Muhlenberg

### THE MAGAZINE OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE



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FALL 2006

Lives of Leadership and Service Page 10

Muhlenberg Student Organizations Spread Hope for a Cure Page 14

The Haunted Homecoming

Page 16

#### FALL 2006



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#### Cover Image by Paul Pearson

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### President's MESSAGE



# Can We Talk?

I was born into a family of talkers. Dinnertime in the Helm household was a daily celebration of story telling, teasing, pranks, bickering, and outright debates on every imaginable topic. My wife Pat, an only child, came away from her first dinner with my family wondering if we ever actually listened to each other except to figure out when we could interrupt whoever was speaking.

Well, in fact we did listen to each other. I give my lawyer father credit for that. He always told us that a person who could articulate only one side of a debate was a simpleton. And so we listened, if only to figure out the vulnerabilities in each other's reasoning and more effectively argue the other side of whatever that night's issue might be. Whenever the debates became a little too spirited, Dad would remind us that reason – not volume – would carry the day. And though debate might add spice to the meal, mutual affection and respect were always the main ingredients. I was the middle of three brothers and thus naturally the mediator and fence-mender. It was my lot to hear both sides of any argument, find common ground, and bring the warring factions back together. It's a role that prepared me well for my work at Muhlenberg.

I thought of those family dinners last summer when I found myself engaged in an extended e-mail dialogue with a disgruntled alumnus who had stopped supporting Muhlenberg because it was "too liberal." (I get such complaints about as often as I do complaints that the College is "too conservative" – so I suspect we are actually okay.) After our third or fourth exchange I wondered how long it would take me separately to conduct such a lengthy conversation with each of Muhlenberg's seventeen thousand alumni. My calculations indicated it would take 4.9 years if I stayed at my laptop 24/7. As absorbing as such conversations would doubtless be (perversely, I enjoy conversing with those who disagree with me) the College has other expectations for my schedule during the next five years. This column seemed like a more efficient way to share my thoughts.

Listening to people who disagree with us can be hard work and many of us find it easier to pass judgment on groups rather than arguments. My e-mail pen pal last summer, for example, dismissed our last three commencement speakers as "lefties" without citing any ideas they had actually expressed in their commencement addresses as proof of such an astonishing assertion. I have friends who snort contemptuously at any position offered by "Bushies" or "Neocons" without assessing the merits of particular ideas. The spin, name-calling and sloganeering that passes for public discourse in our society today is not debate, but a substitute for thought.

How much stronger our country would be if its citizens spent more time listening to diverse opinions with open minds. Training such citizens is, I believe, the most important and fundamental mission of Muhlenberg and other liberal arts institutions. I dedicated an earlier essay in this magazine1 to "Freedom Fighters" - those whose scholarship gifts enable talented young men and women to pursue a liberal education regardless of their financial means. I said, and still believe, that assuring access to educational opportunity is a cornerstone of democracy. But this is true only if the education we provide is free of political orthodoxy or ideology - in short, if it teaches our students how to think independently. As the distinguished American jurist Learned Hand once wrote: "The spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure that it is right; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which seeks to understand the minds of other men and women; the spirit of liberty is the spirit which weighs their interests alongside its own without bias. . ."2

This is the spirit I hope characterizes a Muhlenberg education. Each fall I remind our newest freshmen that they will learn more from those who disagree with them than from those with whom they agree. That whether the issue be foreign policy, human rights, health care, economics, aesthetics, cultural preferences or personal values they should subject their most cherished assumptions to the salubrious but sometimes harsh light of those whose views are diametrically opposed. I believe our College lives up to this ideal most of the time.

It is natural, but nonetheless disappointing, that many find it difficult to tolerate the intellectual free-for-all that often accompanies academic debate. While dogmatic political correctness has no place on campus, I have found that those who complain about it most vociferously would often replace it with orthodoxy of their own.

I offer a simple invitation: let each of us in the Muhlenberg family pledge to spend a few minutes each day considering the possibility that someone with whom we disagree just might be right. In doing so, may each of us take to heart another quotation from Judge Learned Hand, who once said of the First Amendment: "right conclusions are more likely to be gathered out of a multitude of tongues, than through any kind of authoritative selection."

My father, God bless him, would have agreed.

R. Weh

Peyton R. Helm President, Muhlenberg College

## Door to DOOR

NEWS FROM MUHLENBERG COLLEGE



American military history students enjoyed an educational tour of Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Md. on October 7. Here they are in the famous Sunken Road (aka Bloody Lane) and at the equally famous Burnside's Bridge. The trip was led by adjunct history professor Ed Bonekemper '64.

### President Helm Receives New Five-Year Contract

Muhlenberg College President Peyton R. Helm has received a new five-year contract. The announcement was made by the executive committee of the College's Board of Trustees following a recent meeting.

In making the announcement, Muhlenberg College's Chair of the Board of Trustees Richard F. Brueckner '71 stated that "Randy Helm has provided outstanding leadership to Muhlenberg over the last three years. This action by the Board recognizes Randy's accomplishments and will position Muhlenberg for continued success. The College has tremendous momentum and we believe the next five years will be very exciting."

Helm took office July 1, 2003. Under Helm's leadership, the College developed a Strategic Plan, which included plans for a new science building, new residence halls, a diversity initiative and called for 10 new faculty positions.

During the past three years, Muhlenberg has completed a new Life Sports Center, a new science building, and a sizable addition to Seegers Union. Major renovations to the Shankweiler Biology Building are also underway. In addition, the College has started a film studies major and a public health minor, and has set records in admission applications and unrestricted giving to The Muhlenberg Fund.

"I'm delighted with the Board's confidence in me," said Helm. "The last few years have been outstanding ones for the College. Our faculty, staff, students, alumni and trustees have a lot to be proud of. As we look at the next five years together, I'm excited by the possibilities and grateful for the privilege of serving such a dynamic institution."

### 'Berg Reaccredited by Middle States Commission

Muhlenberg was reaccredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

The Middle States Association is a nonprofit association serving elementary, secondary, and higher educational institutions through programs of self-study, evaluation, and accreditation, and other developmental services. Middle States accreditation is an expression of confidence in an institution's mission and goals, its performance, and its resources. Based upon the results of an institutional self-study and an evaluation by a team of peers and colleagues assigned by the Commission, accreditation attests the judgment of the Commission on Higher Education that an institution has met the following criteria:

- that it is guided by well-defined and appropriate goals;
- that it has established conditions and procedures under which its goals can be realized;
- that it is accomplishing its goals substantially;
- that it is so organized, staffed, and supported that it can be expected to

continue to accomplish its goals; and

• that it meets the standards of the Middle States Association's Commission on Higher Education.

Special thanks go to Carol Shiner Wilson, dean of academic life, and Kathy Harring, professor of psychology and associate dean for institutional assessment, for cochairing the steering Committee that guided the self-study process; and to Ken Butler, executive assistant to the president, who provided logistical support on campus.

### College Mourns the Passing of Life Trustee Colonel Earl S. Heffner Jr., Esquire '53 and Trustee Theodore T. Lithgow Jr. '53

The College is deeply saddened by the deaths of Life Trustee Earl Heffner Jr. and Trustee Theodore Lithgow Jr., both members of the class of 1953.

Colonel Earl S. Heffner Jr., Esquire, 78, of Bradenton, Fla., formerly of Bethlehem, Pa., died Friday, August 4, 2006 in the Blake Medical Center, Bradenton. He was the husband of Kay M. (Frickert) Heffner and the son of the late Earle S. Sr. and Maude A. (Flore) Heffner.

He is survived by his wife; a daughter, Janis Carter and her husband, Allan, of Lakeland, Fla.; sons, Earl S. Heffner III of Coomera, Australia, Scott Gass and his wife, Nicole, of Raleigh, N.C., and Michael Heffner and his wife, Karen, of Gainesville, Va.; seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Earl was a prominent attorney in Bethlehem for 38 years, retiring in 1995, and was a colonel in the Army completing 32 years of service to our country. He was a graduate of Hellertown High School, Muhlenberg College, Dickinson School of Law and Temple University School of Law. He was a Lifetime Trustee at Muhlenberg College and a member of the Alumni Trust; past president of Saucon Valley High School Alumni Association; Northampton County Children's Aid Society; Northampton County Bar Association; former board member of Pennsylvania Heart Association; Senior Citizens Northampton County; Wily House; Ostomy Association Inc. of the Lehigh Valley and Muhlenberg College. He was a chancellor of Moravian Church, Northern Province, from 1984-95.

Theodore T. Lithgow Jr., age 74, of McDonough, Ga., died Sunday, September 3, 2006, after a courageous battle with cancer. He was the son of Theodore M. '28 and Gertrude Tracey Lithgow of Coaldale, Pa.

He is survived by his wife, Sara Preu Lithgow, McDonough, Ga.; children, Dr. Theodore D. Lithgow, Bridgewater, N.J., Lynn Tessaglia, Johnston, R.I., Elizabeth Lithgow and Matthew Lithgow of McDonough, Ga.; and six grandchildren.

Although he started his career in the chemical business, Ted spent most of his career with RJR-Nabisco as president of both the Fleishman and Merckens Chocolate Company divisions. In addition to his service to Muhlenberg, he served on the board of directors of the Henry Medical Center Foundation, the National Center for Disabilities, the Atlanta Heart Association, the Jesse Owens Foundation, the National 4-H Council, the Northeast Regional Olympic Committee (1976 and 1980), the American Bakers Association and the Eagle's Landing Country Club.

Portions of the above were taken from The Morning Call and the Henry Daily Herald.



Earl S. Heffner Jr., Esquire '53



Theodore T. Lithgow Jr. '53

#### DOOR TO DOOR



## MacGregor Village

By Brianne Schurott '08

When Muhlenberg first constructed MacGregor Village in 1981 due to an unexpected increase in student enrollment, no one expected it to be standing proud in 2006. MacGregor Village, named for Howard M. MacGregor, Muhlenberg College's treasurer from 1947-1967, has seven buildings including two four-person units and one laundry facility, housing a total of 56 students each year.

While necessary improvements and renovations have been made to the village throughout the years, the structures were never intended to be permanent.

Now that MacGregor is nearing its 26th year as part of Muhlenberg's campus, it is time to finally bid farewell.

Ideas were discussed to build elsewhere on campus, absorbing the number of beds that would be lost with the removal of MacGregor, as well as to utilize the space for construction of a large parking garage.

The College's new plan grew out of talks in 2003-2004, as a steering committee composed of staff and students found that the student body had a strong demand for the more independent, suite-styled options. There's a recurring demand to be away from the dorm life, while still being a part of the College community. Meeting these requirements has allowed MacGregor to continue

its demand among upperclassmen, long after its life



expectancy. "Despite MacGregor's visible aging, it still continues to be a hot spot on campus for housing," said Aaron Bova '00, associate director of housing services.

The new plans for MacGregor will include building up, as well as out, to give students a sense of apartment-living, while still preserving the community atmosphere it now holds. According to Jim Steffy, the College's consultant for capital projects, the new modular style homes will be three stories high, and will feature five separate buildings, housing 145 students.

These suites will be for five persons, (three singles, one double) and will feature a living room, kitchen and bathroom, with outside recreational space and mid-level entry. New units will be constructed soon, with anticipated occupancy beginning in fall 2007.

### Math Professor Receives Distinguished Writing Award

William Dunham, Koehler Professor of Mathematics at Muhlenberg College, received the Lester R. Ford Award for the best article published in a year in American Mathematical Monthly.

The article, "Touring the Calculus Gallery," appeared in the publication in January 2005. American Mathematical Monthly has the largest circulation of any math journal in the world. Established in 1964, the Lester R. Ford Award is presented by the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). The MAA produces four journals and gives annual awards for the best article in

each journal. Dunham has now won awards for articles appearing in three of the four journals: he received the George Polya Award for an article in College Mathematics Journal in 1992, and in 1997, he won the Trevor Evans Award for a piece that appeared in Math Horizons.

The Lester R. Ford Award was presented to Dunham on August 11, at the Summer MathFest 2006 in Knoxville, Tenn.

### Accounting Prof Deemed "Certified Fraud Examiner"

Paula L. Irwin, associate professor of accounting at Muhlenberg College, was designated a "Certified Fraud Examiner" by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. CFEs are trained in four areas of fraud: fraudulent financial transactions, criminology and ethics, legal elements of fraud and fraud investigation.

This designation is only awarded to select professionals, and Irwin now joins the ranks of over 16,000 business and government professionals world-wide who have also earned the CFE certification.

CFEs have the ability to: examine data and records to detect and trace fraudulent transactions; interview suspects to obtain information and confessions; write investigation reports; advise clients as to their findings and testify



at trials; be well-versed in the law as it relates to fraud and fraud investigations and understand the underlying factors that motivate individuals to commit fraud.

Irwin has been a member of Muhlenberg College's business and accounting department since fall of 1991. Irwin earned her bachelor of accounting from Penn State University, and her master's in business administration from Lehigh University. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the National Association of Accountants.

Muhlenberg is proud to offer a minor in public health, the first program of its kind in the Lehigh Valley.

Established this semester, public health is an interdisciplinary minor that focuses on the protection and improvement of health for individuals, communities and populations at risk for injury and disease. The curriculum extends across the natural sciences, mathematics, social sciences and humanities to educate and empower students about health-related issues from varying points of view. Dr. Susan Kahlenberg, assistant professor of media and communication, will serve as director of the program.

### College Now Offers Minor in Public Health

Students who minor in public health will acquire an understanding of statistics, the scientific inquiry process and the behavioral, economic, historical, political and social contexts of health. The core class, Issues in Public Health, introduces students to the five main areas of public health: biostatistics, health education, public policy, epidemiology and environmental and occupational health. The program offers students flexibility to choose electives appropriate to their interests in public health that also complement their respective majors.

The minor prepares students for post-graduate work and preprofessional careers in public health. Students are encouraged to participate in public healthrelated experiences through independent research study, service learning or other experiential learning connected to a course, internships within the community and community service not connected to a course.

## What We Did Last Summer: Digital Storytelling at Muhlenberg's



photo credit: Deb Kipp

Marlene "Linny" Oberkotter Fowler (right) with children in the KAMP program

"There is nothing more exciting than to empower children to contribute in making their neighborhoods and communities healthy places to live and learn."

—"Linny" Fowler

Marlene "Linny" Oberkotter Fowler and the Fowler Family Charitable Gift Program Help Young Filmmakers Document Community Life

By Stacey Prohaska

On Friday, August 25, twelve young filmmakers gathered at the Allentown Art Museum for the premiere of their very own "Allentown Stories," a collection of short documentaries they had produced to address critical issues in their local community. The documentaries were a culmination of a two-week intensive program called KAMP (Kids Access Media Project) directed by Dr. Lora Taub-Pervizpour and Dr. Kate Ranieri of Muhlenberg's media and communication department.

In attendance were Marlene "Linny" Oberkotter Fowler and Beall Fowler, whose Fowler Family Charitable Gift Program provided the lead gift to fund the KAMP initiative and help the young filmmakers achieve their vision. Fowler is an artist, arts patron and philanthropist whose passion is advancing education among children and youth.

The idea for KAMP stemmed from an earlier collaboration between Muhlenberg College and CUNA (Congregations United for Neighborhood Action) and grew from a Documentary Research course that Taub-Pervizpour and Ranieri teach each semester. In the course, Muhlenberg students create digital stories that document some aspect of their social world. This summer, Taub-Pervizpour and Ranieri took 12 young volunteers from CUNA, ages 10 through 17, through the same process with KAMP.

"First we talked about the issues that were most important to the kids," says Ranieri. "For instance, one of the KAMPers was concerned about the community's litter problem; another was focused on traffic and safety in areas where children are playing outdoors."

Once the KAMPers had chosen an idea, the next step was to decide how best to tell the story visually. For 10 days they traveled the 20-block distance along Chew Street between Salem U.C.C. and Muhlenberg College engaged in documentary research. "The kids hit the streets with disposable cameras to take pictures that would help them conceptualize their films," says Ranieri. From there, KAMPers developed a script and worked with iMovie software in Walson Hall to put their photos together in a cohesive way; add music, a voice-over narrative and graphics; and edit their work into a short film. Junior Amy Chrzanowski, a media and communication/theatre major at Muhlenberg, served as mentor, research and tech assistant and helped KAMPers get to know each other and the digital equipment through creative games and exercises.

The Allentown Art Museum provided the perfect space for the premiere of "Allentown Stories," and KAMPers were excited to showcase their work. The evening's events opened with remarks by President Helm followed by introductions of the young documentarians and the premier of their films.

"The films revealed the exuberance that KAMPers brought to their work and each other every single day," says Ranieri. "Allentown Stories' crystallized the voices and visions of a group of engaged and creative young people. The stories also rendered powerfully the value and meaning of community in the children's lives."

Ranieri and Taub-Pervizpour plan to continue KAMP next summer and have plans to add programming during the academic year as well.

"There is nothing more exciting than to empower children to contribute in making their neighborhoods and communities healthy places to live and learn," says Fowler. "Children can make a difference."

Fowler has served and supported countless organizations in the Lehigh Valley and beyond including Head Start, ArtsQuest, the Allentown Art Museum, the Baum School of Art, the Banana Factory (where she is an artist-in-residence), CEOAMERICA of the Lehigh Valley, Community Services for Children, Valley Youth House and Lehigh Valley Child Care, among others. She has won numerous awards for her service to the community, most recently the 2006 Governor's Award. Each year, this prestigious award is bestowed upon one person in the Commonwealth who makes "significant contributions to the vitality and availability of the arts in Pennsylvania."

"Projects such as KAMP help kids become aware of their similarities despite their differences," says Fowler. "Through their eyes we can see that our greatest strength is our diversity. The key is to work together and value our differences." Additional funds and support for KAMP were provided by Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., FLSmidth, Inc., Dan's Camera City and Dorney Park & Wildwater Kingdom.

For more information on corporate, foundation and government giving, contact Deb Kipp at 484-664-3223 or kipp@muhlenberg.edu.



Fowler (R) and Kate Ranieri of the Media and Communication

department with a KAMPer

#### DIGITAL STORIES AND FILMMAKERS

\* Caution! Children at Play Joey Zver and Tony Prentice Issue: Traffic and Safety for Community Youth Playing Outdoors

#### \* Young Girlz United

*Hydrea Hankerson, Laquanda Thomas and Iesha Pridgen* Issue: Step Dancing as Recreation, Exercise, Friendship and Pride

#### \* The Good, the Bad, and the Difference Bobbi Ann Gabriel and Kirstin O'Hare Issue: Graffiti at Community Parks

#### \* Skool

*Christian Roman* Issue: The Best and Worst Parts of School

#### \* Expense

Zana Zver Issue: Cheerleading's High Cost of Membership

#### **\*** Litter

Joan O'Hare and Asbley Marie Roman Issue: Efforts to Keep Allentown Litter-Free

#### \* Youth Recreation

*Louise Zver, KAMP Coordinator* Issue: Advocating for Community Youth Recreation Sites

## Alumni **NEWS**

Traci (Luckenbill) Falco '92 D I R E C T O R

Scott Powell Ketcham ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Desirée Sedehi '08 PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT





In the I940s and '50s, Muhlenberg freshmen were forced to wear a dink (pictured at left) every day during their first semester.

### Connecting the Past, Present and Future: Traditions at Muhlenberg

By Traci (Luckenbill) Falco '92

During the Muhlenberg fall semester days of the 1940s and '50s, freshmen had to wear dinks (small beanie hats) until December Holiday Break. However, if they were successful in defeating the sophomores at three out of four contests including: a tug-of-war over Cedar Creek; a Flag Rush up a greased flagpole; a touch football game; or a push ball game, they could remove their dinks by Thanksgiving. Due to a nationwide trend to control behavior, these traditions evolved and changed through the years and, by the late '60s and early '70s, disappeared.

On today's Muhlenberg campus few traditions remain; but students and staff are working diligently to revitalize some of the strong connections to the past. During the first night of orientation weekend, all first-year students attend the "Circle of Light" candle-lighting ceremony, signifying their first step to alumni life. This year, several alumni returned to pass the light to the first-year students and welcome them to the Muhlenberg community. Also during Orientation, the traditional legacy photo was taken. This year, the Muhlenberg legacy continued for 43 families as their children joined the Class of 2010.

Just prior to Homecoming Weekend in October, Student Council, the Cardinal Key Society and the Office of Alumni Relations collaborated to develop "Spirit Week" as a way to renew some campus traditions. During Spirit Week, students celebrated school spirit while paying homage to Muhlenberg traditions of the past including Monday evening's Athlete Auction; Tuesday's Powder-Puff Football Game; Wednesday's Scary Movie night in the Great Room; Thursday's Class Wars (including the Tug); and Friday's Pep Rally and Bonfire.

What does the future hold? No one knows for sure, but if we look into our "cardinal" ball, hopefully we'll see our treasured campus traditions continue, forever connecting the past, present and future of Muhlenberg.

Do you have a particular Muhlenberg time-honored tradition that you would like see renewed? Please send your suggestions to the Office of Alumni Relations.



Fall 2006 Muhlenberg Legacies:

Row I (I to r): Amanda Grube, Isabella Sobel, Jocelin Thau, Kimberly Hacker, Brittany Trenker, Samantha Ginsburg, Christine Pfeiffer, Margaret Cady, Emily Morse, Amy Czulada, Dahlia Walton.

Row 2 (1 to r): Jordan Sones, Emily Guss, Lauren Conicella, Kasey Hacker, Lindsay Ennis, Jeremy Goldberg, Hannah Poles, Veronica Boyle, Samantha Evans, Joshua Frees.

Row 3 (I to r): Rebecca Sachs, Mitchell Winkler, Kimberly Snyder, Kaitlin Wedemeyer, Debra Crockett, Andrew Howley Jr., Staci Hecht, Julia DeMilio, Ian Dworkin.

Row 4 (I to r): Melissa Frey, Kenneth Lafferty, Joseph Dyer, Colin Wolfer, Michael Tate, John Kallen, Brittany Williams, Matthew Balaban, Andrew Miller, Edward Lytle.

Row 5 (right side only, I to r): Samuel Hayden, Colin Hooker-Haring, Evan Orosz.

You can contact the Alumni Office at 2400 West Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104

Phone: 800-464-2374 • Fax: 484-664-3545

• E-mail: bergalum@muhlenberg.edu

### Meet the Dean Tour Continues

President Helm and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations hosted two successful fall events to introduce Dean Karen R. Green, Muhlenberg's new vice president for student affairs/dean of students. The kickoff event was a cocktail and hors d'oeuvres reception at The Swan Club in Glenwood Landing, N.Y. (Long Island) on September 14. November's Meet the Dean event drew more than 250 alumni, parents and friends for a New York Harbor Cruise aboard the "Zephyr."



Dean Karen R. Green

Meet the Dean events will be held this spring in the following locations:

February 1	Boston, Mass.
February 20	Lehigh Valley, Pa.
February 28	Baltimore, Md.
March 1	Washington, D.C.
March 20	New Jersey
April 17	Philadelphia, Pa.

"I'm enjoying the opportunity to meet alumni, parents and other friends of the extended Muhlenberg family," says Green. "Everyone has been so welcoming and I look forward to future gatherings and growing my understanding of the Muhlenberg College experience."

Karen Green began her duties on June 15, 2006, replacing Rudy Ehrenberg, who served the Muhlenberg community from 1994 to 2006. She received her baccalaureate degree from Agnes Scott College in Atlanta in 1986, where the Karen Green Human Relations Award was created in her honor. She went on to earn her Master of Divinity from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in 1997. She has held leadership positions in student life at Spelman College, Agnes Scott College, Hamilton College, Emory University and Wells College.

For more information, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 800-464-2374 or visit myMuhlenberg.com.





Muhlenberg College's Regional Alumni Clubs invite you to 'Berg Hoops & Hockey Hysteria 2007. Meet alumni from your local area – or take a road trip to another region – and enjoy a day at the court or rink!

> Thursday, January II, 2007

Philadelphia Flyers vs. Montreal Canadiens Wachovia Center, Philadelphia, Pa. Game Time: 7:00 p.m.

#### > Thursday, January 18, 2007

Nashville Predators vs. Columbus Blue Jackets Gaylord Entertainment Center, Nashville, Tenn. Game Time: 7:00 p.m.

#### > Friday, January 19, 2007

New York Knicks vs. New Jersey Nets Madison Square Garden, New York, N.Y. Game Time: 7:30 p.m.

#### > Sunday, January 2I, 2007

Hershey Bears vs. Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins Hershey Arena, Hershey, Pa. Game Time: 5:00 p.m.

#### > Saturday, February 17, 2007

New York Islanders vs. New Jersey Devils Nassau Coliseum, Uniondale, N.Y. Game Time: 7:00 p.m.

#### > Saturday, March 10, 2007

Washington Wizards vs. New York Knicks Verizon Center, Washington, D.C. Game Time: 7:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, March II, 2007

Boston Celtics vs. Chicago Bulls TD Banknorth Garden, Boston, Mass. Game Time: 3:30 p.m.

Register online at www.myMuhlenberg.com. Payment is required at time of registration. For more information call the office of Alumni Relations at 800-464-2374.

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## Lives of Leadership and Service: Alumni Donate Their

Alumni Donate Their Time and Talents

by Brianne Schurott '08

uhlenberg College teaches its students throughout their four years to live "lives of leadership and service." As alumni immerse themselves into careers and family lives post-college, they prove that the school's doctrine of helping others and the community has not been in vain.

The Office of Alumni Relations and its student liaisons, the Cardinal Key Society, who work hard year-round to maintain and foster a strong, life-long relationship between alumni and the College, as well as promote an enthusiasm of love for Muhlenberg among its current students, are proud to boast about the community service activities in which various alumni clubs are involved.



Clockwise from top: 1 The Cardinal Key Society participates in Emily's Walk for Life 2 Philadelphia area alumni work with children at the Ronald McDonald House 3 & 4 New York Metro club members at the New York Cares Day 5 Philly alumni at the Special Olympics 6 Philadelphia Club members at the Susan G. Komen Foundation Race for the Cure

One of the largest alumni groups, the New York metro regional club, has been involved in New York Cares Day for the past five years (spearheaded by Matt Daly '98 and Diane Manmon '88). Each year, over 20 alumni help in various activities such as mural painting, cleaning and organizing events for the day. The club also has participated for the past three years in the Revlon Walk for Cancer, held each May.

Another regional club with strong dedication is the Philadelphia club, who have volunteered at the Philadelphia Society for Services to Children for the past four years (led by Dawn Hanson '00). The event, dedicated to bringing holiday spirit to local children in need, features a Holiday Toy Shop in which alumni can help make a child's holiday wish-list come true. Over 20 alumni assisted with the event, and many others who were unable to attend gave toys, clothes and books, as well as monetary donations to help with family utility bills.

Philly club members Elizabeth Einhorn '05, Laura Friant '05, and Amy Romm '04 also collaborated to bring Muhlenberg alumni together through community service by hosting a series of events under the title "Muhlenberg Cares in Your Neighborhood." At the first event, the Susan G. Komen Foundation Philadelphia Race for the Cure, participating alumni were encouraged to meet for snacks throughout the 5k run. At the second event, held at the Ronald McDonald House, alumni helped in activities such as face painting, cookie decorating, aiding in parent spa services through Mary Kay and creating a collage with the theme "Tm Proud to be an American." The final event helped the Special Olympics of New Jersey. Alumni who volunteered coached and mentored the Olympic athletes. In addition, the group helped out with blood drives throughout the Philadelphia area.

Giving and service can also grow from the legacy of another's generosity. Eric Dettenrieder '96 worked as a ski-race coordinator at Hunter Mountain and had the chance to share his passion for skiing with terminally ill children at the mountain. Tragically, Dettenrieder passed away from complications from a skiing accident in March of 1997. In his honor, the EDD Memorial Fund which provides special needs youth the opportunity for adventure was established. Also in Dettenrieder's memory, a new tradition has also been founded on Muhlenberg's campus. Dettenrieder's friend, men's soccer Coach Sean Topping '98, hosted a clinic to teach terminally ill children how to play soccer in April 2006 in conjunction with the EDD Memorial Fund. Both the College and the EDD Fund are working with the Cardinal Key Society to make the event an annual tradition.

The Cardinal Key Society recently participated in another event close to home for a Muhlenberg alumnus. For the past few years, Matt Domzalski '90 and his

wife, Carol, have hosted an event, Emily's Walk for Life, in memory of their daughter. On November 14, 2000, Emily Domzalski, 8 months old, passed away from Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). SMA, the number one genetic killer of children under the age of two, is inherited genetically and destroys the nerves controlling voluntary muscle movement, which affects crawling, walking, head and neck control and swallowing. Money raised through this annual event goes to helping find a cure for the disease. Cardinal Keys were proud to participate in last year's walk, and they plan to continue their involvement in years to come.

While at Muhlenberg, many students involve themselves in activities that benefit both the College community, as well as the community at large. It is heartening to see that the desire to serve the community continues after graduation, as well. Through their "lives of leadership and service," Muhlenberg graduates enrich their lives existences and help to improve both their local and global communities.

### Students and Alumni Aren't the Only Ones – The Board of Associates Gives Back, Too!

The College's Board of Associates is an organization of business, professional and civic leaders committed to fostering community understanding and support of the College. The Board also maintains close liaison with the College managers to reflect community opinion and concerns, meets periodically with managers to be informed about the work of the College, sponsors scholarships and provides financial support for Lehigh Valley residents attending Muhlenberg College, and has sponsored programs of interest to the College and the community.

This year, the Board of Associates pledged to contribute to the following campus endeavors:

- DANCE FOR A CURE, a popular event whose proceeds are divided between the American Diabetes Association, the Women's 5K Classic and the Sickle Cell Foundation. (For more information on Dance For a Cure, see the feature story on page 14.)
- HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK, a week-long program that includes panel discussions, a "Shantytown" sleep-out and a Hunger Banquet.
- PROGRAMS WITH JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, a school in downtown Allentown with which students are particularly
  involved. Funds from the Board of Associates help to defray the cost of arts and crafts supplies, the homework club, visits to
  the College and Jefferson Field Day, an event where the youngsters are brought to campus for a day of fun.
- THE CARING PLACE'S "GET FIT" PROGRAM, a newly established effort to educate inner-city youth about nutrition and healthy lifestyles.

11

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A CHANGE IN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE BUILDS UPON EXISTING STRENGTHS TO FASHION A MORE INTENSE AND INTELLECTUAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE

## Passing the Torch; Stoking the Fire

Did you feel the earth move last winter? Well, a momentous event indeed occurred on the south side of Chew Street: after 22 years as Chair of first the Department of Theatre Arts, then Theatre & Dance, professor of theatre Charles Richter stepped down as head of the department.

Richter arrived on the Muhlenberg campus in the fall of 1978; at that time, there was no theatre program, just a self-designed major within the English department. But there was much student interest in theatre, with three student-run organizations servicing creative students. Under his leadership, the major was established, with the first theatre majors graduating in 1982.

Curtis Dretsch (now professor of theatre) arrived in 1979 and immediately set a high technical standard for the College's productions. Both Richter and Dretsch had newly minted MFA's from Southern Methodist University, then one of the finest training programs in the country, and extensive professional regional and New York credits. They committed themselves to producing, as Richter put it, "very high quality artistic product with college students - we never lowered our professional standards just because we were working with students." Their philosophy quickly established the program as a leader in local theatre. They also engaged upand-coming theatre artists from New York City to supplement and enhance the department's work. Many of those artists have gone on to respected professional careers – Evan Yionoulis, Pamela Berlin, Gloria Muzio, Jeffrey Weiss, and the department's first technical director, Donald Holder, whose extensive production credits would eventually include a Tony<sup>®</sup> Lighting Design Award for *The*  *Lion King.* Holder also introduced several other professional artists to the program, including Timothy Averill, currently an associate professor in the department.

It was a very small program at first, with a dozen students and just two full-time faculty. As Richter remembers it, "Department meetings consisted of me sauntering over to Curtis' office and saying, 'What do we do now?" But despite their size, several early landmark productions set the bar high. The first play Richter directed, Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, was an enormous success and was chosen as a Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival regional finalist. Dretsch and Richter also shared a commitment to values and dealing



photo credit:: Curtis

Spring Awakening (1980): dir. Charles Richter design: Curtis Dretsch, Mildred Greene

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The Country Wife (2000): dir. James Peck design: Timothy Averill, Constance Case

with important social issues: Canaries and Sitting Ducks was a touring production the department commissioned shortly after the Love Canal disaster to address the issue of nuclear waste. No Easy Answers was another touring production that tackled date rape and incest. "We never shied away from difficult subject matter. Spring Awakening, which also won ACTF honors, dealt with homosexuality in a frank way. In addition to the play, we sponsored a conference on sexuality that, along with other factors, heralded a new era of openness on campus. The theatre department worked as an agency of change on campus in those days. It was really invigorating work."

As the number of students grew, Richter began to add staff: a technical director, an acting teacher, then an administrative assistant. In 1993, he hired Karen Dearborn (now professor of dance), who established the major in dance. The late '90s then saw the explosion in numbers of majors and a reactive growth in personnel; the department now boasts over 200 majors and nearly 20 full-time faculty and staff, along with over a dozen adjuncts who teach everything from basic speech to kinesiology, from stage combat to Pilates.

Many factors contributed to the department's growth; Richter points to the Dorothy and Dexter Baker Foundation's support through scholarships and the Baker Artist-in-Residence program; the personalized recruitment program he began and continues to this day; and the hiring of faculty and staff who share his vision of what theatre making can and should be.

But one of the things of which Richter is most proud is the fact that, despite the number of years he headed the department and despite its amazing growth, "We've never lost the spirit of innovation and risk-taking that we established in the beginning. In fact, one of the things that I really like about Jim is he takes even bigger risks than I ever would." That 'Jim' is James Peck, who was hired by Richter in 1999 and assumed the Chair of the Department in January 2006.

Peck's first contact with Muhlenberg College came in the summer of 1996, when he received a call from Richter, asking if he would consider a guest-directing job for a production of Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* in spring 1997. Peck agreed to the assignment and later, after completing his doctorate from NYU in 1999, accepted a job offer from the department.

Peck feels (as does Richter) that the theatre "pushes and probes us to examine who we are, and specifically, the gap between who we are and who we ought to be; to do that, you sometimes have to go into uncomfortable territory." He has directed edgy and sometimes controversial productions here, including Wallace Shawn's *Aunt Dan and Lemon*, William Wycherley's *The Country Wife*, the first production mounted in the Trexler Pavilion for Theatre & Dance's Dorothy Hess Baker Theatre, and David Edgar's *Pentecost*, the 'Berg production of which he is most proud.

Eventually, the department grew so large that it seemed impossible for any one person to run it successfully. Conversations began in 2005 for the passing of many of the Chair's administrative, curricular, and long-term planning duties from Richter to Peck, though as Director of Theatre, Richter would continue to recruit, advise the Muhlenberg Theatre Association, and oversee implementation of the production programs. In spring 2006, Peck officially took over as chair. In the new division of duties, Peck explained that the "Executive Committee" (as he calls it) - consisting of himself, Richter, Dearborn (head of the dance program) and Dretsch (head of the design program) - each have a share of the responsibility for the running of the department.

When asked what other changes have taken place, Peck says that, due to such rapid growth over the past 10 years, some administrative structures were no longer efficient and he has put much effort into revising and updating processes to improve communication and time management. Curricular changes have been more extensive: under his guidance, the department underwent a curricular review in 2005 that changed course offerings and expanded major concentrations that are available to students. Current concentrations include acting, design, directing, stage management and the newest academic concentration: performance studies.

According to Peck, "A quick description of performance studies is that it is a blending of the study of the performance arts with cultural anthropology. Performance studies asks questions about how the performances we make are both expressions of how we imagine ourselves as a people and articulations of particular cultural values that we hold. In addition to making performances, students may also now focus on studying and writ-

continued on page 30



## Muhlenberg Student Organizations Spread Hope for a Cure

#### by Allison Schnall '08

In 2005, an estimated 1.4 million people in the United States were diagnosed with cancer (American Cancer Society, 2006). In fact, one out of every four deaths in the United States is due to cancer. What is causing such a horrible disease? As of now, there are very few answers to the daunting question, but Muhlenberg College students are determined to help find a cure.

Numerous Muhlenberg students, faculty, staff and alumni devote time and heart toward the fight against cancer. On campus, two student-run events are focused on raising funds and spreading awareness about the disease that affects so many people. Together, Dance For A Cure and Relay For Life have brought in an estimated \$65,000 for various cancer organizations over the past five years.

Relay For Life, a walkathon that raises funds for the American Cancer Society (ACS), spreads hope that one day a cure for cancer will be found and celebrates the cancer survivors who attend the event. Relay For Life is a national event, running anywhere between 12-24 hours. Muhlenberg's Relay For Life goes from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

The event is the result of programming run by Colleges Against Cancer, a national organization that was first started on Muhlenberg's campus in January of 2005, by alumna Amy Bornholdt '06. The club is dedicated to spreading cancer awareness, partaking in advocacy efforts and fundraising for the ACS.

'Berg's first Relay For Life took place in April 2005. Muhlenberg's event, which is open to faculty, staff, students, parents and alumni, as well as cancer survivors from the community, had about 200 participants and raised around \$10,000. The following year, 400 participants joined the effort, and together raised over \$33,000, making Muhlenberg College the number one Relay For Life college event in the Lehigh Valley.

Of Relay For Life's success, Colleges Against Cancer vice president Alex Corgan '08 states, "One thing I've noticed is the students' willingness to get involved and actively participate. We have hundreds of students each year and continue to grow. Relay brings students together for a common cause, a cause that affects all of us somehow in our lives. As proud as I am to serve as a co-chair for Relay for Life, I am even more proud of the way the student body embraces the event, the cause and the mission. We truly have an extraordinary group of students at Muhlenberg and Relay brings that out."

The student-produced event is currently run by two co-chairs, as well as a committee of about 20 students. The group works throughout the entire school year to develop an event that is not only lucrative for the ACS, but also entertaining for

all those involved. Last year, the entertainment included student DJ Lex Mercado '07, three 'Berg a capella groups, four student and local singers and bands, a student dance group and a dunk tank. The dunk tank brought in close to \$500 and was a success due to faculty and staff volunteers who were willing to be dunked for a good cause. The tank featured Jane Schubert '02 (assistant to the dean of students and judicial officer), Aaron Bova '00 (associate director of housing services) and Dr. Christopher Borick (associate professor of political science).

"We [also] work hard to educate participants about cancer risks and prevention," explains Lauren Gurwicz '08, the Colleges Against Cancer mission delivery chair. "At Relay For Life, we provide cancer facts, make cards for kids in the hospital, sell ribbons and of course supply sunscreen since the event is outdoors!"

Relay For Life is different than a traditional walkathon in that teams of clubs, friends, sports, academic departments, Greek life and alumni form and take turns walking around the track all day: the goal is to have at least one person from each team on the track at all times. Teams also spend the entire year fundraising by writing letters to friends and family, or holding events such as bake sales.

This year, Relay For Life will be held on April 29, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Immediately following the opening ceremonies, a Survivor Lap will take place, and at dusk, a Luminaria candle lighting ceremony will be held to honor and remember anybody who has been personally affected by cancer. Entertainment and food will be provided throughout the day. All students, parents, faculty and alumni are encouraged to partake in the celebration, and can email muhlcac@gmail.com for more information.

Another successful and growing student-run fundraising event was held on October 20, 2006. Dance For A Cure was put together by nine hard-working students. The commit-



A team of students participates in the Relay

tee, which had at least one representative from each class year, began the initial work on the project at the end of the Spring 2006 semester.

Dance For a Cure is a semiformal dance that has been held at Muhlenberg in the Garden Room for the past five years. The event was started by alumna Amanda Kokie '04, who has spent much of her life supporting the fight against cancer. In 2002, she proposed the idea of a school-wide benefit dance to community service director Valerie Lane, and the rest is history.

"[We got an] overwhelming response," recalls Kokie. "It turned out that the saying was true: unfortunately, everyone has been touched by cancer in one way or another and Dance for a Cure gave everyone an opportunity to support the fight. Each sorority set an example and made generous donations. Students donated what they could as we 'tabled' but what was more surprising were donations from Seegers Union facility staff, faculty, campus clubs and donations from students who never [usually] cared to participate in a 'Berg event."

Attendance to the event cost only a \$5 (or \$7 per couple) admission fee, and all of the profit was donated to a few different organizations. This year, \$3,000 was raised, and a third of the money was donated to a cancer organization, The Women's 5K Classic. Additionally, the group decided to help support research for



Committee members Liz Faughnan '08, Lauren Gurwicz '08, Lynn Boyle '08, Christina Harkness '08 decorate for the event.

other diseases as well, and gave the rest of the proceeds to The American Diabetes Association and the American Sickle Cell Association.

"Seeing the joy each organization shows when you present them with the money shows you how much your hard work pays off!" offered committee member Tara Large '07.

Besides providing students with a DJ (Jonathan Evans) who proved to be a big hit, the Dance For A Cure committee also offered those attending the dance the opportunity to *continued on page 30* 

Homecoming 2006 brought more than 1000 alumni and friends back home to Muhlenberg—and it didn't rain! The weekend was a howling good time for alumni of all ages, including the 10-, 5- and inaugural 0-year Reunion Classes of 1996, 2001 and 2006. All who returned to campus enjoyed a wide variety of Halloween-inspired activities, fall foods and beverages while reminiscing with friends, classmates, faculty and staff. Many thanks to all alumni and friends who returned to campus to share in this wickedly good celebration—we look forward to having you home again soon!



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## HOMECOMING 2006 THE

## \*A HUGE thank you to our alumni volunteers who helped make the weekend a success:

Allison Colino '06 • Jodi Siegel '01 • Dustin Stein '01 • Jennifer Roman '96 Lou Lessig '93 • Carole Silvoy '91 • Eileen Collins-Neri '87 • Susan Rhoads Procina '03 • Linda Speidel Cenci '75





## Muhlenberg Department Decorating Contest Winners:

Ist Place: Office of Residential Services 2nd Place: The 'Berg Bookshop 3rd Place: The Wescoe School Honorable Mention: Office of Physical Education & Athletics





2006 Homecoming King and Queen: Jason Bonder and Emily Aquila



## NTED HOMECOMING



Student Scarecrow Decorating Contest Winners: Most Spirited: Women's Cross Country Most Original: Chemistry Club Scariest: Delta Tau Delta









iving back to the community is kind, considerate and commendable. Giving back is also something to which Muhlenberg students dedicate an enormous amount of time. With so many students possessing the initiative and motivation to make a difference, it is not only important, but also necessary, to have a program to back up such efforts. Taken together, such initiatives and the resources available through a dedicated staff, it is no surprise that Muhlenberg's office of community service is one of the most notable departments on campus!

When Val Lane, director of community service, began working 10 years ago, her position was just part-time. "When I came here, community service wasn't really part of the culture of the College," explains Lane, who has now been a full-time employee for the past two and a half years.

Additionally, when assistant director of community service Lindsey Knepp '04 came to Muhlenberg as a student in 2000, the office was nearly non-existent. "[The office] has grown enormously. When I came here as a freshman, there was no student space, supplies were in a dark room, and Val had just a small office. SHARE [Students Have A Real Effect, the campus' community service club] had about eight members. In the years following, the SHARE mailing list went up to over 100 students!"

The increase in participation in one of Muhlenberg's largest community service organizations, SHARE, is just one example of the huge transformation the office has made over the past five years. Because students are more interested in being involved in community service and are actively looking for ways to participate and

#### SPOTLIGHT ON THE

### Office of Community Service

By: Allison Schnall '08

lead, the office has been able to offer many more opportunities to those interested.

The office advises three clubs: SHARE (a community service club), Best Buddies (a one-on-one pairing of a college student and a person with mental retardation) and Habitat for Humanity (a group that builds houses locally).

Another one of the ways in which the community service office has evolved is through its large connection with the campus community. The office connects to numerous other offices on campus, including the Health Center, Health Professions, Residential Life, the Center for Ethics, and the Chapel. Additionally, Lane, Knepp and the work-study students have teamed up with a number of campus clubs and organizations, including: Greek organizations, Colleges Against Cancer, the Psychology Club, EnAcT, the Cardinal Key Society, Communidad Latino, the Muhlenberg Theater Association, the Education Society, Alpha Phi Omega (the co-ed community service fraternity) and Dress Upon a Star. Various athletic teams have all worked with the office to do community service as well.

Service learning is also a huge component of the office's objectives, and 18-20 faculty members take advantage of the office's resources. Service learning involves the combination of in-class lessons with outof-the-classroom service experiences. Departments that have utilized this resource include biology, theatre, psychology, business, media and communication and languages, literatures, and cultures. The community service office works to help faculty build community relationships and work out the logistics of the course and its matching service component.

There are also a number of other co-curricular opportunities offered to students.

Lane explains, "We don't want our students to just volunteer. While we are volunteers, everyone walks away learning something from the people they partner with. Muhlenberg students get good concepts of different

GAZIN

### **Greek Organizations Focus on Service**

Greek Life at Muhlenberg is alive and well – and so is the Greek students' focus on philanthropy! Here are just some of the many ways that Muhlenberg's fraternities and sororities have made a difference.

The Greek community raised more money for hurricane relief than any other student club or organization - over \$I,000. Thanks to Sigma Phi Epsilon's relationship with the Barry Manilow Fund for Health and Hope, every dollar raised was tripled by the foundation and Mr. Manilow.

The Greek community also organized the Sixth Annual Sean Cunningham Volleyball Tournament, raising over \$300 for the Good Shepherd Center. The tournament is named in honor of the son of a Muhlenberg employee who suffered severe head injuries in a

#### car accident in 2000.

Alpha Epsilon Pi, the National Jewish Fraternity, conducted the "Camelot House Classic," a golf outing that raised funds for Camelot House for Children. The organization helps children with disabilities.

Phi Kappa Tau will be adopting The Caring Place as its official community service commitment this year. Last year, the chapter donated \$2,200 to Hole in the Wall Camps, a camp program for terminally ill children. The chapter's donation was the IIth largest from over 80 Phi Kappa Tau chapters nationally.

Delta Zeta contributed over \$2,200 to such agencies and programs as: V-Day Campaign, Lehigh Valley Fight Against Hunger, DZ Sound Beginnings Program, City of Hope and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Additionally, the chapter vol-



unteered time and services to the Boys and Girls Club of Allentown, Toys for Tots, 6th Street Shelter, Perfect Fit for Working Women and the Allentown School District.

Alpha Chi Omega spent much of the year supporting one of its sisters who was critically injured in a car accident. The chapter participated in a benefit dance, sold items in the Union and participated in benefit sports tournaments in addition to providing emotional support to one another. The chapter also participated in the Turning Point Vigil and continues to work with Turning Point this year.



Val Lane, director of community service, with Millie & Edwin Kunkle '56 (who established the Kunkle Family Jefferson School Partnership Endowment Fund in 2005) and sudents Jess Friedman '07, Jenn Vessio '06, Danielle Pino '06, Lauren Tiexeira '06 and Rachel Sxhein '06 at Jefferson Field Day 2006

socioeconomic groups and different types of lifestyles." Because education does not end in the classroom, Lane and Knepp work hard to ensure that students learn by working directly in partnership with the community. The office identifies areas of the community that could benefit from students' help, and then the staff works to find academic initiatives to connect to those areas.

Examples of partnerships that support academic opportunities include a program that trains students to be HIV/STD counselors. Students are then able to go into the community and volunteer at organizations that need trained counselors. Additionally, a nation-wide program, Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP), trained 32 students to work with elders who are over 72 years old and who have been hospitalized for more

than two days. The students work to help these patients build up their cognitive abilities, which have been slightly damaged due to their extended stay at the hospital.

Another co-curricular program allows students to be trained by the Lehigh Valley Hospital to be financial advocacy counselors. These students then have the certification to work with people in the community to help them access health care at a reduced cost. Not only are these programs beneficial to the community, but the students involved in them also have the opportunity to assess whether this is a field in which they might be interested in the future.

Other opportunities available through the office include adult education initiatives (including hospice training), community renewal programs (such as the Allentown Clean and Green) and a children and youth connection that incorporates programs such as work with Jefferson Elementary School in the Allentown School District, Case Guadalupe, the Sixth Street Shelter and Community Bike Works.

Additionally, many other programs on campus utilize some of the resources of the community service office, but are completely student planned and executed. Dance For A Cure, Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week and Relay For Life are three examples of community service projects that are entirely student-driven.

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## 'Berg's Athletes Play and Serve As Well

compiled by Allison Schnall '08 and Brianne Schurott '08

Muhlenberg College Athletes are busy both on and off the field. Many of our team members find time in between practices and games to contribute to community service projects, whether it be for their own teammates, in local school systems or even nationally, with efforts going toward such charities as the American Cancer Society and the American Red Cross. Some athletes carry their competitive spirit over to team-wide runs for organizations or inter-sport games. Others work with young children in the area, helping them with education or increasing their sportsmanship and athletic talents through clinics. Whatever the effort, Muhlenberg's athletes work hard at giving back to a community that, week after week, comes and supports them at their games.

#### > W R E S T L I N G

The 'Berg wrestling team has accomplished a number of community service goals through its "Take Down Cancer" program, an initiative that has raised more than \$20,000 for the American Cancer Society. Through their latest fundraising effort, a bench press-a-thon, the wrestlers receive pledges for the number of times they can bench press their own body weight.

David Lavin '08 states, "I think [the bench press-a-thon] is great because we have fun doing it and even get competitive about it at times, but most importantly, we raise a lot of money for a great cause!"

Another component of the "Take Down Cancer" campaign includes a donation collection at football games and wrestling matches. The team usually raises several hundred dollars at each of these events.

Additionally, in wrestling matches, one of the most important aspects of the match is the ability to take down an opponent, and so the wrestlers ask their own parents to make a pledge of \$0.10 to \$0.50 for every takedown the team gets throughout the entire season. Last year, the team finished with over 800 takedowns, which, in turn, led to the success of the "Take Down Cancer" campaign.

#### > WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Nobody likes a dirty car, and the women's lacrosse team decided to use this to its benefit. Last year, the team held a car wash, in which it donated 20 % of the profits to the American Red Cross for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The team also participated in the 5k Run for Turning Point, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. In addition, the team volunteered with local after-school groups that have been brought to the 'Berg campus for various activities.

#### SOFTBALL

Like many members of the 'Berg community, the softball team spent a lot of time last year fundraising for fellow team member, Tara DeMarzo. DeMarzo was in a debilitating car accident in fall 2005, and the softball team helped in leading the community to raise funds for her family.

The team also ran in the Women's 5k Classic, which was held October 14, 2006 to raise money for breast cancer research, survivor support groups, mammogram testing for at-risk women, and education and awareness programs.

According to the team, "The Women's 5k Classic is more than a race. It is an event that recognizes the strength of women who have beaten the battle against breast cancer and provides support toward their recovery."

The softball team also has a tradition of participating in the Christian Appalachian Project, through which it has the opportunity to "play Santa" by purchasing gifts on a family of five's Christmas list. The team also adopts an elderly couple to send gifts to.

In addition, the softball team, along with 'Berg's other womens' teams, has participated in National Girls and Women in Sports Day, an annual event rejoicing and honoring the athletic accomplishments of women.

#### > T R A C K

Members of the track team are very committed to helping with various Muhlenberg community service projects, including the monthly Jefferson Elementary School visits to the campus. Additionally, a large portion of the team worked at a field day held at Lutheran Elementary School, where they helped put together track events and relay races. They also participate in National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

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From left to right: Wrestlers Chris Gibson '06 (L) and Dale Mills '06 (R) give the proceeds from the "Take Down Cancer" to a representative from the American Cancer Society.

The women's lacrosse team participates in the 5k Run for Turning Point. The softball team, and all of the other teams, enjoy participating in National Girls and Women in Sports Day Soccer players Phil Lichtenwalner '09 and Greg Leischner '09 teach children from the Mercy Special Learning Center how to play soccer. Matt Johnson '08 vs. Cara Rothacker '09 in the football vs. field hockey charity game.

Lacrosse player Ivan Asplundh 'IO reads to local students as a part of the national Cops-N-Kids program.

Lindsay Orosz '06, of the women's basketball team, works with a student on her dribbling skills at National Girls and Women in Sports Day. Basketball players Jimmie Riggins '07 and Matthew Ordog '09 read to students at Jefferson Elementary School.

#### > MEN'S LACROSSE

Muhlenberg College's men's lacrosse team participated in the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the Cops-N-Kids program by reading to first graders in Allentown. Participants in the program work to collect books which are then donated and read at schools. The goal of Cops-N-Kids is to improve literacy and foster an image of positive role models in children.

The Cops-N-Kids Reading Program, a national initiative, began with officers distributing books to children while on routine patrol. The concept caught on and the residents of the community rolled up their sleeves and pitched in. Thousands of book donations later, the program has gained national attention.

This is the first year that the lacrosse team has participated in this project. Assistant Coach Scott Ketcham says that the team continually works to improve the image of men's lacrosse teams nationwide by participating in community service projects. The team is also involved with Allentown's Clean & Green/Don't Trash Allentown project, a cooperative effort between concerned citizens and the city to reduce litter, promote community pride and beautify Allentown.

#### MEN'S SOCCER

In order to help aspiring soccer players, the 'Berg team offered a free soccer clinic for children at the Mercy Special Learning Center. For more information on the event, founded by Coach Sean Topping '98, see page 11.

#### > FOOTBALL COLLABORATES WITH FIELD HOCKEY AND VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

Every year, Muhlenberg field hockey and football teams compete in a field hockey game to raise money for Fox Chase Cancer Center. Last year, the teams raised \$300 at their charity game. The game is played on the turf, where the football team dresses in field hockey uniforms and the women don jerseys.

The men of Muhlenberg football also donned the uniforms of another women's team, this time to compete in a volleyball vs. football game. This game raised over \$1,500 for the American Red Cross in response to Hurricane Katrina. The women also participated in a weeklong leadership clinic at the Valley Youth House, an agency which serves children and families in the Lehigh Valley regardless of their ability to pay.

#### > MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Muhlenberg men's basketball team united with Allentown's Jefferson Elementary School as part of the National Association of Basketball Coaches Dream to Read Program. The partnership between the 'Berg and Jefferson, which has been ongoing for more than a decade, brought tall college students together with short first-graders to teach an important lesson: reading is important.

The Mules entered the five first-grade classes and read several *Curious George* stories, entertained questions about reading and autographed pictures of Curious George that the students drew.

"We wanted to share the importance of reading," said Chris MacIntosh '09. "We told them how it's involved in everything they do, from reading a menu at a restaurant to getting directions if you are lost."

The Dream to Read Program, founded to assist the literacy movement in America, strives to motivate and encourage children to read for enjoyment as a lifelong practice. The program allows collegiate basketball players to serve as needed role models to the youth of their community.

The team also participates in a clinic for the Boys Club of Allentown. Held the Wednesday before the Scotty Wood Tournament, the clinic has become a treasured tradition. The same youngsters who attend the clinic play on Friday at halftime of the 6:00 game, then stay and cheer for their new friends on the Mule men's team.

#### > WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The women's basketball team has hosted local youth organizations both for clinics and for games, and was flattered to participate in autograph sessions afterward. Through the Scotty Wood Tournament, they have also hosted Cub Scout and Girls Scout Troops at games, providing them with tickets and concessions. Through Scotty Wood, the team has also raised money for the American Cancer Society.

The women also have their own organization, Athletes Across the Atlantic, which raises money for AIDS and breast cancer research.

Like other teams on campus, members of the women's basketball team are proud to participate in National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

CLASS Notes

#### 1955

The 2006 Gruber Cosmology Prize has been awarded to John Mather and the Cosmic Background Explorer (COBE) science team for their groundbreaking studies confirming the Big Bang theory. **Thomas Kelsall** was among the scientists recognized.

#### 1956

#### 50th Reunion Class

Muhlenberg "Rolled out the Red Carpet," and the Class of 1956 responded. Our class was the first to reach its reunion participation goal of 45%, and the final total alumni participation rate was 56%. Thirty-five classmates returned to the College to attend the reunion: Alexander Adelson, Tommy Coughlin, Joseph Donchez, Bruce Francois, David Frederick, Ernest Fricke, Robert Fritsch, Robert Gimble, C. David Godshall, Donald Grammes, William Greenawald, Richard Gross, Walter Hafer, John Hopper, F. Harry Kreutzberg, Edwin Kunkel, Dale Mertz, Joel Middlecamp, Laurence Miller, Marshall Miller, Richard Miller, Walter Reimet, Anthony Saddler, Virgil Scott, Donald Sheasley, Marc Strausberg, Vincent Stravino, James Strine, William Sunderland, Earl Trumbower Jr., Richard Weidner Jr., Charles Wescoe III, Richard Williams, Roy Young, Herman Zieger.

This was the largest representation of our class and special thanks are due to all the "Telephone Delegates" who contacted classmates to issue personal invitations to attend.

#### Three functions were especially outstanding.

The Class of 1956 President's Reception was a special 50th Reunion celebration hosted by President and Mrs. Helm. Held on Friday evening, the reception was a great way to start the weekend and provided the perfect opportunity to meet old friends and reunite with classmates.

The Alumni Achievement Award, established in 1952 by the Alumni Association, recognizes individuals for their distinguished and exceptional service to the College. The awards are presented annually at the Awards Luncheon, and this year two of our classmates were recipients. Alex Adelson and Tommy Coughlin each received "The 2006 Alumni Association Achievement Award – Alumni Service to the College." Having so many of their classmates present made the presentation very special.

The Class Dinner was an evening of good food, good friends, good conversation and fun. Our class entertainment was a musical skit celebrating 'Berg going co-ed. The script was in the capable hands of our Master of Ceremonies, Harry Kreutzberg; Dick Miller was our pianist and the songs were performed by Don Sheasley and Ed Kunkel with help from their peers. "Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better", "Consider Yourself at Home" and "Thank Heaven for Little Girls" seemed appropriate for the admittance of women into our hallowed halls. Our guest, Mrs. Carolyn Buzzard '61, graduated with the first four-year class of women, and her memories of attending the previously all male college were enlightening. She did confirm, however, the Muhlenberg male students were definitely gentlemen. Our special guest speaker was Dr. G.N. Russell Smart Ph.D., professor of chemistry and advisor to the science club. Dr. Smart taught several of our classmates and his extensive knowledge and experiences at the College in the fifties and subsequent years, were extremely interesting and very informative.

#### A note from Tommy Coughlin to his class:

Special thanks to **Bill Greenawald**, our Reunion Chair, and **Joe Donchez**, our Class President, who worked closely with Jackie Jones, Jane Wright, Traci Falco '92, Debbie Klinger P '09, Lauren Shanahan '87 and all the administrative staff of the College to ensure our 50th Reunion was such a success. Our reunion left an afterglow A collage of friends from long ago The College may change But the spirit remains Like the memories we never outgrow

Tommy Coughlin '56 Class Correspondent & Fund Chair

#### 1960

Bob Hervey bumped into fellow alumnus Allen Uhler '38 at the Catskill Farmers Market this July, with Allen's son, Bob Uhler '84, visiting from California. The three shared some fond reminiscences of Muhlenberg and its remarkable transitions spanning the past 70 years. Visit Bob's new children's publishing website: www.libertyartists.com, and send a note. He'd love to hear from you.



Dr. Fred Hossler '63

#### 1963

**Dr. Fred Hossler**, professor of anatomy and cell biology, has received the Professor of the Year award nine times during his 25-year tenure at East Tennessee State University College of Medicine in Johnson City, Tenn. Two of these



Alumni at a gathering at the home of Jack '68 and Andie (Podolak) DeVries '67 were: Peter Zimmer '69, Lee Seras '68, Bob Roeper '68, Steve Fellows '68, Wayne Muck '68, Jack DeVries '68, Carol (Loose) Zimmer '67, Carol (Heckman) Seras '71, Nancy (Sihler) Muck '69, Andie (Podolak) DeVries and Carl Pletenyik '68.

awards were back-to-back in 2005 and 2006. In 1998, he received the Dean's Distinguished Teaching Award In Basic Sciences. His basic research on microcirculation has led to 55 publications in reviewed scientific journals. At Muhlenberg, he was a member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity and graduated with a degree in biology. Subsequently, he received an M.S. in microbiology at Penn State University, a Ph.D. in cell biology at University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver, completed postdoctoral work at Yale and was a professor at LSU Medical School in New Orleans before he moved to Tennessee.

#### 1971

Emily Katherine Thielke, daughter of Suzanne Stoken Thielke and Wesley R Thielke '69, received her B.A. on May 14, 2006, from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She majored in anthropology with a minor in Asian studies. Her sister, Elizabeth Suzanne Thielke was married in February 2005. Her husband, Ceri Williams, is in the U.S. Army at Fort Lewis, Wash. They reside in Lakewood, Wash.

#### 1977

Nina Zanetti has found a new musical interest in learning to play and arrange music for the mountain dulcimer. She has recently been invited to teach workshops at dulcimer festivals in Albany and Binghamton, N.Y

#### 1985

The Lehigh Valley Financial Group is pleased to announce the addition of Jeffrey S. Berdahl, CPA, CSEP as an associate. Jeff is a CPA with over 19 years of experience in public accounting and business planning. His affiliation with the Lehigh Valley Financial Group allows him to deliver a variety of financial services to small-tomedium-sized businesses and their executives in the Lehigh Valley.



Jeffrey S. Berdahl '86

#### 1986

After 14 years as a stay-at-home mom, Maria (Mancuso) Soltis is now working at the Cornwall Library circulation desk. Her husband, Wayne Soltis '87, is a financial analyst for Volvo Cars of North America. They live in New Windsor, N.Y., with their son Matt, age 14.

#### 1988

The Board of Directors of The Congressional Chorus announces that versatile music educator, director and performer **David Simmons** has been named music director of The Congressional Chorus, an organization of singers from Capitol Hill and the Washington region. He succeeds the late Michael Patterson, who co-founded the chorus and led it for nearly 20 years until his death in January.

#### 1992

Matthew Wingate joined the faculty at the University of Cambridge in the department of applied mathematics and theoretical physics. He will be a lecturer of theoretical physics, a position roughly equivalent to an assistant professor in the U.S. His time will be divided equally between his teaching duties and research in subatomic particle physics. Although he and his family did not plan to leave the U.S., Matt is looking forward to joining a very good department, and the family is planning to have lots of fun in Britain and the rest of Europe.

#### 1993

Emilie J. Conroy and her father Joseph F. Conroy '67 are a 'Berg alumni writing team celebrating their new release, The World in Your Cup. This book reveals the secrets of the ancient practice of tea leaf reading. From the history of tea and how the drink spread across the globe to growing the tea shrub at home, readers will become experts in this tremendous area of growing interest and popularity. The website www.worldinyourcup.com is the book's online complement. INishith Jobanputra, DO, MPH, MTM&H, is a preventive medicine physician in the U.S. Navy. He is currently a lieutenant commander and participated in the humanitarian response to the SW Asia/Pakistan earthquake in October to December 2005. He is stationed in Sicily, Italy, until September 2006.

#### 1996

**Tiffany Paige (Gauthier) Marosits** married Hunter Marosits in Boston, Mass., on February 25, 2006. It was a beautiful winter day, and many family and friends attended the ceremony



Hunter and Tiffany Marosits '96

and reception. Jennifer (Bowersox) Bacon was a bridesmaid at the wedding. Tiffany and Hunter honeymooned in St. Barthelemy, and now reside in Sturbridge, Mass. ■ Jennifer Roman of Tarlow, Breed, Hart & Rodgers, P.C. became the new on-camera contributing legal analyst for the Boston affiliate of CBS, Channel 4. Jennifer will provide depth and perspective on both national and local news stories.



The wedding of Saadia Khan '97 and Ankur Gosalia

#### 1997

Dr. Saadia Khan married Dr. Ankur Gosalia on Saturday, May 27, 2006. Her bridesmaids were Anne (Carofino) Hunt, Michelle Reuter, Rachel Braun, Kelly (Sayre) Stelato '96, and Jennifer (Klinger) LaCava (not pictured). The newlywed couple currently resides in Pittsburgh, Pa., where Saadia is a radiologist at Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh and Ankur is an attending anesthesiologist at Western Pennsylvania Hospital. ■ Heidi Peltola and Joe Richard were married on July 15, 2006 at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Fitchburg,

#### CLASS NOTES



Heidi Peltola '97 and Joe Richard

Mass. After a fantastic honeymoon in Aruba, they are living in Leominster, Mass.



Alumni present at the wedding of Ayla Tezel '99 and Rick Hay were: Todd Rothman '97, Beth Rogers-Ho '97, Rick Hay, Ayla Tezel '99, Amanda Hudson '99, Chris Futrick '99 and Tom Power '99.

#### 1998

**Gregory Rather Gentry, Jr.** received the master of divinity from Westminster Theological Seminary at the school's 77th Commencement on Thursday, May 25, 2006. The Seminary awarded a total of 125 degrees and certificates at the annual Commencement Exercises.



Tim Kelly and Stacy Devine '99

#### 1999

Stacy Devine ran the Boston Marathon on April 17, 2006, and ran the NYC Marathon in November. On May 2, Stacy became engaged to Tim Kelly, and they are getting married on June 16, 2007. Stacy is the senior campaign manager for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training Program. ■ Seth Myers recently accepted a full-time lecturer position in studio arts at Thiel College in Greenville, Pa. During the past year, he worked as an adjunct professor in the Thiel art department and as an assistant football coach of the Thiel Tomcat football team. The team won its first PAC championship since 1972, going 10-0, and made its first appearance to the NCAA D3 Playoffs. He also had the great privilege of recently being included in an international video festival at the Unge Kunstneres Samfung Gallery in Olso, Norway, for a short video piece that subversively poses questions regarding the socio-political rootcauses and environment of aggression. ■ Ayla Tezel married Rick Hay on September 10 in Virginia Beach, Va. Several alumni were present at the celebration.

#### 2000

Julia Beyer graduated with her master's degree in higher education administration from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in May 2006. After an extensive job search, she decided to accept a position as a career coordinator at The George Washington University in the Elliott School of International Affairs. She will be counseling graduate students about prospective careers in the international affairs field. She is very excited and happy to be living in Washington, D.C. ■ Dylan Lane is currently hosting Chain Reaction on GSN (Game Show



Alumni present at the wedding of Scott Lippman '98 and Meredith Tojeira '00 were: Becky (Wade) Henrich '98, Matty Henrich, '98, Amy (Valli) Bennett '98, Steve Bohm '98, Gillian Sheeran, '98, Lyndsy (Wright) Blais '00, Scott Lippman, Meredith (Tojeira) Lippman, Suz Christy '00, Molly Callaghan '99, Lisa (Commander) Paril '99, Stacy Mullen '00 and Tyler Hojo '98.

#### CLASS NOTES

Network), which airs nationwide Tuesday-Saturday at 9:00 p.m. Former host of The Daily Download on FUSE TV, Dylan has been living in New York City since graduation. ■ Meredith Tojeira married Scott Lippman '98 on April 22, 2006 at the Rockleigh Country Club in Rockleigh, N.J. Many alumni were present.

#### 2001

J. Michael DeAngelis appeared in the role of Benedick in the Underground Shakespeare Company's production of Much Ado About Nothing as part of the Philly Fringe Festival. This past June, Michael directed and performed in the New York City premiere of Some Colors on a Wall - written by Muhlenberg alum John Dowgin '97. Also appearing in the production were Muhlenberg alumni Pete Barry '97 and Jeff Simno. Other recent theatrical credits include directing King Lear in Philadelphia and appearing in Lady in the Dark, Company, and Assassins. Rev. Peter Bredlau married Jacob Reeves and Kerri Waldowski on May 12, 2006. They celebrated at Normandy Farm in Blue Bell, Pa. (where they also reside) with the following alumni: maids of honor Katrina Beck and Marissa Lutzer, groomsman Tony Powell, Jennifer (Volk) Powell '00, David Stiteler, Christian Davidson '00, Doug and Steph (Carvalhido) McHoul, Lynn Garzella, Rosh Jaffe, John Kelly, Jacob Lazinger and Nick Bianco. Jake is a software developer for BrickSimple in Dublin, and Kerri is a writer/editor at Merion Publications in King of Prussia. Kate Vivinetto and Bryan Berkman '02 were married on April 7, 2006 at the Knoll Country Club West in Parsippany, N.J., and honeymooned in St. Lucia. Alumni in



Jacob Reeves 'OI and Kerri Waldowski 'OI



Kate Vivinetto 'OI and Bryan Berkman 'O2

attendance were: bridesmaid Courtney (Reilly) Quackenbush '02, usher David Wright '02, Mark Kopp '02, Paul Sasso '02, Alex Epstein '02, Brian Wilson '02, Paul Swedloff, Seth Weinstein, Dmitri Kipa, David Fornal '02, Lauren Milia '02, Matt Weiseder '02, Paul and Jaime (Corrado) Kopp '00, Jason Nappa, Tricia Catenaro and Jon Slokovitz.



Joy Chen '02 and Paul Tilton

#### 2002

Joy Chen was married to Paul Tilton on May 28, 2006, in Florham Park, N.J. The couple lives in Pittsburgh where Joy is doing her internal medicine residency at the University of Pittsburgh. ■ Daniel Gill finished his M.S.W. at Boston College in May 2006, and passed the

Massachusetts state licensing exam in July to achieve his LCSW. He is currently working both as a crisis clinician for the Boston Emergency Services Team and as an outpatient clinician for chronically mentally ill patients. He continues to reside in South Boston, Mass., and will be applying to schools for a Ph.D. in social work for 2007. ■ Lauren Lesser lives in Manhattan and works for Time Warner, Turner Broadcasting as a sales planner for TBS/TNY/Court TV.



Kristen Malina '02 and Michael Laidlaw

Kristen Malina and Dr. Michael Laidlaw, Captain, USAF, were married on June 24, 2006, in the gardens at the Ceresville Mansion in Frederick, Md. Also in attendance was Christopher Schaefer, who participated in the ceremony as a reader. Kristen works in the business development department of Latham & Watkins LLP in San Francisco, and Michael is a surgical resident in the department of orthopedic surgery at the University of California-San Francisco. They traveled to Tahiti for their honeymoon and reside in San Francisco. Jacqueline (Gravina) McGarvey and Shaun McGarvey were married on May 28, 2005, in Long Island, N.Y. Many alumni were in attendance. The couple just purchased their first home in Easton, Pa. **Pamela Neumann** was accepted to the family nurse practitioner program at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Conn. She will graduate in 2009 with her master of science in nursing as a family nurse practitioner. She continues to work at Hartford Hospital as an RN on the Maternal-Newborn Unit. **Alyssa Rabenold** writes, "David Ellowitch '98 and I got engaged on August 6, 2006, in Cape May, N.J. David and I met after



1969

William (Bill) Robert Graver

announces the birth of his first

grandchild, Jake William

Graver, on September 26,

1985

Laurie

technology

announce the addition of Leah

Veronika Gould, born May 5, 2003,

and adopted May 16, 2006, from

MacNamara and Bill Hendrickson happily

welcomed their first child, Fiona Keefe

Hendrickson, to the world on April 9,

2006. Laurie is a senior associate at Booz

Allen Hamilton, Inc., the global

consulting firm. Bill is managing

editor of Issues in Science and

Technology, a quarterly journal

published by the National Academy

of Sciences. Laurie, Bill, and Fiona

reside in Alexandria, Va. Mikel and

Brad Moore are Fiona's godparents.

1988

Tor Sven Anderson, son of Kari

Benson and James Anderson, was

born on September 8, 2005. He was

born at home, weighing 10 lb, 12 oz. Big brothers Trigg and Beck

welcomed him with open arms.

management and

2004

Arkhangelsk, Russia.



Bill Graver '69 and grandson Jake



Steve, Shari and Leah Gould



Fiona Keefe Hendrickson



Tor Sven Anderson

#### 1991

Joseph A. Maurice, his wife Demetra, and big brother Joseph Dante welcome their newest addition, Chloe Celeste, born March 10, 2006.



Regan Nicole Eater

#### 1992

and Meredith Greg (Conrey) Eater are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Regan Nicole Eater. Regan was born on June 22, 2005, at Maine Medical Center in Portland,

Maine, weighing 7 lbs, 7 oz and measuring 19 inches. Regan, big sister Morgan, Greg and Meredith live in Scarborough, Maine. Regan's godmother is Gina (Passaro) Wells of Cornelius, NC. (Schwartz) Goldman reports that her daughter, Abigail, just won the Babytalk / Good Morning America Cutest Baby in America Contest.

#### 1993

Teal '90 and Rachel (Haftel) Gilbert celebrated the birth of their fourth child, Sadie Elizabeth, on May 31, 2006. She joins her sister Hannah and brothers Jacob and Aiden. I Jill (Sroka) and Scott Needleman are happy to announce the arrival of Abigail (Abby) Leah Needleman. She came into the world on August 20, 2006. Big brother Jordan is very excited about his new baby sister.

#### 1994

Elizabeth (Moskaluk) Collins and Kevin Collins '96 had another baby girl, Colby Eileen, at Paoli Hospital in Paoli, Pa on July 14, 2006. Her big sister Audrey is almost three. The family lives in Wayne, Pa. Kevin is a commercial mortgage broker with Carey, Kramer &

Associates in Wayne. Liz stays home with the girls. Chuck Peters and his wife Jennifer welcomed the birth of their first child, Charles David Peters III, on July 25, 2006, at 5:52 a.m. He weighed 7 lbs, 14 oz and measured 19.5 inches long. Charlie was born at the



Charles David Peters III

Naval Medical Center in San Diego, Calif. Chuck is currently stationed at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton where he serves as cardiologist.

1995

Jennifer "Arden" (Teurfs) Borboroglu writes, "My husband Prody '90 and I welcomed our twin girls into the world on October 28, 2005. Ashlyn Elizabeth weighed 4lbs, 5oz, and Sydney Arden weighed 4lbs, 6 oz. They arrived seven



Jacob Icek Coher

weeks early but were very healthy." Barry and Miriam (Rifkin) Cohen announce the birth of their son, Jacob Icek, on August 29, 2006. Mom and baby are doing great. Alicia (Herrenkohl) Nathanson and her husband, Gabe, had a baby shower in April, and they were honored to have several of Alicia's classmates in





Alicia (Herrenkohl) Nathanson '95 (center) with Louisa Ross-Eilender '95, Jen Groen '95, Meg (Grifo) Dolan '95 and Whitney (Heaton) Jones '95.

attendance for the celebration. Their son, Ansel Louis Nathanson, arrived May 30, 2006.

#### 1996

**Stephanie (Diem) Knief** and her husband Greg are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Charles Gregory on February 28, 2006. Charlie weighed 8 lbs, 10 oz and measured 21.5 inches long.



Alexandra Jane Lyon

I measured 21.5 inches long. Stephanie and Greg have another son, Timothy, who turned three years old in June 2006. Stephanie is the assistant to the treasurer of CA, Inc., a global software firm in Islandia, N.Y., and Greg is a technical specialist with Hamptons Online in Southampton, N.Y. The family lives in Eastport,

N.Y. [] Chris and Carolyn (Harter) Lyon of Norwalk, Conn., welcomed a daughter, Alexandra Jane, to their family. Alex was born on October 23, 2005, and was 7 lbs, 6 oz and 20 inches long. Alex is very healthy, and all three are happy as can be. Carolyn decided to leave her eighth grade science teaching position to be a stay at home mom and spend time with Alex. Chris continues his work as a partner at Rocaton Investment Advisors. [] Meredith (Hauf) Weidner and her husband Marc are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Sophia Elizabeth, on July 18, 2005, at Lehigh Valley Hospital. She weighed 8 lbs 6 oz, measured 19 inches long, had a full head of strawberry-blond hair and striking blue eyes. After a sixmonth leave from her full-time

position as Clinical Supervisor at KidsPeace Children's Hospital, Meredith now works part-time as a clinical social worker and loves being a stay-athome mom.

#### 1998

Rich and **Colleen** (Woods) Canto announce the birth of their daughter Hannah Grace Canto, born January 29, 2006 at

3:37 p.m. Hannah weighed 10 lbs, 8 oz and measured 22 inches. The family resides in Milltown, N.J. Colleen works for Youth Consultation Service as a principal at the Fort Lee Education Center. [] Christy (Rudderow) and Bill Skibicki welcomed their first child, Braeden Charles, on November 30, 2005. He weighed 9 lbs, 13.6 oz and was 22 inches long. Christy is a family practice physician, and Bill is a nurse, both on active duty stationed at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware. Nicole (Goscilo) and Jeremy Wentz are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Jackson Jozef. He was born on September 14, 2005 at 6:54 a.m. and weighed in at 6 lbs, 4ozs and was 18 inches long. Nicole is enjoying being a stay-athome mom, while Jeremy continues to work as a emergency room veterinarian.



Hannah Grace Canto



Braeden Charles Skibicki



Jackson Jozef Wentz

They currently live in Clarks Summit, Pa., just outside of Scranton.

#### 1999

Kate '01 and Jose Riera were blessed with the new arrival of Analise Maria on July 13, 2006 at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. Analise weighed in at 8 lbs. 13 oz. and stretched 20.25 inches. Big sister Bella was very excited and the family is doing great!

#### 2001

Laura (Burkard) Huber and her husband welcomed their son, Brian William, into the world on July 2, 2006.



Brian William Huber

27

#### CLASS NOTES



Alumni present at the wedding of Shaun and Jacqueline (Gravina) McGarvey '02 were: James Batzel '98, Amanda Cardone '02, Sherry Wiernik '02, Denise McGuigan '02, Angie Tyson '02, Nadine Gorelik '02, Lori Robbins-Slipakoff '02 and Patrick Emmel '02.

he returned to work at Muhlenberg in the summer of 2005. I still love my job in the admissions office at 'Berg as a senior assistant director of admission, and Dave is enjoying his work as associate director of The Muhlenberg Fund. We are looking forward to our August 19, 2007 wedding!" ■ Tiffany Reed and Jennifer Reif were among 243 physicians awarded the doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Tiffany is currently doing a residency in internal medicine at the Reading Hospital and Medical Center in West Reading, Pa., and Jennifer is doing an internship at Lehigh Valley Hospital.



David Ellowitch '98 and Alyssa Rabenold '02

Michael Bramnick, Janine Yass '81, David Kwartler, David Kenny, Spencer Lewin, Anthony Dagostino, Ciara Sullivan '04, Jennifer Healy '04, Rob Ascrizzi, Rob Flynn, Katie Dunphy, Dan Vogel, Dana Ferrelli, Rick Triano '04, Katie Kapson, George Shotz, Josh Katz and Brooke Lore. ■ Jennifer Epting writes, "I have accepted a position in the French master's program through Middlebury College. I spent the summer at Middlebury's campus in Vermont and then will be in Paris for the 2006-07 academic year. All are welcome to visit!"



Laura Diez '03 and Jonathan Rosen '03

Dana Iannuzzi has just returned home from Lancaster, Pa., where she spent eight weeks performing at The Dutch Apple Dinner Theater in their amazing production of *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*. She is very happy to be back in New York City and is working very hard with her theater company The Stiletto Project (see www.geocities.com/thestilettoproject) to put up two very different productions by the end of 2006. ■ Sarah Waters is currently teaching fifth grade in Fair Lawn, N.J. She is also working towards her master's degree in special education.



Muhlenberg friends at the wedding of Kelly (Keiper) '04 and Chad Carey

Kristin Kish is currently living in Morristown, N.J., with Dayle Kurland '01 and puppy Sophie. Kristin is teaching first grade in Rockaway, N.J., and just completed her master's in educational leadership. Dayle is a speech therapist in Sommerville, N.J. Megan Chin is completing her final year of Dental School at NYU. The four girls meet regularly and reminisce about Muhlenberg.

#### 2004

Kelly (Keiper) Carey and Chad Carey were married on June 17, 2006, in Clarks Summit, Pa. Chad is a 2004 graduate of the University of Scranton. The couple traveled to France for their honeymoon. Currently, Chad and Kelly reside in Northern Virginia. ■ Kelly Cook graduated

#### 2003

Liz (Alsdorf) and Herb Hoffman were married in Westport, Conn., on May 28, 2006. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia and Barbados, where they met five years earlier. ■ Laura Diez and Jonathan Rosen were married on July 1, 2006. Mules in attendance at the wedding were: maid of honor Holly Pico; bridesmaids Lori D'Orazio, Michele Zito, Carly Rabinowitz, Lauren Cunningham and Kari Barclift;



Alumni present at the wedding of Laura Jacobus '03 to Richard Hafner



Alumni present at the wedding of Joshua Lebson '03 in Disney World

from Columbia University in May with a master's of science in social work. She is working in Baltimore as a social worker in treatment foster care. She and Joel Rush were engaged in December 2005 and will be married in October 2007. Joel is completing his last year of law school at the University of Maryland. Portney '05 and Mat Wolfson became engaged on May 26, 2006. Mat is in chiropractic school at Life University in Marietta, Ga., and Shayna teaches second grade in Powder Springs. Jeffrey Slotterback and Kristan Moose were married at the Egner Memorial Chapel on June 25, 2005. Many alumni were in attendance. Karen Trainer was recently promoted to senior campaign finance analyst at the Federal Election Commission, where she has worked since graduating from Muhlenberg in 2004. She is also pursuing a master of public policy degree at the George Washington University. Karen Uslin recently moved to the Washington, D.C. area to begin her Ph.D. studies in musicology at Catholic University. She also teaches music at a Catholic grade school.

#### 2005

Michelle Kroop and Alan Furnas became engaged on June 22, 2006. They will wed in 2008, when Michelle finishes pursuing her master's in education and human development at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. 
Meghan Horner recently accepted a position as an international admissions counselor for Fairleigh Dickinson University. In May 2006, Shannon Solheim received her first promotion at CNN since joining the company in September 2005 as the team assistant for the advertising sales department. She is now employed as an account service representative in the same department. 
Alana Wellington has recently been accepted to the master in public health program at Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica. 
Brianne Wiatrak teaches fifth grade at Roosevelt Elementary School in River Edge, N.J.



Michelle Kroop '05 and fiancé Alan Furnas

#### 2006

Jodi Tiffenberg and Morgan McCord were engaged on June 9, 2006. They will be married in 2009 after Morgan finishes his three years at Hofstra Law School.



Jodi Tiffenberg '06 and Morgan McCord '06



Kelly Cook '04 and Joel Rush '04



Alumni present at the wedding of Jeffrey Slotterback 'O4 and Kristan Moose 'O4 were Vincent Rella 'O4, Gigi Grundelsberger 'O4, Michael Bernstein 'O4, Ethan Fearn 'O3, Erika Norey 'O4, Jeffrey Slotterback 'O4, Adam Carbone 'O4, Kristan Slotterback 'O4, Amanda Kokie 'O4, Julie Chrisatiansen 'O4, Jessica Gotfried 'O4, Adam Schwarz 'O4, Melissa Betof 'O4, Stephanie Melka 'O4, and Lindsey Bramson 'O4.

### Passing the Torch; Stoking the Fire continued from page 13

ing about them from scholarly perspectives." Beth Schachter, assistant professor of theatre, also has expertise in performance studies and was instrumental in working with Peck on curricular revisions to include classes that would make those kinds of explorations possible.

There have also been changes in the history sequence to reflect current pedagogical research, moving from a two-course chronological survey to a modes of knowledge sequence, which includes a dramatic literature course, a theatre history course and a theatrical theory course, plus two other courses drawn from a large pool of offerings. This structure allows students to pursue more specific interests while allowing faculty to teach the material they know best in a deeper way. Students can now gain a higher level of proficiency in research than in the previous struc-

#### ture, and the structure itself is flexible enough to absorb and reflect new teaching methodologies and pedagogic innovations as they occur.

Peck also hopes to increase connections between the theatre and dance programs in a deeper and more meaningful way. "Both theatre and dance are embodied art forms, wherein the human body is the primary instrument of artistic expression. Other institutions feature departments of theatre and literature or theatre and film, and though those are obvious and legitimate areas of study, to me theatre and dance is the more exciting combination, because human bodies engaged in symbolically meaningful action is what we share." He also hopes to capitalize upon the strength of two nationally recognized academic programs. "I'm grateful that I've been handed an incredibly strong and thriving program. I've been quoting The Fiske Guide to Colleges a lot lately. Muhlenberg's theatre and

#### Muhlenberg Students Organziations Spread Hope for a Cure; continued from page 15

write on a paper heart the name of a friend or family member they wished to honor or remember. On the night of the dance, the hearts were hung from the ceiling in the Garden Room, and provided fun, beautiful and emotionally significant decoration.

Dance For A Cure committee member Karla Auermuller '07 explained, "The dance is a time for people on campus to honor personal experiences and people they know who have been affected by the disease. It also ties together the loose ends of campus because you see parts of all the different 'groups' come together. Everyone can relate and celebrate and join as one."

When asked why they chose to work on the project, Large and Auermuller are quick to explain.

"As soon as I realized that people closer to me were affected [by cancer and diabetes] the event took on a greater meaning. It wasn't just planning an event...it was planning to help," says Large.

Auermuller agrees, adding, "It goes from being a project to a personal contribution. It's hard work, but it's something you want to do."

Between Relay For Life, Dance For A Cure and the many other students and organizations that work to fight against cancer, it is clear that Muhlenberg is taking giant steps toward combating a disease that affects so many. Relay For Life and Dance For A Cure represent two of Muhlenberg's largest on-campus events, with students, faculty and alumni excited to take part in the fun and significance of such large-scale fundraising events.

Says Kokie, "I personally hope for a day when a cancer research fundraiser isn't needed and the concept of [fundraising events] are old memories. But until that day, I will always remain inspired by the unity and commitment to the cause that is always prevalent within those few buildings lining Chew Street." dance program is one of only eight programs in the country where both the theatre and dance undergraduate departments are top-ranked. And that success came in large part from the efforts of Charlie Richter."

Richter counters, "My success has come from hiring a staff of people who really care about the educational experience. It's like I tell prospective students: the facilities are nice, but it's the people who make the program."

Peck concludes, "One of our great strengths as a department is that we infuse the intensity of the studio with the intellectual breadth and ethical seriousness of the liberal arts. Those two experiences don't run parallel to each other, but entwine themselves around each other and make one entirely new experience. That, as the aim of what all of us are trying to do in our different areas of expertise, is what marks us as singular, and excellent, and unique."

#### Spotlight on the Office of Community Service; continued from page 19

Lane and Knepp are both excited by the increase in students wanting to make a change.

"My favorite part of the job is when I see college students lead and carry out projects themselves," says Lane. I enjoy seeing the change and growth in college students. I think of my position as that of an educator in a non-traditional setting. I help students see that their responsibility is to be community members, not just to live somewhere. I don't expect [all the students] to work in non-profits, but I hope that one day, when they are executives somewhere, they will think back to their time here and give someone a grant who asks for one, vote in conscientious ways and be a part of their community...that [their community service experience] will change the way they see things."



- 1929 James E. Drury died on September 10, 2006. He is survived by: wife, Leona and two sons, Ronnie and Harvey.
- 1934 Dr. John Carapella died on September 24, 2006.
- 1935 Attorney Ray Brennen died September 2, 2006. He is survived by: wife, Mararet M. (Lieberman) Brennen; son, Patrick J. Brennen '67 and daughter, Sharon Hall '76.
- 1936 Dr. Harry H. Dougherty died on June 6, 2006. He is survived by: his wife Magadalen; two sons, Harry H. Jr., Dr. Mark G. and daughter, Carol D. Van Schenkhof.
- 1937 Thomas Lyle Kennedy died September 13, 2006. He is survived by: daughter Sally Morgan and son, Thomas.

Richard W. Held died on June 13, 2006. He was survived by: wife of 66 years, Ruth Snyder.

1944 Col. Daniel Prescott died on September 19, 2006.

Charles H. Woodworth died July 31, 2006. He is survived by: his wife, Doris and his children Charles, Bonnie, Laub and Robert.

- 1940 Richard Reichard died on September 26, 2006. He is survived by his daughter, Rev. Dawn Reichard Lawton.
- 1944 Henry Baietti died on June 26, 2006.

Charles Hlavac died July 27, 2006. He is survived by: his wife, Janet M. Martin Hlavac; son, Charles W. Hlavac Jr. and five daughters, Kathleen Hlavac, Sheila Biles, Megan Hlavac, Kelly J. Panuska and Jacqueline Hlavac.

- 1947 Dr. Homer Robinson died on July 11, 2006.
- 1951 Kenneth Mountz died on August 1, 2006.
- 1952 Dr. Rex W. Green Jr. died August 15, 2006. He is survived by: wife Mary B. (Breidenbach) Green; his children Rex III, Barbra and Stephanie; and his stepchildren Robert Wilkey and Carole Wilkey.

- 1955 Donald W. Reilly died on June 18, 2006. He is survived by: wife, former Kathleen Collins; three children from his first marriage, Patricia Reilly, Brian and Michael Reilly; and three stepchildren, Robert, John and Maura Williams.
- 1958 Fred Gardner died on March 12, 2006.

Joseph W. Shaffer died on August 6, 2006. He is survived by: wife Rosemary (Vallone) Shaffer and daughter, Laurie (Shaffer) DeTurk.

Donald Snyder died on July 9, 2006.

- 1959 Franklin H. Claire died on August 12, 2006. He is survived by: His wife, Marilyn (Margolis) Claire and their sons, Jason and Stuart.
- 1960 Robert Hanson died on June 12, 2006.

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- 1961 Robert Houch died on February 19, 2006.
- 1963 Richard M. Reinhart Jr. died September 12, 2006. He is survived by: his wife, Denise (Brooks) Reinhart; daughters Stephanie Stephens, Brooke Coleman and sons Robert and Todd.
- 1964 Rev. Richard J. Bonser died on August 10, 2006. He is survived by: his wife, Carolyn S.; son, Mark Andrew and daughter, Stacy Sue Gdovin.
- 1966 C. Ray Lechler died on July 21, 2006. Ray is survived by: his wife, Pat; daughter, Dawn, and son, David.
- 1972 Carolyn A. Buskirk died on May 29, 2006.
- 1974 Peter Steinmann died on September 10, 2006.
- 1981 Robert W. Vogelsinger died July 29, 2006. He is survived by: daughter, Linda Vogelsinger and three sons, Robert W. Jr., Karl and Glen.

The College is sad to announce the passing of Katherine Van Eerde, emerita professor of history, on August 16, 2006. She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth M. Van Eerde. She is predeceased by her husband, John Andrews Van Eerde.

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News that appears in this issue was received by the editor on or before
September 15, 2006. If your news arrived after that date, it will appear
in the next issue. News for the next issue must arrive <b>to the editor</b> by January 15, 2007.
News arriving after that date will appear in the Spring 2007 issue.
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## The Last WORD



: By Chris Hooker-Haring '72 Dean of Admission and Financial Aid In conversations about college admissions, it is popular to reduce complex issues to simple answers. Such is certainly the case with early-admissions programs. Harvard and Princeton have spoken, the popular media have spoken, and now all of higher education is supposed to follow.

Unfortunately, what is lost in the rush for "reform" is this fact: Early-admissions programs are a student's one chance to communicate clearly and credibly his or her firstchoice interest to a particular college. It's a direct communication duplicated nowhere else in the admissions process.

That might not matter to Harvard or Princeton. They may simply assume first-choice interest on the part of applicants - and they will be right most of the time. However, most of the rest of higher education enjoys neither Ivy League fame nor fortunes. In that other world, student interest is important, especially at a time when students are often applying regular decision to 12 or more colleges. For us, trying to judge yield on offers of admission has less to do with rankings and ratings than with institutional health and viability.

But what if all colleges dropped early programs? Who would benefit most? Harvard, Princeton and other institutions that could rely on the old prestige game as a primary driver of student decision-making. So in addition to the "public good" we are hearing so much about, institutional positioning is also at work here.

How would students fare in a "no-early" environment? If they couldn't signal a first choice, the system would become clogged with even more applications as students applied to multiple places, in many cases with minimal interest in actually attending those schools. As a result, many students truly interested in a certain college would be knocked out of the box. In other words, the admissions process would become less efficient, without making applicants less insecure. The biggest change would be moving all admissions decisions - and the accompanying anxiety attacks - to late spring.

In other words, the push to make things better for students could actually make things much worse. It would strip students of a voice regarding first choice, put off all admissions decisions until late in senior year, keep all students in the dark until late in the process and clog the application pipeline with increasing numbers of low-interest applicants.

Early-admissions programs aren't perfect. No part of the admissions process is. But early programs can be responsive to student needs.

At Muhlenberg College, we've pushed early deadlines back to give students more time to think about the big first-choice decision, guaranteed that students will not be disadvantaged in financial aid if they go early, provided early financial-aid reads to families so they know before a deposit is required what kind of aid to expect, and actually counseled students to wait when an early decision seems inappropriate for them.

Perhaps ending early-admissions programs is the right thing for the most elite institutions. For the majority of schools, however, early admissions is an opportunity to balance multiple, often competing, priorities in a thoughtful, responsible way.

A version of this artical also appeared in the Philadelphia Inquirer

THE CHRONICLE of Higher Education. Meet the of the Sustainable Campus With eyes on the future, universities try to clean up their acts PRESS Or the sourtheast ender of the University of Florida's campus here, past the ag-school fields and within nosehol of the stine galon at a time. Some galon at a time. The Road Warrior, Steel caldrons, the cald the ag-school field and within a converter stine galon at a time. The Road Warrior, Steel caldrons, the cald the converter of the road the incel up on a converter tooks like a scene out of the Road Warrior, Steel caldrons, the cald the converter of the road the incel up on a converter tooks like a scene out of the road the incel up on and around the program tanks and barres of old the converter of a sistent at the university is program tanks and them converted in a complicated the university is program tanks and then converted to the sistent as on and around the pattern some of them converter of the sistent at the university is pattern and values. Mr. Roak a research assistent and on and around pattern some of the converter of the sistent at the university of pattern some of the converter of the sistent and the university is pattern and values. Mr. Roak a research assistent and an and around the pattern and values of the converter of the sistent at the university of the sistent at the university of the sistent and the sistent at the sistent at the university of the sistent at the university of the sistent at the sistent at the university of the sistent at Muhlenberg president gets new contract 2/22/06 guges and valves. Mr. Renk a research assistant at the university, is guges, and valves. Mr. Renk a research assistant at the university, is guges, and valves. Mr. Renk a research assistant at the university, is guges, and valves. Mr. Renk a research assistant at the university, is guges, and valves. Mr. Renk a research assistant at the university, is also discovered to a second the second second second second of the term been used in the canonic fleet. <section-header><text><text><text> aking discarded vegetable oil from restaurons ( campus and breving it into biodiesel-some ( which have been used in the campus fleet. THE MORNING CALL THE SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY proved by Allentown college's trustees. <text><text><text><text> The Morning Call berg College Presi-R. Helm has a contract as the officer of the version of the con-source of the con-source of the con-ounced of the con-ters to be bas been presi-tis very conbas been prose by 2003, y 2003, die very support-alhas greatly he leadershy be the college, to the college, the coll Sust Inversities The college also started a film studies major and a pubnt since 2003 12 lic health minor during his tenure, and set records in admission applications and unrestricted with great fanfare, universities are trumpeting their efforts to make society And the second s mittee unstees, new side Sunday in Gened. Sunday in Gened. di college major te chael Bruckner. Snatkwe thime, the sundarts in geogas and struckner side strukents in truckner side strukents in they were from 6.5 pc t," work and a multi voontract, such set to open U.S. colleges 106 · NO. 12 \*\*\* Polls in the Pennsylvania proving grounds may reflect the GOP's slipping nationwide need complexity VOL. **Keystone's key to November** \* By Peyton R. Helm www.e ignore complexity at our peril. Cut corners in the manufacture of O-rings and you have the 1986 space shuttle Challenger disas-ter; underestimate the expertise re-quired to mount a major disaster multiple after and una hour event for By JULIE MASON PHILADELPHIA — Amid plenty of scandal, a Republican U.S. senator and four Republi-can House members are back on their heels in Pennsylvania, where Democrats see some of their best prospects for winning control of Congress in the Nov. 7 election. Ion database with extensive per-sonal information on every stu-dent, for example, was already re-jected as unacceptably intrusive by Congress in its recent reauthoriza-tion of the Higher Education Act – a position endorsed in a recent poll by over two-thirds of Americans. elief effort, and you have post-Karrina New Orleans. Control of Congress in the root 7 election. The FBI is investigating a Re-publican incumbent for alleg-edly steering contracts to his daughter, another apologized for an adulterous affair and a third drew colorful headlines for comparing the war in Iraq to Lord of the Rings. "It's a smorpabord of fum races," said Chris Borick, direc-tor of the Mublenberg College Institute of Public Opinion "while Hand of competitive field Now, the recently drafted Report on the Future of Higher Education (also known as the Spellings Commission Report) proposes a set of one-size-fits-all measures that, if adopted uncritically, could cripple America's extremely varied and 2006 complex system of colleges and universities - a 16 system that, im OCTOBER 25. perfect as it may be, is the envy of the world and the engine of

Institute of Public Opinion. "This kind of competitive field is fairly rare, given the preva-lence of so-called safe seats in Congress." He added, "The picture right now is not good for Republi-cans."

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The addred, The picture republi-cans." Sen. Rick Santorum, a close ally of President Bush, is trail-ing his Democratic for by as uccording to several polls. Three Republican House in-formation in Philadelphia's between the several polls. Three Republican House is a function of the series of the several between the several polls. And in the Scranton area, a Republican House sea, once contenders. And in the Scranton area, a Republican House sea, once onsidered among the safest in the country because of its poli-tical modol of the entire country. The Keystone State is tradi-tical modol of the entire country. This year, Pennsylvania republican Provide the tradi-republican Party bat-ing scientific the series of the poli-rectoring science and the series of the republican Party bat-ing science and the series of the poli-rectoring science and the series of the republican Party bat-ing science and the series of the poli-piness with the sub and the war in traq. lin and M Im and Ma caster, Pa., larizing sty with Bush in the state election cha "Probably

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#### Voter dissatisfaction

Madonna three peo president's "What's driving the race in Pennsylvania is no different than in the rest of the country," said Neil Oxman, a Democratic political consultant in Philadel-phia. "It's anti-Bush, anti-war, anti-Washington, anger at the big part elections. House ch. veterans who





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NDAY 18, 2006

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Alarmingly, Edu-cation Depart-ment officials seem to be look ing for ways to implement these nmendations without congres

America's eco-nomic, scientif-ic, and technolog-

ical leadership

sional approval. To its credit, the report makes a To its credit, the report makes a compelling case for higher educa-tion as an important national priori-ty. It effectively highlights the cri-sis in higher education affordabil-ty, especially for minorities and the poor. It recommends more federal support for need-based financial aid. But it ignores the complexity of American higher education, and fails to anymeight the reasons for

fails to appreciate the reasons for and the value of that complexity. and the value of that complexity. The difficulty begins almost im-mediately with the report's assump-tion that the sole purpose of higher education is workforce develop-ment. As the father of a college senior, I am unabashedly in favor of preparing students for the world of work. But the purpose of higher education goes far beyond provid-ing job skills. We also expect our nostsecondary institutions to trans-

postsecondary institutions to trans-mit values, develop civic virtue and leadership skills, refine aesthetic awareness, and nurture analytical awareness, and nurture analytical abilities. Our marvelously compli-cated system of higher education is currently capable of meeting each of these objectives, depending on the interests, needs and aptitude of

ing what cannot be delivered. Oth-ers pave the way for intolerable government intrusion into individugovernment intruston into interna-al privacy and academic freedom. Creating a Department of Educa-tion database with extensive per-sonal information on every stu-

by over two-thirds of Americans. The suggestion that institutional accreditation should be the respon-sibility of government bureaucrats is equally chilling. Standardized testing for all institutions ignores the variety of students' educational objectives and raises the specter of government control of the curricu

government control of the curricu-lum (the power to test is the power to determine what is taught). The elimination of barriers to transfer credits regardless of the nature of institutions would weaken American higher education insisting on mindless standardiza

By advancing proposals that would homogenize higher educa-tion, the commission missed an op-portunity to rally America's fami-lies, policymakers and educators to the cause of building a stronger, more accessible, more affordable system Make no mistake. America's

higher education system is ex-tremely complex. Its more than 4,200 institutions include public, private, for-profit, technical, secu-lar, and faith-based institutions with enrollments ranging from few-er than 10 students to more than er than 10 students to more than 115,000; four-year graduation rates ranging from less than 1 percent to more than 97 percent; costs ranging from a few hundred to more than 945,000 per year, and teaching styles ranging from the timinate student-faculty interac-tion of residential liberal arts col-leges such as my school, Muhlen-berg College, to the on-demand (if less personal) online programs of the University of Phoenix. The report simply ignores too many of the current system's strengths and assets and discounts too many of its triumphs to repre-

strengths and assets and discounts too many of its triumphs to repre-sent a helpful contribution to the national dialogue on higher educa-tion. One would never guess, for example, that a recent poll shows that recent independent college graduates right here in Pennsylva-nia not only earn more, but are lonificantly. Thele to hold

## **Your Participation**

makes a

## Did you know that a college's alumni participation rate is a very important

alumni participation rate is a very important measure of fundraising success – so important that *U.S. News & World Report* factors fundraising participation rates into its annual ranking of America's best colleges? This rate is also very important in determining how much money Muhlenberg receives from grants and other funding sources provided by corporations and foundations.

Last year, 37% of alumni made a gift to The Muhlenberg Fund. Our goal for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 is to reach 39% by the June 30, 2007. Will you help us?

Alumni contributions are the strongest possible vote of confidence in Muhlenberg, and are essential to the College's health and vitality. An annual gift to The Muhlenberg Fund helps to ensure that this remarkable institution, in which we all hold a stake, continues to be successful. In Fiscal Year 2005-2006, 38% of the Class of 2006 made a gift in support of The Muhlenberg Fund and raised more than \$6,000.

Please mail your gift today to The Muhlenberg Fund, 2400 West Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104, or make a gift online at myMuhlenberg.com/muhlfund.

Thank you for your annual support of The Muhlenberg Fund.





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