

Frank Conroy '58 took part in a White House ceremony on Thursday, Feb. 27, to accept the National Humanities Medal for the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop — the first university-based organization to be presented the Medal. Administered by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Medal “honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities, broadened citizens' engagement with the humanities, or helped preserve and expand Americans' access to important resources in the humanities.”

In 1987, when Conroy became the fifth director of the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop, then University President James O. Freedman predicted, “his appointment insures that The Writers' Workshop will remain the most distinguished program of its kind in the country.”



President George W. Bush stands with the recipients of the 2002 National Humanities Medal in the Oval Office on Feb. 27, 2003. From left: Joseph McDade, who accepted the award on behalf of Frankie Hewitt of Ford's Theatre; Ellen Carroll Walton, who accepted the award on behalf of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union; Dr. Donald Kagan of Yale University; author Patricia MacLachlan; Brian Lamb of C-SPAN; Art Linkletter of the United Seniors Association; Frank Conroy '58, who accepted the award on behalf of the Iowa Writers' Workshop; and Justice Clarence Thomas, who accepted the award on behalf of Dr. Thomas Sowell of the Hoover Institution. White House photo by Paul Morse.

## Faculty Notes

The Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation Teacher Scholar Award for 2002 has been awarded to **Karin Åkerfeldt**, associate professor of chemistry. Only six awards were made this year and only one other to a teacher at an undergraduate institution.

Professor of Physics **Suzanne Amador Kane's** article “Quantitative Chirality Measures Applied to Domain Formation in Langmuir Monolayers” appeared in Volume 18, Issue 25 of the journal *Langmuir*.

**Rebecca Compton**, assistant professor of psychology, contributed “Interhemispheric interaction facilitates face processing” to the November issue of the journal *Neuropsychologia*. The article details the results of Compton's study, which confirms that it is easier for people to recognize emotional expressions on

human faces when the brain uses both hemispheres to process the information.

**Richard Freedman**, professor of music, attended the conference on Music and Melancholy, 1400-1800, at Princeton University October 26-27. He contributed the paper “Listening to Melancholy: Lassais un triste coeur and the French Medical Tradition.”

The selection committee for the Mellon New Directions Fellowships selected from Haverford **Laurie Kain Hart**, associate professor of anthropology, and **Michael Sells**, professor of religion and Emily Judson Baugh and John Marshall Gest Professor in Comparative Religion. Each fellowship carries with it a semester of leave and a \$5,000 grant that may be used to defray research, travel or educational expenses related to the proposed fellowship.

Assistant Professor of Peace Studies and Anthropology **Martin Hébert** presented his paper “Peace Studies and Popular Culture: Addressing Militarism in the Classroom” at the Peace and Justice Studies Annual Conference, held at Georgetown University October 4-6. Hébert also attended the Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies in Montreal October 24-26, where he presented “From the Exchange of Saints to the Zapatour: Pilgrimage as a Political Ritual in Rural Mexico.”

At the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, held in Toronto November 22-25, Assistant Professor of Religion **Tracey Hucks** chaired a session for the Womanist Group, honoring the work of Delores Williams and her book *Sisters in the Wilderness*.

## 2003 Honorary Degree Recipients

The College will confer honorary degrees on the following four recipients during Commencement Day exercises on Sunday, May 18, 2003:

**Hafsat Abiola**, a Nigerian whose father, the elected president of Nigeria, was denied the opportunity to form a government, deposed by a military takeover, and died in prison in June of 1998. Her mother worked for his release during the imprisonment and was gunned down by agents of the military in 1996. Hafsat graduated from Harvard in 1997 and established an organization memorializing her mother's life called the Kudirat Initiative for Democracy (KIND). She has served as the president of the International African Students Association, as a Fetzer Fellow, and on the boards of the State of the World Forum and the Special Olympics. She currently works on issues of women and youth leadership programs, conflict resolution and prevention programs, and supporting multinationals in developing their roles as global citizens.

**David Bourns**, head of the Paul Cuffee Charter School in Rhode Island. The school, named after an 18th-century Quaker who spearheaded a movement to

resettle slaves in Africa, is in its second year of operation and has a mission to increase the diversity of students pursuing scientific and technical careers and give them high quality academic training. Prior to taking his current position, Bourns served as head of George School for 21 years and spent his life preoccupied with issues of social justice, nonviolence, and conflict mediation. He is also a Quaker, a sailor and shipbuilder, and a furniture maker.

**David Maybury-Lewis**, born in Hyderabad, Pakistan in 1929. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Oxford University in 1952. Four years later he earned his Ph.D. in anthropology from Oxford University and then emigrated to the United States in 1960 to join the Harvard University faculty as a cultural anthropologist. His interests encompass cultural survival of tribal people and ethnic minorities. He has authored several books including *Dialectical Societies: The Ge and Bororo of Central Brazil* and *The Attraction of Opposites: Thought and Society in the Dualistic Mode*. Through his work Maybury-Lewis has chronicled the lives of the indigenous peoples of the

Americas, especially Brazil. Because of his contributions to Brazilian social science, Maybury-Lewis was awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of Scientific Merit in 1997, Brazil's highest academic award. In the spring of 1998 he was awarded the Anders Retzuis gold medal of the Swedish Society of Anthropology and Geography by the King of Sweden.

**Willie Ruff**, hornist and bassist of the Mitchell-Ruff Duo. He graduated from Yale as both an undergraduate and graduate student and has been on the faculty at the Yale School of Music since 1971, teaching music history, ethnomusicology, instrumental arranging, and an interdisciplinary seminar on rhythm. He is also the Director of the Duke Ellington Fellowship Program at Yale which brings together world-class musicians, college students, and young musicians from the new Haven public schools. Ruff has written widely on Paul Hindemith, Duke Ellington, and Billy Strayhorn and has created the interdisciplinary "Planetarium for the Ear" on the musical astronomy of the 17th-century scientist Johannes Kepler. He has also written on music and dance in Russia, jazz in China, and is at work on a book, *Six Roads to Chicago* exploring cultural life in that city.

**Ken Koltun-Fromm**, assistant professor of religion, traveled to the Association for Jewish Studies Conference in Los Angeles, December 13-17. He chaired two committee meetings: one for the Works in Progress Group and one for Aesthetics.

**Naomi Koltun-Fromm**, assistant professor of religion, presented a paper on the oral transmission of Biblical interpretive traditions between Jews and Christians in third and fourth century Persian Mesopotamia at the Association for Jewish Studies Conference in Los Angeles, December 13-17. She also chaired a panel called "Jews and Romans in Society and Imagination."

Assistant Professor of Anthropology **Zolani Noonan-Ngwane** attended the American Anthropological Association conference in New Orleans November 20-24, where he contributed his paper "Anthropology and Changing Geographies of Migrancy in Rural South Africa" for the panel "New Directions in Southern African Research."

**Robert Scarrow**, professor of chemistry, was a co-author for the article "The First Example of a Nitrile Hydrates Model Complex that Reversibly Binds Nitriles," which appeared in Vol. 124, Issue 38 of the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

**Margaret Schaus**, reference librarian, has received a \$20,000 grant from the Delmas Foundation to continue work on FEMINAE, a database index on medieval women and gender.

Professor of Philosophy **Kathleen Wright** attended the SPEP (Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy) annual meeting at Loyola University in Chicago, October 10-12. She presented her paper "Gadamer Between Hölderlin and Heidegger." 

by the Investigative Staff of the *Boston Globe*

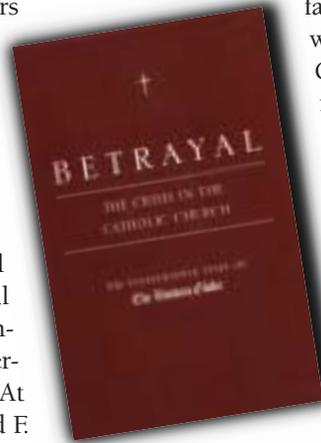
*Betrayal: The Crisis in the Catholic Church* LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY, 2002

When the *Boston Globe* began reporting on the child sex abuse scandal of Rev. John Geoghan it had no idea that it had uncovered what would become the greatest scandal ever to rock the American Catholic Church. In August 2001 the *Globe* filed a legal motion to unseal the Geoghan papers that were so jealously protected by high-ranking church officials. What began as one article about one pedophile priest soon snowballed into the startling realization that the Boston archdiocese had knowingly transferred from parish to parish more than 70 pedophile priests over the last 50 years. The investigative efforts of the *Globe's* select staff, including Haverford alumnus Michael Paulson '86, laid bare hundreds of confidential memos, letters, and legal documents that incontrovertibly attest the culpability of the Catholic hierarchy in the pedophile priest-shuffling scandal. At the center of the scandal was Cardinal Bernard F. Law who wrote warm letters of thanks to priests like Geoghan while simultaneously paying out millions in hush money to keep victims silent. Law coddled and protected the pedophile priests, and showed only contempt and disdain for their victims and the victims' families.

*Betrayal* offers a chilling account of how pedophile priests gained access to the children they would molest. The Rev. John Geoghan became the most infamous example of predatory pedophiles who manipulated their proximity to children, and

the trust that their roman collars afforded them, to repeatedly molest the children of low-income, single mothers who naively welcomed the priests into their homes. Undoubtedly, these mothers believed that Geoghan would be the father figure that their sons lacked, and more he would instruct them in the ways of the Church. Geoghan's depravity knew no limits and he indeed instructed his young victims, requiring them to recite their prayers even as he molested them. Profiles of other priests similar to Geoghan, including Paul Shanley, Joseph Birmingham, and Ronald Paquin, reveal individual strategies that varied one from the other. The common denominator is the cold, calculated way these pedophile priests used their socio-religious status in the communities they served to violate the innocence of their victims.

Perhaps the most disturbing element of this crooked story is how bishops intimidated and threatened victims' families who confronted the hierarchy in an attempt to remove the pedophile offenders from their parishes. The Church's desire to avert scandal paved the way for repeat offenders to seek new prey in fresh parishes where unsuspecting parents couldn't protect their children from the predatory pastors. What's worse, because the victims' cases were settled privately out of court and sealed with legally binding hush money, the magnitude of the problem was kept under



Edited by Emma Jones Lapsansky and Anne A. Verplanck

*Quaker Aesthetics: Reflections on a Quaker Ethic in American Design and Consumption, 1720-1920* UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA PRESS, 2002

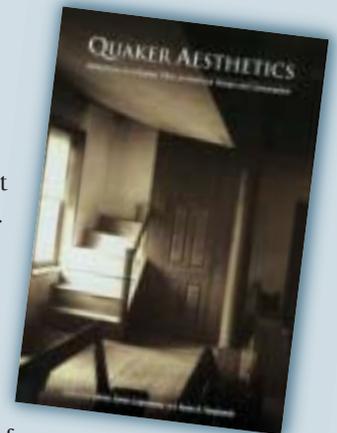
Long-time Haverfordians sometimes lament the absence on campus of such Quaker luminaries as Isaac Sharpless, Rufus Jones, and Douglas Steere, believing that exploration of Quaker concerns may be lacking without them. Yet, even a cursory look at *Quaker Aesthetics* shows that Quaker scholarship and dialogue are alive and well on our campus. Edited by Emma Lapsansky, professor of history and curator of the Special Collections at Haverford, and Anne Verplanck, curator of prints and paintings at Winterthur Museum and an associate professor in the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Early American Culture, this book examines the visual evidence for what might be called "Quaker material culture." As written in the preface: "The defining tension for Friends is how to live 'in the world but not of it,' and their relationship to both the creation and consumption of material goods is a dramatic manifestation of that tension." This book takes the original approach of looking for evidence of this tension in the writings, dress, furniture, houses, portraiture, meetinghouse architecture, and professions of Quakers in the Delaware Valley, predominantly during the

17th, 18th and 19th centuries.

Two introductory chapters set the context for this scholarship. Readers who are familiar with the claim by present-day Quakers that "you are likely to receive a different definition of Quakerism from every Friend you ask" will appreciate the difficulty of summarizing Quaker beliefs.

Undaunted, Emma Lapsansky finds in this dilemma a complexity and depth that makes the task irresistible. She allows that "Quakerism is steeped in a number of contradictory values: equality and separateness, intellectual preciousness and anti-intellectualism, an emphasis on excellence and a focus on humility, an appreciation for high-quality workmanship coupled with a ban on ostentation (p. 3)," and is curious to see how these play out in the lifestyles of the Quakers described later in the book.

In the second chapter, J. William Frost, professor of



wraps. That is until the watershed events of 2001 that brought the Church to its knees, as district attorneys all over the country demanded the immediate release of all Church documents pertaining to local priests who had been accused of pedophilia over the last 50 years. Many church officials, particularly Cardinal Egan of New York, resisted the legal demands of the state that chastised the Church for presuming itself above civil law designed to protect the most vulnerable citizens of American society.

At the end of the day, a crisis that had its epicenter in Boston had produced tremors all over the nation. Metropolitan areas such as New York, Los Angeles, Dallas-Fort Worth, and New Orleans soon began reporting similar incidents of Church cover-ups. The *Globe* estimated that more than 1,500 priests over the last 50 years have sexually abused tens of thousands of minors in America alone. What would happen to the Boston Archdiocese would be indicative of a larger trend throughout the United States, and even abroad.

Suddenly, after having dismissed the pedophile crisis as distinctly American, the Pope called for an emergency meeting of the American prelates in an attempt to reign in an increasingly agitated American Church. Many speculate that Law wanted to resign, but was forced to maintain his office by the Pope who feared the creation of a precedent that could be invoked to oust bishops in other dioceses across the U.S.

Shocked to the core by what can only be described as betrayal, the laity of the American Church rose in angry protest to the way the hierarchy, particularly the Vatican, was attempting to usurp the energy of the people by reaffirming the unmitigated

authority of the Roman Magisterium. Demanding reform, many Catholics insisted that the Vatican reconsider its stance on a range of issues from the gender-exclusivity and celibacy of the priesthood to the place of homosexuals in the Church. With the same desire for preserving power that led to the sex scandal, the Pope issued orders banning Catholics from coalescing to express dissent with the Church's teachings and pastoral methods. Harvard Medical School faculty, Dr. James E. Muller, started a group called Voice of the Faithful in Wellesley, Mass., which has gained force and spread to other areas of the country where educated Lay people sharply criticize the Vatican's culture of orthodoxy. In prosecuting inquisition against groups such as these, the Vatican has struggled to prevent a schism in a Church that is increasingly torn over the possibility of reform, and the manner in which it should be executed.

An undercurrent of dissent has characterized American Catholicism since measures were proposed during the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) that empowered the laity to participate more fully in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church. As the laity's responsibility for maintaining the Church increases due to the ever-diminishing number of religious, they will expect a greater role in governing the Church. *Betrayal* offers ammunition to those who counter the Church's arrogance of power, revealing how the hierarchy's culture of secrecy reversed the gospel imperative to uplift the weak and humble the mighty: A must-read for anyone who cares about the future of the Catholic Church in America.

—Jude Harmon '03

Quaker history and director of the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College, focuses on the writings of George Fox, William Penn, Robert Barclay, Rufus Jones, Amelia Gummere, and others to trace the evolution of "plainness" into "simplicity" in Quaker material culture. According to Frost, the commitment to plainness was a denial of popular social and religious practices in 17th century Britain and America, and included dressing without ornamentation, avoiding use of titles in speech, worshipping without music or programming, living thriftily, and abiding by the peace testimony. He argues that these practices enabled early Quakers to identify themselves to one another and to the broader society. Later Friends, fearing that the distinctiveness caused by these strictures was contrary to the spirit of their faith, advocated living by moderation and utility, i.e. simplicity. By the 20th century, a wider range of personal lifestyles had become acceptable.

With these thumbnail sketches of Quaker beliefs as a backdrop, the remaining nine chapters of *Quaker Aesthetics* are organized around three topics: Quakers as Consumers – reflected in the furnishings of Quaker households during the late 18th and early 19th centuries; Quakers as Producers – expressed broadly in the architecture of meetinghouses and residences and more narrowly in the ethical and practical struggles of artist

Edward Hicks; and Quakers and Modernity – a topic eclectically illustrated by trends in dress, the art exhibits of Sara Tyson Hallowell, and a comparison of present-day interpretations of 18th-century historic sites. The authors represent a broad, impressive range of affiliations with museums, educational, and historical institutions. Each chapter is sprinkled liberally with quotations from original sources and with plates which illustrate details of craftsmanship and style. In short, this book is a rich adventure in history, faith, and material culture.

*Quaker Aesthetics* will appeal to many members of the Haverford community. It provides a succinct summary of Quaker beliefs for the layperson. It highlights intriguing details about the lives and material culture of prominent Quakers in the Delaware Valley, many of whom have connections with Haverford College. It illustrates the wide range of practices and life choices that fall under the rubric of Quakerism. Finally, it gives us the tools to challenge and interpret our own choices in light of this history. Of course, that leaves me wondering...should I be wearing Quaker gray or Haverford scarlet and black? For further reflections on this and other more serious topics, I highly recommend *Quaker Aesthetics*!

—Louise M. Tritton

(Resident of 1 College Circle, and member of Haverford Friends Meeting)

## Dear Alumni and Friends:

I admit it—I am a newspaper junkie. When I am traveling, I buy the local paper, regardless of the locale. When I don't read a newspaper for a few days, I become disoriented and crabby. Whether it be the sports section, the obituary section, or the front page, I find myself constantly gravitating to newspapers. They are a source of information, inspiration, humor, and serve for me as a lifeline between my job and the world that surrounds us.

This love of newspapers is an old one. I recall reading *Newsday* backwards as a young boy; after all, the box scores were at least as important as the Watergate-related headlines. Today, I still read the paper backwards, only this time it is the op-ed section that is the first to be perused.

To no one's surprise, Haverfordians have immersed themselves in journalism. Our passionate interest in the world around us and our intellectual curiosity make us naturally suited to the profession. Journalists are recorders of history, but they are much

more. As they inquire and enquire, they have become conduits of knowledge, spokespersons, and have even been deemed "the fourth branch of government."

I am pleased and honored to have Haverfordian journalists as friends and colleagues, and am even more delighted that we have the opportunity to read articles by or about some of them in this issue. My first-year hallmate Kate Shatzkin '87, and my fellow Alumni Association member Chris Lee '89 are featured on pages 25 and 40, respectively. I first met Joe Quinlan '75 when I was a student on some panel; he graciously pulled me aside after a meal in the Dining Center, and we have been friends ever since. Juan Williams '76 is a gem of a human being, and has repeatedly spoken to my political science students. I recently bumped into a former student who told me that Juan's discussion of the media and politics was the highlight of his college career.



These individuals are but a few of the many Fords who have distinguished themselves, and who have provided outstanding copy in this issue of our alumni magazine. I hope that you enjoy, even if you are not reading the issue backwards! I remain,

Sincerely,

Robert M. Eisinger '87  
eisinger@lclark.edu

## Alumni Association Executive Committee

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**Karen Vargas '03**

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If you would like to nominate an alumnus/a for the Alumni Association Executive Committee, please contact the Alumni Office at (610) 896-1004.

# Tino's Greatest Hits

Jennifer Constantino '04 wants more than to be remembered as a great volleyball player and a great student-athlete; she wants a volleyball championship for Haverford.

**F**or Jennifer Constantino '04, volleyball is a way of life. But for the 5' 11" outside hitter from Ridley High in Folsom, Pa., there is more to life at Haverford than just volleyball. "I've never had to choose between doing things that I want to do. I've always had all my options there, and I've always been able to do whatever came across that I wanted to try. I can't really speak for other athletes, but for me personally, I've found a great balance here at Haverford." These are words from a student-athlete who has set the standard for balancing the rigors of a challenging academic workload with the responsibility of being a team leader on the court. Amy Bergin, in her first year as head coach of the volleyball team, echoed Jen's sentiments: "Most importantly, I believe that student-athletes get twice the education. Not only are they getting academic lessons in a classroom but they are also getting life lessons on the court/field. Competitive athletics teach one how to deal with pressures and competitors. They also learn how to push themselves to their limits, mentally and physically."

Constantino's commitment to a diversified college experience started well before she became a student at Haverford. With athletic scholarship offers from top volleyball schools such as Georgia Tech and academic interest from many others, Constantino had her options open. She came to Haverford because she saw it as a place where she would be able to expand her horizons in every direction. "[Haverford] was just somewhere where I could see myself being genuinely happy for the next four years, and getting a lot out of both academically and athletically."

Indeed Constantino, or "Tino," as she



Jennifer Constantino '04 is known as "Tino" on campus.

is known among teammates and friends, was very interested from an early age in the small-school atmosphere that Haverford provides. A story she likes to tell is of her first visit to a tri-co campus as a young girl. Her grandmother worked in the Swarthmore bursar's office, and Constantino and her family went to visit. Upon seeing the campus, Jen told her father that Swarthmore was where she wanted to go to college. Over a decade later the dream had not waned, and when it came time to choose colleges Constantino was left with a difficult choice. "When I went to choose schools, and it came down to the last moment, I was choosing between coming to Haverford or going to our close rival down the road, Swarthmore. When push came to shove, I went back and re-visited both schools, and I stayed with the volleyball team at Haverford one more time, and it just felt right here."

The choice to come to Haverford was a

big one for Jen, but it is one that she has not regretted. When she came in as a frosh, Tino, like many Haverford students, had perceptions of Haverford as a kind of Utopia. Three years later, she realizes that whereas that vision was not the case, it has done nothing to diminish the school in her eyes. "Even if things haven't always been perfect, I think people have always tried to make it as good as it can be, and I think that people are passionately involved here, and that means more to me than having a perfect 'Haverbubble.'" Jen has been able to mold her initial perceptions of the school into a pragmatic appreciation of Haverford.

This appreciation is due in large part to Constantino's excellence in academics and extra-curriculars. However, her athletic accomplishments have gained her fame both on and off campus. In just three seasons, she has become the Haverford leader in nearly every offensive statistical category, including kills, kills per game, attacks,

attack percentage, points, and points per game. Constantino led the Centennial Conference with 3.84 kills per game and .324 attack percentage in the 2002 season, giving her 1,348 for her career. She is one of only three players in Haverford history to record 1,000 kills in a career. During the 2002 campaign, Tino continued her success, leading the team offensively in attacks and kills. She is also the owner of the single-match records for kills with 35, which she set as a freshman. During that same year Constantino recorded 537 kills, a school record. Coach Bergin notes that Jen's offensive success is in her ability to understand the game, and the opponent's defense: "She notices many weaknesses of the opponent and tells her team. All this leads to defenses fearing her. She may not be the hardest hitter, but she is one of the smartest, quickest, and determined hitters on the court. But most of all she has a wonderful time playing."

She also understands the importance of defense, last season leading the Fords with 3.87 digs per game, while owning the Fords' record for digs in a match with 38, set this past season against Conference rival Gettysburg. Bergin again has high praises to sing about Constantino, this time in the defensive department. "An excellent defensive player is one who notices a play develop on the other side of the net. An excellent defensive player has excellent body control to receive hard hits as well as soft ones. An excellent defensive player knows the offense's tendencies and puts herself in the right position to receive the ball. Jen has acquired all of these. She may not be the quickest defensive player on the team but she reads offenses very well which gives her that edge."

And her achievements have not gone unrecognized. Constantino has been the recipient of many awards acknowledging her academic and athletic accomplishments. She was named to the First Team All-Centennial Conference in 2002 for the third time in her three-year career. Only two other players have ever been so named, indicating that Constantino's dominance is on a league-wide level. She has also been recognized as a top scholar-athlete, being named to the Conference Fall Academic Honor Roll. A political science and economics double major at Haverford, Constantino served as a summer intern to

U.S. House Representative Curt Weldon last summer after serving as a summer research assistant to Haverford professor Stephen McGovern in 2001.

In addition to Conference accolades for her athletic and academic achievements, Constantino was named to the 2002 Verizon College Division Academic All-District II Volleyball First Team. She has also been named to the AVCA All-Mid Atlantic Region team twice during her career, as well as being team MVP in her freshman and sophomore years. Jen also received the prestigious Archibald MacIntosh Award in 2001, awarded to the top scholar-athlete in the freshman class. Coach Bergin describes Constantino as "smart, patient, and feared," sentiments which are surely echoed by all defenses throughout the league.

While Constantino's statistics speak for her as one of the premier volleyball players in Haverford history, she has always been able to keep her own success in perspective. "It's an incredible honor to be on the list of people who have achieved 1,000 kills in their career, but I don't necessarily see it as a personal achievement, because for every kill that I had in the context of a game means that someone on my team had a perfect pass, and someone else set the ball to me. It was a team effort for everything." The sentiments reveal that Constantino's main goal while at Haverford goes far beyond the realm of individual statistics and accolades. Her goals lie with the success of the team, and the ultimate prize of becoming Centennial Conference Champions. Her words do not beat around the bush: "My goal has always been to win the league championship." These are goals which directly parallel those of Coach Bergin: "Each year, the program's goal is to win the Centennial Conference and have players named to the All-Conference team. This should lead to an NCAA berth with players on the All-American roster. Our immediate goals include the physical and mental aspects of the team, which will lay the foundation for the program. This program should be well-respected and feared. Over the long-term, we should be known nationwide for our academics as well as for our volleyball program. This program should be nationally ranked year in and year out – we really are on the verge of becoming one of the greatest Division III



*Constantino in action on the court.*

volleyball programs."

Tino and her teammates have all bought into that philosophy, and the volleyball program has achieved a level of success unparalleled in its history. The Fords compiled a 22-10 overall record in 2002, while going 8-2 in the league. In the past two seasons, they have beaten conference foes McDaniel, Gettysburg, and Franklin & Marshall for the first time in history. Tino is very optimistic about the prospects of the 2003 volleyball season. "We have a lot of very serious volleyball players, and we have a lot of very young talent, so I see all our goals becoming extremely reachable in the near future." The addition of Coach Amy Bergin to the program has helped position the Fords one step closer to their goal. The attitude on the team has changed, and the players and coaches are on the same page. "We have an understanding on the team; as long as they respect themselves, their teammates, and their coaches, everything should fall into place. With that said, we have achieved a common ground of commitment and dedication. I have high expectations of my team and they have high expectations of me. If we stay on this level, we will achieve all goals."

Constantino had positive things to say about the change at the helm: "We've really come together as a team, and I think we're all having a lot more fun playing volleyball this past season than we've had in

the past, and when you're having fun, when you're playing, you play with a passion, and as a team, and everything just seems to come together. We're in great shape; we're learning new things, and I think the coach and player are on the same page in terms of what they want to accomplish." Having goals is the first step to success, but the Fords have taken it one step further and acted on those goals. They have committed themselves to a strict strength and conditioning regimen, both during the season and now in the offseason. However, despite the physical pain, the player's commitment has been kept in perspective. Coach Bergin is clear on her expectations from her players, but also ensures that they are having a positive experience while performing: "The athletes are expected to give every ounce of energy, focus, and attention during practices and conditioning sessions both in and out of season when they are at practice . . . all this must be done because they want to and enjoy it . . . they play the sport because they love it and have fun in the process."

All of this dedication is a reason why the Haverford volleyball program was enticing to Constantino when she was looking at colleges. She saw that there was a lot of potential for the Fords' program, and that it was poised to make strides into

the future. "When I was a prospective student, I saw the talent that was already on the team, and got to talk to players on the team like Steph Frank and Alisha Scruggs, and saw where they thought the program was going. So, I think we have followed our goals pretty well, and looking back, I think we have followed where I thought we were going to, and I do see us winning a league championship and going to nationals, and I've seen that since the day I first walked in as a freshman."

It is safe to say that Constantino has had a huge impact on both the Haverford sports scene as well as on Haverford life since her matriculation here in 2000. She has given much of her time and energy as a student trainer in the athletic department, working closely with other student-athletes. Jen is also a very active member of the Haverford College Athletic Association Executive Board, and has represented Haverford at the Apple Conference, a conference on issues facing student-athletes, for the past two seasons. Jen has also been named a co-captain for the 2003 volleyball squad, along with Jelyn Meyer. Bergin praises Jen's leadership capabilities: "She has earned the respect from all teammates and coaches due to her dedication to bettering herself as an athlete and a person. Her non-stop hunger for learning more

about the game of volleyball shows that she has become one of the most knowledgeable players on the court which, in turn, forces her to become a better volleyball player. She is not a selfish athlete by any means. Once she understands one aspect of the sport, she shares it with her teammates. Having this respect and knowledge allows her to love the game even more, which brings out such a competitive attitude. This is a great attitude toward the sport, toward competition, and toward her teammates and her coaches. She's one of those players and the type of person you want around you; she is a ball of positive energy with a smiling face."

Over the years, Constantino has become a familiar face on the Haverford campus, both in the classroom and on the court. In both of these areas she has excelled, but Jen is the first to admit that it was a team effort. Perhaps she sums up her success best when she says; "It makes it easy to succeed when you know you have people who are willing to help you do it. ☺"

*In the rare moments that he's not playing Nintendo Mario Kart or working for the Haverford Athletic Department, junior English major Garrett McVaugh '04 of Hamilton, N.Y., plays varsity cricket, captains the College's golf and ice hockey clubs, and deconstructs literary criticism.*

### Jen Constantino '04 in the Haverford Volleyball Record Book - all records held or shared unless otherwise noted

#### KILLS

##### Match (5 games)

35 vs. N.C. Wesleyan at St. Mary's-Md.;  
Sept. 29, 2000

##### Match (4 games)

26 vs. Wellesley at Smith-Mass.;

Oct. 15, 2000

26 vs. Kings Point-USMMA;

Sept. 10, 2000

##### Match (3 games)

19 \* vs. Neumann; Oct. 20, 2001

\* 2nd to Jelyn Meyer '04; 21 vs.

Muhlenberg; Oct. 18, 2000

##### Season

537 2000 season (.307 attack pct.)

##### Career

1348 2000-02 seasons (.305 attack pct.)

#### KILLS PER GAME

##### Season

4.44 2000 season (121 games)

##### Career

4.11 2000-02 seasons (328 games)

#### ATTACK ATTEMPTS

##### Match (5 games)

81 vs. Johns Hopkins; Oct. 23, 2000  
(22 kills)

##### Match (4 games)

57 \* vs. Wellesley at Smith-Mass.;

Oct. 15, 2000 (26 kills)

\* 2nd to Jelyn Meyer '04; 60 at Smith-

Mass.; Oct. 14, 2000 (13 kills)

##### Match (3 games)

51 vs. Franklin & Marshall;

Oct. 11, 2000 (15 kills)

##### Season

1320 2000 season (537-132-1320)

##### Career

3414 \* 2000-02 seasons

(1348-306-3414)

\* 2nd to Kristyn Linger '00 (1017-659-3764) - 1996-99

#### ATTACK PERCENTAGE

##### Match (min. 15 attempts)

.632 \* at Washington College-Md.;

Sept. 28, 2002 (12-0-19)

\* tied with Jelyn Meyer '04; .632 vs.

Ursinus; Sept. 29, 2001 (13-1-19)

##### Career (kills-errors-attack attempts)

.305 2000-02 seasons (1348-306-3414) \*

\* 2nd to Steph Frank '03 (630-113-1685,

.307) - 1999-02

#### DIGS

##### Match (5 games)

38 vs. Gettysburg at Ursinus; Oct. 5, 2002

##### Match (4 games)

27 vs. Michigan-Dearborn;

Sept. 1, 2001 \*

\* 2nd to Steph Frank '03; 28 vs. West

Chester; Nov. 7, 2002

##### Match (3 games)

24 \* vs. Neumann; Sep. 10, 2000

\* tied with Kristyn Linger '00; 24 vs. Smith

at Swarthmore; Oct. 9, 1999

## Senior Class Challenge

Steve Schwartz, past parent and former Chair of the Parents' Fund, will donate \$10,000 to the Parents' Fund in honor of the Class of 2003 if the Class can surpass the standing record of 66% participation set by the Class of 2001. Parents and students are welcome to make a contribution online at <https://www.admin.haverford.edu/online-donations/donate.html>; for more information please contact Elaine Haupt, [ehaupt@haverford.edu](mailto:ehaupt@haverford.edu).

## Haverford on the Web

The Haverford website is a valuable resource for alumni. View photos of recent events in the Alumni Photo Gallery, register online for this year's Alumni Weekend, sign up for e-mail forwarding, update your address and contact information, obtain Career Development information, and see what your classmates are up to on your class's own webpage. Visit: [www.haverford.edu](http://www.haverford.edu) and click on "Alumni."

## Regional Societies

*Great things are happening in your area!*

"Welcome Freshmen" parties, informal alumni gatherings, visits from faculty, staff, and President Tritton, campaign celebrations, and much more! For complete information about these or any upcoming alumni events, visit the online Regional Events Calendar, accessible from: [www.haverford.edu](http://www.haverford.edu). Click on "Alumni," then "Regional Events." This calendar is updated frequently, so be sure to check back often.

Also, the Haverford Alumni Office recently has been visiting several key cities around the country (San Francisco, San Diego, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Albuquerque, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Charlotte) in an ongoing effort to recruit Regional Leaders to host future alumni events. Do you have an idea for a successful regional event? Are you interested in learning how to become a Regional Leader? Contact the Alumni Office at 610-896-1004 for details.

## LAMBDA List-serve

LAMBDA, the Alumni Association's network of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and interested alumni, has been maintaining an e-mail list-serve. To subscribe, send the following message to [listproc@haverford.edu](mailto:listproc@haverford.edu): subscribe lambda-alumni, your name, and class year. For more information about this and other LAMBDA activities, please contact the Alumni Office or Theo Posselt '94 at: [tposselt@dc.com](mailto:tposselt@dc.com).

## Alumni Weekend 2003

**May 30-June 1**

All alumni are invited to celebrate Alumni Weekend; classes ending in a "3" or "8" will officially reunite.

Highlights of the weekend include:

- All-Alumni Awards Ceremony
- Class Lectures and Discussions
- Scarlet Sages Breakfast
- Special Guest Speakers
- GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Luncheon
- Sporting/Recreational Activities
- Class Dinners and Social Gatherings
- And much more!

Detailed information will be mailed later this spring. Registration information will also be available online at: [www.haverford.edu](http://www.haverford.edu).

## AAEC's Class of 1998 Challenge

In an effort to encourage annual giving participation by the members of the Class of 1998 at the 5th Reunion (May 30-June 1, 2003), the Alumni Association Executive Committee promises to contribute at least \$50 for every member of the class who makes a gift to the Haverford Fund by June 30, 2003.

## John Whitehead '43 Challenges the Classes of 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002

John Whitehead will match any increased gift (any amount above last year's gifts) to the Haverford Fund made this fiscal year (July '02 – June '03). Our youngest alums are the key to raising total alumni participation. Thank you for your support.



# History... and Her Story

Emma Lapsansky is motivated by her love of the past, her present spirituality, and her goals for the future.

It seemed inevitable that Professor of History Emma Lapsansky would pursue her chosen field of study.

She has been intrigued by the past for as long as she can remember. As a child in Washington, D.C., her bedroom in her family's Victorian home had a fireplace bordered by blue delft tiles; she would look at the tiles and wonder about their origins. Her house was crammed with books of all kinds, tomes owned by her mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, each with their own secrets. Her mother shared her interest in architecture and historic costume with her children, and took them to Washington's many museums.

Lapsansky was also raised in a family with deep respect for its own history, and she thrived on stories of the women who came before her. There was a great-grandmother, Patience, who took immense pride in having put 10 of her 13 children through college (two died in infancy). One of Patience's daughters, an early feminist educated at Oberlin at the turn of the 20th century, went to great lengths to ensure that her personal physician treated her with respect. "She always paid him in cash so he would never know her first name and couldn't call her Jeannette," says Lapsansky, a self-described "gregarious recluse" whose words come swift and easy when relating such tales. "He would have to call her Mrs. Jenkins." One time, however, she fell ill and didn't have any cash handy, forcing her to pay with the dreaded check. "Thereafter, he started calling her Jeannette, and she immediately fired him—and told him

why." It didn't matter how he addressed his other patients, both male and female; she wanted to be called Mrs. Jenkins or nothing at all.

Her family's stories filled a void left empty by Lapsansky's classroom experiences. "I was raised in an African-American family," she says, "and I was always aware that when I opened a textbook, there was nothing in there about what I knew to be true. There was nothing about black poets, doctors, or lawyers." In college she endured mediocre-to-poor history teachers and thought, "It's got to be more interesting than this."

Now, as an academic, it is Lapsansky's job—and pleasure—to show just how interesting history can be. Her research branches off into myriad directions—family and community life, Philadelphia urban development, material culture, community planning, Quakerism, and American social history—but all are rooted in her fascination with the past. And all aspects of her work are imbued with her Quaker spirituality, which she owes, largely, to a grandfather's early influence.

"My grandfather was a very traditional, Drew University-educated, conservative kind of Methodist minister," she remembers. "When I was eight or nine, and becoming cognizant of religious things, he said to me, 'Let me tell you that heaven and earth are not places you go when you die. They are states of being you create by what you do here.' Only later did I realize that this is not what they were telling us in the Methodist church."



Emma Lapsansky, a faculty member since 1992.

Her attitude was also affected indirectly by her father, who, not wanting to raise his children entirely in the city, bought a farm to take the family every summer. She received much of her "spiritual energy" from the farm, witnessing the birthing of cows and pigs and the growing of crops from the earth.

"I lived a bifurcated existence," she laughs. "My mother put our Mary Janes on us and took us to museums, and my father took our shoes off us and took us to the farm." Years later she would complete her spiritual journey to Quakerism, sending her children to a Friends school and joining a local Meeting in Lansdowne, Pa., (as well as teaching at the oldest Quaker college in North America).

Following in the footsteps of one of her great-grandmother Patience's sons, Lapsansky entered the University of Pennsylvania in 1963, where, after a year off to join the civil rights movement in Mississippi, she received a bachelor's degree in American history in 1968, a master's in American civilization in 1969, and a Ph.D. in American civilization with a concentration in American social history and material culture in 1975. Her dissertation, an architectural and sociological study of an ethnically and racially diverse Philadelphia neighborhood as it transformed from a suburb into an urban community during the years 1752 and 1854, became her first book, *Neighborhoods in Transition: William Penn's Dream and Urban Reality* (Garland Press, 1994).

"I chose a street in Philadelphia, which

is now South Street but was then Cedar Street, that was a border between the city and the suburbs, and I talked about its transition from being at the edge of the city to being absorbed into the city,” says Lapsansky. “I wanted to see how it went from being green grass—my father’s world—to built environment, my mother’s world.” She lured that same mother into being a research assistant, and together the two pored over city directories, maps, newspapers, insurance surveys, and even the wills of some residents from the 18th and early 19th centuries.

The book reveals a distinct contrast between public opinion of the suburbs then and now. “At that time, the city was where you lived if you had the money and influence to do so, and the suburbs were where people escaped after they had committed some crime in the city,” says Lapsansky. “The city had no jurisdiction over them out there.” She also found that neighborhoods did not become segregated by race or class until the advent of effective public transportation: “It wasn’t until the 1880s and 90s that public transportation made an attractive suburb, where you could live in the country and still get to the city easily.”

While pursuing her doctorate, Lapsansky joined Temple University as an assistant, and then associate professor of history. She remained there until 1990, when Haverford came looking for her. Later, she would reflect that it was her fate to join the College: “Twice, in succession, I unknowingly bought houses built by prominent Quakers. About 15 years ago, long before I even thought much about Haverford College, I purchased a house built by descendants of Abraham Pennock, who matriculated at Haverford in 1843, and whose great-niece taught my daughter in second grade. That teacher is also the niece of the Roberts for whom Haverford’s Roberts Hall is named.

“Our little lives are all in the stars,” she smiles.

If her life was in the stars, then her decision to enter teaching was definitely in the blood. “My mother was an elementary school teacher, all her siblings were college professors—my mother’s sister taught at Atlanta University and knew W.E.B. DuBois,” she says. “The conversation at family gatherings revolved around class-

room anecdotes, and the excitement of bringing ideas alive for students at all levels. It seemed a good life; it still does.”

At Haverford, Lapsansky not only teaches but also curates the College’s Quaker Collection. Housed in Magill Library, it is one of the most extensive collections of Quaker history in the world. She oversees the care and maintenance of 40,000 books and several hundred thousand manuscripts, and helps meet the needs of the few thousand researchers from around the world who travel to Haverford each year to use the collection’s resources. The staff is currently involved in increasing the collection’s presence on the Internet. “We’ve just hired a two-year person,” she says, “whose job it is to set a prototype for how we scan and code letters to make them available and searchable on the Internet.”

**The goal of Friendship Co-op was to serve as a model living situation where a diverse blend of people created an environment of sharing and mutual support. Within the community many races and religions came together, gender roles were equitably defined, meals were shared, and resources were pooled.**



Her most recently published academic work is the book *Quaker Aesthetics: Reflections on a Quaker Ethic in American Design and Consumption, 1720-1920*, a compilation of essays she co-edited with Anne Verplanck, curator of prints and paintings at the Winterthur Museum in Delaware (see review, p. 6). Released by University of Pennsylvania Press in 2002, the book of 11 essays describes how Quakers have held to their belief in “plain living” while actively consuming fine material goods. “It’s a way of reopening a discussion that began in 1652 about what constitutes the outward way of being Quaker—what constitutes simplicity, sharing of resources, good stewardship, and the struggle that the Society of Friends has had over the last 200 years to define what they mean by that,” says Lapsansky. “There’s an essay by me, for example, where I talk about presentation of simplicity or plainness to a modern world.” Other essays discuss the dress, interior home designs, and architecture created or purchased by Quakers in the 18th, 19th, and early 20th centuries.

Her next accomplishment, due out from Penn State Press by the end of 2003, is *A View to Encourage Emigration: Benjamin Coates and Colonization, 1848-1880*, a study of 19th-century Quaker abolitionist Coates as told by more than 100 letters exchanged between him and prominent African-American and white abolitionists in the era of the Fugitive Slave Act and the Dred Scott decision. The letters, purchased for the Quaker Collection in 1999, were annotated by Haverford students trained in History 361, “Seminar in Historical Evidence,” which requires them to analyze documents from the College’s Special Collections.

“What the letters show are both the big ideas and the small people having the big ideas,” says Lapsansky, who introduces the letters with an essay putting their contents in the context of the African-American world. She describes Coates as “an interesting, complex fellow,” a peacemaker within the abolitionist movement and “the hub of a very complex wheel” that included abolitionists both white and black, conservative and radical, and Quaker and non-Quaker.

An ongoing book project for Lapsansky (“I’ve been working on this most of my life, it seems”) explores a 20th-century

## Emma Lapsansky currently teaches or has taught the following classes in history:

Quaker cooperative in the Powelton Village section of West Philadelphia, which thrived during the late '40s through the early '70s. Established by some staff members of the American Friends Service Committee, the Friendship Co-op was an "intentional community," a group of people who choose to live together under a common philosophy. The goal of Friendship was to serve as a model living situation where a diverse blend of people created an environment of sharing and mutual support. Within the

**Lapsansky still meets with local public school teachers to demonstrate innovative methods of using historical objects in their classrooms. And she delights in her dealings with her students, helping them write their papers and theses, recommending them for internships and graduate schools, and involving them in her research.**

community many races and religions came together, gender roles were equitably defined, meals were shared, and resources were pooled.

"They wanted to rehearse living in a multicultural community," says Lapsansky, who lived in Powelton Village during the last years of the Co-op and counts several former residents among her friends. "This wasn't easy in the 1940s, and they wondered how world peace could be achieved if diverse people could not live together. So they worked very hard to create a community of people from a variety of cultures and backgrounds, and to provide leadership equality for them all."

Lapsansky has so far interviewed about 40 former residents of Friendship, and most of these interviews were conducted during her extensive 1989 road trip through the United States, where she traveled 10,000 miles, pasted stickers from each state she visited on the back of her Subaru, and had her picture taken in South

Dakota at the geographical center of the country. She is passionate about travel, and her role as a historian has allowed her to spend at least one night in all 50 of the United States and in four continents. She's gone south of the equator in Kenya, and taken the train across America three times. She aims to visit the remaining continents (she needs to see South America and Australia, but doesn't mind missing Antarctica) and ride all 30,000 miles of passenger railroad track in North America.

But for now, she's content to simply travel from her home in Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, to her office at Haverford, where she writes essays and articles for such publications as *Pennsylvania: A History of the Commonwealth* (Penn State Press, 2002), the upcoming Historical Dictionary of America and Encyclopedia of Colonial America, and numerous scholarly journals. She continues to consult to local museums and historical societies. She may be interviewed again for historical series and documentaries, as she was for PBS' "Africans in America" and "Woman of Steel," the story of 19th-century Quaker industrialist Rebecca Lukens. She still meets with local public school teachers to demonstrate innovative methods of using historical objects in their classrooms. And she delights in her dealings with her students, helping them write their papers and theses, recommending them for internships and graduate schools, and involving them in her research.

On the home front, Lapsansky plans to be married in May to her companion of more than a decade, Dickson Werner, who is also a member of Lansdowne Meeting. She glows with pride when speaking of her children: Jordan, a gaffer in Los Angeles who's worked on such films as *Murder by Numbers*; Jeannette (Nette), a fourth-year medical student at the University of California, San Diego; and Charlotte, a program assistant at Breakthrough TV, an international non-profit that seeks, through popular media methods, to raise awareness for social justice causes. And she is deeply devoted to her extended family, attending frequent reunions and keeping a photographic journal that begins with her great-grandparents in the late 19th century. Emma Lapsansky may have a happy present, and anticipate a bright future, but a part of her will always be wedded to the rich mysteries of the past. ☺

### Colonial North America

Surveys the political, economic, and community aspects of North America, with an emphasis on the areas that became the United States and the varieties of peoples and cultures that helped shape the convergence of cultures

### History and Principles of Quakerism

Examines the development of Quakerism and its relationship to other religious movements and to political and social life, especially in America. Includes the roots of the Society of Friends in 17th-century Britain, and the expansion of Quaker influences among Third World populations, particularly the Native American, Hispanic, east African, and Asian populations.

### Topics in American History: The American West in Fact and Fiction (Spring 2002)

The American western "frontier" has caught the nation's imagination as myth and symbol, photograph and painting, costume and politics, definer and redefiner of gender and race, and technological challenge. Through individual and group readings, discussion and bibliographic exploration, the class pursues the elusive "truth" of the American western frontier.

### Seminar on Historical Evidence

Consideration of the nature and forms of historical evidence and of critical techniques for handling it; an essay interrogating/exploiting material and visual artifacts as evidence; and an essay involving a "professional" exercise in historical editing, to wit: fashioning a critical edition of a manuscript source.

### Lapsansky's publications include:

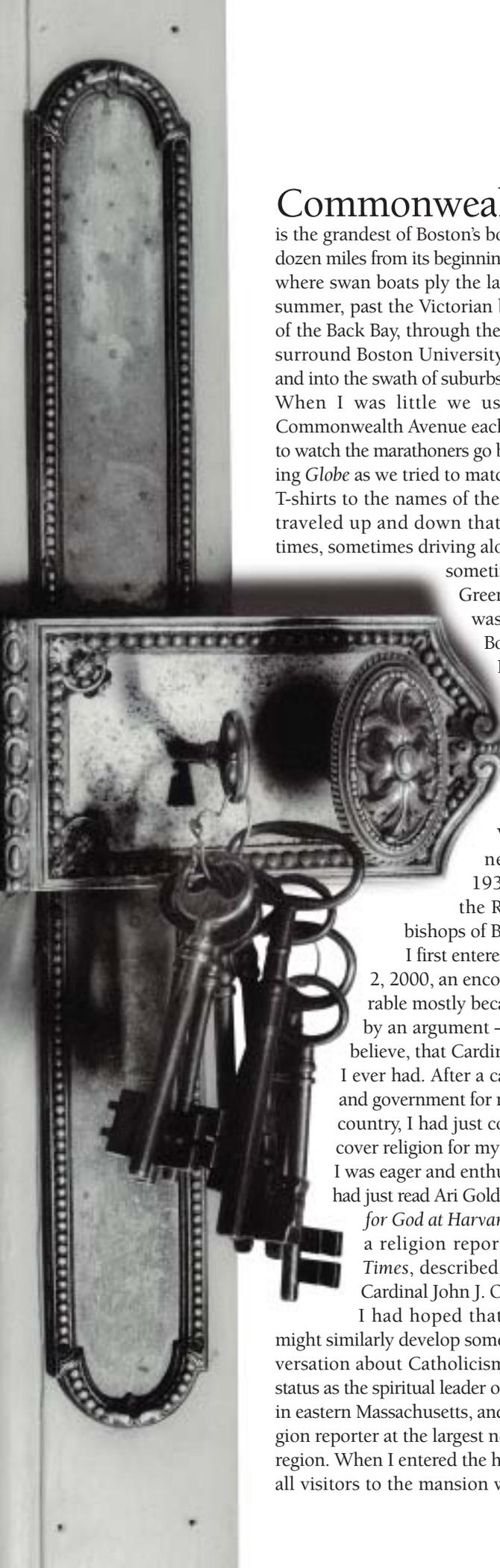
*Neighborhoods in Transition: William Penn's Dream and Urban Reality* (Garland Press, 1994); *Quaker Aesthetics: Reflections on a Quaker Ethic in American Design and Consumption, 1720-1920* (Co-editor; University of Pennsylvania Press, 2002); and *A View to Encourage Emigration: Benjamin Coates and Colonization, 1848-1880* (to be released in 2003).



How the *Boston Globe's* investigative team broke one of the most explosive stories of our time.

# Crusade for Truth

*by Michael Paulson '86*



## Commonwealth Avenue

is the grandest of Boston's boulevards, stretching a dozen miles from its beginning at the Public Garden, where swan boats ply the lagoon each spring and summer, past the Victorian brownstone mansions of the Back Bay, through the student enclaves that surround Boston University and Boston College, and into the swath of suburbs stretching to the west. When I was little we used to walk over to Commonwealth Avenue each year on Patriots' Day to watch the marathoners go by, clenching the morning *Globe* as we tried to match the numbers on the T-shirts to the names of the runners. I must have traveled up and down that avenue hundreds of times, sometimes driving along the carriage roads,

sometimes riding the rickety Green Line streetcars, but it wasn't until I returned to Boston as a reporter that

I ever noticed, on a rise above Comm. Ave., barely visible behind the shrubbery, the Italian Renaissance-style palazzo that Boston's first cardinal, William Henry O'Connell, had built in the 1930s as a residence for the Roman Catholic archbishops of Boston.

I first entered the mansion on Feb. 2, 2000, an encounter that was memorable mostly because it was dominated by an argument – the only argument, I believe, that Cardinal Bernard F. Law and I ever had. After a career covering politics and government for newspapers around the country, I had just come back to Boston to cover religion for my hometown paper, and I was eager and enthusiastic as I could be. I had just read Ari Goldman's book, *The Search for God at Harvard*, in which Goldman, a religion reporter for the *New York Times*, described his relationship with Cardinal John J. O'Connor of New York.

I had hoped that Cardinal Law and I might similarly develop some kind of ongoing conversation about Catholicism in Boston, given his status as the spiritual leader of two million Catholics in eastern Massachusetts, and mine as the lone religion reporter at the largest newspaper in that same region. When I entered the house, I was greeted, as all visitors to the mansion were, by the sight of a

red biretta on a silver tray – a visible reminder that a prince of the church was in residence. The cardinal and I sat at a grand mahogany table that has a plaque at the head, where Pope John Paul II sat during his visit to Boston in 1979. Staring down at us from the four walls were the portraits of all the preceding bishops of Boston, and the Virgin of Guadalupe, the patron saint of the Americas.

As our conversation began, I asked the cardinal a version of the open-ended question I had often asked high-ranking officials – senators, governors, and so on – when I started a new beat – “tell me how you think my newspaper has done covering you in the past.” Big mistake. Law, who had once famously called down “the power of God” on the *Globe*, snapped something like “I don't see why I should talk about that,” and then launched into a fond reminiscence of how nice it had been when he was a bishop in Missouri and the papers there had run explanatory features about Catholic holidays. Emboldened either by courage or some kind of naïve stupidity, I launched into an explanation of current trends in religion reporting – how I expected to write less about institutional matters and more about what academics called “lived religion,” about how faith and spirituality affected people's daily lives, but the cardinal sharply cut me off. “Who decides that's what readers want?” he asked. “Your elite editors?” Fortunately, we were interrupted by a phone call, and when the cardinal returned, we moved on to safer subjects.

But over the course of the next two years, the cardinal and I forged what I suspect was the best working relationship he had had with a local newspaper reporter.

Of course, I wrote plenty of stories he didn't like, and some of the folks around him repeatedly made it clear they didn't trust me, even chastising me for failing to refer to the cardinal as “His Eminence” in phone conversations and “Bernard Cardinal Law” in print. The first time I attended a meeting of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, the cardinal expressed disapproval when I appeared in the hotel lobby the night before the meeting wearing jeans. (The next year when I showed up, I had contracted laryngitis, meaning I couldn't ask any questions, which the cardinal found quite amusing, and, I have to admit, so did I.)

Law made it clear to me that he was uncomfortable with a variety of aspects of my job. At one point, when I asked him why he was so hard to get on the phone, he told me he didn't like to be quoted in stories where he was just one of many voices, espe-

cially if others were theologians, because those kinds of stories didn't acknowledge his special teaching authority as bishop.

But there were some remarkable moments, too. On Christmas Eve 2000, Cardinal Law actually stepped out of the procession at midnight Mass and leaned into my pew so he could whisper into my ear how much he had appreciated a lengthy and complex story I had written about the changing nature of confession.

**Law, who had once famously called down "the power of God" on the *Globe*, snapped something like "I don't see why I should talk about that," and then launched into a fond reminiscence of how nice it had been when he was a bishop in Missouri and the papers there had run explanatory features about Catholic holidays.**

And then, in the fall of 2001, Cardinal Law accepted my invitation to speak at the annual convention of the Religion Newswriters Association, which that year was meeting in Cambridge. After I introduced him, he went on at some length, in front of all my colleagues from around the country, about what a fair and thorough reporter I was.

A month later, in November of 2001, Cardinal Law picked up the phone and called me to tell me how much he had appreciated a piece I had written after an interview with him on the occasion of his 70th birthday. The cardinal had never phoned me on his own initiative before – in fact, although he had always been cordial and pledged accessibility, he had rarely returned my phone calls. But on that day he said he decided to call as a “friend,” a word that frequently signals trouble between reporters and the people they cover, and perhaps I should have seen that at the time.

I clearly remember the birthday interview because it was a Catholic feast day – All Saints Day – and the cardinal's house was unusually quiet because most of the staff had the day off. The cardinal and I had a long chat about his record, and about his hopes for the next five years, and I remember I asked him about his handling of sexually abusive priests, which I described in the next day's *Globe* as “the

most difficult issue of his tenure in Boston.” This is what Cardinal Law said to me then, in late 2001, about the issue of clergy sexual abuse: “The act is a terrible act, and the consequence is a terrible consequence, and there are a lot of folk who have suffered a great deal of pain and anguish. And that's a source of profound pain and anguish for me and should be for the whole church.” When I asked him about reinstating abusive priests, he said,

“Any time that I made a decision, it was based upon a judgment that with the treatment that had been afforded and with the ongoing treatment and counseling that would be provided, that this person would not be [a] harm to others.”

What Cardinal Law and I both knew throughout the fall of 2001, but never discussed, was that the *Globe's* Spotlight Team was quietly but aggressively pursuing an investigation into the contemporary and historic scope of sexual abuse by priests in the Archdiocese of Boston, and into the way that Law, his aides, and their predecessors had responded to allegations of abuse against those priests. We both knew that a legal tug-of-war between the *Globe* and the archdiocese over information about the church's handling of abusive priests was already underway. But neither of us had any idea that the stories that would result would set off a chain of events – revelation, revolt, and reform – that, in one grueling year would lead to the biggest crisis in the history of Catholicism in the U.S.

The *Globe's* investigation into clergy sexual abuse in Boston was sparked by a routine court filing that contained a startling admission: Bernard F. Law, the spiritual leader of the fourth largest diocese in America, the man who was arguably the pope's closest ally in the U.S. and who every day instructed two million

Massachusetts Catholics on sexual ethics and matters of morality, admitted that during his first year as archbishop of Boston he had given Rev. John J. Geoghan a new assignment, in suburban Weston, Mass., despite knowing that Geoghan had been accused of molesting seven boys.

Eileen McNamara, a *Globe* metro columnist, was intrigued. “Will Cardinal Bernard F. Law be allowed to continue to play duck and cover indefinitely?” she asked in one column. “Will no one require the head of the Archdiocese of Boston to explain how it was that the pastors, bishops, archbishops, and cardinal-archbishops who supervised Geoghan never confronted, or even suspected, his alleged exploitation of children in five different parishes across 28 years?” That column, which ran on July 22, 2001, was followed by another the next week, July 29, in which McNamara took on the confidentiality order protecting certain documents in the case. “The danger is that if the church settles before trial – projected to be at least six months away – depositions of members of the church hierarchy, including Law and his closest advisers, will never see the light of day. The result will be that men who could be responsible for the cover-up of criminal conduct will never be brought to account.”

Those columns piqued the interest of Martin Baron, who had been carefully reading the paper in anticipation of his new job, starting July 31, as the editor of the *Globe*. “Why did we need to settle for competing accounts of documents that were unavailable to us?” Baron asked. “Why shouldn't they be available to us? Shouldn't we explore challenging the confidentiality order that sealed all those documents?” Within days of Baron's arrival, the *Globe* called its lawyers, who began researching the prospects for getting the documents unsealed. And in August of 2001, the *Globe* filed a motion in court arguing that an “intense and legitimate public interest” in the sexual abuse controversy and Cardinal Law's “indisputable status as a public figure” should be enough to grant the paper access to discovery documents.

The archdiocese fought the *Globe's* motion as aggressively as it had fought every lawsuit by a plaintiff alleging clergy sex abuse. The church argued not only that the newspaper was not entitled to the doc-

uments, but also that the paper had no right to ask for them – that it had no standing in the case. The church also argued that giving the *Globe* access would violate the church's rights under the First Amendment, since its relationship with Father Geoghan was governed "by canon law and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church." And, the church argued that publication of articles based on these documents would deny it the right to a fair trial – that the *Globe* only wanted the documents so that "it can continue to generate further articles and editorials which are potentially prejudicial to the defendants." But in late November, after a three-month court battle, Massachusetts Superior Court Judge Constance Sweeney, a product of Catholic schools, ruled in the *Globe's* favor on every issue. She concluded that the paper should have had access to these documents in the first place, and that the paper had every right to ask for them now. And she dismissed the First Amendment arguments made by the church, saying that clerical status "does not automatically free them from the legal duties imposed on the rest of society or necessarily immunize them from civil violations of such duties." The church appealed Sweeney's ruling, but the *Globe* won again, and in late January of 2002, the Geoghan documents were released.

Well before the documents became public, the *Globe's* Spotlight Team had begun trying to determine whether the Geoghan case was an anomaly or an alarm bell. The team, including editor Walter V. Robinson and reporters Matt Carroll, Sacha Pfeiffer, and Michael Rezendes, uncovered an astonishing truth: more than 100 Boston priests had been accused of molesting minors over several decades. And the church's own documents, obtained by the paper through public court files, leaks, and ultimately court-ordered disclosures of formerly secret church records, made it clear that in many of those cases, the church's bishops had knowingly allowed abusive priests to remain in jobs with access to children.

The first Spotlight story was published on January 6, 2002, two weeks before the court documents were released, showing that the church had essentially ignored, for three decades, a mountain of evidence that Father Geoghan, a supervisor of altar boys and friend to single mothers, was a serial, recidivist pedophile. He had admitted

molesting children, and the church knew that. Some of his victims had complained to church officials, and the church knew that. At least one pastor complained, and the church knew and ignored that. The so-called treatment and evaluation of Geoghan was performed by two doctors, one a family physician with no experience or expertise in pedophilia, and the other a psychiatrist who also had no expertise in pedophilia and who himself had settled a lawsuit for allegedly abusing a female patient.

Another investigative reporter, Stephen Kurkjian, two project writers, Kevin Cullen and Thomas Farragher, and I joined the Spotlight reporters shortly after the story broke. Guided by two outstanding project editors, Ben Bradlee Jr. and Mark Morrow, we have written more than 900 newspaper stories, as well as a book, *Betrayal: The Crisis in the Catholic Church*, (see review, p.6) about the tragedy of clergy sexual abuse in Boston, around the nation, and in the world. Our basic findings, supplemented by the good work of many other reporters around the nation, are now familiar: over the last several decades more than 1,000 American priests groped, fondled, masturbated, and raped thousands of American minors, violating the law, their promises of celibacy, and the trust that so many Catholics had placed in their clergy. Equally troubling, their bosses, bishops who, according to Catholic teaching, are the direct successors to Jesus's apostles, repeatedly and knowingly allowed abusive priests to remain in jobs where they had access to children. My job, as religion reporter, was not to chase which priest abused which kid, or which bishop knew what when, but to explain what this all means about the past, present, and future of the world's largest religious denomination. The clergy sexual abuse scandal opened a Pandora's box of issues that had been percolating in the Church for decades – gender, sexuality, power, and authority – and those are issues I expect to be writing about for as long as I'm on this beat.

Over the course of the last year, hundreds of victims have come forward to tell their stories, to their families, to counselors, to the news media, and to lawyers. The resulting litigation has forced the Boston archdiocese to release thousands of pages of files, showing that over and over again,

bishops chose to protect priests even after horrific allegations were made against them. One priest had seemed to defend incest and bestiality. Another was allegedly drunk when he fell asleep behind the wheel and caused a car accident, killing a 16-year-old boy he had allegedly molested a few hours earlier. One priest had been accused of terrorizing and beating his housekeeper, another of trading cocaine for sex, and a third of enticing young girls by claiming to be "the second coming of Christ." Those priests kept their jobs for years, and in many cases, when they ultimately retired or were forced out, they were sent sympathetic or laudatory notes from Law.

These revelations have led to unprecedented criticism of the church by laypeople and clergy. A new national lay group, Voice of the Faithful, formed in Boston to press for structural change in the church. Local priests organized for the first time, forming the Boston Priests Forum, and the decision in December by 58 local priests to call for Law to quit drew attention around the world.

The results are still unfolding, but have already been dramatic. Massachusetts and other states changed their statutes to require that clergy report allegations of sexual abuse to law enforcement or social service agencies. The Vatican approved new church law for the U.S. requiring the removal from ministry of all abusive priests. The Archdiocese of Boston began training thousands of schoolchildren to resist and report inappropriate touching, and also began training church employees and volunteers to respond to suspected abuse. Numerous priests and bishops, including Law, resigned or were ousted for their roles in the scandal. At least 10 grand juries around the nation launched investigations. And a church-appointed commission, headed by former Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, has begun a wide-ranging examination of the scope and causes of the sexual abuse of minors by Catholic priests.

Haverford, I've often thought, made me a journalist, or at least allowed me to fumble my way toward a career in journalism in a way that would have been much more difficult at a larger university, where student newspapers seem to require a certainty of ambition that I simply didn't possess at the age of 17, when I arrived at

college, wearing braces, not really needing to shave, and thinking that I would grow up to become a scientist. I spent about half my years at Haverford preparing for a career as a research biologist, and the other half studying to be a doctor. But somewhere in the back of my head I must have known neither profession was really my calling – I had neither the talent nor the affinity for research science once it got more complicated than the color separa-

son, Andy, a former *Bi-College News* editor who had died in 1981 at the age of 28. Leonard Silk helped in several ways, but most important was simply by introducing those of us who were at Haverford in the mid-'80s to two *Philadelphia Inquirer* reporters, Jane Eisner and Bill Marimow, who were mentors the likes of which I had never seen – they offered advice when we didn't know how to handle a story and career counseling when we didn't know

have never been involved with a story that has resonated so deeply, so immediately, and so persistently with readers. Nearly three-quarters of metropolitan Boston is at least nominally Catholic, and the church has long been one of the most influential institutions in the state. But from the moment of publication of that very first story about Father Geoghan, our readers have let loose with fury, sadness, and pain. Everywhere I go, people want to talk about this story, regardless of their religion, their age, or their newspaper-reading habits. They call, and write, and, some even show up at our offices. But mostly they e-mail. I've received thousands of e-mails from readers all over the world, many of them quite emotional, filled with personal stories of anger and betrayal, of hurt and hope. Some readers have become regular correspondents – often I don't even know their names, but every few days or weeks, they send me a note to tell me they're following my stories on the Internet, and want to share their thoughts. Some are quite vitriolic, others very kind, and many express passionately held beliefs about faith, leadership, morality, sexuality, and spirituality.

There seems to be something about the ease and impersonality of cybercommunication that facilitates a kind of reductionist, and often hostile, use of language. My e-mail address runs at the bottom of my stories, giving readers ready access to my computer, and forcing me to develop a much thicker skin. The majority of my correspondents have praised the *Globe* for its work, sometimes in extraordinarily generous terms. But a vocal minority frequently objects, either to individual stories, turns of phrase, or to the reportage as a whole. Some readers seem to view printed discussion of certain controversies – such as the role of women in the church – as evidence of bigotry, and the *Globe's* sustained coverage of sex abuse is viewed by them as a form of ideologically driven persecution. I received e-mail messages that were filled with invective – “Go fuck yourself, bigot,” is a prime example – as well as some that were cleverer. One correspondent put in the subject line of his e-mail: “You're either a Anti-Catholic bigot or an idiot...” and then in the text box he declared, “. . . and given that you work for the *Globe*, there's a very good chance you're both.”

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tion of high school chromatography, and the closer I got to medical school the less I wanted to go. I don't remember getting much guidance from Haverford officialdom – I seem to recall that the career planning office had proudly purchased a fancy computer program that inexplicably advised me and several of my friends to become podiatrists. But at some point I woke up and noticed that, despite majoring in biology, I was choosing to spend much of my time and energy on the *Bi-College News*. It was as much of a sign as I was going to get.

I credit a few professors with helping me find my way. Hortense Spillers, a Haverford English professor who drew me into her classroom because of our shared passion for Faulkner, forced me to develop focus and speed by demanding frequent but very short argumentative papers. Bob Washington, a Bryn Mawr sociologist, infected me with his enthusiasm for observing and thinking about trends in human society. But mostly I benefited from the encouragement of the two editors who preceded me at the helm of the *Bi-College News*, Caroline Nason, Bryn Mawr '84, who fostered my love for the craft of newspaper writing, and Penny Chang, Bryn Mawr '85, whose reporting zeal and courage I am still trying to emulate. I was also fortunate to be a Haverford undergrad when Leonard Silk, a *New York Times* economics columnist, chose to start investing in Haverford journalists as a tribute to his

how to find a job. And they modeled a level of professionalism and passion that made this career seem not only possible but also desirable.

I graduated with a bachelor of arts in biology, but immediately set about trying to find a job in newspapers. For five years, I covered local government and regional issues for the *Patriot Ledger*, in Quincy, Mass., starting out with the assignment of writing at least one story a day about a town with one traffic light and the world's largest cranberry bog. Then I went to South Texas, covering presidential and local politics for the *San Antonio Light* for 15 months before losing my job when that newspaper closed. For seven years, I reported for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, covering city hall, state government in Olympia, and the federal government in Washington, D.C. But always I wanted to come back to Boston to work for my hometown paper, and when a friend at the paper called to say the religion job was open and to suggest it might be a good fit for me, I jumped at the opportunity.

In nearly 17 years since I graduated from Haverford, I've covered a lot of dramatic and important stories – a white man who set off a furor in Boston by falsely blaming a black man for the murder of his pregnant wife, a sexual harassment allegation that brought down a governor in Washington state, the impeachment of Bill Clinton and the trial of Microsoft. But I

Perhaps the most sensitive issue for readers seems to be the question of whether homosexuality played a role in this crisis. The *Globe* has several times reported that the preponderance of victims who have come forward are adolescent boys, and that most experts believe there is a higher percentage of gay men in the priesthood than in the general population. But we have also reported that experts agree that there is no link between homosexuality and child abuse. The e-mail on this subject can be quite tough. "Why don't you tell the truth – that the sex scandal in the church is homosexual behavior by gay priests," one reader asked me. "You are a captive of the gay rights lobby like the rest of the politically correct *Globe*." The Catholic Church teaches that homosexuality is "objectively disordered," and a significant fraction of the e-mail I receive seems to reflect the impact of such teaching. A California man wrote me to express concern about his own parish priest, saying, "We have an openly gay, or fruit, call them what you will. I will not let my 11-year-old son alone with him for 5 seconds... I see no reason... to take a chance. I have faith in God – the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost – but not in my parish priest." On the other hand, the editor of a gay travel magazine has been writing me, questioning the basis for a portion of the crisis. "Why are 'abuse' and 'molestation' bandied about to describe mutually desired activity?" he asks. "Sex puritans have trouble admitting that adolescents can want and pursue sex – they need not be 'molested' or 'abused' in order to have sex." I never know quite how to respond to these sentiments, but mostly I do so through my work, by trying to use a heightened awareness of the extraordinarily broad range of views of the church's plight to remind me always to be fair and even-handed.

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The last time I saw Cardinal Law was Dec. 16, three days after he stepped down as archbishop of Boston. I was seated, along with a handful of other reporters, at another grand conference table in Brighton, this one at a church library just down the hill from the mansion. The cardinal, standing beneath a crucifix in an otherwise unadorned room, stunned the gathered news media by declaring, before launching into his prepared remarks, "I take this

opportunity, too, to thank you for your courtesy during these years." The comment was so unexpected, and the roar of camera shutters so loud, that there was actually a debate over what he said, and to this day some reporters insist the cardinal said "thank you for your criticism."

The *Globe* itself has been criticized, in a variety of ways, over the course of this extraordinary story. Just a few days after the first story broke, a priest who worked as an aide to Cardinal Law e-mailed me to object to the amount of space – four pages – that the *Globe* had devoted to reporting on a key set of documents released by the court. "This is incredibly heavy-handed and out of proportion to the coverage that this story deserves," the priest wrote. We did not agree – and neither did our readers, who, when polled on the question, said they found the amount of coverage to be about right.

A year later, a small group of victims complained that we paid too little attention to women victims, and declared, in a statement I still find difficult to comprehend, that "hostility toward survivors has been the most consistent feature of (the *Globe's*) coverage since the scandal broke." Our coverage did focus on male victims, but not exclusively so, and our focus was guided by the reality that every scholar and lawyer we interviewed, as well as our own reporting, found that the vast majority of known victims are male.

In the world of media criticism, Peter Steinfels, a former religion reporter for the *New York Times*, was nearly alone in his persistent critique of the sex-abuse story in general and the *Globe's* coverage in particular. He began in February 2002 with a column in the *New York Times* in which he seemed to defend the church, writing "By and large, Cardinal Law seems to have succeeded" in removing abusive priests from ministry after adopting a new policy in 1993. But that argument quickly crumbled – within months of Steinfels' column, Law, under immense public pressure, had ousted 27 priests who were still serving in 2002, despite facing allegations of abuse. (Three have since been restored to duty after the church decided the accusations were not credible.)

In April, Steinfels wrote in *Commonweal*, a Catholic magazine, that "Horrid facts have been mixed with half-truths, half

understood," and then in September, he reiterated his concerns in *The Tablet*, a British Catholic journal, writing, "After months of media blitz most Americans, including normally well-informed Catholics, have a similarly skewed, or at least very imprecise, understanding of the clerical sex scandal which erupted in January – not of the terrible nature of the misconduct itself but of its exact scope, the time frame when it largely occurred, the legal issues involved, and the record of how different bishops handled it at different times." I have no idea how Steinfels could know what most Americans think – I have not seen polling on this question – but his criticism echoed that offered by Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, who declared in June, "During these last months, the image of the Catholic hierarchy in this country has been distorted to an extent which I would not have thought possible six months ago." Our response is simple: our coverage has been fair and complete. If bishops have been damaged by the crisis, which they certainly have, that damage is self-inflicted. We have been quite clear that much of the reported abuse took place in the 1970s and 1980s, and we have discussed how bishops responded, or failed to respond, in great detail. And, we believe, the results of our reportage speaks for itself: the bishops themselves have acknowledged by their actions that until the *Globe* started writing about this issue, more than 400 priests who were alleged abusers were still working in parishes in the U.S.; that the church had no national policy for preventing or responding to the sexual abuse of minors; that bishops routinely declined to report alleged abusers to law enforcement; and that secrecy was often a higher priority than safety.

A few critics have gone to amazing rhetorical lengths in their desire to criticize our work. Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga of Honduras, who is considered a possible successor to Pope John Paul II, accused the *Globe* and other American papers of "persecution of the church," telling an Italian monthly in June that the U.S. media had behaved with "a fury which reminds me of the times of Diocletian and Nero and, more recently, Stalin and Hitler." And Mary Ann Glendon, a Harvard Law School professor with close ties to Cardinal

Law and John Paul II, delivered to several audiences around the world a speech in which she denounced the *Globe* for “creating a climate of hysteria.” In a version delivered in Rome last November, she declared, “All I can say is that if fairness and accuracy have anything to do with it, awarding the Pulitzer Prize to the *Boston Globe* would be like giving the Nobel Peace Prize to Osama bin Laden.”

It’s an opportune moment for us to address the issue, and it’s a grace and an aid as we look to the future.” And Pope John Paul II made a similar point last April, declaring, “We must be confident that this time of trial will bring a purification of the entire Catholic community, a purification that is urgently needed (if the Church is to preach more effectively the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all its liberating force).”

to snack on pretzels, rather than the Dove bars supplied to those reporters who hadn’t incurred the bishops’ wrath.

Later that day, the *Globe*, along with each of the other six Boston news organizations that had sent crews to Dallas, was offered a five-minute interview with Cardinal Law – the first time he and I would exchange more than a greeting since our phone conversation just after his birthday seven months earlier. We met in an office suite at the Fairmont Hotel, and I spent my five minutes asking about his plans – he insisted he would not resign – and his thoughts about what had gone wrong. At the end of our brief conversation, as I rose to leave, the cardinal seemed to want to talk some more. He asked me to tell him what I knew about a deadly car bombing that day outside a U.S. consulate in Karachi; he had spent that day in meetings and hadn’t had time to watch the news. And, then, as I turned to go, he said to me, “Michael, I wish we were back in Israel together.” A kind wish for a more peaceful time, perhaps, when he and I could talk about anything other than clergy sexual abuse. But an odd wish, too. The Middle East was in the middle of its own violent crisis, not exactly a place for a peaceful retreat, even for an embattled archbishop. And stranger still is that it was a mistaken memory: Cardinal Law had been accompanied to the Holy Land by a *Globe* reporter years before, but it wasn’t me. In the end, for Cardinal Law and me, there would be no peaceful journey. ☪

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*Michael Paulson '86, the religion reporter for the Boston Globe, can be reached at mpaulson@globe.com. He is a member of a team of Globe reporters that has written more than 900 stories on clergy sexual abuse since January 2002 and that co-authored Betrayal: The Crisis in the Catholic Church, (Little, Brown & Co.) which was published in hardcover in June 2002 and in paperback in March 2003. Paulson and his colleagues have been honored for their work with the Associated Press Managing Editors' Freedom of Information Award, the Goldsmith Prize for investigative reporting, the George Polk Award for national reporting, the Selden Ring Award for investigative reporting, the Worth Bingham Award for investigative reporting, and The New York Times Company's Punch Sulzberger Award.*

**As I turned to go, he said to me, "Michael, I wish we were back in Israel together." A kind wish for a more peaceful time, perhaps, when he and I could talk about anything other than clergy sexual abuse. But an odd wish, too. The Middle East was in the middle of its own violent crisis, not exactly a place for a peaceful retreat, even for an embattled archbishop.**

Comparisons to Hitler and bin Laden hardly seem to dignify a response, except for the fact that they come from a top cardinal and a Harvard law school professor. Perhaps Rodriguez and Glendon should consider the words of Rev. Andrew Greeley, who in June wrote in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, “No one in the media donned a clerical collar and abused a child or a minor. No one in the media reassigned a habitual child abuser. In fact, if the *Boston Globe* had not told the story of the church’s horrific failures in Boston, the abuse would have gone right on. There would have been no crisis, no demand from the laity that the church cut out this cancer of irresponsibility, corruption and sin, and no charter for the protection of children. The *Globe* did the church an enormous favor.”

Some church officials seem to agree, although the sincerity of their remarks is up for debate. Bishop William S. Skylstad of Spokane, the vice president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, told me, “A boil has been lanced, and I do feel strongly that this is a time of grace for us, as painful and difficult as this moment is. The fact is that the pain and the hurt were there, under the surface, for those who have been carrying around this for years, and opening this up helps us to minister to that situation as best we can, and begin the process of healing and reconciliation.

My relationship with top church officials, which I had worked hard to build, has unquestionably been damaged by this story. In all sorts of ways, church officials have tried to stymie the *Globe*’s reporting, through direct obstruction, such as resisting the release of court documents, and through criticism, suggesting that the story is overblown. In June, just before the bishops were to meet, the bishops’ conference invited numerous religion reporters to a briefing about their draft plan, but the conference decided not to invite the *Globe*, claiming there wasn’t space in the room for us. After I complained, they offered to let me listen by speakerphone, but that wasn’t enough for us, so we decided to ignore the briefing, found someone who agreed to leak us a copy of the document, and ran a story in the paper the day the briefing was to be held. The bishops conference was livid and promised to punish the *Globe* – a spokesman declared in an e-mail to me “the *Globe* shows a complete lack of accommodation...which will have to be factored into our future dealings.” So when the bishops met in Dallas, I was barred from the room in which the bishops sat. I was able to watch on closed-circuit TV. Some of my colleagues were generous enough to help me get the documents and description I was denied, so my only real punishment was that I had

# Taking the Lead in L.A. by Joe Quinlan '75



John Carroll '63 has brought egalitarian leadership and editorial acumen to the *Los Angeles Times*.

## And it's working.

He may run America's largest metropolitan daily newspaper. He may chair the selection committee for the Pulitzer Prizes. He may even be the most admired newspaper editor in the country, at least by his peers.

But he doesn't throw Oscar Night parties. Or have PR agents book him on Charlie Rose or "Nightline." Or write big books on the side, at least not yet.

Try to Google him and you'll find the pickings thin. Perhaps no surprise, since he's spent most of his four-decade career in putting out daily papers in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Lexington, Ky.

His biggest fans, in fact, are his own reporters and editors—all of whom invariably underscore the same attributes: his dedication to journalism, especially the daily sort that still gets delivered to your doorstep.

Meet John Carroll '63, editor of the once-venerable journalistic cash machine known as the *Los Angeles Times*. It's a job he took less than three years ago, when the paper was in crisis and when many in the news business, smitten with dot-com fever, had already written off big city papers.

Since he speaks so rarely and so reluctantly about himself and his career, let's let him explain how he wound up in Southern California...

"Back early in 2000, I was ready to leave the *Sun* after 10 years. And I was close to accepting an offer from Harvard to run the Nieman fellowship program for journalists.

"We'd even done some house hunting up in Cambridge, and I was working on the outline for a book.

"At the last minute, I got a call from a member

of the search committee, who was also a senior executive for the Tribune Company, which was buying Times Mirror, which in turn owned both the *Sun* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

"He asked me to put Harvard on hold and consider the *Times* job."

So, the book idea went back in the drawer and Carroll shipped west, knowing full well the challenge he faced.

The *Los Angeles Times* was wrestling with a circulation and pricing issues, a controversial incursion by advertising types to its news side and a perception that meaningful local coverage was less than a priority. It was a turnaround challenge of the first order. Add internal political struggles—former publisher and founding family member Otis Chandler openly criticized *Times* management—and it was clear the paper would be no easy fix.

"People warned me," says Carroll, "it's a battleship that will take a decade to turn around. The bureaucracy will kill you."

His soft voice drops down even lower... "I think we've proven them wrong."

Carroll points to tough decisions and management changes—10 of the 14 names on the paper's masthead have changed in little more than two years. Departments are not only talking together—they're working together.

"From day one, John was out in the newsroom, proving by his actions that he was what we needed... what we craved... a real journalist," says Richard Lee Colvin, former *Times* education writer who now directs the Hechinger Institute at Teachers College,

Columbia University.

“He was down in the cafeteria the first week, sitting with a real mix of people and listening to what they had to say. It wasn’t like some politician popping in for a photo op.”

“It may not be a revolution, but it’s the kind of shift that actually works best for this type of organization,” Carroll reflects on his work in Los Angeles. “And our readers seem to be noticing the improvement as well, and that’s the real test.”

Simply put, Carroll’s improvements have made the paper more readable—and more relevant to Southern California. Always lauded for foreign and national coverage, the *Times* sometimes paid scant attention to local crime, metropolitan and regional news. Under its new editor, the paper’s Metro section explored Southern California with new commitment, resources and smart writing. A fading lifestyle section was killed. And trenchant Steve Lopez, a former *Time* magazine and *Philadelphia Inquirer* writer, was hired as lead columnist. With Carroll in charge, the *Times* simply seemed more connected to Los Angeles.

And to its staff as well. As Colvin remembers, “Years ago, top editors liked to keep their distance from the troops. They especially liked their private dining rooms. Well, John Carroll did something that nobody had ever thought of—he made the private rooms available to any reporter who thought they might need to impress a source. It may sound like a small thing, but it made a *huge* impression on the reporting staff. He’s a true *small d* democrat. And it’s something that comes through almost effortlessly.”

“John Carroll cares about things that are important—things like schools and equality and how government deals with these issues,” says Chris Lee ’89 a *Washington Post* newsman who interned for the editor in Lexington. “He wanted his paper to be fair, but also not to be afraid of covering tough issues in detail, even if it ruffled feathers and even if embarrassed some politicians who could cause trouble.”

The Carroll commitment to tough issues was on full view at the *Lexington Herald* in the mid ’80s. The paper revealed a scandal-plagued University of Kentucky basketball program; its reporters and editors defied death threats—even a shot fired

into the pressroom and a bomb scare—to support the investigation. The *Herald* won a Pulitzer Prize for reporting. University reforms were put in place. And Carroll collected enough material for the book he still intends to write.

Of his own battle of Lexington, Carroll recalls, “They don’t have to like you. But they do have to pay attention and read you if you’re going to be a success.

“To our pleasant surprise, we actually sold more papers than ever during the periods of controversy.”

And though blamed for Kentucky basketball being placed on probation, Carroll was actually welcomed back last year and inducted into the state’s journalism hall of fame.

“It’s been wonderful and amazing to track John’s professional growth over the years,” observes Loren Ghiglione ’63, current dean of Northwestern’s Medill School of Journalism—and legendary *Haverford News* editor four decades ago.

“For a long time, he was a sort of strong, but quiet leader at mid-sized papers, but now he’s got a much larger stage, both with the *Times* and the Pulitzer Committee. He’s right in the middle of all the forces that are impacting newspapers—the economy and technology and diversity and war coverage—you name it. I can’t think of a better person to be in that position—to set an example for all of us.”

Perhaps the most crucial example for Carroll to set is how a savvy manager transitions from running established eastern papers to supervising coverage for the radically diverse city that is Los Angeles. For to grow his newspaper, the editor must make inroads to new arrivals and those who don’t traditionally see the *Times* as part of their L.A. experience.

Says Carroll: “Here in Southern California, we’re really on the leading edge of the changing face of America and Americans. There are incredibly large numbers of emigrants from all over the world here. We’ve got well over 100 languages spoken. You can drive down the freeway and listen on your radio to Lakers games—in Farsi.”

Accordingly, Carroll looks toward a newsroom that someday reflects the diversity he sees on the streets of Los Angeles. The *Times* already has accomplished much

in terms of minority hiring; Carroll notes that, “Every editorial employee except me works for an African-American because both the managing editor and editorial page editor are black.”

Placing Latinos is more problematic, Carroll says, explaining that “Hispanic promotion and hiring are about 20 years behind where they should be.” And though the *Times* persists in outreach at schools and colleges, it’s Carroll’s view that a generation will pass “before substantial progress is made.”

Carroll traces his own social interests and concerns back to student days at Haverford. Though the son of a prominent newsman, he was not active in student journalism like classmate Ghiglione.

“Haverford made a huge impression on me—even more than I knew at the time,” he says. I remember when I was in high school and, through a friend, meeting Bill Cadbury, who was a professor and later dean at the College. He made a big and very positive impression on me, but it wasn’t easy for me to get admitted. Frankly, I wasn’t the greatest student. And while I can’t say I was the last member of my class admitted, I was on the waiting list for a very long time.

“My experiences at Haverford have served me well, both personally and professionally. And it wasn’t just the academics. It was, more than anything, learning to make a distinction between societal rights and wrongs. That’s what Haverford instilled in me more than anything else.

“I think the same thing happened when my daughter (Kathleen ’89) was a student, and it seems to still be the case today.”

After graduating, Carroll was hired as a cub reporter for the *Providence (R.I.) Journal*, but within a year, he began a two-year stint in the Army.

“Sometimes I think I would have been better off if I had been in the Army earlier and then come back to college to finish up. I think I was too young to appreciate all that I had while I was in college, and I think I was a little too old after I graduated to take the drill sergeant seriously.”

Discharged in 1966, the *Baltimore Sun* hired him the young reporter, eventually sending Carroll to the Middle East and then to the White House during Richard Nixon’s first term.

Though first, he had a war to cover.

"I got to Vietnam at the end of 1967, when the war was still going full steam. It was totally different from today, where reporters are herded into briefing rooms and shown videotapes.

"Back then, reporters went directly into combat—we traveled with the troops pretty much everywhere—in helicopters and on planes and on the ground. That's the way it was done.

"And my experience was that the troops in the field were always glad to see us, to share their stories—even if the generals back in Saigon were less than thrilled with the media."

Considering Pentagon media management circa 2003, Carroll speaks tersely: "They can control the flow a news in short war," he said. "But I don't think the public will stand for such sanitized information for very long."

In 1972, Carroll made what was perhaps his biggest career move, giving up the lone wolf, star reporter life to become an editor, joining the *Inquirer* and trading coverage of Nixon for a Nixon favorite, Frank Rizzo.

"Anyone who moves inside gives up something. When you're a newspaper reporter, there's that rush you get when you pick up the paper and see your name and your words; the rewards are both immediate and concrete.

"As an editor—and this is at any level—the rewards are both indirect and incremental. Other than getting out the paper itself, I like knowing that I have a hand in the career development of my staff. But it's not something you can tote up at the end of the day or even a month. It's a bit like being a teacher, I guess."

A lingering irony in Carroll's newsroom career is that his management titles—currently Executive Vice President and Editor—may sound more bottom line than journalistic.

Said one media critic recently: "Many of the people running our big news organizations seem more interested in having lunch with Warren Buffet or dinner with Barry Diller than they do in their own product. They seem more intent in being seen as media moguls and getting big contracts than in serving the reading and viewing public."

In spite of his own titles, Carroll devotes the overwhelming majority of his time to

# The Ford Network



**Like many Ford journalists, Kate Shatzkin '87's career path has been influenced by John Carroll '63.**

In the spring of 1994, coming off a yearlong Knight Fellowship in Law at Yale, one of the most prestigious journalism fellowships, Kate Shatzkin '87 was poised to resume her career at the *Seattle Times*, where she'd spent four years writing about everything from environmental issues to food.

She never made it back.

As a junior at Haverford, Shatzkin and her best friend Lisa Greene (BMC '87) met then-*Philadelphia Inquirer* journalist Bill Marimow and John Carroll '63, who had moved from the *Inquirer* to the *Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader*, at the Silk Journalism Panel (see p. 27) at Haverford. As Shatzkin, Greene, and Marimow all remember it, there was a pointed debate, with Carol Leonnig (BMC '87) joining the fray. Marimow was so impressed that he promptly hired all three women – who worked together on the *Bi-Co News* along with Michael Paulson '86 – as part-time stringers for the *Inquirer*.

"Lisa, Carol, Michael, and I all knew that we were going to be professional journalists when we were together at the *Bi-Co News*," Shatzkin says.

Shatzkin's first full-time job out of college was at the *Patriot Ledger* in Quincy, Mass., where Paulson had cut his journalistic teeth. "I figured if Michael did it, I could go there," she says. "It was like a boot camp for journalists, a story a day and more if you wanted to excel."

Shatzkin and her friends excelled. Sixteen years later, Greene works at the *St. Petersburg Times*, Leonnig at the *Washington Post*, Paulson at the *Boston Globe* (see p. 16), and Shatzkin at the *Baltimore Sun*. In fact, Shatzkin's husband, *Sun* religion reporter John Rivera, and Paulson have become friends; the two often see each other at the same meetings and press conferences. How Shatzkin came to the *Sun* is a testament to friendships forged and careers launched at Haverford.

"John Carroll has been good friend of mine," she explains, "and he interviewed me on campus when he worked at the *Lexington Herald-Leader*. He also hired me at the *Sun* and started me on the metro desk. I really liked Seattle, but I was very interested in court reporting and police reporting and I had the opportunity to do the prison beat in Baltimore. To come here and work for people like John and Bill Marimow added an invaluable dimension to the situation. I know they like to hire good people."

Marimow, who became editor of the *Sun* in April 2000, feels he lucked out with this particular hire. "Simply put, Kate is great," he says. "Her work ethic is up there where the air is rare. She is an extremely meticulous, incisive reporter, a fluid writer. An excellent person. I was elated to learn she was coming here because, truth be told, I thought she would go somewhere like the *New York Times*."

In Marimow's assessment, Shatzkin's work at the *Sun* has comprised several challenging beats, including the prison beat, the courts and "page one-caliber stuff" on nonprofits. One of her early stories focused on Jackie Bouknight, imprisoned for allegedly covering up the disappearance of her son, who'd been abused in the foster home system and returned to his mother. "I had read about this case while I was at Yale and decided to pursue it when I got to Baltimore," Shatzkin says. "No one could find the son and Jackie made efforts that seemed helpful to the authorities, and then she fell silent. She ended up pleading the Fifth and the lawyers argued that she was protecting her son from the foster system. The police maintained that the boy was dead. I got the lawyers to petition to reopen the case and she received due process and won her adult's right to liberty – she got out of prison – and some people think she got away with the perfect crime. But Jackie

## Taking the Lead in L.A.

news, leaving business to, well, the business types.

“My own view is that that at too many papers, editors are being drawn into business planning and are paying way too much attention to it. They ought to be editing.”

Indeed, such views were considered old-fashioned in the late '90s when dot-com fever dominated the news business. Careful not to gloat, Carroll explains his colleagues' Internet hunger: “People got way ahead of themselves. Before the bubble burst, there were some influential people who said that the website would become the business and the paper would fade away.

“A lot of money was lost before the world realized that for now at least, a website can work as an extension of a paper or magazine, but not as a stand-alone business.

“We're all going to be reading newspapers for a long time. At least if I have anything to do with it,” Carroll adds with a smile. 🐾

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### Author's Note:

*I first met John 30 years ago as a cocky Haverford junior who'd just finished a summer reporting stint for the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. His classmate, Greg Kannerstein '63, had introduced us and I*

*became one of the dozens of Haverford students who benefited from Greg's journalistic pipeline to John, Loren Ghiglione and others. Chris Lee '89, mentioned earlier, is another.*

*John kindly took me out to lunch, and even listened quietly as I talked, I'm sure, way too much. He'd just been hired by the most admired editor in the country, Eugene Roberts, to supervise local coverage for the Inquirer, the #2 paper in town.*

*I told John my professional goal was to be the Bulletin's city editor when I was 30. He reached for a napkin and started scribbling a chart with numbers. He looked up, smiled faintly, and pointed to the sheet: “Your problem,” he said softly, “is that the Bulletin won't be there in 10 years.”*

*I gulped hard but kept a straight face. After all, the Bulletin was 150 years old and its demise was unthinkable. To me at least.*

*Nine years later, the Bulletin folded. By then, John was editing the Lexington (Ky.) Herald. I was in New York, a senior producer for national affairs at MacNeil-Lehrer, the nightly news show on PBS. When we reported the Bulletin's closing on the program that night, I remembered the napkin. And I smiled. And I vowed to listen—hard—when John Carroll ever talked about the media again.*

— J.Q. '75

## The Carroll File

**1963**

**Providence (R.I.) Journal-Bulletin, state staff reporter**

**1964 – 1966**

**U.S. Army**

**1966 – 1972**

**Baltimore Sun, local reporter, Vietnam correspondent, Middle East correspondent, White House correspondent**

**1972 – 1979**

**Philadelphia Inquirer, several editorial positions**

**1979 – 1991**

**Lexington (Ky.) Herald/Lexington Herald-Leader, several executive roles, including editor, vice president, and executive vice president**

**1991 – 2000**

**Baltimore Sun, senior vice and editor; vice president of Times Mirror in 1998**

**1994**

**Named to Pulitzer Prize board**

**2000 – Current**

**Los Angeles Times, executive vice president and editor**

## The Ford Network

argued that she'd been damaged and abused by the foster system herself and served 7 years in prison, which is longer than many people serve for manslaughter.”

Shatzkin then covered high-profile cases on the city court beat, leaving her no time to pursue prison stories. This assignment was followed by a stint of investigative reporting, from 1996 through 1999. During that time, she ventured into the “arcane, secretive system of lawyer discipline” while doing a story on unscrupulous lawyers in Maryland. She also did a series on chicken producers both on the Eastern Shore and nationally. This work and her work on the city court beat were nominated for the Pulitzer Prize.

Her current beat, nonprofits as a significant sector of public policy, as an engine of change and of issue development, fits well with her life as a working mother (daughter Leah is 2 years old and she's expecting a baby boy next month). “It's a

very serious beat about the approaches to power and social change,” she says. “Some characteristics of nonprofits are like the private sector and people want to know why. It's public money but nonprofits are often not in public buildings. Lots of the records are not made public.”

Shatzkin still keeps in touch with Greene, though their careers haven't crossed paths since their days together at the Inquirer. “We still keep in touch regularly and check out each other's stories,” Greene admits. “Kate, as you might or might not expect from a best friend, has been totally supportive of my efforts and my abilities as a reporter. It took me a bit longer to get to a big paper after taking time to get married and have kids, but Kate has always encouraged me along the way.”

A Kansas City, Mo., native, Shatzkin found the liberal arts experience she sought at Haverford. Courses in art history and some English taken at Bryn Mawr round-

ed out her experience. The flexibility of doing high-level academic work while working for both the *Bi-Co News* and part-time for the *Inquirer* is an opportunity she still relishes.

“I made some very conscious decisions about how I was going to use my time at Haverford,” she says. “I was able to do things I never would have been able to do at a large university. Today, I look back and think it's great that Haverford students work hard and know they can do this. I was driving to work today and I heard Juan Williams '76 on NPR interviewing Howard Lutnick '83 and Tom Barbash '83 about their new 9/11 book – all Haverford people! I'm impressed with journalism tradition at Haverford. The liberal arts are often undervalued, I think, but they shouldn't be. It's a perfect foundation for a journalism career.” 🐾

— S.H.



## A Legacy in Print

**The family of the late Andrew Silk '76, a renowned journalist and social activist, encourages generations of Haverford and Bryn Mawr students to follow in his footsteps.** *by Brenna McBride*

Andy Mathieson '05 wasn't expecting the frantic, frazzled environment of a *New York Times*-style newsroom. A hopeful journalist who admires humor columnists like Dave

Barry '69 and occasionally contributes his own witticisms to the Haverford/Bryn Mawr *Bi-College News*, Mathieson applied for a summer internship with *The School Administrator* magazine to get some experience with a professional, monthly publication. He knew the Arlington, Virginia-based magazine, edited by Jay Goldman '78, had a small staff of what Goldman liked to call "three-and-a-half people" and approached each issue at its own pace. It met his needs.

During the course of the summer, Mathieson assisted the magazine staff with copy editing, coded articles to be processed by the graphics designer, edited book reviews, wrote his own reviews for an internally published packet delivered to the American Association of School Administrators, and started compiling the annual index of the year's articles. He sat in on editorial and design meetings, where his ideas and opinions were encouraged by Goldman and staff. He was sent on assignment to cover an AASA talk on school safety and drug prevention, where he was impressed by school superintendents' ongoing efforts to tackle these issues.

"I was overwhelmed by the array of responsibilities and the amount of trust the staff had in me," he says. "I didn't feel at all led around or patronized." He feels privileged to have been involved in setting a "nationwide agenda;" copies of *The School Administrator* are found in the offices of school superintendents and principals across the country. And he takes particular pride in the September 2002 issue focusing on spirituality in schools. He played a large role in the production of this issue and, Jay Goldman tells him, it has elicited an enormous response from readers.

Mathieson knows that his experience wouldn't have been possible if he hadn't been able to support himself with a stipend from the Silk Fund, instituted by former *New York Times* business columnist Leonard Silk and his wife Bernice in memory of their son Andrew '76, a respected journalist who died of lung cancer in 1981 at the age of 28. Andy Mathieson means to follow in the footsteps of another Andy, a talented writer and committed social activist with an unshakable belief in the often-underestimated power of the printed word to change the status quo.

Andy's father, Leonard, had been a newspaperman since his high school years. At the University of Wisconsin, he edited the campus humor magazine and wrote music reviews for the *New York Times*, because it was the best way to obtain free records. He wrote for his hometown newspaper, the *Atlantic City Press*, and for *Business Week* before joining the *New York Times* as the author of the business page's twice-weekly "Economics Scene" column.

"From the beginning, we believed that being involved in current events was a great career path," says Mark Silk, Andy's older brother, a former staff writer for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* who now holds a seat at the Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn.

Bernice Silk remembers how her husband would initiate conversations about his day at the *Times* and about the news of the world every evening at the dinner table, during Andy's youth in Montclair, N.J. "Andy was a talker," she says. "He

### **Mathieson knows that his experience wouldn't have been possible if he hadn't been able to support himself with a stipend from the Silk Fund**

loved to participate in these discussions." Leonard even helped Andy get a summer job at the *Times* as a copyboy.

"He loved the excitement and gratification of seeing himself in print," says Bernice.

Andy was already picturing a future as a reporter, but he planned to major in philosophy in college—a program counted among Haverford's best in the 1970s. It was more than academics, however, that attracted Andy to the College, Bernice recalls: "He fell in love with the place, the atmosphere, Quakerism, honesty, the down-to-earth environment. He met the kind of people who appealed to him."

One of these people was Juan Williams '76, a senior correspondent at National Public Radio and former host of NPR's "Talk of the Nation," and author of the bestseller *Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years, 1954-1965*. Williams and Andy bonded over their mutual interest in journalism, and Williams' admiration of the *New York Times* in general and Leonard Silk's column in particular. "I was originally intimidated by him," says Williams, "not only because of who his father was, but because he was so clearly focused on journalism as a career."

Andy joined the Haverford/Bryn Mawr *News* as a writer; his skill and perseverance earned him the position of managing editor in 1972 and editor-in-chief during

the 1973-74 academic year. He relished the challenges of putting the paper to bed every week, and the pressure of delivering stories on time.

These were the years when the *News* served as a breeding ground for some of today's most notable journalists, such as Dave Wessel '75, economics columnist for the *Wall Street Journal*, and Joe Quinlan '75, former Emmy-winning senior producer for the "MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour" and past executive producer at Time Inc. News Media.

Quinlan is currently the president of Q\*com, which provides strategic advice on a range of media-related issues, but he still thinks affectionately of the man who gave him his first column. At Haverford, he was involved in student government, working in the public relations office, and serving as a Customs person, and didn't feel comfortable committing

himself to the responsibilities of a regular reporter or editor at the *News*. "But Andy came up with a solution," he says. "Write a column," he said, "even if it's every other week, and write about stuff going on in the world." Thus was born "Q and Co." Quinlan remembers his class as a precocious one when it came to journalism. "Several of us had already worked at newspapers before coming to Haverford, and knew we wanted to work in the business. But Andy was clearly the best among us, both as a reporter and editor. He had such a big mind and restless spirit, not to mention quick wit, in that little body of his."

Chuck Durante '73, now a partner at the Wilmington, Del., law firm of Connolly Bove Lodge and Hutz LLP, was editor of the paper when Andy began as a reporter. He was impressed with the positive changes his successor brought with him. "The year Andy was editor-in-chief, the *News* broke free of its reliance on the stodgiest, least visually appealing elements of the *New York Times*," he says. "He brought a visually imaginative approach to the design, and demonstrated an allegiance to the basic principles of dogged reporting. And as an interviewer, he knew how to ask uncomfortable questions in a way that was not confrontational."

"Andy's writing had a strong social and political consciousness, and showed his compassion for all people," says Juan

Williams. “He understood that he had a voice and a power he could express with his pen.”

Dave Wessel and Andy Silk were drawn to journalism for many of the same reasons. “We wanted to shine light in corners of the world, take readers from their comfortable, sheltered lives and bring them to places they would never go.” And although Andy wrote about intercollegiate issues such as Haverford’s path to coeducation, Wessel saw how he cast his gaze far beyond campus. “He was always looking for a way to think outside the boundaries of Lancaster Avenue.”

No one anticipated just how far outside these boundaries Andy’s thoughts lay, until he announced his intention to spend his junior year as a visiting reporter in South Africa, covering the apartheid situation. Of everyone, his family may have met this decision with the least amount of surprise.

Mark Silk was familiar with Andy’s interest in author George Orwell, who had fought in the Spanish Civil War and immersed himself in the world of that country’s poor and disenfranchised. “For Andy, South Africa was a way to follow in Orwell’s footsteps. In the 1970s, apartheid was the obvious great evil; it made sense that he was drawn to that.” Leonard and Bernice Silk had also witnessed Andy’s involvement in the Vietnam anti-war movement as a teenager, and knew of his commitment to combating injustice. The Silks themselves had previously visited South Africa, and Leonard put his son in contact with staff members at the *Pretoria News* and the *Rand Daily Mail*.

Juan Williams was awed by his friend’s willingness to put himself on the line in order to get the true story of apartheid and its victims. “He considered it the big story of our time,” he says. “He seized the opportunity to tell stories that would open people’s eyes.”

Upon Andy’s return for his senior year, he picked up where he left off with his studies and lived in a group house that included Chuck Durante. Durante credits Andy with introducing him to NPR’s “All Things Considered,” and marveled at his roommate’s passion for the printed word in all languages. “He read journals, papers,

and magazines not available at most newsstands, many from overseas,” he says. “He’d be up reading until midnight, not just for his assignments.”

Andy graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, and received a prestigious Watson fellowship, which would allow him to pursue an individual project outside the continental United States. It was natural that he would return the country that had weighed on his mind and soul since he’d left. Even though the apartheid conflict had now heated to a dangerous degree, Andy returned to South Africa to investigate working and housing conditions of black migratory laborers.

On Sept. 23, 1977, Andy was preparing to leave for the funeral of activist Stephen Biko. He had been interviewing residents of a squatters’ town called Modderdam near Cape Town, and needed to go there to

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of tumors and platelet counts at any time,  
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retrieve his notes from a friend’s house. Yet he didn’t have a permit to enter the town, an infraction that brought the police to escort Andy home. Suspicious of Andy’s desire to keep them away from his room and from “personal” items, the police searched his desk, drawers, wardrobe, trash can, and suitcase. They eventually confiscated tapes and notes of his interviews; none had been conducted illegally, but several sources had wished to remain anonymous.

Concerned for his subjects’ welfare, Andy spoke with a friend who chastised him for his secretive conduct. “Either you decide to work completely openly, or you function like a spy,” his friend told him. “If you are caught, you accept the consequences.” At the friend’s urging, Andy contacted his American consulate and arranged to board the next flight out of South Africa.

“Was it right to run, and let others straighten out the confusion I was leaving?” Andy wondered in an article called “Flight From South Africa.” “How could

I—I, who had been told that I was different than other visitors because I felt so deeply about South Africa?” Back in the United States, he would transform his experiences into a book, *A Shantytown in South Africa*.

In 1979, he joined the staff of the *Norfolk Virginian Pilot*, where he forged a friendship with Jane Eisner, now a social issues columnist for the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. “He had a high moral compass, and was upset about anything that wasn’t right,” says Eisner, who lived around the corner from Andy in Norfolk. “At a time when the *Pilot* was going through changes, we were the ‘young whippersnappers’ with new ideas.” Eisner left the paper in 1980 to join the Trenton, N.J., bureau of the *Inquirer*, and it was here that she received the call from a mutual friend that Andy had been suffering from a racking cough.

He was soon diagnosed with lung cancer. He was 27 years old, and had never smoked in his life.

In typical Silk fashion, he used his writing as an outlet for his pain both physical and emotional. He chronicled his tests and treatment in a lengthy, candid article for the *New York Times Magazine*, where he revealed that, despite a favorable prognosis, he knew the disease could recur at any time. “Aware that I might reenter the world of tumors and platelet counts at any time, the trials and setbacks in the world that once filled me with anxiety now appear to be the most exquisite luxuries.

“I now know what a friend—who had seen battle in Iwo Jima—meant when he said early in my recovery, ‘One day you will look around and discover that the sky is more brilliant and the flowers more fragrant than they have ever been before.’”

Andy’s optimism in the face of his odds redefined the word “undaunted.” He settled in southern Connecticut and became editorial page editor of the *Greenwich Time*. He married his longtime girlfriend, Nancy Perlman. “Andy was prepared to act as though everything would be all right,” says Mark Silk. “It took a huge amount of mental strength to fight through the physical hardships.”

On Dec. 12, 1981, Andrew Silk died in New York Hospital. He was 28.

At first, Andy’s family and friends dealt with their grief and confusion in their own

way. Some chose solitary outpourings of emotion. Some brought groups together to reminisce about the man they had lost. And some, like Jane Eisner, turned their sorrow into action. In 1982, Eisner and her husband—who had been inspired by Andy to become an oncologist—visited the Soviet Union to meet with Jewish refuseniks. It was a dangerous time to be in the country; they were almost refused entrance, and were followed once inside. “But we saw it as a fitting tribute to Andy,” says Eisner, “who tried so hard to fight social injustice.” She wrote a magazine story about her trip, and acknowledged Andy in her introduction.

Soon, the Silks and several of Andy’s classmates started to circulate ideas for a way to more permanently memorialize their son, brother, and friend, a way that would, preferably, involve his alma mater. A group of Andy’s friends, including Juan Williams and Dave Wessel, appealed to then-president of Haverford Robert Stevens to support a program, funded by the Silks, that would offer guidance, assistance, and advice to Haverford and Bryn Mawr students interested in journalism careers. “Because neither school had a formal journalism course,” says Bernice Silk, “we felt like we were providing something substantial to the students.”

“We made it clear to Robert Stevens that providing such a program would be an important statement about Haverford,” says Juan Williams. “He understood that what Andy stood for was the best of the school’s values, and what the school was teaching its young people.” Stevens agreed, and plans for the Silk Fund’s initiatives began to take shape.

In the beginning, Leonard Silk arranged to bring a cadre of journalists to campus during the first few weeks of the school year to advise Haverford/Bryn Mawr *News* staffers on the direction their paper should take. A variety of reporters from the *Inquirer* (such as Jane Eisner) and other newspapers would also meet with students at different times throughout the year, answering questions and offering career counseling. Michael Paulson ’86, now an award-winning religion reporter for the *Boston Globe*, was on the receiving end of these guidance sessions when he was an editor for the *News*.

“It was incredibly helpful, and so gen-

erous of Leonard,” says Paulson. “It was inspiring for those who were just starting out to interact with successful, skilled people.”

These campus visits would, in 1984, evolve into the annual journalism symposium that continues to this day. Organized by the Silks (Mark took over Leonard’s duties when the latter died in 1995) and Pam Sheridan, director of public relations at Haverford, the event brings together a panel of top-flight journalists from news sources throughout the country to discuss their careers and issues pertaining to today’s business of news coverage. In the past, members of the panel have debated religion and the media, the impact of new technology, coverage of presidential elections, and tragedies such as the Oklahoma City bombing and 9/11. The symposiums benefit curious students, but are also open to members of the Haverford/Bryn Mawr communities and the surrounding area.

“The success of the panel is largely based on the quality of the journalists who volunteer their expertise,” says Bernice Silk. “It’s a credit to Leonard and to Haverford that they take it so seriously, and welcome the opportunity to introduce students to journalism in a realistic way.”

Many of Andy’s closest friends—such as Jane Eisner, Dave Wessel, Juan Williams, and Joe Quinlan—have been frequent guests of the symposium since its first year. “It’s always an honor to come back and discuss the sort of timely, weighty topics that have been chosen over the year, and to meet different generations of students interested in the craft,” says Quinlan. “There’s always a tinge of sadness for me personally, because I know what a kick Andy would get out of running those discussion groups.”

“Andy lives on through his friends,” says Williams. “It’s critical that we who knew and loved him can convey what he was about, and share his mission of using your powers for a greater purpose.”

“When you’re in your 20s and someone close to you dies, it’s a searing experience,” says Wessel. “Everyone who knew Andy saw his unrealized potential, and to see it lost...you want to do something to keep the flame alive, prevent his memory from vanishing, and encourage future Andy Silks.”

The Silk Fund helps encourage these future Andys not only through the symposium, but also through a stipend awarded to Haverford and Bryn Mawr undergraduates who obtain journalism internships during the summer. The Fund provides for compensation to be paid by the participating newspaper, and the stipend supports students’ travel and living costs. Originally limited to the two newspapers that employed Andy, the *Virginian Pilot* and the *Greenwich Time*, the internships can now be served at newspapers, magazines, and news organizations across the United States.

“I couldn’t have afforded to work at *The School Administrator* this summer without the help of the Silk family,” says Andy Mathieson. “I like to think that my future career path started in my little shared desk space at the magazine, and I’ll always know in my heart that it was the Silks who made this possible.”

The first Andy would have beamed with pride. 🐼

### Andrew Silk Journalism Interns

1982	Paula Block
1983	Penny Chang
1984	Beth Liebson
1985	Sarah Allen ’87
1986	Kate Shatzkin ’87
1987	Thomas Hartmann ’88
1988	_____
1989	Colette Fergusson ’90
1990	_____
1991	Brad Aronson ’93
1992	Eric Pelofsky ’93
1993	Aparna Mukherjee (BMC)
1994	Ellen Chrimer
1995	_____
1996	Abby Reed ’99
1997	Ryan Isaac ’98
1998	Daniel Lathrop ’99, Jill McCain (BMC)
1999	Ivan Weiss ’01
2000	Nicole Foulke (BMC)
2001	Rekha Matchanickal (BMC), Monica Hess (BMC)
2002	Andrew Mathieson ’05



PHOTO: DAVID WOO/THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

## Good News

**In a chaotic environment of converging (and competing) media, the *Dallas Morning News* has established itself as a vital contributor to the public debate.** *by Bob Mong '71*

It should come as no surprise that my role in this newspaper theme issue is to be Dave Barry's straight man. The juxtaposition is elegant. He's older, but his hair is brown, and

he looks 30ish, while, charitably, I appear 50-plus with gray-white hair. He writes humor; I help run a large metro paper. Just the other day, I noticed a Dave quotation on a newspaper industry daily calendar: "We newspapers are very big on profits these days. We're a business, just like any other business, except that we employ English majors." Hey, I'm an English major, and I'm big on having a decent profit margin. Is there any more to say?

Let me begin with a story about having the right temperament for this job. I'll conveniently use another editor as an example.

Deborah Howell is an excellent editor who ran the *St. Paul Pioneer-Press* for many years, during which the paper won two Pulitzer Prizes. After one of them, she walked into her office prepared for her readers' warm accolades. A stack of messages welcomed her arrival. Problem was, the *Pioneer-Press* had published the wrong snow-plowing schedule in the paper, and all over St. Paul people were digging out from under what the city tractors had deposited on their cars. Deborah handled the complaints and forgot about the Pulitzer for the time being.

As exhilarating as it often is to preside over a big city paper, I've learned it is wise to maintain a healthy dose of humility, even in the face of good news about your paper.

A few years ago, the *Columbia Journalism Review* named us one of the five best papers in America. When I first heard about this, I was genuinely elated. We had worked hard for 20 years to make the *Dallas Morning News* a distinguished paper. We built it person by person, department by department into something pretty good. Now we were getting the kind of recognition we thought we deserved.

But the other side of me was wary. I don't think you can be any good in a job like this if you preen and fail to see the many problems and deficiencies you and your institution have.

I dashed off a note to the staff congratulating them on the ranking and reminding them that we are still far from the paper we want to be.

When I started in Dallas in 1979, we only had 170 journalists in our newsroom. Mediocrity was everywhere. Today, we have more than 625 journalists, many of them national leaders in their fields. Our company believes that there is a strong market for high quality journalism.

Like a college, a good newspaper is the sum of its various departments. I believe we have generally accepted national class departments in sports, business, religion,

Mexico and South America, science, lifestyles and coverage of Texas. Nearly two years ago, I challenged our staff to become the best in the country covering education. We're not the best yet, but we're making significant strides in that direction.

Fortunately, our market has been supportive of our improving newspaper. In 1980, our circulation was around 280,000 daily and 350,000 Sunday. Today it is 525,000 daily and 785,000 Sunday. I think it's important to note that markets do respond to improved content.

**As the world becomes increasingly complex, many papers simply haven't taken advantage of the strengths they have for providing context. Instead, they continue to tell readers "what" happened rather than "what happened and why."**

Yet, the competitive landscape becomes more challenging each year. It is true that every decent newspaper has a strong core readership that is loyal to that product. But the core reader is aging and younger readers are not nearly as drawn to newspapers as previous generations. Newspapers can't grow without attracting more of these younger occasional readers.

Many of these readers are strapped for time and find the morning a tough time to read.

For them, newspapers are also about the last mass medium in an era of highly targeted media. Newspapers are often about common interests and furthering community dialogue at a time of specialized, focused "communities of interest."

More subtle issues challenge us as well. Newspapers are perceived by some younger audiences as "authority" in a world raised to question authority. Much has also been written about the link between citizenry and newspaper readership. As voter numbers decline, so does newspaper readership, partly, I suspect, because many people care less about the

civic issues newspapers write about.

As the world becomes increasingly complex, many papers simply haven't taken advantage of the strengths they have for providing context. Instead, they continue to tell readers "what" happened rather than "what happened and why."

Go into virtually any community in America, and the local newspaper employs the majority of reporters on the street covering news and issues. If you are a good editor, it matters how you deploy those reporters. How an editor answers that question makes a huge difference in how useful the paper is to its readers.

Journalism at its best is the main way Americans gain perspective on events from their neighborhoods to the United Nations. Good papers try to explain what influences are at work shaping these events. Poor papers, often unwittingly, portray situations as one disconnected fragment after another.

For me, newspapers should unabashedly be from someplace. They should reflect the region where they reside. For us, that means putting

bureaus in east Texas, Houston, Austin, San Antonio, the border with Mexico, Lubbock and Oklahoma City, as well as publishing comprehensive coverage in and around Dallas.

It means placing more reporters in Mexico than any other U.S. paper. Why? Because Mexico is a local cultural, political and business story. By the way, one of our most talented reporters in Mexico is Brendan Case (Haverford Class of 1993), who covers business issues out of Mexico and Latin America.

Brendan is one of many specialists we have hired to get at issues with more sophistication and nuance. The big issues of the day are usually interrelated and interdependent. Explaining these issues clearly is the hallmark of great modern reporting; and specialty reporters with deep training often get at the heart of things better than generalists can.

We recognize that there is a large readership for deep reporting, as long as it is interesting. Newspapers that consistently produce content that readers can't find anywhere else will prosper. But this unique and unduplicated news is the most difficult content to develop. It requires the col-

lective will and skill of the newspaper driving toward this goal.

To continue to find new audiences, newspapers must improve the way they cover major issues. You are no doubt aware that many books and articles have been written in recent years lamenting the way the press covers everything from religion, the military, higher education, politics and big business.

These real and perceived flaws must be taken seriously, but the situation is far from hopeless. Take higher education coverage as an example. The press and the academy have much in common. Both have strong First Amendment ties. Both live by words and ideas. Yet the relationship is often strained by university administrators who fastidiously avoid the press and by newspapers that cover higher education superficially if they cover it at all.

Newspapers that reach out to universities both through their news and editorial page staffs can benefit from deeper and richer perspectives talented professors and administrators provide. At the same time, newspapers need to put excellent reporters on the beat.

Trust does not come without effort. I have known some college administrators in Texas for more than 20 years. The ability to pick up the phone and talk to them can be invaluable. When we built our science staff, it took time before scientists would open up to our reporters. Some of our writers even had doctorates in the same field as the professors we were trying to reach. With time and determination, honest and enduring relationships were built.

Once in the early '90s, when we were building our religion staff, one well-educated woman stood up in a public forum and told me she wished we'd stop our plans to improve coverage of religion, ethics and spirituality. She was afraid of how we might mangle such sensitive subjects. She wasn't alone in her concerns either. Thankfully, many other readers, academics and religious leaders worked with us in good faith suggesting ways to improve our coverage.

This kind of informed back and forth with readers can provide great benefits to

a newspaper. Editors must train themselves to listen closely.

Most of our communities are becoming more diverse each year. Texas is now more than 30 percent Hispanic. Our Asian population is growing rapidly. The African-American population holds at about 10 percent. At the *Morning News*, 45 percent of our employees are minority, and we are far more alert to our community because of this diversity. Our readership is now about 25 percent minority.

If our reporters' sources don't continue to expand to better reflect today's Texas,

**It is also true that these media are converging. It is not uncommon for one of our reporters to write for the paper, the paper's Internet site and appear on our 24-hour state cable news channel – all on the same day.**

we'll soon be two-dimensional figures in a three-D world. Any decent editor understands that community discussions can help the paper's coverage. I had been meeting with Muslim leaders in the Dallas area long before Sept. 11, 2001. The familiarity that these often tense meetings provided helped us bring more Muslim perspective to our readers after Sept. 11.

It is also important for a paper to keep changing and evolving. Our sports editor, Dave Smith, is often considered the best at what he does in the country. Before coming to Dallas in 1981, he had built the *Boston Globe's* excellent sports section. Now, nearly 65, Dave comes to work every day with marked up sports pages and an enthusiasm to make the next day's section better than today's. He's never lost his passion for the business or his willingness to try something new.

Since the invention of radio, experts have predicted the demise of newspapers. Ted Turner even stood up in front of a group of newspaper executives 25 years ago and said it was nice knowing them, but cable television would spell the end of papers. With the advent of television, cable, the internet, specialty magazines and 24-hour news and sports, the nation's appetite

for information has only grown (along with the advertising pie). Newspapers continue to compete robustly in this heated environment.

It is also true that these media are converging. It is not uncommon for one of our reporters to write for the paper, the paper's Internet site and appear on our 24-hour state cable news channel – all on the same day.

Theories abound on where this is heading. But as the quality media compete in a world of increasing tabloidization, I don't think the serious folks should give in to infotainment, trivialization and the noisy, shouting talking heads. There will remain a wide audience for strong reporting skills, sophisticated analysis and accessible content.

Americans are overwhelmed with information and much of it is junk to them. Great journalists can help them distill and make sense of the glut and tangle. That's why we value the smart, informed work of specialists like

Brendan Case. His work in Mexico and Latin America helps our readers understand why they should care about the chaotic economies south of our borders. Many of our readers hunger for deeper knowledge, and that is why we have added Ph.D's, lawyers, MBA's and economics majors to our staff. Specialists, combined with talented generalists, can usually get to the heart of issues faster than generalists alone.

Our democracy has been an incredibly durable phenomenon, just as a free press has been an indispensable partner in preserving our open society. The fact that today's newspapers still breathe life into our public debate seems like good news to me. ☺

*Bob Mong '71 is editor of the Dallas Morning News.*

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IN THE YEAR 2000 AD

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**Rador**

**TITANIC SINKS, FEAR LIVES LOST, ONLY 675 ARE KNOWN TO BE SAVED**

**ДНІПРО**

Архитектурные Ризации Досахис

**Pentagon Ignores Protests, Keeps Bombing Civilians**

**Chicago Wedding Garters**

**Herald Tribune**

**HONGKONG BEATS OFF ATTACK BRITISH FIGHT JAPS IN MALAYA**

**SPENDERS**

30,000 THOUSAND

**RICHARD GORDON** **DOROTHY SOUTH** **EAGLE BLOOD**

**ARTIFICIAL SKIN**

**Cremo**

**PERRY O'NEAL**

**O'NEAL'S UNKNOWN SIDE**

**VAN RAALTE**

**SKIN CLAYTON**

**ABOVE THEM ALL**

**LEKARDY**

**AMUSSES**

**A LIBRARY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE**

**American - 3000**

# PAPER CHASE

## Nicholson Baker '79's quest to save old newspapers from oblivion.

by Edgar Allen Beem

Nicholson Baker, a tall, scholarly man, balding and bearded, is perusing old bound volumes of the *New York World* through rimless glasses when he comes across a sensational full-color 1952 article about Marilyn Monroe entitled "They Call Her The Blowtorch Blonde." American's Sweetheart is wearing a ruffle bandeau that makes her look like a Tahitian princess. Baker is so amused and taken with both the image and the title that he immediately places the bound volume beneath a quintet of spotlights and, using a hand-held digital camera, takes a picture of it. The Marilyn layout will soon thereafter appear on [www.oldpapers.org](http://www.oldpapers.org).

Oldpapers.org is the website of the American Newspaper Repository, the nonprofit corporation Baker established in 1999 as part of his campaign to save old newspapers from disappearing entirely as libraries microfilm and discard them. The other major weapon in Baker's preservationist arsenal is *Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper*, a book that rocked the library world last year with its detailed indictment of major libraries—principally the Library of Congress—for failing to preserve actual copies of the country's greatest newspapers.

The American Newspaper Repository occupies a 6,000-square-foot space on the first floor of a former textile mill in Rollinsford, New Hampshire, just a short walk across the Salmon Falls River from the village of South Berwick, Maine, where Baker lives. The rest of the 1848 brick mill building is occupied by a thermal underwear company, several other small busi-

nesses, and some artists' studios. The repository's large, cool rectangular factory room is filled with approximately 5,000 bound volumes of newspapers—chief among them *Joseph Pulitzer's World*, *New York Herald Tribune*, *Chicago Tribune*, and the *New York Times*—arrayed on high metal shelves and wooden pallets on the floor. Hundreds of institutions own these newspapers on microfilm, but that's exactly the problem. The wholesale embrace of microform reproduction by libraries and research institutions mean that real copies of these newspapers are becoming extinct.

"You can't get more important urban documents," says Baker, surveying the bound volumes stacked before him. "The *New York World* used to publish a million copies a day and now there is only one."

Nicholson Baker, forty-five, is an unlikely savior. He is not a librarian, historian, archivist, or conservator. He is a writer, a novelist, and essayist whose peculiar body of writings has in common an almost obsessive concern for minutiae.

"I think of myself as thorough," says Baker, mildly objecting to the use of the word obsession. Okay, saving old newspapers is not Baker's obsession, but it's pretty darn close.

Nick Baker was born and brought up in Rochester, New York, where his father ran an ad agency from the basement of the family home. Trained as a bassoonist, Baker entered Eastman School of Music with the intention of becoming a composer, but in school, he recognized the limits of his own musical talents

and gave up on a career in music. Inspired in part by Frank Conroy's wonderful 1967 childhood memoir *Stop-Time* (in which Conroy heads off to Haverford College to make a new start in the world for himself), Baker transferred to Haverford where he fell in love with literature and a bookish young woman named Margaret Brentano. Baker and Brentano were married in 1985 and, two years later, Baker embarked on his literary career with the publication of

about," Baker explains. "I try to put things in their true proportions."

Nicholson Baker's talent, then, lies in questioning the unquestioned and paying close attention to the unexamined. Micro-filming old newspapers and magazines, for instance, seems like such a convenient solution to making these documents available for posterity, but, as Baker argues in *Double Fold*, it also results in the loss of the real thing if the originals are destroyed

and references. *Double Fold* takes its title from the test (folding the lower right corner of a random page back and forth) that many libraries use to determine the brittleness—and therefore the usefulness—of old books and newspapers. The book is so dense with the arcane history of micro-filming technology and policy that Baker believes few of its initial critics within the library world had actually read it. Baker never suggests that every library everywhere should save decades and centuries worth of old newspapers. He simply argues that some major research libraries should maintain actual runs of the newspapers that reported the life of the nation as it was lived.

"This is the marrow. This is the historical center of the twentieth century," says Baker of the newspapers reposing in the Rollinsford Mill. "This is what happened and appeared before the public in the daily newspaper."

Baker acquired most of the American Newspaper Repository's collection in the fall of 1999 at an auction of newspapers being discarded by the British Library in London. After cashing in a personal retirement account for \$50,000, Baker received major grants from the McArthur Foundation (\$150,000) and the Knight Foundation (\$100,000) to purchase runs of close to 100 newspapers and magazines and establish the repository. Smaller contributions that have come in response to the publication of *Double Fold* and the media attention it has generated have helped pay the American Newspaper Repository's \$2,000 a month rent. Baker estimates that he now has about five months' worth of rent money on hand and is in the process of another round of fundraising.

Baker says the primary response he has had from libraries is that preserving old news papers is an "outrageously expensive and near impossible task." He rejects this vehemently.

"The amount of space newspapers take up is not that great. That is a myth," insists Baker. "Newspapers are wonderfully compact. They have the money to do this. We're talking about maybe two Best Buys [to house a national newspaper repository]. The National Endowment for the Humanities has spent \$115 million on microfilming. Most of that money has con-

**Both Baker's novels and his essays are characterized by a penchant for taking the incidental seriously. Shoelaces, fingernail clippers, movie projectors, punctuation, the history of the word lumber, putting on socks, and picking one's nose have all come in for close texture scrutiny in Baker's work.**

his first novel, *The Mezzanine*.

*The Mezzanine* established Nicholson Baker as the fictional master of trivia, the novel consisting as it does of a sustained meditation on such things as why straws don't sink in milk cartons and whether hot-air blowers are more sanitary than towels for drying hands. The entire book takes place during the course of a character's lunchtime escalator ride. Baker followed his debut with a novel in the form of a man's thoughts while bottle feeding his baby (*Room Temperature*), another that explores the inner life and thoughts of a nine-year-old girl (*The Everlasting Story of Nory*), a book about the author's obsession (there's that word again) with writer John Updike (*U and I*), and his bestsellers, a pair of erotic novels—*The Fermata* (about a young man who uses his ability to stop time to undress women) and *Vox* (the phone sex novel that Clinton paramour Monica Lewinsky gave to her libidinous boss).

Both Baker's novels and his essays are characterized by a penchant for taking the incidental seriously. Shoelaces, fingernail clippers, movie projectors, punctuation, the history of the word lumber, putting on socks, and picking one's nose have all come in for close texture scrutiny in Baker's work.

"My books do home in on certain details in my life, but that's what we think

and discarded in the process. If there is a subtext to virtually everything Nicholson has written, it might be the search for reality in an over-mediated and intellectualized world.

Baker's library offensive began in 1994 with an article he published in *The New Yorker* about the passing of the venerable card catalogue from American libraries. *The New Yorker* piece branded Nicholson Baker as a crank and a library critic when, in fact, he is a great fan of libraries.

"The library is such a good idea, such a good idea," Baker enthuses. "The American people are publishing all this stuff and the library is a central place to keep what we can't own individually. Why it's so troubling is that the people who inherited this great idea don't make the decisions we thought they were making. The idea only works if you keep up the things you are collecting."

In the course of haunting the stacks of libraries across the country, Baker discovered the real tragedy was not the passing of the card catalogue but rather the discarding of books and periodicals by major research libraries. Having been attacked in academic circles for not properly documenting his card catalogue article, Baker set about an exhaustive investigation of the history and practice of microfilm reproduction of newspapers that resulted in a 370-page book with 80 pages of footnotes

tributed to the loss of history rather than the preservation of history.”

Baker also rejects the argument that saving hard copies of old newspapers is not cost-effective because they sit gathering dust for years and get very little use

“That’s the point,” Baker argues. “Research libraries are supposed to hold onto things that are little used. That’s where all the discoveries are made. That’s where the beauties are.”

In the conclusion of *Double Fold*, Baker makes four recommendations: 1) that libraries publish lists of the material they are planning to discard, 2) that the Library of Congress lease or build a true national depository for old books and periodicals, 3) that several libraries begin saving current newspapers in bound form, and 4) that the National Endowment for the Humanities either abolish the U.S. Newspaper and Brittle Books program, or require that all microfilms and digital scanning be non-destructive and that originals be saved.

The universal embrace of microfilm reproduction is as true in Maine as everywhere else. Though the Maine Historical Society is cited in *Double Fold* as an example of a library that saves newspaper originals even after it has microfilmed them, Maine Historical Society only microfilms “historical” newspapers. It does not save or microfilm current newspapers. The irony here, of course, is that the only reason historical newspapers exist is that someone saw fit to save them when they were new. In the future, thanks to microfilming, there may not be any historical newspapers.

Publishers are often to source of a last resort for actual copies of their newspapers, but, in Portland, the publishers of *Portland Press Herald* and *Maine Sunday Telegram* stopped binding copies decades ago. The publishers of the *Bangor Daily News*, however, do keep bound archival copies of their newspaper. The entire run of the *Bangor Daily News* (1899 to the present) is kept under lock and key in a specially designed 600-square-foot room, but there is no access to the public or to scholars.

“How will people be able to do local history in seventy-five years?” says Nicholson Baker. “It depends on what you keep now. I have made the point that the Library of Congress is not going to do it. We’ve got to be responsible for our own

local libraries.”

Predictably, Nick and Margaret Baker have become active in their local library and historical society since moving to South Berwick in 1998. They are helping to inventory the local holdings, and Margaret is compiling oral histories from some of the elderly people she meets through volunteering in the Meals on Wheels program.

The Bakers and their two children, Alice, now fifteen, and Elias, now eight, moved to South Berwick from Berkeley, California, largely, says Baker, in search of affordable housing in a quiet town where he could write without distraction. They purchased an old dairy farm on the edge of the village based on the sole criteria that Nick, 6’4”, be able to fit through the doors on the second floor.

“We just liked the sanity of the place,” says Baker of the move to South Berwick. “It’s turned out to be a really good decision. I love it here.”

Ironically, the quiet, writerly life Nicholson was searching for along the Maine-New Hampshire border has largely

“When people see what I’m referring to,” says Baker, “when they see pictures of the originals and pictures of the microfilm, it’s the pictures that convince people.”

While Baker does not think his old newspaper crusade has made any difference at all in the policies of the Library of Congress, he does believe *Double Fold* has raised public and professional awareness of the value of preserving authenticity.

“The notion that to get a good digital copy you have to destroy the original is now being questioned,” he says.



**Since *Double Fold* was published, Baker has been in constant demand to speak about and defend his position on saving old newspapers at meetings of the American Library Association and the Bibliographical Society of America, and at libraries from Boston to Seattle.**

eluded him since the publication of *Double Fold*. “It’s made me a more public kind of writer than I’d prefer to be,” says Baker of the publicity and debate engendered by *Double Fold*. “That’s why I’ve deliberately stayed away from living in big cities.”

Since *Double Fold* was published, Baker has been in constant demand to speak about and defend his position on saving old newspapers at meetings of the American Library Association and the Bibliographical Society of America, and at libraries from Boston to Seattle. Typically, his speeches take the form of a slide show. His slides from the *World*, for instance, graphically make the point that nineteenth- and early twentieth-century newspapers were far more colorful, lively, and creative than newspapers today, a point that can be lost in grainy black microfilm reproduction.

Though he is a private man somewhat uncomfortable as a public figure, Baker says, “I do like the kind of low-level muckraking I do,” and he plans to continue it. His current plan is to write fiction and non-fiction in alternating years. His new novel, *A Box of Matches* (Random House) came out in January.

As to the future of the American Newspaper Repository, Baker hopes it will move out of the Rollinsford mill in the not too distant future. He is currently seeking a permanent home for the old newspapers he rescued from oblivion.

“I can’t be the keeper of the nation’s newspapers,” says the writer from South Berwick. “I’m hoping this whole thing will have a happy ending and become part of a big research collection.” ☪

## Eye of the Storm

by Steve Manning '96

**How I covered the DC sniper story – and how the story took over my life.**

The first call was broadcast over the police scanner in the middle of a slow Thursday morning—a woman shot outside a post office. Two minutes later another shooting came across, a man found dead nearby, killed with a single shot. I called my editor. Probably a murder-suicide, she said, call the police, get the basics and work up a short story. All I got was a busy signal from the police. After ten minutes a third person was dead. By the time I got on the road, driving as fast as I could, the toll was up to four.

For most of that hectic day I still thought the story would last just a few days, another example of senseless violence that sparks some outcry from the public but soon fades from memory. But it quickly turned into much more, a story that spiraled into a major media frenzy and prompted pervasive and palpable fear in the community. For me, that day began what would be three weeks of nearly non-stop work, stress, and excitement. It tested my skills as a reporter, forced me to take a hard look at the ethics of my pro-

fession and challenged my personal limits in a way that few things have.

I've spent two years covering the two Maryland counties that border Washington for the Associated Press. As a one-person bureau, I write about all topics — business, transportation, politics, education. Crime isn't high on that list, and most areas, especially Montgomery County where the shooting spree began Oct. 2, have few murders. My beat usually doesn't attract much attention from national press, and only draws heavy media attention when there is a quirky crime or natural disaster.

But what would be dubbed the “sniper” shootings stood out. The victims were of all races, had no connection to each other and were engaged in everyday tasks when they were killed, like pumping gas, mowing the lawn, or sitting on a public bench. Everyone felt like a target — people avoided gas stations and school locked their doors and pulled classroom blinds tight.

Coverage on the first day was heavy,

but grew rapidly that weekend as more people were shot in Washington and Virginia. The parking lot of the Montgomery County Police Department in Rockville, home to the multi-agency sniper task force, became a mini-camp of satellite trucks, tents set up by television crews, cables snaking across the pavement, and a podium stand that sprouted new microphones each day as the story grew. The weather seemed to go through a year's worth of seasons, heat at first, then growing cold and driving rain. I nearly lived out of my car, filling my back seat with clothes I might need for any forecast, a stack of notebooks and books of maps.

Often we were killing time, huddling under what shelter we could find to avoid the rain, smelling the inescapable odor of exhaust from the TV trucks mixed with the sickly sweet scent emanating from the banks of porta-potties set up nearby. That boredom was punctuated by the chaos of the shootings. I would drive to the scene,

*continued on page 42*

## Smarter Hiring

**Dennis Stern '69, Vice President, Human Resources, *The New York Times***

“When we covered Jack Coleman's inauguration at the *Haverford News* we thought of that special 24- or 28-page issue in terms of *New York Times* coverage. We had the text of his speech ahead of time, we prepared a profile, and we had it all ready on the day of his inauguration. Our mission was to turn the *News* into a campus version of the *Times*.”

“The precursor to my move away from the editorial side of things happened when I hired the first commissioned advertising sales rep for the paper. We paid him commission and gave him housing as part of the deal and he did a great job for us and helped our budget tremendously.”

“After Haverford, I attended law school at NYU and pursued what was the typical path for journalists – working for the AP, then for small newspapers before moving up to larger

papers. I worked in the *Times*' news department for 15 years before I became vice president for human resources in 1997.”

“The biggest change today is defining the competition. It used to be the crosstown paper but today it's 24-hour cable, radio, magazines, the Internet. Our salespeople are up against an entire array of things. There are a lot of specialists now, too, which didn't used to be the case. We were all generalists. At the *Times* we have a physicist, three physicians, and a host of lawyers on staff.”

It's a broad definition of diversity but it's something we really pursue here. It's smarter hiring, hiring attuned to how a person will affect things. Four years ago we hired a guy from the Marine Corps. He did publications work there, not your typical newspaper reporting experience. We've come to think of that as a diversity hiring.”



# Trails

compiled by Steve Heacock



## Inside the Beltway

**Dave Espo '71, Chief Congressional Correspondent, The Associated Press**

"I'm the chief congressional correspondent for The Associated Press. Rather than commute to a newsroom every day, I have a desk in the Capitol—a building with history around every corner, yet a modern-day workplace for members of the House and Senate.

"I've worked for the AP since 1974, in Washington since 1977. I've covered mostly Congress and politics, with other assorted Washington stories in the mix. That adds up to six White House campaigns; one congressional Republican revolution; one presidential impeachment (and trial); one recount; 20 or so State of the Union addresses; one anthrax episode; and, most recently, one spectacular fall of a Senate majority leader.

"My interest in journalism and coverage of government was nourished at Haverford in an era of Vietnam and Presidents Johnson and Nixon, at a time when mistrust of authority was a growth industry. The FBI, always on the lookout for subversive

activities, recruited an on-campus informant. I'm not sure how much useful information the government got, but the *Bryn Mawr-Haverford College News* had plenty of wonderful material once we found out.

"My first job out of Haverford was at a small daily paper in south-central Idaho, the *Twin Falls Times-News*—for no reason other than someone gave me a job there. I worked for the *Times-News* for three years, then got an AP job in Cheyenne, Wyo. After a year there, I transferred to Denver. Then-President Ford liked to ski in Colorado, and for two years in a row, I got the assignment of going to Vail to sit outside in the cold while the president skied during the day and went to cocktail parties in the evening. One day, one of our White House reporters broke his shoulder skiing, giving me the opportunity to get on the wire. I transferred to Washington a few months later."



## Advancing the Arts Debate

**Debra Auspitz '00, Arts Editor, Philadelphia City Paper**

"As an English major at Haverford with a minor in creative writing, I interned with the *City Paper* to basically rule out journalism as a career. I thought I'd hate it and go into teaching instead. I started working here the day after graduation and three years later, I'm the arts editor for an alternative weekly in a great city for the arts. I was born and raised here and I'm a diehard fan of this city — my parents own the Famous 4th Street Deli, so I grew up in the thick of things around lots of Philadelphia people.

"In this job, I can see how some people see Philadelphia living in the shadow of New York — especially in theatre and the visual arts. But more and more artists are choosing Philadelphia. For one thing, it's vastly more affordable. But there's also a thriving, vibrant arts community here. There's a ton of angst and people out there every day working and fighting. The *City Paper* has limited space and resources to further the arts debate in this community, but I'm glad I'm helping the debate along."

## Multimedia Man

**David Wessel '75, Deputy Bureau Chief, *The Wall Street Journal***

“Working on the *News* at Haverford really showed me how a paper could play a role in the community. I came from a high school that was one-third black. Haverford had far fewer black students. When they confronted the College in 1975, I became a conduit between the black students and the paper. One high point of my collegiate journalism career: a report on dining services double-charging students for meals. Barry Zubrow '75 did all the work and wrote a report. I wrote about it for the *News* and got all the credit. It taught me how much mileage you could get from bringing someone's else's work into the public light. I still get a kick here at the *Journal* when we get credit for something when all we did was take the time to read some esoteric material expose it.

“I write about the economy, not so much in a ‘news sense’ but in terms of what forces are in place now and how they will affect how our kids and grandkids will live. Sometimes I wonder if this business will last long enough for me to retire from it, but we have a fairly strong franchise and a successful website which will be our future, I think. Things have changed so much in recent years that a reporter's job is entirely different now. I do a column and respond to reader e-mail on our website. I appear on CNBC, as do many of our reporters. Our work ends up on radio, on television, on the Internet, and in print. It's multimedia now. The luxury of waiting for deadlines is gone. This new environment has its own tensions.

“Norm Pearlstine '64 said that the half life of a scoop is shrinking. It's harder to break news in tomorrow's paper because there are so many different outlets for news. We're much more like 24-hour journalists now, much more like wire services. The pressure now is to offer more than just a story. You need to deliver analysis. What does it mean? We have to offer something you can't get from TV.

“There's not a profession more appropriate for a liberal arts education than journalism. Haverford gives students confidence, it trains them to ask good questions, it fosters critical thinking. Haverford is the best journalism school there is.”



## From Hot Lead to Computers

**Turk Pierce '61, Assistant Wire Editor, *Lancaster New Era***

“I came into the newspaper business through sports. My first job was working for the NCAA Statistics Bureau in New York. I was drafted by the Army, though, and it wasn't until I got out that I started looking for a sportswriting job. I found a paper in western Pennsylvania, Ellwood City, where they had an opening for a reporter. I was sports editor within 18 months.

“I've had a number of different jobs in this business over 38 years. I've worked for seven different papers, all of them afternoon papers. Here in Lancaster we have a unique situation with a morning paper, an afternoon paper, and a Sunday edition with three separate staffs.



“There's been technological change in the business, obviously. I started with hot lead and pencil editing and now we're paginating everything by computer. Amazing. Computer skills have become preeminent and editorial departments are doing it all. That kind of work and those kinds of skills are not always compatible with the editorial temperament.

“One trend I've noticed is that where newspapers used to report on happenings, we now report on people's reactions to happenings. I'm not sure that's a good thing.”

## The Haverford Connection

**Chris Lee '89, National Staff Writer, *The Washington Post***

“When I was a junior, Greg Kannerstein '63, knew I was interested in journalism and suggested I do a summer internship with John Carroll '63 at the *Lexington Herald-Leader*. I liked it so much I repeated the internship the summer after I graduated. That fall I went to the Kennedy School at Harvard for a degree in public policy. When I graduated in 1991, the *Herald-Leader* had a hiring freeze, as did many other newspapers. I got lucky, though. The *Dallas Morning News*, which had offered me an internship in 1989, hired me as a full-time reporter in a suburban bureau in Plano. I was cranking out four to five stories each week, sometimes more. It was a chance to do a lot of writing quickly. After two years, I was able to move to another suburban bureau in Arlington, and a year after that, in 1994, I moved downtown, where I wrote about the Dallas school system. Bob Mong '71 was the managing editor when I applied to the paper in 1991, although I didn't know that until I had started the interview process. I'm sure the Haverford connection didn't hurt my chances.



“In 1995, I moved to the City Hall bureau, where I covered city issues and the mayor. Then it was on to the Austin bureau in 1998 to cover the Texas House of Representatives, social services, and Texas A&M. I was sent to A&M when the student bonfire collapsed in 1999, killing 12 people. I spent a week covering it. On occasion I would fill in for reporters covering Bush on the 2000 presidential campaign trail, and in 2001 I moved to Washington to cover Congress in the *Morning News* D.C. bureau.

“Last September I moved to the *Washington Post*. I cover federal agencies and federal employee issues. The beat is about public policy and public management. Is government working? Should it turn to the private sector more for services? How is the Department of Homeland Security coming together? I grew up in Columbia, Md., reading the *Post*, so this is a real opportunity for me.

“If it weren't for Greg Kannerstein and John Carroll, I wouldn't be a journalist now. Everywhere I go, I run into Fords in journalism and it amazes me that people coming from such a small college are so well-prepared for this career even though there are no formal courses or a major in journalism at Haverford.”

## Oysters in the Office **Danielle Reed '91,** Real Estate Columnist and Writer, *The Wall Street Journal*

"I always knew I'd do something with writing. I had an English professor at Haverford—a visiting professor from Malaysia—who was very inspiring. Even though I received my undergraduate degree from The American University of Paris, I spent two years at Haverford and consider it to be my alma mater. My father (Thomas A. Reed '65) and brother (William T. Reed '89) both went to Haverford, and my mother (Gail Simon Reed '64 BMC) went to Bryn Mawr.



"I went to France junior year and stayed on for various reasons. After teaching English in France, I moved back to New York. I got a job with the *New York Observer* and started a real estate column, 'Manhattan Transfers.' Then, the *Journal* called and I spent three years covering business travel for the Weekend Journal section. I moved to the *Daily News* and had a real estate column for six months when the real estate writer for the *Journal* left. So I came back and I've been here ever since.

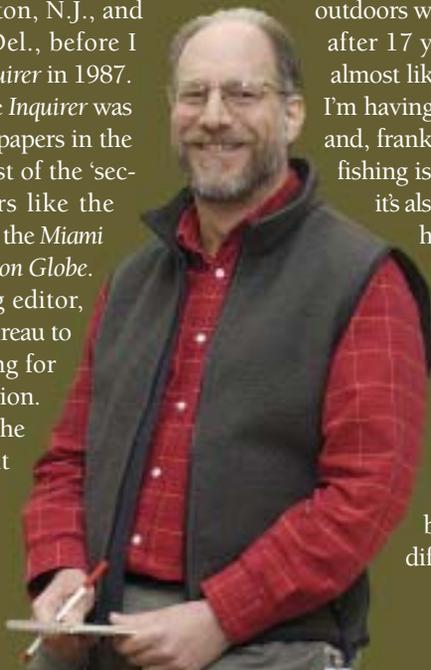
"I write the 'Private Properties' column, which some describe as real estate gossip, though each piece is researched and reported. I also write 'House of the Week,' an expanded look at upmarket homes around the country, as well as features for the section. I get fun projects. It's service journalism and it's fun—I don't know too many offices where there are oysters coming in for taste testing. Our readers enjoy it. Investment bankers tell us they read the Weekend Journal section on Fridays and consider it their reward at the end of the week."

## Taking it Outside

**Don Sapatkin '78, Outdoors Writer, *The Philadelphia Inquirer***

"I was miserable at Haverford during my junior year, cramming and procrastinating and I just took a year off to assess things; I freelanced for a local paper at home in Brooklyn. Then I interned at the *Wall Street Journal* and was a stringer for the *New York Times*. That year off was significant for me. At Haverford, I had the freedom to do that, and I came back and had a positive experience.

"I worked as a reporter for papers in Trenton, N.J., and Wilmington, Del., before I came to the *Inquirer* in 1987. At that time, the *Inquirer* was one of the best papers in the country, the best of the 'second tier' papers like the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Miami Herald*, the *Boston Globe*. I was a floating editor, moving from bureau to bureau, covering for people on vacation. I did a stint on the Saturday night city desk and then moved onto the New



Jersey staff before becoming editor of the Weekend section. Best job I've ever had. I had lots of freedom, lots of control, not feeding into a vast set of editors deciding what goes on the front page. We redesigned the entire section and I had the power to promote and push the cultural agenda a bit.

"After seven years on the Weekend section I became the health and science editor for three years before becoming the outdoors writer. Returning to reporting after 17 years as an editor has been almost like a mid-life career change—I'm having fun, much more confident and, frankly, better at it! Hunting and fishing is part of my assignment, but it's also about hiking, scuba diving, how land is used. How policy affects outdoor activity. In Switzerland, so many more people hike and are healthier than we are. Some of that has to do with history and geography, but it also has to do with policy. They have trail systems, paths, and bike racks everywhere. It's a different approach."



## The Dean

**Loren Ghiglione '63, Dean,  
The Medill School of Journalism,  
Northwestern University**

"We had a great staff at the *News* when I was at Haverford. Greg Kannerstein '63 was an important staff member, and Norm Pearlstine '64 succeeded me as editor. There was no journalistic training, of course, no advisors. I started to invite journalists in to speak, people like A.J. Liebling from *The New Yorker*, Vic Navasky from *The Nation*, Ed Folliard of the *Washington Post*. They helped us think about what we were doing.

"One of my summer internships was at the *Claremont (Calif.) Courier*. It was such a valuable experience to see this intensely local paper getting national awards for presenting the news in a community. I really saw clearly how people played a role in the community and could change the course of discussion of the issues.

"Journalism has been my life. I've been editor, reporter, publisher, and owner at various points—my wife and I started or bought some 20 newspapers over the years. I was president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. I started the journalism program at Emory and was director of the Annenberg School of Journalism at USC before coming to Northwestern. One of my challenges here is to raise money to support the school and to develop programs.

"Technology has had a tremendous impact on the way we get news now. More and more people are getting their news on the Internet. NPR is more influential and the cable networks offer more and more news. The boundaries are blurring between news and entertainment. Is Larry King a journalist? Jesse Ventura is new on CNBC. Who is a journalist? People are, more and more, feeling that they're their own journalists. They create a mix of news for themselves on the Internet, television, and radio."

trying to avoid police roadblocks, grab anyone witnesses I could find to figure out what happened. Then we would all wait on the police to tell us if the shooting was linked to the others.

Coverage of the story exploded Oct. 7, the day a 13-year-old boy was shot outside his school in Bowie, Md. The snipers had struck the part of society that was most vulnerable and prized, its children. Montgomery Police Chief Moose cried on camera that day, a display of emotion that would later make him loved nationwide, a tough cop with a heart. After that, the story reached a feverish pace. Cable news channels carried every press conference live, and network anchors hosted their shots from the police parking lot. Photographers and reporters lived with their police scanners and chased down every report of shots being fired. I once spent a whole morning at a flophouse motel with a handful of other reporters for what was likely the most intensely covered drug shooting in years.

The scene at the police station became almost circus-like. Geraldo Rivera showed up and *Playboy* had a full-time reporter covering the story. Patrick Buchanan, now a talk show host, came one day, looking out of place in his trench coat and briefcase among the rest of us in raincoats and jeans, crowded around for a press conference. John Walsh shot an episode of “America’s Most Wanted” from the parking lot standing in front of a police cruiser. Foreign press poured in — walking through the parking was to hear a jumble of languages, British, Spanish, German, Quebecois. When the story got slow, reporters started interviewing each other, working on stories about how crazy the scene had become. People drove by just to see the media encampment. The police eventually handed out press passes to the parking lot — I had number 40 of about 1,400 that were given out.

Competition was intense, as we all tried to get whatever piece of information that could put us ahead of the pack. The authorities gave out little information publicly, meaning most reporting and breakthroughs came from sources. Dozens of agencies were involved in the search — the FBI, several local police departments, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the state police. Even the White House kept tabs on

the investigation. Leaks came from all over, as did unsubstantiated rumors. The media hysteria created intense pressure to be first with a piece of information, to break a story. I would often spend the start of each day trying to verify or shoot down news that was in the *New York Times*, CNN or the *Washington Post*. Much of the information turned out to be true, but too often reporters went with information they got from a single source, breaking a cardinal rule of journalism that you must at least try to verify a tip before using it. Some news turned out simply to be wrong.

Covering the story became a delicate, contentious, and often maddening dance with the police. Authorities didn’t want to give out much information and tip their hand, fearing the sniper was watching television. But they ran into a press corps that was hungry for any bit of information, any scoop that could put them ahead of the competition. Press conferences were laden with hostility on both sides of the microphone. Chief Moose rarely answered a question with anything more than a “it would be inappropriate for me to comment.”

But by not giving out any details about what they knew, the police, in a way, fomented public fear about who was doing the shootings and when they might strike next. Authorities said they didn’t want to create tunnel vision by putting out FBI profiles of the suspects, but then they put out composite sketches of a white box truck and van they thought might be used in the crime. Police were flooded with tips about white vans thereafter, while the blue Chevrolet Caprice allegedly used by the snipers slipped away from crime scenes unnoticed.

We also hotly debated the decision by a local television station and the *Post* to report on a tip that a tarot card reading “I am God” was found at the school shooting scene. The station and paper got a lot of criticism from the police, who said it hurt their attempts to start a dialogue with the shooter. That may be true, but reporting that information also gave the public a much stronger sense of whom they were dealing with, afforded them some picture about what was until then a faceless terror. It was also an incredibly intriguing story.

I often had to remind myself of that as I tried to make it through the seven-day,

80-hour weeks I worked that month. It was a physically and emotionally demanding story to cover. I would go to bed at midnight after a full day, not knowing if I would be called three hours later to chase a shooting. I often fiercely guard my private time, but would feel guilty if I went out to dinner, or relaxed. The story was also filled with tragedy — I spent much of my time hunting down relatives of the victims and going to funerals. I was supposed to pepper them with questions about their lost loved one as they struggled with their still-fresh grief. I understand why this is necessary, to humanize the story for readers, to personalize it. But I also wonder how newsworthy it is to broadcast someone’s anguish to the whole world, as if that couldn’t be just assumed and we could give them the privacy they usually want.

Nevertheless, covering the shootings was one of the most extraordinary things I will ever do. I went into journalism in part because I wanted to see history being made first hand, to be a part of the life that goes on around me. It was also tested my capabilities, pushing me past my comfort zone and ultimately making me a better reporter. I learned how to be resourceful and pushy if necessary. I woke people up at 5 a.m., called a police chief on his personal phone, developed sources. A lot of this was hard for me, by nature I don’t like to bother people. There are still limits that shouldn’t be crossed, but I also learned it is up to me to push boundaries. That’s what the public needs to learn the full truth.

Journalism was never my dream job — I never wrote for the *Bi-Co News* or interned at a newspaper in college. I never had formal journalism training since Haverford offered little, an oversight in my opinion. But Haverford did give me an education that you can’t learn in four years of journalism school. In many ways I’m a true liberal arts product — my interests are broad and I resist finding a niche. I discovered that’s an asset for a reporter, the ability to think with an open mind, to look at all angles. You have to be able to think and digest information quickly, to learn on the fly. That’s perhaps what I value the most about my work, the license to explore, to satisfy my curiosity, to learn. 🐼

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*Steve Manning '96 is a writer for the Associated Press in Maryland.*

## Ford Highlight

In July, Paul Denig '74 returned from a year in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, where he directed the public affairs office for the reopened United States Embassy. Denig worked closely with the Yugoslav media to help them understand the activities and assistance programs the U.S. was implementing in their country, such as those run by the Agency for International Development, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Commerce. "We wanted to assure the media—and through them the country's citizens—that the U.S. was helping them to rebuild their country," says Denig, who is fluent in Serbian, the language of Yugoslavia.

It was Denig's responsibility to send out press releases, answer any and all media questions ("My cell phone rang constantly"), and arrange interviews with officials and ambassadors. He oversaw the revival of exchange programs with the U.S., like the Fulbright Program, the Ron Brown Fellowship, and the Hubert Humphries Fellowship. He was also instrumental in

establishing a variety of initiatives to smooth the country's path toward democracy. With his encouragement and organization of programs, Serbian Supreme Court judges committed themselves to learning English on a daily basis, in order to better understand texts and publications on American law and judicial practice; eight judges traveled to Washington and Boston to learn more about the American judicial system at the federal and state levels; and the Ministry of Education began a civic education program for the country's youth. "This is especially important for the democratic future of Serbia," says Denig. "If young people don't understand how democracy functions, how can they participate in it?"

Now back in Washington, D.C., Denig directs the State Department's Foreign Press Center, whose goal is to give the foreign media access to American newsmakers. As director, Denig manages efforts to convey both American policy and the social, economic, and cultural context in which the policy is made to resident correspondents

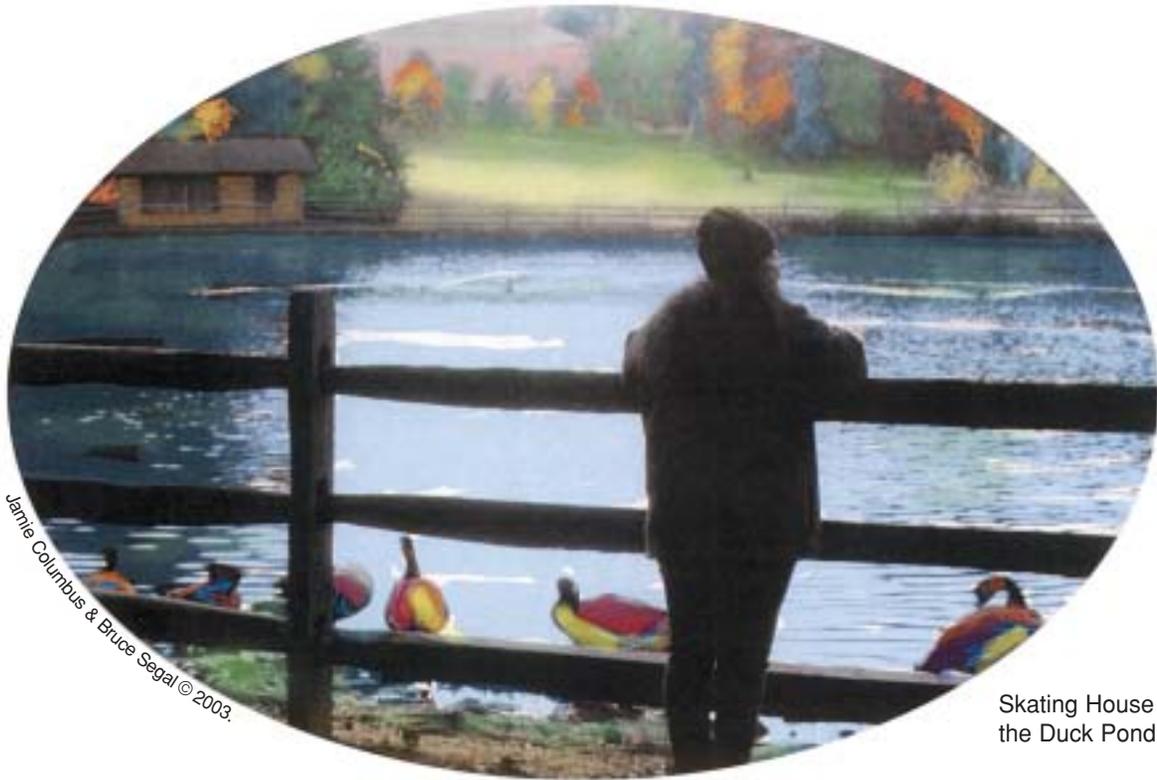


### Paul Denig '74 directs the State Department's Foreign Press Center.

from various countries, organizes briefings for foreign reporters with key officials at the federal, state, and local levels, and arranges special reporting tours for journalists covering topics spanning the gamut from the American electoral process to volunteerism and the future of NATO. The Foreign Press Center thus plays a vital role in the dialog between Americans and citizens of other countries around the globe.

– B.M.

# Haverford College



*Jamie Columbus & Bruce Segal © 2003.*

Skating House at  
the Duck Pond

REFLECTIONS AMONG FRIENDS

## Reunion

May 30 - June 1, 2003

# My Newspaper Career

I got into newspapering because I was an English major. This meant I had experience writing long, authoritative-sounding essays without any knowledge of my topic, which is of course the essence of journalism.

I wrote my first real newspaper stories for the *Haverford News*, although perhaps “real” is not the correct adjective for these stories. The way I wrote them was, first, I would get an assignment from the editor, Dennis Stern. For example, in 1968, Dennis assigned me to do a feature on the opening of the Ardmore office of Richard Nixon’s presidential campaign. I accepted this assignment, fully intending to go to Ardmore, in person, and interview real humans. But what with one thing and another, I never made it to Ardmore, which, I should point out in my defense, is located several hundred yards from the Haverford campus, and even farther in cold weather.

So when the deadline arrived, I would sit in my dorm room and pound out a story based loosely on my concept of what I might have found if I had done actual research. I would turn this in to Dennis, who would sigh and print it as a humor column. Dennis later got a job with the *New York Times*, although I am not saying I should get ALL the credit.

I myself did not wind up at the *New York Times*. I wound up at a competing newspaper, the *Daily Local News* of West Chester, Pa. As its name suggests, the *Daily Local News* covered local news and came out daily, unless you counted Sunday as a day.

The *Daily Local News* was stricter than the *Haverford News* about making you physically do your assignments. Thus I spent many hours sitting through municipal meetings wherein local officials would discuss issues such as sewage, zoning, street signs, sewage, budgets, storm drains, and of course sewage—the issues that, although not glamorous, are the “meat and potatoes” of local journalizzzzzzzzzz

Sorry. I nodded off there, as I often did in the meetings I covered. But this did not prevent me from writing massive, fact-filled stories that ran in the *Daily Local News*, usually under real “grabber” headlines like: BOARD AIRS SEWAGE PLAN. Eventually

it began to dawn on me that nobody was reading these stories. For all anyone cared, I could have inserted sex scenes (“Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility Supervisor Brett Barton moaned as the voluptuous yet buxom female County Commissioner Renee LaSpume gently traced her fingers over his huge, massive, throbbing, LiftMaster 3000 pump, with the fully integrated non-return valve”).

This experience taught me the First Realistic Rule of Journalism, which is:

**1. THE FACT THAT JOURNALISTS CONSIDER A STORY IMPORTANT DOES NOT MEAN THE READERS WILL.**

A good example is the ongoing crisis in the Middle East, which everyone in journalism agrees is very important, and thus is often the subject of front-page stories, which the vast majority of readers skip over on their way to sports, the crossword, the part where they tell you who Jennifer Lopez is currently married to, etc. A newspaper could identify Jerusalem as the capital of Illinois, and few, if any, readers would notice. But if, God forbid, the same newspaper were to accidentally omit the horoscope, the phones would erupt in a fury of calls from outraged Capricorns, Libras, Neptunes, etc.

Speaking of mistakes: Another thing I’ve learned from my years in the newspaper business is that virtually all stories contain errors. This is because of the Second Realistic Rule of Journalism, which is:

**2. REPORTERS NEVER REALLY HEAR WHAT A SOURCE IS SAYING, BECAUSE THEY’RE FRANTICALLY TRYING TO WRITE DOWN WHAT THE SOURCE JUST SAID.**

The simple fact is, most people talk much faster than most journalists can write; also, most journalists have terrible penmanship. So we have a lot of trouble getting quotations right. Historians now believe that the newspapermen at Gettysburg seriously misrepresented President Lincoln’s address, which – according to Lincoln’s own recently discovered diary—was about the

importance of dental hygiene.

In theory, when reporters make mistakes, they are corrected by editors. But in real life, this often does not happen, because of the Third Realistic Rule of Journalism, which is:

**3. EDITORS AND REPORTERS ARE BITTER ENEMIES WHO DO NOT WORK WELL TOGETHER.**

Editors hate reporters because reporters sometimes get to leave the newspaper building; whereas editors have to sit front of computers all day and eat cafeteria food often containing hairs that did not originate on the editors. The editors get even with the reporters by ordering them to perform impossible feats of journalism. Like, an editor will notice that it’s Hitler’s birthday, and order a reporter to get a quote from Hitler’s mother. And the reporter, after making a few phone calls, will inform the editor that Hitler’s mother is dead. And the editor will heave a weary sigh, indicating that this is, in the editor’s opinion, a very weak excuse, and then order the reporter to find some experts (editors believe in experts) to find out what Hitler’s mother might have said, if she were still alive. And the reporter, bitter and resentful, will get some college professor, somewhere, to say something (professors will talk about anything) regarding Hitler’s mother, and of course whatever it is will be quoted incorrectly in the paper.

Don’t misunderstand me: I love the newspaper business. It has enabled me to go for decades without a real job. For the last 20 years I’ve been at the *Miami Herald*, which covers one of the weirdest regions in the galaxy. The *Herald* is actually a fine paper, although it really doesn’t matter if we report the news of South Florida accurately or not, because nobody will believe it anyway.

Of course, I don’t have to worry about accuracy, because years ago I stopped pretending to be a real journalist. Now I openly make everything up, as I learned to do many years ago, at Haverford. So don’t try to tell ME that a liberal-arts degree has no value. ☹

Submissions for Moved to Speak can be sent to Editor, Haverford Alumni Magazine, 370 Lancaster Avenue, Haverford, PA 19041 or via e-mail to Steve Heacock at sheacock@haverford.edu



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