

Muhlenberg

THE MAGAZINE OF MUHLENBERG COLLEGE



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SEPTEMBER
2008

Muhlenberg

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Keep the Faith

(revised from an op/ed published in *The Morning Call* – May 5, 2008)



Ask almost anyone how much college costs these days and the answer is likely to be “too much.” Read politicians’ denunciations of tuition increases and they inevitably blame colleges for wasting money on “frills” such as climbing walls and “state-of-the-art dorms.” The real issue, though, is not price but value. And the real solution is not cutting costs but increasing financial aid.

Let’s start by throwing out the preposterous notion that tuition increases are driven by “frills.” A climbing wall, for the record, costs approximately \$100,000. Muhlenberg doesn’t have one, but if we did, and if it had a useful life of 10 years, that would cost each student about \$5 a year, less than the cost of a pizza. I’m not sure what a state-of-the-art dorm is, exactly, but if it means hot tubs and spas, we don’t have those, either. If it means high-speed Internet connections in student rooms, I think most people realize that’s no longer a luxury.

What’s really driving tuition increases are personnel, energy, technology, regulatory costs and financial aid -- especially financial aid (more on that below). Muhlenberg’s “brand” (if I may use the term) is the quality of our students’ experience. That means smaller classes and more faculty. It means access to technology and well kept facilities. Parents frequently ask me why we don’t have this or that amenity. They never ask me to cut costs by increasing class size, eliminating services or reducing the amount of personal attention we give their sons and daughters. This is the marketplace at work.

There are increased costs for campus security, of course, and we are also educating many more students with physical challenges and learning differences these days, as well as more students with emotional difficulties. Every college is investing more heavily in counseling services, disability services and academic support services. We are equipping young men and women (who might have been written off by earlier generations) to maximize their talents and live self-sufficient and productive lives. Is it expensive? You bet. Is it worth it? Absolutely.

And of course, there is the ballooning cost of government regulation. A Stanford University study estimated that 7 cents of every tuition dollar covers the costs of reporting and compliance. Versions of the Higher Education Act under consideration in Congress would increase such reporting obligations. Some Congressional leaders seem oblivious to the absurdity of calling for cost controls while increasing regulatory costs.

Earlier, I said that the real problem is not college cost, but the inad-

equacy of financial aid. I believe that access to higher education is the most important issue of our time. The promise of our democracy, it seems to me, is that if you have talent and are willing to work, you will have opportunity. In the 21st century, opportunity means education. If we say to young men and women, “I’m sorry, you have talent and energy, but you have no money, so the doors of college are closed to you,” then we will have broken that fundamental promise and we will squander the talents that Providence has bestowed on many of our fellow citizens.

Muhlenberg is working hard to keep this promise. Over the past 20 years our tuition and fees have risen, it is true, by approximately 200 percent. But the amount of grant aid we provide to students has increased by over 1,000 percent, and the recipients include students from middle class as well as poor families. Financial aid has become the second largest item in our budget, after faculty and staff compensation. During the same period, federal Pell grants -- available only to the neediest students, not the middle class -- have increased by only 92 percent.

Muhlenberg, like many private colleges and universities, could cut student tuition and fees across the board by 30 percent or more -- if we were willing to eliminate all financial aid. But imagine a United States where only the very wealthy could aspire to college. Imagine the intellectual poverty of campuses where every student comes from wealth. Imagine our country a generation from now, more divided, angry and economically polarized than ever.

Muhlenberg College rejects such a future. Instead, we have pledged ourselves to increasing financial aid for the best and brightest. Last April, we launched a campaign with this promise at its core: *The Talents Entrusted to Our Care*. We announced a major bequest of over \$7 million from an alumnus who shared our conviction. Every penny of the income from that endowment will provide financial aid.

I realize that many Muhlenberg families are challenged as never before by the volatility of our nation’s economy, and may wonder why we have chosen this time to set audacious fundraising goals. The answer is simple: we cannot afford to waste a generation of talent; we must not betray our values. We all must sacrifice so that we all may thrive. ■

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peyton R. Helm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Peyton R. Helm
President, Muhlenberg College

Door to **DOOR**

NEWS FROM
MUHLENBERG
COLLEGE



Interdisciplinary Art Exhibit Incorporates Efforts of Students, Faculty, Staff & Alumni

Last spring, the Martin Art Gallery hosted an exhibit, “Wings of Fire: The Illuminated Books of William Blake,” whose curators were an interdisciplinary team that included Dr. Grant Scott, professor of English, the students from his senior seminar course on William Blake; Gallery curator Kathy Burke; and members of the College’s departments of art and theatre & dance.

For the students, this exhibition was the culmination of a semester’s work. In addition to studying Blake’s work as a painter, engraver, print-maker and Romantic poet, they also designed and mounted the Blake exhibit. They also published the catalog and oversaw promotions to publicize the opening.

This exhibit featured five original works by Blake, including two owned by the College. Other pieces were featured from a private collection.

In addition to works of art, the gallery opening featured a lecture by leading Blake scholar, Joseph Viscomi.

Through the course of the exhibit’s run, there was a dance performance of the poem “The Tyger,” choreographed by alumnus Chris Shepard ’07, and alumni Brian Kirchner ’06 and Christi Razzi ’07 performed a musical adaptation of Blake’s *Songs of Innocence and of Experience*. ■



DOUGHERTY PROMOTED TO DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS SAFETY

The College is pleased to announce that Thomas Dougherty has been named Director of Campus Safety and Security for Muhlenberg College. He replaces Ken Lupole, who retired in August.

Dougherty has worked at the College for the past 14 years, working his way up in the ranks from patrol officer to lieutenant in 1998 and assistant chief in 2001. He has his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Shippensburg University and is presently attending DeSales University, pursuing a master's degree in criminal justice. He is a member of the Northeast College and University Security Association and the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement. ■

Theatre program ranked #6 in nation; featured as one of "top 368 colleges" by the Princeton Review

Muhlenberg College is one of the nation's best institutions for undergraduate education, according to The Princeton Review. The New York-based education services company known for its test-prep courses features the College in the just-published 2009 edition of its annual book, "The Best 368 Colleges." In it, they ranked the College's theatre program as sixth in the nation. Last year, Muhlenberg's theatre program was ranked seventh.

Only about 15% of America's 2,500 four-year colleges and two Canadian colleges appear in the book. It has two-page profiles of the schools and student survey-based ranking lists of top 20 colleges in more than 60 categories. The Princeton Review also posts the book's ranking lists on its Web site www.PrincetonReview.com.

The ranking lists in "The Best 368 Colleges" are based on The Princeton Review's survey of 120,000 students (about 325 per campus on average) attending the 368 colleges in the book. A college's appearance on these lists is attributable to a high consensus among its surveyed students about the subject. The 80-question survey asked students to rate their schools on several topics and report on their campus experiences at them. Ranking lists report the top 20 schools in categories that range from best professors, administration and campus food to lists based on student body political leanings, race/class relations, sports interests and other aspects of campus life. ■

Faculty Members Awarded Tenure

The Muhlenberg College Board of Trustees approved the following faculty promotion and tenure awards:

■
Dr. Clif Kussmaul has been awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of computer science. Kussmaul earned his B.A. and B.S. from Swarthmore College, his M.A. and M.S. from Dartmouth College and his Ph.D. from University California, Davis. Along with his duties as associate professor, Kussmaul is also the chief technology officer and principal consultant for Elegance Technologies.

■
Dr. Paul Meier has been awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of biology. Meier earned his B.A. from SUNY at Oswego and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Ohio University. Meier's research work includes studying the social and genetic structure of vertebrate populations.

■
Dr. Mark Stein has been awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of history. Stein received his B.A. in history and a certificate in Asian studies from Northwestern University. He went on to get his M.A. and Ph.D. from University of Chicago. Stein's historical training came through focusing on the social and economic history of the Ottoman Empire, a topic he continues to explore in his current research.

The College Mourns the Passing of Rev. Dr. John H.P. “Jack” Reumann ’47

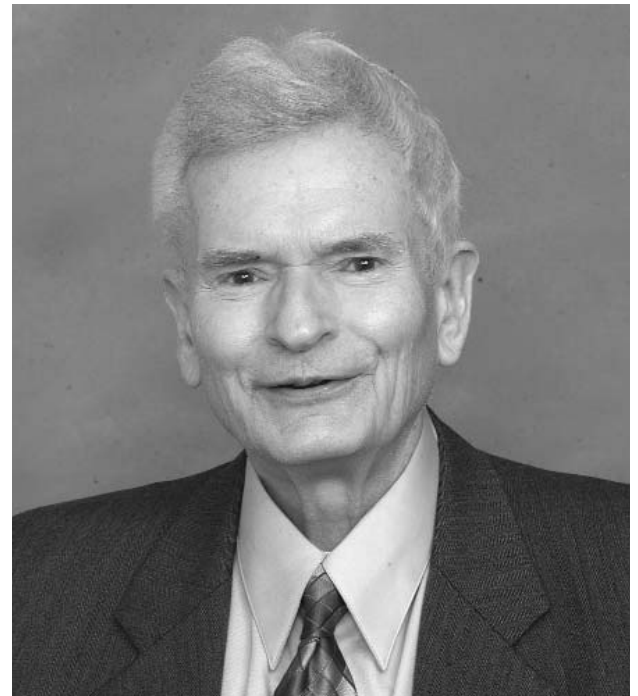
The Rev. Dr. John H.P. “Jack” Reumann ’47 a Trustee of the College, died of prostate cancer on June 6, 2008. He was professor emeritus at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and a force in Lutheran-Roman Catholic dialogues.

Reumann was invited to become an instructor at the seminary in 1950, the year he graduated and was ordained a Lutheran minister. While on the faculty, he earned a master’s degree in sacred theology from the seminary, and a master’s degree in the classics and a doctorate in the classics and Semitic studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

He authored 15 books, edited or contributed to dozens of other books and articles and was former editor of the *Journal of Biblical Literature*. In April, he completed the final proofing for a commentary on the New Testament book of Philippians to be published by Yale University Press.

In the 1980s, Dr. Reumann served on the committee that led to the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

He was an avid Phillies fan, stamp collector and traveler. While at the seminary he enjoyed sabbaticals to Cambridge and Oxford, England, Germany, India and Israel.



In addition to his wife, Martha Brobst, he is survived by daughters Rebecca Reumann-Moore, Miriam Sadler and Amy ’85; and four grandchildren. ■

OFFICE OF ADMISSION SETS ANOTHER RECORD

For the 11th time in the past 13 years, and the fourth year in a row, **Muhlenberg College has set a record for applications for freshman admission.** This year’s total is 4,846, up from 4,703 last year and up from 4,347 two years ago.

The College enrolled **597 first year students** this fall. For the first time in Muhlenberg history, fully **50 percent of the students who were ranked coming out of high school rank in the top tenth** of the high school class. Mean SATs stand at Critical Reading 607 (602 last year), Math 614 (612 last year), and Writing 613 (612 last year).

“Quality continues to be the name of the game,” says Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Christopher Hooker-Haring ’72. “We are always excited to break the applicant record, but as the applicant pool rises, we continue to see students with stronger academic profiles as well.

“Energy is the other quality we seek,” says Hooker-Haring, “and this year’s class is very energetic, from community service to athletics to the arts. We can’t wait to see the contributions they will make while at Muhlenberg.”

A new science building, six new residence halls and new academic programs in finance, film studies and public health have fueled some of the increased student interest, according to Hooker-Haring. But, he notes that “student interest continues to be driven primarily by an enthusiastic and vibrant campus climate, a strong sense of community and the quality of academic and social experiences at Muhlenberg.” ■

MUHLENBERG HILLEL DIRECTOR RECEIVES “ALLY OF THE YEAR” HONORS AT PRO-ISRAEL CONFERENCE

The American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) recognized the outstanding efforts of Muhlenberg College Hillel Director Patti Mittleman at the AIPAC Campus Activism Awards Banquet held earlier this summer during the organization’s annual Policy Conference in Washington, D.C.

Mittleman was presented with the “Ally of the Year” award for her commitment to supporting a proactive and positive pro-Israel agenda on campus.

“Patti Mittleman is always looking for new ways to get students involved in pro-Israel activism, and consistently reaches out to key campus leaders to present them with opportunities to become more engaged. The achievements at Muhlenberg College would never have been possible without Patti’s support and leadership,” said AIPAC President David Victor.

The award was presented during the annual 2008 AIPAC

Policy Conference, an event that brought together more than 6,500 pro-Israel advocates, including more than 1,200 students from 363 campuses and all 50 states. “Ally of the Year” awards were also presented to outstanding campus and high school professionals from Prozdor at Hebrew College and Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity.

Consistently ranked as the most influential foreign policy lobbying organization on Capitol Hill, AIPAC is an American membership organization that seeks to strengthen the relationship between the United States and Israel. For more than 50 years, AIPAC has been working with Congress to build a strong, vibrant relationship between the U.S. and Israel. With more than 100,000 members across the United States, AIPAC works throughout the country to improve and strengthen that relationship by supporting U.S.-Israel military, economic, scientific and cultural cooperation. ■



Cherished Memories at Muhlenberg

Steven R. Starker '87 Establishes Starker Family Scholarship

By Erin E. Cooney
Donor Relations Manager

Steven R. Starker '87 understands very well what *The Talents Entrusted to Our Care: The Campaign for Muhlenberg College* (see page 18) encompasses and remembers well the people, places and experiences that shaped his time here. “Looking back, the four years I spent at Muhlenberg were probably four of the greatest years of my life. I met amazing people and forged lasting relationships – ones I’ve even now built my business around and will always cherish.”

Majoring in finance and communications, Starker recalls spending a good deal of time at the Trexler Library and can still envision the walk up those stairs. He also split his time between Seegers Union and Memorial Hall in the Life Sports Center where for several years he played intramural basketball. Starker enjoyed his participation in Muhlenberg athletics so much that in 2004 he pledged to name the men’s basketball coach’s office in the new Brueckner Family Wing of the Life Sports Center.

Starker’s involvement with the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity also meant a great deal to him – acting as a food steward as a student and serving on the fraternity’s Board as an alumnus.

A former member of Muhlenberg’s Board of Trustees and current member of the Board of Observers, both nominations he was honored to accept, Starker has long supported the core needs of the College through unrestricted annual giving to The Muhlenberg Fund and contributions to the Life Sports Center. But now he’s turned his philanthropic focus to financial aid. With a campaign commitment to establish the need-based Starker Family Scholarship, Starker is making it possible to provide assistance, with first preference given to graduates of Rye Country Day School, to deserving students who qualify for financial aid under Muhlenberg’s standard procedures.

Starker has realized success in the trading industry and presently heads BTIG LLC, an institutional brokerage and fund services company. BTIG was formed when Starker’s Bass Trading LLC merged with co-founder Scott Kovalik’s Baypoint Trading LLC. Starker also keeps his Muhlenberg ties strong at the office, working side by side with friends and fellow 'Berg alumni, Rick Blank '86 and Jim Aniello '89, both partners and senior managing directors at BTIG.

But success for Starker means far more than mere financial gain – “From a philanthropic standpoint, my wife, Farrel, and I feel fortunate to be able to give back to my alma mater, as well as other charities, to try and make a difference.” When asked why the need-based element of the scholarship was important to include, Starker responds, “We feel strongly about making available to students the opportunities my wife and I enjoyed at Muhlenberg. We hope to change their life in some way and have an impact on them so they’ll in turn have an impact on society.” ■



Steven R. Starker '87

“We hope to change their life in some way and have an impact on them so they’ll in turn have an impact on society.”

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

Sarah Roach
A S S I S T A N T D I R E C T O R

Kelly Owens '09
P R E S I D E N T I A L A S S I S T A N T

From the President of the Alumni Association

The Home Stretch

By Louis R. Lessig '93



As I sit here at my desk and ponder what I can inform all of my fellow alumni about in this issue of the Muhlenberg Magazine, I am a bit reflective. This is my last year as the President of the Alumni Association, and we are getting ready for a strong term. Your executive committee met over the summer, planning and strategizing for this year.

Whether you are in the class of 1948 or 2008 you will find that your Alumni Association, under the leadership of your Alumni Board, is going to be very active once more. We will keep busy assisting in facilitating programming, fostering relationships and working on impactful initiatives. You will be hearing more about all sorts of things that we are doing this year.

Want to know more? Well, come say hello to us at a campus event, drop one of us an email, or look for us on the Web site. However you desire to stay in touch, I can promise you that new things are on the horizon, and they are exciting! It is wonderful to have the chance to work with the dedicated volunteers who sit with me on the Alumni Board, and I am sure that each one of them shares my enthusiasm and desire to bring you into the fold and keep you up to date on what your alumni are involved in here on campus and abroad.

So, what are you doing right now? Did you see if there was a regional alumni club event in your area? Perhaps there is another Muhlenberg happening in your backyard, or maybe you just made the trek for Homecoming? Whatever you are doing, there is lots going on for all alumni, both on and off campus. Often the one thing that is forgotten is the network that we have with one another - the network of 'Berg alumni around the world.

In these challenging economic times, now is the time to reconnect with old friends, forge new relationships and assist one another to thrive. We all share the unique Muhlenberg bond, and it is that experience that can be the basis for all sorts of positive business ventures. So step back and consider, it's the bottom of the ninth, two outs and you are up. From my perspective there is no one that you would rather have by your side than another Muhlenberg alumni, so take the time and reconnect. Your Alumni Board will assist you too, just watch your mailbox and scan your email, because you will be hearing from us. Together, let's hit one out of the park!

You can contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 2400 West Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104
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Reflections on a **45th Reunion**

by Vicky Beyer Schippers '63

When I entered Muhlenberg in September 1959 as an 18 year-old coed, the thought that I might ever willingly attend a 45th college reunion with a bunch of senior citizens would have seemed ludicrous to me. Even 45 seemed old then, but over 60? Impossible. But I am here to attest that my 45th Reunion was an altogether enjoyable occasion, if one for some reflection.

Most of us in the Class of 1963 were born in 1941, before the baby boom. We were a settled lot. Our reference points were President Eisenhower, super long gas guzzling cars and American Bandstand. We coeds did not yet routinely wear pants. We wore skirts to mid-calf, blouses with Peter Pan collars and circle pins. If we came to college not yet smoking, we made a valiant effort to learn quickly, so that we too could stub our cigarettes out in a bowl of oatmeal or the dregs of a fried egg. As far as our sex lives were concerned, suffice it to say that in those days before birth control pills or legalized abortion, the fear of pregnancy was a powerful deterrent to taking chances.

Our dorms reflected the times. I lived in West Hall, now Brown, where rules by today's standards, were draconian. Males could not venture beyond the lobby, curfews were strictly enforced and the latest we could stay out on a weekend night was 11:00 p.m. Once a month we held a dorm meeting that often concluded with the good news that another of us had gotten "pinned" to her boyfriend, an event – or so it was believed – just short of engagement. We dimmed the lights and rose in our pajamas to sing

"Always," whose immortal words went, "I'll be loving you, always, with a love that's true, always." Our voices quavered as we sang, and we believed those words with all our hearts.

When we graduated in June 1963, the world was one way. Five months later when President Kennedy was killed, everything changed. This past June, our class shared Reunion Weekend with the Class of 1968, and I couldn't help reflecting on what a different place that class entered as new graduates, a country marked by the assassination of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, escalation in Vietnam, student protests, widespread drug use and fledgling feminism.

We, the Class of 1963, graduated from Muhlenberg with no sense that the world as we knew it was falling apart. We were eager to take our place as adults, confident that we had the tools to become productive citizens in a predictable world. Our reunion showed that we were at least half right. We shared news of successful careers and of our children and grandchildren. Of course we did not escape the times altogether. Many of us have been married more than once, and we all have lives that have been touched in some way by social upheaval. How could it be otherwise?

But our reunion accomplished exactly what reunions are supposed to accomplish, pleasure at seeing friends from long ago, enjoyment at reminiscing and the big one – checking ourselves out age-wise with our peers. And I have to say, hurray for us. We all looked terrific! ■

Alumni Showed Spirit at Cardinal and Grey Homecoming!



Hundreds of alumni grabbed their 'Berg gear, took a stroll down memory lane and showed their spirit at Cardinal & Grey Homecoming, September 26 - 28.

This year's events served as the Reunion celebration for the Classes of 1998 and 2003, but alumni of all ages were encouraged to return to campus for a weekend packed with 'Berg-tivities, including: the Cardinal & Grey golf outing, a scarecrow decorating contest, a post-football wine and cheese reception, wedding vow renewals and plenty of fun under the tent.

Look for photos of all of the festivities in the next edition of Muhlenberg magazine!

First-Year Gatherings have become an annual tradition for the incoming freshman class. These events are organized by the Office of Alumni Relations and generously hosted by Muhlenberg alumni, parents and students in many geographical areas. It is Muhlenberg's way of saying, "Welcome to the family!"

At the gatherings, families are treated to food, friendly conversation and an opportunity to meet some fellow Mules. These summertime gatherings give students a wonderful chance to make friends and get answers to last-minute questions from current students and Muhlenberg staff.

We are so thankful to the following families for opening their homes this summer to host our First-Year Gatherings:

July 12, 2008

Stuart '75 and Marjorie Freiman
Northern New Jersey

July 12, 2008

Harry '67, P '93, P '00, P '01, P '03 and Wendy Lessig P '93, P '00, P '01, P '03
Philadelphia

July 13, 2008

Peter P '07 and Kathleen Jannuzzi P '07
Connecticut

July 20, 2008

Tom '63, P '91 and Harriet Worthington Mendham '63, P '91
Central New Jersey

July 26, 2008

David P '06 and Kim Yoshida P '06
Massachusetts

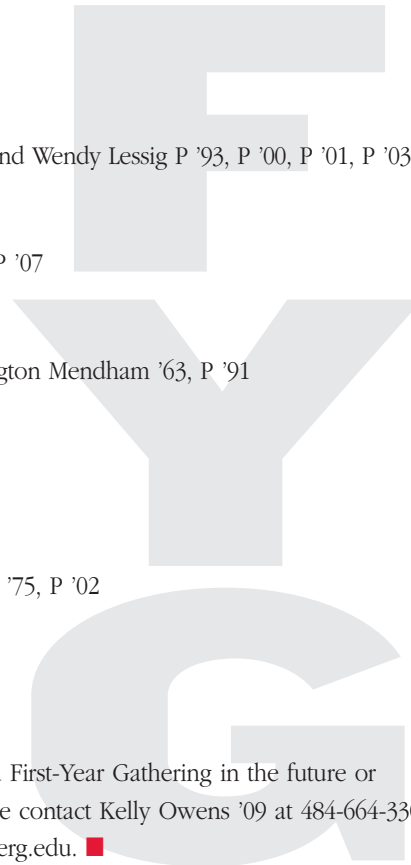
August 3, 2008

Blake '74, P '02 and Marilyn Marles '75, P '02
Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania

August 3, 2008

Jeff '89 and Leigh Ann Porphy
New York

If you are interested in hosting a First-Year Gathering in the future or would like more information, please contact Kelly Owens '09 at 484-664-3308 or by email at AlumniPA@muhlenberg.edu. ■



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE TREXLER LIBRARY

By Brienne Schurott '08

The library and its contents can tell the story of Muhlenberg's students, staff and faculty from a time long before ours, and will act as a history and a mirror for those who establish roots at Muhlenberg long after us. Could they talk, the books residing in the library would likely share much about campus life. They've traveled our campus; passed hand to hand, over the course of many years, and can tell the stories of each hand that's touched them. They've been stuffed into book bags, crammed under desks, served as door stops and bed lifts and have maybe even helped a student or two on a paper.

It was no surprise, then, that when Muhlenberg's current location, Trexler Library, opened its doors two decades ago, the College wanted to acknowledge this rich history of the relationship between the books and the community. So, as both a symbolic and literal transport, students, staff and faculty gathered on campus, lining a path from Haas (the former library, now an administrative building) towards Trexler. As the doors opened for the first time to the community, the first 100 books to be catalogued and shelved passed down the line, touching each hand until it reached its new home. Anecdotes such as this "Passing of the Books," make Muhlenberg's Trexler Library rich with traditions just waiting to be shared.

The need for a new space for the library began many years before Trexler opened its doors in 1988. Technology improvements, capacity and a lack of air conditioning were all reasons to initiate a move. As President Messerli's first project on

campus, he had to work with Patricia Sacks of Cedar Crest (the two Colleges shared a joint library until the 90s) to figure out the optimal space for the College. Jim Steffy, then the vice president of administration, had the task of facility planning on his first big project with the College, as well. This involved retaining the most green space possible for the College, as well as finding a spot that would allow an expansion, if necessary. There was also the question of what to do with the Haas building after Trexler's completion. The lot where Trexler resides was picked for its ability to fit those criteria, as well as its prime location, and its ability to be built from the ground level-downward, fitting in with the slope of

the land.

The architect on the project worked to ensure that the new library fit in with the brick and limestone of the existing buildings. Some of Trexler's peaks reference the roof lines of other academic buildings. Steffy calls Trexler "transitional architecture," as it mimics more closely what already existed, while still adding modern elements. Later on, buildings that were erected on campus were more eclectic and varied architecturally.

Once location had been determined, priorities had to be established. "A comfortable study space where students would want to come" was top priority, says Steffy. The computer age for reference materials was just beginning in the late 80s, and so accommodations for future technology also had to be considered. One thing that was important to the College that never realized its full potential, was the outdoor study garden created in the quad between the CA and Trexler. This space was meant to offer a different location and scenery for studying, but never was utilized by the students as successfully as planning had hoped.

The way in which the interior was decorated holds some of the most unique and rich elements of the construction. The library was not built simply to hold books and reference materials, but to serve as a welcoming and inviting space for students to make their second home. Windows were set to overlook the park, and the building's woodwork is some of the finest created. "President Messerli felt that the interior should be warm, rich and inviting," said Kathy Lilley,



The human chain of book passes passing books from the old library to the new one in 1988.



secretary of Trexler, who came to Muhlenberg just as the building was completed. The furniture was created by Thomas Moser, whose style involved massive simplistic designs in cherry furniture. More famous for cabinetry and sleek, monumental home décor pieces than libraries, this was actually his first library project, and thus the style of study carrels we have are called the “Muhlenberg Carrel” in his design books today.

The woodworking within the building was done by a craftsman from Bethlehem. Some of his work can be seen in both the rare books room and the display room when you first walk in, which mimics the “Tower of Concord’s” beautiful architecture. Lilley credits these works of art as a key element in the Library’s beauty. “[The furniture] warmed up the atmosphere and ambience. Without the furniture, it would look like an industrial building...the furniture really creates the space.”

Joyce Hommel, director of the library, adds to this: “The President

believed that the furnishings should teach the students something, just by being there and serving their purpose.”

At press time, the library staff was preparing to celebrate the building’s “birthday,” with a reception on October 25. The schedule of events included performances by The Girls Next Door and the Chamber Orchestra, and a re-enactment of “the passing of the books.” “We would really want to highlight both the old and the new with this anniversary,” says Hommel, including the classic, beautiful furniture, the terrace couches.

Along with those cherished favorites, new additions will be celebrated, including the opening of the new AT&T Information Commons, as well as tours and special rare books on display.

“The choice of the locations was the right one,” concludes Steffy. “It was erected as much on the center of campus as it possibly could be. It

7 Fun Facts about the Library

- 1** Oldest printed book in the library: Ovid’s *Publii Ovidii Nasonis epistolarum Heroidum*, published 1485
- 2** Number of hours, weekly, library is open: 105
- 3** Number of faculty published works: 482
- 4** Number of books checked out last year: 34,079
- 5** Most frequently checked out book: *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers or International Law: Cases and Materials* (both books are on reserve every semester; hence they’re “checked out” in the library.)
- 6** Busiest month, according to the door count: **October**
- 7** Busiest day of the week for the reference desk: **Monday**

served as a catalyst; it woke up a sleepy campus and really transitioned an architectural movement at Muhlenberg.” Hommel agrees. “The success of the library has been the changes along the way. The way the reference advancements are made, and the way students utilize those materials and the space are what make any library successful, including this one.” ■



photo credit: Jesse Dunne

Dancing

Under the Tuscan Sun

by Ken Butler, Executive Assistant to the President

The dance program
establishes a second
home in Italy.

Last year, “State of the Arts” examined ways in which the Muhlenberg dance program has begun to reach out to the local community through performances and workshops. In the past year, Director of Dance Karen Dearborn has extended her department’s reach across the Atlantic, developing a new study abroad program for dancers at the Accademia dell’Arte in the medieval city of

Arezzo in north central Italy.

The Accademia offers a unique dance program in partnership with Muhlenberg College and in collaboration with Goucher College. The multinational faculty of the Accademia, led by founder Scott McGehee, Ph.D., has worked with Professor Dearborn, the American coordinator of the program, to establish an educational approach that is unique in the whole of Europe and that provides an unparalleled opportunity for students to enrich their musical, theatrical and dance training. This intensive program combines high-level studio training in contemporary choreography with the world of Mediterranean dance forms linked to the roots of popular social dance in Italy, which evolved from various cults through tarantismo, the tarantella and its numerous variations.

Arezzo is a small town in northern Italy that does not boast a large tourist trade, so Dearborn is pleased that students are compelled to integrate themselves in Italian language and culture. “Arezzo is a charming city and students regularly walk to town and interact with the locals in restaurants and shopping,” she said. “When dancers arrive in Arezzo, they undergo an intensive study of the Italian language. Though dance classes are initially taught in English, by the end of term the expecta-

tion is that dance class will be taught in Italian, the native language of their instructors.”

Housed on a hill overlooking the town in the Villa Godiola – a sixteenth century Renaissance structure, now fully renovated – students work with the group Teriaca, as well as with Giorgio Rossi, founder of the internationally acclaimed dance company Sosta Palmizi. Except for McGehee’s Philosophy of Art class, all classes are taught by professors from throughout Europe. The curriculum features in-depth study of traditional dance genres, ranging from ballet to modern to somatic practices such as Feldenkreis, as well as ancient and contemporary Italian dance forms. Working intimately with a variety of Italian and European artists, students have the opportunity to explore various approaches and further develop their personal artistic voice.

In conjunction with core studio classes, students participate in intensive workshops that present a form of dance performance that is in cultural contrast with contemporary American trends. These workshops have included Butoh, a form derived from traditional Japanese dance and performance that encourages the dancer to look beyond assumptions about time and space, and Tanzteater, a form developed in Germany that freely crosses the boundaries between pure dance, theatre and mime.

Students also participate as guest artists in residence during a working excursion to Naples and have numerous opportunities to attend professional performances, as well as present their own work both in-house and locally. Dearborn said, “I am thrilled that our students have the opportunity to study the unique theatre/dance blend happening in Europe and Asia. The course work provides incredible windows into the value systems of other cultures as well as a stimulating environment to develop their own creativity. Equally exciting is that the citizens of Arezzo attended their final performance in Arezzo’s municipal theatre, the Arezzo Teatre Peitro Aretino. The

Anderson Honored

Assistant Professor of Dance Charles O. Anderson was named one of “25 to Watch” in Dance Magazine, dance’s most prestigious magazine publication. In addition, his dance work, “evidence of things (un)said,” choreographed on Muhlenberg students for the February 2008 Master Choreographers concert, was one of 30 works from across the nation selected for presentation at the American College Dance Festival Association’s National Gala Festival in Washington D.C., in June.



response from the Italians was overwhelmingly positive. I love the way that the art of dance can bridge cultural and language divides to bring people together.”

Kevin Crawford, program director, in an e-mail describing the spring performance, wrote, “The presentation went very well. It ... really did honour to their work so far in traditional dance, but it was much more than a representation by American young women of a dance form that is alien to them. They really had embodied it to a surprising degree, made it their own: their own, the presentation of woman and women through this dance form; their own, the ensemble presence they brought to it; and their own, the ability to sustain both moments of violence and stillness. Public acclaim was instantaneous and many stood...”

The first four Muhlenberg dancers studied in Arezzo in Spring 2008. Nine theatre students travelled to Italy this fall for the Accademia’s commedia dell-arte program, followed by four more dance students in Spring 2009. Dearborn hopes to eventually build the program so that dance students can attend in either the fall or spring semester.

Dearborn predicts that the 2008-2009 will be another landmark for the dance program. “I look forward to our continued blurring of the boundaries between theatre and dance as assistant professors Troy Dwyer and Charles Anderson collaborate with Baker Artist in Residence Ursula Rucker to create “Caw,” an original dance theatre production. We are also excited to welcome back Danish choreographer and 2007 Baker Artist Charlotte Boye-Christensen who will



photo credit: Jesse Dunne

'Berg's Men's Lacrosse Team travels to the British Isles

By Jillian L. Lowery '00
Director of College Communications

The Muhlenberg men's lacrosse team enjoyed its best season yet in 2008, with a record of 10-5 and its first-ever berth in the Centennial Conference playoffs.

Throughout the course of the season, several players were honored for their contributions on and off the field. Kyle Farris '08 and John DeLuca '09 were selected to the All-Centennial Conference squad, and Mickey Norton '08 earned an honorable mention for the second time in three years. DeLuca and Dan Dugan '09 were named to the Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll. Farris and DeLuca received All-America honorable mention from the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association during college lacrosse's championship weekend, making them the first two All-Americans in program history. Finally, Andrew Lolley '09, was named to the spring Centennial Conference Sportsmanship Team.

By all accounts, it was a banner year for the team, which has only been a part of the College's athletic program since 2003. And what better way for them to celebrate a season well played than to spend nine days touring Ireland and England together?

Lacrosse Sticks & Limericks



All photos courtesy of Chris Bissinger.

The team poses at the Ring of Kerry



Mules greet the members of the Dublin Lacrosse Club before their match.

According to Bissinger, head lacrosse coach and assistant director of admission at Muhlenberg, this trip was a year and a half in the making. “We selected the United Kingdom as our destination because many of our players and their families had ties to that area,” he explains.

In fact, families were a large part of the excursion. Fifty people made the journey together. Twenty were players, two were coaches, and the rest were family members.

“I really do consider the team members and their immediate families as a part of one large, extended family,” Bissinger says. “It starts with the recruiting process and the strong relationships that are built with parents, as well as the students we’re hoping will come to Muhlenberg. When this opportunity arose, there was no question that I wanted to include everyone.”

With the help of a travel agent, Bissinger planned a trip that was not only packed with sight-seeing opportunities, but also afforded the students the opportunity to compete against two Irish lacrosse teams.

The first match was held at The University College of Dublin against the Dublin Lacrosse Club. Though the rules of the sport vary internationally, the Mules had no trouble adjusting and triumphed against their competitors. The next day proved to be another winsome one for the team, as they were victorious in their match against the Irish National Team.

Though the wins were certainly exhilarating, Bissinger said that the real pleasure was in the sense of sportsmanship between the Mules and their Irish competitors. “There was so much positivity,” he recalls. “We gave all of the players on the opposing teams Muhlenberg sweatshirts and shorts, and we had a post game dinner with the Irish National Team. There was a great level of respect and congeniality.”

While in Ireland, the group got a taste of the many dif-

ferent facets of the country, spanning from visiting the Killarney, in the southeast, to the metropolitan city of Dublin. They toured the Guinness factory and Croke Park, the country’s largest athletic stadium and the site of Bloody Sunday. They explored the countryside on the Iveragh Peninsula, better known as the Ring of Kerry, where the landscape varied from mountains and valleys to cliffs and beaches. They learned about the medieval history which helped to shape Irish cultures and values while in the village of Adare.

Flying east to England for the second portion of the trip, the group hit the high points of the city of London: Saint Paul’s Cathedral, the Tower of London, the House of Commons, Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace. They cruised down the Thames River and toured many museums and art exhibits.

“The whole trip was so valuable, from an educational and cultural standpoint,” says Bissinger. “Though playing lacrosse was a real treat for us, the athletic aspect was only a small part of the entire experience.”

Though this was the lacrosse team’s first trip overseas together, several other ‘Berg teams have traveled abroad together over the years. The women’s and men’s basketball and soccer teams, as well as the field hockey and golf teams, have enjoyed trips that combine sight-seeing, team-building and athletic competition in foreign lands.

In addition to being the first trip for the lacrosse team, it was also Bissinger’s first as a coach. “I’m kicking myself. Why didn’t I do this sooner,” asks the man who has been coaching at the collegiate level for 12 years.

“Our group learned so much, and I truly believe that we were fantastic ambassadors for both Muhlenberg College and the sport of lacrosse,” he says. “And now the big question is ‘Where to next?’” ■



Marian Wright Edelman Commencement Speech

Muhlenberg College – May 18, 2008

I am delighted and honored to share this wonderful day of celebration and achievement with your trustees, with your president, with your faculty and administration, with your families, with these wonderful honorary degree recipients, and most importantly, with what I am sure is the best graduating class in the history of Muhlenberg College.

The great German protest theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who died opposing Hitler's Holocaust, believes that the test of the morality of a society is how it treats its children. America flunks Bonhoeffer's test every hour of every day.

We let a child drop out of school every 10 seconds of a school day; a child is born in our wealthy nation every 35 seconds; a child is being neglected or abused every 36 seconds. Although we lead the world in health technology, we choose to let a child be born without health insurance every 41 seconds. And every minute a child has a child, and we let a child die from gunfire every three hours...eight every day. We have the chronic, quiet equivalent of Virginia Tech every four days. I don't know what it's going to take to have us all stand up and stop the killing of children by guns in the United States of America.

I believe...I believe that we have lost our sense of what is important as a people. To many young people of all races and classes, who are growing up unable to handle life in hard places, without hope, without steady compasses to navigate a world that is re-inventing itself at an unpredictable pace, both technologically and politically.

My generation learned that to accomplish anything, we had to get off the dime. Your generation must learn to get off the paradigm over and over, and to be flexible, quick

and smart about it. But, despite all the dazzling change, I believe that there are some enduring values and feel strongly that it is the responsibility of every adult, parent, teacher, preacher and professional to make sure that young people hear what we have learned from the lessons of life that helped us survive and succeed, to tell you what we think matters and to let you know that you are never alone as you go out to meet the future.

When my sons were graduating from college, I decided to write a letter, a spiritual diary of life lessons. And I'd like to share a few with you. Like them, you can take it or leave it.

The first lesson is there is no free lunch in life. Don't feel entitled to anything you don't sweat and struggle for. Help our nation understand that it's not entitled to world leadership based on the past, or on what we say rather than how well we perform and meet changing world needs.

For those who are minority in this college class, I hope you will never take anything for granted in America, even with a Muhlenberg degree. And, we need to all be concerned as racial intolerance resurges across our land. It may be wrapped up in new euphemisms, and in better etiquette, but as Frederick Douglass warned us earlier it's the "same old snake."

And for any graduates who feel entitled to leadership by accidental birth or color of skin, let me remind that you that the world that you already live in is two-thirds non-white and poor. And that our nation is becoming a mosaic of greater diversity that you are going to have to understand and respect and work with.

I hope each of you will struggle to continue to achieve and not think for a moment that you've got it made. I know you won't ever be lazy. Do your homework. Pay attention to detail. Take care and pride in your work and take the initiative in creating your own opportunity. And don't wait around for other people to discover you, or do you a favor. Don't assume a door is closed...and if it is closed today, don't assume it's closed tomorrow. Keep pushing on it. Don't ever stop learning and improving your mind, because if you do you are going to be left behind.

Second lesson is to set thoughtful goals and to work quietly and systematically towards them. Don't feel you have to talk if you don't have something important or something that matters to say. Please resist quick-fix, simplistic answers and easy gains, which often disappear just as quickly as they come.

Lesson three - assign yourself. My daddy used to run us crazy when we were children. He asked us every day when we came home from school whether the teacher had given us any homework. When we said "no," he said "well, assign yourself some." We shouldn't wait around for our boss or our friends or our spouse to do whatever you are able to do or figure out for yourself. Don't do just as little as you can to get by. Don't be a political bystander and grumbler. Please vote, because democracy is not a spectator sport. Don't wait around when you see a need to ask "why doesn't somebody do something?" Ask "why don't I do something?"

Fourth lesson is please don't work just for money.

continued on page 30



COMMENCEMENT

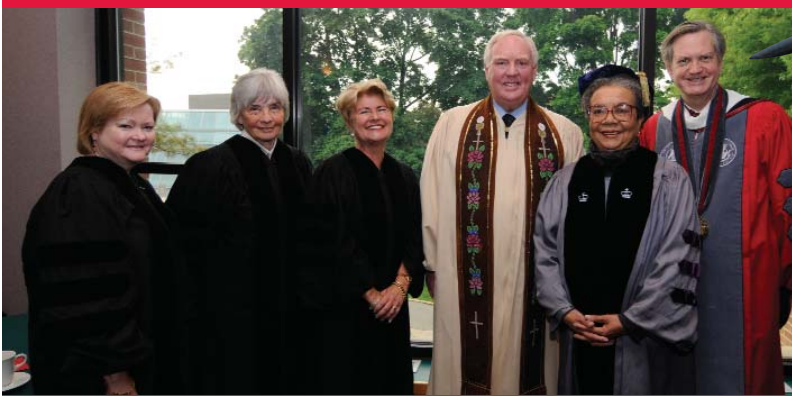
2008

Despite the rain that fell for the second half of the ceremony, nothing could put a damper on Muhlenberg's 160th commencement for the 563 students who walked across the stage on the College's historical quad.

Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund, delivered the Commencement address, and honorary degrees were awarded to Edelman, The Rev. Lee Berry '68, Barbara Crossette '63, Sara "Sally" Gammon and Judy Shepard.

Alexander Corgan '08 delivered the address for the Class of 2008.

At the ceremony, two faculty members were honored for their exceptional contributions to the College. Erika Sutherland, associate professor of Spanish, was awarded the Paul C. Empie Award, honoring excellence in inspirational teaching, and Linda McGuire, associate professor of mathematics, was given the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award, recognizing that her distinguished teaching makes a profound contribution to the intellectual growth of her students.





Barbara Jane and Wilson Gum '61



Students in the Cardinal Key Society helped out at the event.



THE TALENTS ENTRUSTED TO OUR CARE

The Campaign for Muhlenberg College

More than 300 alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff and students attended the Campaign Kickoff Celebration on April 26, 2008 to publicly launch *The Talents Entrusted to Our Care: The Campaign for Muhlenberg College*.

The afternoon festivities included faculty/student workshops in biology, economics, media and communication, neuroscience, political science and theatre; a panel discussion on service learning at Muhlenberg that included faculty and students in business, psychology and Spanish and was moderated by Provost Marjorie Hass; and student research displays in 13 academic disciplines.

Guests who attended the black-tie dinner in the John A. Deitrich '35 Field House enjoyed student remarks from Elizabeth Seavy '08 and Demetrai Tate '10; faculty remarks from Ed Baldrige, Professor Emeritus of history, and Joan Marx '77, Professor of Spanish; and remarks from the campaign leadership: President Randy Helm, Chairman of the Board Richard Brueckner '71, P'04, P'09, Senior Campaign Chair and trustee Thomas Mendham '63, P'91 and Campaign Co-Chairs and trustees Tammy Bormann '83 and Jeffrey Porphy '89.

The College has launched this comprehensive campaign to raise money for:

- Endowment ("The People Entrusted to Our Care")
- Capital Projects ("The Places Entrusted to Our Care")
- The Muhlenberg Fund ("The Experience Entrusted to Our Care")



President Randy Helm addresses the audience of 300 alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff and students.



Demetrai Tate '10 and Elizabeth Seavy '08 gave student remarks at the Kickoff dinner.



Ed Baldrige, Professor Emeritus of history, addresses the audience.



Pamela and Mitchell Slater '83



Professor of Spanish Joan Marx '77 and newly retired Professor of philosophy Lud Schlecht.

Brueckner announced the Campaign goal of \$105 million by June 30, 2010. President Helm reported that the College had already secured \$82 million in gifts and commitments, and went on to announce that Muhlenberg recently received a gift of \$7.2 million from the estate of Richard "Doc" D. Williams, M.D. '39 (see sidebar), the single largest gift given to the College by an individual. Guests then were treated to the film premiere of the Campaign DVD, *The Talents Entrusted to Our Care*, dubbed "a poem to Muhlenberg" by President Helm.

The evening also included a wide array of musical performances including the a capella groups InAcchord, The Muhlenberg AcaFellas and The Girls Next Door; a jazz quartet led by Ted Conner; the Muhlenberg College Choir and Chamber Singers, under the direction of Jeremy Slavin; and the Gospel Choir, under the direction of Rodwin Lowe, Leadership Gift Officer.

For more information about *The Talents Entrusted to Our Care Campaign*, visit www.muhlenberg.edu/talentscampaign. To view photos from the Kickoff event and the Campaign DVD, visit the Gallery page of the Talents Web site. For more information on making a campaign gift, contact Phil Ellmore, Acting Vice President for Development & Alumni Relations, at 484-664-3225, ellmore@muhlenberg.edu or talentscampaign@muhlenberg.edu. ■

Richard D. Williams, M.D. '39 Leaves \$7.2 Million to Muhlenberg

Largest Alumni Gift in College's History Will Be Used to Endow Scholarships

When Richard "Doc" Williams entered Muhlenberg College in 1935, he had an incentive for wanting to work hard to become a doctor – a stint working at a lamp factory in Slatington, Pa., where he was born and raised.

"Doc hated working at that lamp factory," says friend and retired nurse Geraldine "Jerry" Christman. "He got a 50% scholarship to attend Muhlenberg and hitchhiked to class every day. He told me he would go straight home and get to his books after class. I used to tease him 'You were afraid the lamp factory was going to get you!'"

Doc graduated from Muhlenberg in 1939, attended Hahnemann University Medical School and went on to become a physician in nearby Palmerton, where he practiced for more than 40 years. He retired in 1985 to Lake Worth, Florida and passed away on January 30, 2007, at the age of 91. While knowing that Doc had made a will provision to endow student scholarships at Muhlenberg, the extent of his gift was not known until recently. The estate put an approximate value on that bequest: \$7.2 million – the largest gift ever made by an individual in the history of the College.

Because of its size, the gift will enable about 20 students to attend the College each year. "Doc would have been so proud," says Jerry. "He would have bragged about how many kids he was able to help."

"The timing of this grand bequest – coming just as the Muhlenberg family has publicly launched a campaign focused on scholarships for talented but needy students – could not be more fitting," says Muhlenberg President Randy Helm. "Doc Williams exemplified Muhlenberg's mission by leading a life of leadership and service. Now his legacy will provide access to Muhlenberg for countless generations of students. We are humbled by his achievements and his generosity."

"Doc never forgot that lamp factory. Or that he received a scholarship to attend Muhlenberg. That's one of the reasons he made the gift," says Jerry. "He wanted to give others the chance that had been given to him."

Please note: The College regrets that Doc Williams' brother, David O. Williams '44, of Allentown, passed away April 8, 2008, just prior to the announcement of the gift at the Campaign Kickoff Celebration on April 26, 2008.



President Randy Helm; Senior Campaign Chair Tom Mendham '63, P'91; Director of Communication & Campaign Marketing Stacey Prohaska; Campaign Co-Chair and Trustee Tammy Bormann '83; Chairman of the Board Rich Brueckner '71, P'04, P'09; Campaign Co-Chair and Trustee Jeff Porphy '89



The Muhlenberg College Choir, under the direction of Jeremy Slavin, opens at the Kickoff. The Chamber Singers also performed throughout the evening.



Rolling Out the Red Carpet!
1959 • 1964 • 1969 • 1974 • 1979 • 1984 • 1989 • 1994

REUNION 2008

The Muhlenberg College campus was sizzling June 6-8 with over 500 alumni back to enjoy Reunion Weekend 2008. The Office of Alumni Relations rolled out the red carpet for the Classes of 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988 and 1993.

All eight Reunion Classes and the Heritage Reunion group took center stage for the week-end-long celebration.

Alumni from every year enjoyed several new award-winning programs added to the schedule of events, including the "Glam of Going Greek," which provided fun and games for members of the Greek community; "Beyond Microscopes and Research: Science Reception" that connected current faculty with alumni in the sciences; and the "All-Star Athletics Reception" open to coaches and former athletes. Additionally, a Roast to Haps Benfer and an Iron Pigs 'Berg Baseball game made the weekend a smash hit!

Another program to debut with rave reviews was the Tribute to Deceased Alumni, which proved to be a moving and emotional program with participation from every class in attendance. Held on the front steps of Haas and in the heart of the campus, the program recognized and remembered alumni no longer with us. Muhlenberg's Gospel Choir performed during the ceremony and concluded the tribute by leading the group assembled in the signing of the alma mater.

Reunion Weekend 2008 continues to foster the Alumni College Series with programs such as the "Action Packed Bird Watching Expedition" lead by Muhlenberg's own ornithologist Dan Klem and "Backstage at the Theatre Tour" conducted by theatre professor Curtis Dretsch.

The Class of 1968 celebrated the highest attendance for the weekend with over 90 alumni and guests of the class returning to campus to celebrate their 40th Reunion. Not only did the Class of 1968 have the highest attendance, but they also achieved the Reunion Challenge to increase class participation in gifts to The Muhlenberg Fund. The Classes of 1958, 1963, 1978, 1983 and 1993 also met the Challenge and were rewarded with a champagne toast during Saturday evening festivities.

The annual Alumni Achievement Awards Luncheon continues to provide a stage to recognize the most committed members of the Muhlenberg alumni community. This year the nominating committee selected six female candidates to honor and celebrate the 50-Years of Co-Education. Congratulations to the following alumni and friends for their contributions to the College and continued support of Muhlenberg:

Alumni Lifetime Achievement

- Priscilla (Schlenker) Kinney '64
- Nancy Thornberry '79

Alumni Leadership

- Diane Mammon '88

Alumni Service to the College

- Melanie (Mika) Mason '83

Service to the College by a Friend

- Patti Mittleman

Outstanding Young Alumnus/a

- Christina Coviello '02





Two thumbs-up to our Reunion and Class Fund Chair for all their work behind the scenes!

- **Class of 1958**
Owen Faut, Reunion Chair
Robert Leighton and Barry Sirota, Class Fund Co-Chairs
- **Class of 1963**
Helen (Reisenweaver) Stephan and Rich Weisenbach, Reunion Co-Chairs
Tom Mendham, Dick Jacobs, Alan DeCherney and John Rosenberg, Reunion Committee
- **Class of 1968**
Jack De Vries, Reunion Chair
Russ Koerwer, Class Fund Chair
- **Class of 1973**
Les Wexler, Reunion Chair
Jeff Dundon, Class Fund Chair
- **Class of 1978**
Kathy (Fry) Weidner, Reunion Chair
Marty Alonzo, Class Fund Chair
- **Class of 1983**
Karen (Palguta) Grady and Alan Gubernick, Reunion Co-Chairs
Tammy Bormann, Class Fund Chair
- **Class of 1988**
Lisa (Horning) Wolf, Reunion Chair
Dave Simmons and Scott Koerwer, Class Fund Co-Chairs
- **Class of 1993**
Liza Bertini and Jill Poretta, Reunion Co-Chairs
Dana (Diorio) Band, Class Fund Chair



SAVE THE DATE!
Reunion 2009
June 5-7, 2009

If your class year ends in "4" or "9" and you are interested in helping plan your Reunion, or if you are a graduate of 50 years or more who would like to help plan Heritage Reunion 2009, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at bergalum@muhlenberg.edu or 800-464-2374.

CLASS Notes

1934

Robert E. Mentzer writes, "Helen and I will be married 74 years on September 22, 2008. We are living in a beautiful retirement home, have two married daughters, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. We are both 95 years old and still active."

1935

Hub Bury was honored for being the oldest Eagle Scout in the 32,000 scout Minsi Trail Council. He became an Eagle Scout on November 1, 1928 and was the third Eagle Scout in Lehigh County. At age 95, he is thought to be the oldest living Eagle Scout in the U.S.A.

1949

After 32 years of rural practice in Danielsville, Pa., **Arthur L. Feldman, D.O.**, moved to Florida where he practiced in an HMO for two years, then spent 21 years as an assistant clinical professor in family medicine at Nova Southeastern University. He retired to golf and physical exercise in 2007.

1950

Theodore "Ted" Haas is now serving as director of the region three Torch Clubs International, promoting intellectual sharing, and he is a member of the board of citizens for Maryland libraries.

1957

Wolf Koenig and his wife Mimi celebrated their 50th anniversary in Williamsburg and visited with friends **Harvey Stein** and **John Basile**.



Kim-Eric Williams '65 and Charge d' Affairs
Caroline Vicini.

1965

Kim-Eric Williams received the Royal Order of the Polar Star, First Class, at the Residence of the Ambassador of Sweden in Washington, D.C., on March 17. On behalf of King Carl XVI Gustaf, the certificate and medal were presented by Charge d' Affairs Caroline Vicini and Mrs. Eva Hafstrom, wife of Jonas Hafstrom, Sweden's Ambassador to the U.S. Williams was recognized for his work as Archivist and four-time Governor of the Swedish Colonial Society, as Swedish Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania and Translator of the Gloria Dei Records Project. He is an 11th generation descendant of three 17th Century Swedes. The Order of the Polar Star is only awarded by the King to non-Swedish citizens for distinguished service to

the country. It was established by King Frederick I in 1748.

1968

Many alumni were in attendance at the fourth annual 'Berg gathering at the home of **Andie '67** and **Jack De Vries '68** in West Chester, Pa.



Alumni in attendance at a gathering at the home of **Andie '67** and **Jack DeVries '68** were:

Top Row: **Wiley Raab '68**, **Bob Reiter '68**, **Dr. Wayne Muck '68**, **Peter Zimmer '69**, **Steve Fellows '68**, **Ed Haschied '69**
Middle Row: **Hank Raab '68**, **Mari Luckenbill**, **Anne Derby**, **Nancy Muck '69**, **Donna Henry**, **Ron Henry '68**, **Carol Zimmer '67**, **Joanne Halschied**, **Carol Seras '71**, **Jack De Vries**
Bottom Row: **Carl Pletenyik '68**, **Kaetra Pletenyik**, **Roger Luckenbill '68**, **Lee Seras '68**, **Andie De Vries**

1970

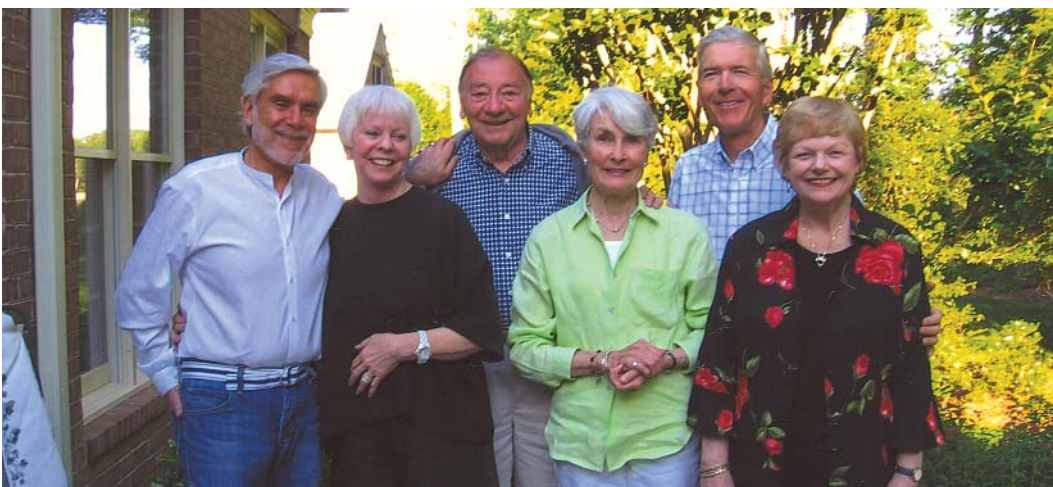
Matthew R. Sorrentino, managing partner and president of Lehigh Valley law firm Tallman, Hudders & Sorrentino, has been named a Pennsylvania "Super Lawyer" for 2008 by *Philadelphia Magazine* and *Law & Politics*.



Matthew R. Sorrentino '70

1975

Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A. announced **Randall J. Richards** was included on the *Super Lawyers* list as designated by *Law & Politics* magazine. The list of New Jersey *Super Lawyers* was published in the April 2008 edition of *New Jersey Monthly* and *New Jersey*



Harvey '57 and **Jan Stein** and **John '57** and **Kathy Basile** helped **Wolf '57** and **Mimi Koenig** celebrate their 50th anniversary on May 17, 2008. Harvey and John were both in the wedding party.

Super Lawyers. ■ **Allen Sincavage** received the status of certified safety professional in 2008. In April 2008, he was hired as the manager of health and safety for the Napp-Grecco Company of Newark, N.J.

1980

Allan deGuzman, Ph.D. was appointed as chief physicist at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, department of radiation oncology. He was also chosen as the physics director of the WFU Gamma Knife Program, which is the only one in North Carolina. His oldest daughter completed her first year of college at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington.

1981

Susan (Shulman) Johnson writes, "I've left sunny Los Angeles and moved home to Philadelphia to take the position of director of communications for PENN Medicine Development at the University of Pennsylvania."

1984

Mason Avrigian, Jr., partner and head of the construction law practice at Wisler Pearlstone LLP, was a featured speaker at the Mealey's Construction Litigation Conference held on May 20 and 21 at The Rittenhouse Hotel in Philadelphia.

1985

Jeffery S. Berdahl, CPA, is founder of Berdahl & Company in Center Valley, Pa. He serves on the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce's public policy committee as the tax chair. He is a recipient of the Lehigh Valley Suits Award for his achievements and

service among area professional accounting firms. ■ In April, good friends and fraternity brothers **Jim Norton** and **Chip Hurd '86** got together at The Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga. Jim works for Hewlett-Packard in Atlanta, and Chip works for Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. ■ **Gerald L. Silberman** has been appointed vice president for administration and finance at Kutztown University. Silberman had been serving as the interim vice president for administration and finance since June 2007.

1986

Jonathan Graber has received a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture at the National Autonomous University of Honduras for the 2008-09 academic year. ■ **Douglas Keck**, DMD, writes, "I received my masters of science in higher education administration in



Gerald Silberman '85



Mason Avrigian, Jr. '84

June 2008. I also serve on the Board of Trustees on the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry from 2007 - 2010." ■ **Emilie Moyer** married Paul Himmelberg on Saturday, March 29, 2008. Alumni in attendance included: **Mark and Deborah (Mager) Rickner**, **Carole Thomas**, **Lori (Stites) Wimmer**, **Lisa (Farrell) Dolan**, **Randi (Cornaglia) Sitner** and **Linda Tripolitis '84**.

1992

Lauri Fauerbach Adams writes, "On April 13, I completed my second Ironman race, Ironman Arizona. Despite a broken nose on the swim, winds of up to 42mph on the bike and temperatures that climbed to 97 for the run, I finished despite the third worst North American Ironman DNF (did not finish) rate in history. 17% of my fellow competitors did not finish this brutal race, so I'm extra proud of my efforts in the desert. With this race I switched gears: it began a year in which I will run 100 races, with 75 of them being marathons or ultramarathons, to raise funds for ovarian cancer research. It will be difficult getting in all the training and racing around work, travel for work and social commitments, but I'm really excited to see where the road will literally take me this year!" ■ **Nicole (Smith) Fisher** writes, "I married David Fisher on December 29, 2007, at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Hershey, Pa. We spent our honeymoon in Las Vegas, beginning on New Year's Eve. **Ann-Marie (Samoylo) Smith** and **Elizabeth (Pena) Huttie** were bridesmaids. **Margaret (Kotler) Hinsdale** was a guest soloist during the service."



Jim Norton '85 and Chip Hurd '86

1993

Jennifer Boudreaux has been named vice president, sales business development for NBC Universal. She is responsible for working with the TV Networks Distribution team to negotiate content license agreements for digital platforms with cable, satellite and telco distributors in the United States and Canada. Most recently, Boudreaux negotiated deals to expand NBCU's relationships with key partners such as Verizon, Bell ExpressVu and Rogers Communications. She also helped develop the "Enhanced" 2008 Olympics for Beijing, the most comprehensive Olympics programming package ever, across three screens. Recently, she was chosen for WICT's Rising Leaders Program. ■ **Brendan L. McKernan** was named the 2006 William F. Glaser Rensselaer Entrepreneur of the Year. He is co-founder and vice president of operations of Agencourt Biosciences Corporation, a provider of nucleic acid purification products and genomic services for life science research based in Massachusetts.

1995

Tom McAneney won a lottery spot for the World Championship Ford Ironman in Hawaii on October 11, 2008. Tom has competed in triathlons for a few years now and completed in the 2006 Lake Placid Ironman with fellow 'Berg grad **Ernie Koschineg**. Tom won his spot through a lottery that picks 150 out of 10,000 for the championship and has decided to raise money for the LIVESTRONG foundation while training. ■ **Michael and Sarah (Wenger) Silber** recently moved to Flemington, N.J., where Michael has joined Hunterdon Anesthesia Associates. Sarah is enjoying being at home with their two children, Jacob, 3, and Olivia, 10 months. ■ **Stephanie Spencer** writes, "For nine years after graduating from Muhlenberg, I worked in the human services field, and just last spring, I graduated from law school. Presently, I am working as a Judicial Law Clerk for the Honorable William F. Moran of the Northampton County Court of Common Pleas." She was married on June 28, 2008 and lives in Upper Saucon, Pa.

1996

Lauren Curnow received a glowing review in the May 2008 issue of *Opera News* for her performance as Berta in Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at Lyric Opera of Chicago. According to critic Mark Thomas Ketterson, "Lauren Curnow's unusual comedic flare tends to pigeon-hole her in roles that provide little

opportunity for appreciating what is really quite a fine voice. Berta at least afforded her a proper aria and she made a delightful thing of it." She garnered other positive reviews for the role, as well. She has completed apprenticeships with some of the country's leading opera companies, including The Opera Theater of St. Louis, The Santa Fe Opera, The Wolftrap Opera and most notably The Lyric Opera of Chicago, where she recently completed a three year apprenticeship with the Ryan Opera Center. She made her European debut in spring 2007, at the Wexford Opera Festival in Wexford, Ireland, singing the role of Elle in Poulenc's *La Voix Humaine*, and sing in Japan this summer as the Fox in Janacek's *The Cunning Little Vixen*. ■ On March 18, 2008, **Jeffrey A. LaFrance** and **Lauren E. Fox**, of Hauppauge, N.Y., were married in Key West, Fla. They currently reside in Killeen, Texas. Jeff is a Chief Warrant Officer and a UH-60 Blackhawk Pilot with the 4th Infantry Division at Ft. Hood. Lauren is a speech therapist at Copperas Cove ISD. Jeff is currently preparing for his second deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. ■ **Mark D. Sheridan** has been named partner at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP. He is a litigator who divides his practice between the firm's Insurance and the Government and Regulatory Affairs practice groups from the Florham Park office. He represents property and casualty insurers in connection with complex insurance coverage disputes in courts across the country, in addition to regularly advising entities on issues involving all levels of state government.

1999

Stacy Devine and **Timothy Kelly** were married on June 16, 2007, at the Immaculate Conception in Portsmouth, N.H. Following the ceremony, a reception was held at Wentworth by the Sea in New Castle, N.H. **Jaime Fabricant** and **Peach (Reigle) Draper '00** were bridesmaids. Stacy and Tim honeymooned in Turkey and now live in Boston, Mass. ■ **Craig Farris** recently left his position as the associate general counsel for Insightful Corporation to accept a corporate counsel position in the legal affairs department at T-Mobile USA, Inc.'s headquarters in Bellevue, Wash. Craig currently resides on Mercer Island in Washington state with his black lab, Rio, and enjoys skiing,



Timothy Kelly and Stacy Devine '99

sailing, wakeboarding, competing in triathlons and traveling in his spare time. ■ **Nicole Hanson** is pleased to announce that

on September 15, 2007, she married John Cherubini. The ceremony and reception were held in Plymouth, Mass. In attendance were fellow Muhlenberg alumni **Elisabeth**



Alumnae at the wedding of Nicole (Hanson) Cherubini '99

Anderson, Tiffany (Griffin) Mercer, Jennifer (Grosse) Quick and **Jill (Fornal) Young**. Nicole and John currently reside in Clinton, Mass. ■ **Laura Langan** graduated from the MSW program at New York University's Silver School of Social Work on May 14, 2008, in a ceremony at Yankee Stadium, as Washington Square Park was under construction. ■ **Marilyn (Hernandez) and Bryan Mullins** were married on August 25, 2007, in New York City at the W Hotel - Union Square. The couple currently resides in Manhattan where they originally met in



Marilyn and Bryan Mullins '99

2004. Bryan continues his career at Citigroup as a V.P. and C.A.O. for their Global Transaction Services - Securities and Funds division, while Marilyn is employed as an assistant director for Columbia University's Columbia College Fund. A number of alumni were in attendance at the wedding including: **Steve Arora, George Brommer '00, Jason Donnelly, Howard Elgart '98, Thalamus '97** and **Joann (Mingari) Hill, Jonathan Humm, Paul '00** and **Jaime (Corrado) Kopp '00, Robert Lobel '98, Chris and Ellen (Maisano) McClary, Joseph Morris, Brandon Raymar '97, Chris Rigg, Neal Sheridan '98, Matthew Skilton '00** and **Jonathan Strout**.

2000

In April 2008, **Michael R. Ebert** was part of an 11-person *Newsday* team to be named one of three finalists for a Pulitzer Prize in the "Public Service" category and also receive a 2007 certificate from Investigative Reporters and Editors, Inc. The awards recognize a 24-page investigative report, entitled "They Failed to Act," which revealed the Long Island Railroad's continued "gap" problems after a teenager fell between the train and platform and died in 2006. Ebert also recently published his seventh book, a nonfiction novelette

entitled "A Day At The Lake," which can be purchased at his website: www.michaelrebert.com.

2001

Courtney (Zilai) and Michael Griffin were



Courtney Zilai '01 and Michael Griffin

married September 2, 2006, at the Appleford Estate in Villanova, Pa. The estate is a historic stone mansion situated on a 22-acre arboretum, surrounded by English and rose gardens. **Christine Silvestro** was a bridesmaid and the bride's brother **Justin Zilai '97** was a groomsman. Other Mules in attendance were **Justin Astorino**, **Berj Khatchadourian**, and **Alexis and Eric Blankenship**. Michael works as an assistant vice president of online strategy at Merrill Lynch in N.J., and Courtney is enjoying being a stay-at-home mom with their new son, **Tanner Patrick Griffin**, born in November 2007. They currently reside in Yardley, Pa.

2002

Alyssa (Rabenold) Elłowitch writes, "After our amazing wedding on August 19, 2007, **David Elłowitch '98** and I are enjoying life together as newlyweds. After two years of working in the development office at



Alyssa (Rabenold) '02 and David Elłowitch '98

Muhlenberg. David is now working with his dad in the insurance business at Elłowitch 3, LLC. I am going into my seventh year working in the admission office at Muhlenberg. Both David and I are very happy to be settled in Allentown!"

■ **Erin (Provost) Ferguson** writes, "My husband and I recently relocated across the big pond where we're living and working in London! We are traveling as much as possible and love it! Any 'Berg alumni who are thinking of visiting please let me know." ■ **Melissa (Leahy) and David McDonough** were married on September 15, 2007, in Cresskill, N.J. Muhlenberg alumni in attendance were:



Alumni at the wedding of Melissa (Leahy) McDonough '02

Lindsay Tis, **Randi Baran**, **Lindsay St. Lawrence**, **Jennifer McKee**, **Valerie (Uras) and Brian Condron**, **Jackie (Edwards) Basile**, **Nancy Kegelman**, **Jessica Drennan** and **Jennifer (O'Neill) Leitzel**. ■ **Andrea (Cerrone) Szakal** received her Ph.D. in chemistry from Penn State University. During her tenure at Penn State, Dr. Szakal was the recipient of a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and was honored with a number of research, teaching and service awards from Penn State's department of chemistry. She was recently awarded a post-doctoral fellowship from the National Research Council and will be conducting her fellowship at the Center for Advanced Research in Biotechnology. Her husband, **Christopher Szakal '01**, received his Ph.D. in chemistry from Penn State University in 2006 and works as a research chemist at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The couple currently resides in Germantown, Md.

2003

Lisa Giammalvo became engaged to **Kevin Burke (Fairfield University '04)** on March 28, 2008. The couple is planning a July 2009 wedding. ■ **Matthew Targarona** and **Meredith Libercci '02** were engaged in March 2008 and are currently planning a fall 2008

wedding in Baltimore, Md. In April 2008, Matt completed his master of science in software engineering at Loyola College in Maryland. ■ **Jessica Skrocki** and **Scott Gould** became engaged on November 3, 2007 and are planning a June 2009 wedding.

The couple lives in Brooklyn with their dog, Maddie.



Matthew Targarona '03 and Meredith Libercci '02

2004

Meghan Cortright Breinig is engaged to **Keith MacConnell**, a graduate of Villanova University where he received a B.A. in English and an M.A. in education. Meghan is completing a master's degree at Eastern College in multicultural education. The couple met through their teaching careers and work at Philadelphia suburban schools; Meghan teaches Spanish at Haverford High School and Keith teaches English at Conestoga High School. Plans are being made for a summer 2009 wedding. ■ **Dave and Kristen (Piotrowski) Frank** were married on



Members of the class of 2004 present at the wedding of Dave and Kristen (Piotrowski) Frank were (from left to right): **Jody Seligman**, **Caitlin Porpiglia**, **Andrew Porpiglia**, **Mike Sabella**, **Kevin Lynde**, **Ian Rose**, **Lauren Stephens**, **Kristen (Piotrowski) Frank**, **Dave Frank**, **Greg Bird**, **Lisa Kohn**, **Rita Schaffer**, **Melissa Stein**, **Adam Miller** and **Amy Golboro**.



1991



The Growney family

Sean Growney and his wife, Barbara, welcomed their son, Connor Daniel, on December 5, 2007. He joins his two-year-old brother, Brooks, and two-year-old sister, Amanda. Also the family celebrated Brooks' adoption on April 16, 2008. Brooks has been a member of the family since his birth on December 18, 2005. Sean is a vice president with America's First Funding Group in Neptune, N.J. The family lives in Tinton Falls, N.J.



Meg (Grifo) Dolan, Alicia (Herrenkohl) Nathanson, Whitney (Heaton) Jones and Louisa Ross-Eilender enjoy a day together with their children.

1993



Colin Anthony Chelak

Mark Chelak and his wife Terri announce the birth of their third son, Colin Anthony born April 24, 2008, weighing 9 lbs, 13 oz and measuring 21 1/2 inches. He joins his twin 3 year old brothers, Ryan and Christian. ■ Tina Turi-Shelley and her husband, Dennis, along with their two boys, Jack, 6 1/2, and Michael, 3, recently cruised to Bermuda aboard the Norwegian Dawn. While on board, the ship photographer took this great picture of the boys decked out in their Muhlenberg gear!



Jack and Michael Turi-Shelley

1994



Shane Thomas Nichol

Lynne (Wolckenhauer) Nicol and her husband Scott are proud to announce the birth of their third son, Shane Thomas on November 3, 2007. Shane joins big brothers Matthew, 6, and James, 3. The Nicols reside in Huntersville, N.C.

1995

Alicia (Herrenkohl) Nathanson writes, "I had another son in November of 2008, and he goes by the name August. He joins

his big brother Ansel." She and fellow alumnae Meg (Grifo) Dolan, Whitney (Heaton) Jones and Louisa Ross-Eilender enjoyed a play date with their children this spring. ■ Shendy and Drew Passic announce the birth of their son, Andrew Carey Passic Jr., on March 20, 2008 at 12:41 p.m. He weighed 9 lbs, 2 oz. ■ Michael and Sarah (Wenger) Silber proudly announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Ruth Silber. She was born on September 6, 2007 and weighed 8 lbs, 9 oz. She joins big brother, Jacob, who is 3.



Andrew Carey Passic Jr.

1996

Tara and Eric Blackman welcomed their first child, Dylan Christian Blackman, on February 17, 2008, at 6:23 p.m. Dylan weighed in at 7lbs, 5oz and was 19 3/4 inches long. ■ Marty and Heather (Suffin) Delaney welcomed their son, Sean Erik Delaney, on May 13, 2008. His grandfather is



Olivia Ruth Silber

Dr. Arthur Suffin '64. ■ Betsy (Schultz) Kachel and her husband Eric, welcomed a baby girl on February 29, 2008. Ava Sage Kachel, a leap year baby, joins big sister Sophia, age 3 1/2. Ava weighed 7lbs, 14 oz and measured 21 inches. The Kachel family resides in Andover, Mass. ■ Chris and Carolyn (Harter) Lyon of Norwalk, Connecticut, welcomed a son, Zachary Christopher, to their family. Zach was born on October 1, 2007, and weighed 7 lbs., 13 oz and measured 20 inches long.



Dylan C. Blackman

M U L E S



Zachary Christopher Lyon

Zach is a very happy, energetic boy and is loved very much by his older sister, Alex. Carolyn still enjoys being at home with the two kids and Chris is continuing his work as a partner at Rocaton Investment Advisors. ■ **Meredith (Hauf) Weidner** and her

husband Marc are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Olivia Grace, on February 8, 2008, at Lehigh Valley Hospital. She weighed 8 lbs, 2 oz, measured 20 inches long, had a full head of strawberry blond hair and stunning blue eyes. Olivia joins her 3-year old big sister, Sophia Elizabeth, who in turn just adores her new best friend. Meredith continues to love being a stay-at-home mom and after a six-month leave resumes her part-time evening and weekend position as a social worker at KidsPeace Children's Hospital.

1997



Ellie Dara Bonn

Lauren (Emery) Bonn and **Kenneth Bonn** of Hoboken, N.J., who were once nursery school classmates themselves, announce the birth of their daughter, Elizabeth "Ellie" Dara Bonn. Ellie was born on December 5, 2007, and weighed 6 lbs, 7 oz.

Ellie joined the family just in time to celebrate her parent's second wedding anniversary. Ellie is welcomed by her Aunt Stephanie and Uncle **Michael Levin** and big cousin Andrew, who was born on May 18, 2007. ■

Congratulations are also extended to fellow Muhlenberg grads **Kelly (Heiland)** and **Dave Raab** on the birth of their son, **Ethan David**, in October 2007, and to **Susan (Gorelick)** and **Pete Eizen** on the birth of their son, **Jared Ryan**, in February 2008. ■ **Steve and Erin (Tackett) Daniel** proudly announce the birth of their son,



Benjamin Payne Daniel

Benjamin Payne, on April 29, 2008. ■ **Henry and Sharon (Weiss) Dornemann** are happy to announce the birth of their daughter **Sarah Kate** on August 29, 2007. She joins big sister **Alexa**, age 2. ■ **Kimberly and Marty Ged** were doubly



Christopher and Joseph Ged

blessed on October 4, 2007 with the birth of their twin sons, **Christopher Marius** and **Joseph Marius Ged**. ■ **Chris Martucci** and his wife **Amy** proudly announce the birth of their third child, **Joseph William**, on November 13, 2007. Joseph joins big brother **Julian**, 5, and big sister **Jenna**, 2.

■ **Sarah Painitz** and **Jason Goldsmith** are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, **Beckett Nathaniel Goldsmith**. Beckett was born on June 5, 2008, weighing 7 lbs, 8 oz and measuring 22 inches long.



Jenna, Joseph and Julian Martucci



Beckett Nathaniel Goldsmith

1998

Jennifer (Staarman) and Jason Alansky are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, **Kaitlin Paige**, on October 8, 2007. Kaitlin weighed 6 lbs, 14 oz and was 19 1/2 inches long. She joins big sister **Sarah**, age 2 1/2. ■ **Jessica (Hoover) Cimini** and her husband **Jay** welcomed their first child, **Abigail Elise**, on October 11, 2007. Abbi weighed 7 lbs, 3 oz and was 20 inches long. ■



Kaitlin and Sarah Alansky

Jeffrey Timm Graham was born to **Lisa and Jeff Graham** on October 27, 2007. He was 8 lbs, 15 oz and 21 1/2 inches long. ■ **Rob and Amy (Moeller) Nightingale** are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, **Riley Moeller Nightingale**. Riley was born on September 18, 2007, and was welcomed by her older brother **Trey**. The Nightingales live in Wyckoff, N.J. and all are doing well. ■ **Christopher Udina** writes, "Our little girl, **Ava Rose Udina** was born on July 26, 2007."



Abigail Elise Cimini

■ **Christopher Udina** writes, "Our little girl, **Ava Rose Udina** was born on July 26, 2007."



Ava Rose Udina

1999

Samantha (Thomas) Goldberg writes, "My husband **Jason Goldberg**, and I had our first child, **Harry Jacob**, born on April 27, 2008. He weighed 8 lbs., 1 oz., and was 20 inches long." ■ **Ed and Beth (DiYanni) Kopp** welcomed



Harry Jacob Goldberg

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M I N I

Continued from page 27

their son, Travis Edward, on Mother's Day – May 13, 2007. He weighed in at 8 lbs and 19 inches, but at 9 months had tripled his weight and was well on his way to linebacker status! Big sister Abigail, three years old, is doing great!



Tanner Patrick Griffin

2001

Courtney (Zilai) Griffin and Michael Griffin are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Tanner Patrick Griffin, on November 11, 2007. Tanner was 8 lbs, 1 oz and 20 inches long. Courtney has decided to leave her position as assistant

vice president in campus recruiting at Merrill Lynch to be home with their son Tanner. Tanner is a wonderful baby who is always happy and smiling. Mom and Dad are loving life with their new bundle of joy. ■ **Randi**



Lily Kaytlin Hilfiger

(Korenman) Hilfiger and her husband Chris welcomed a daughter, Lily Kaytlin, to the family on August 14, 2007. Lily weighed 7lbs, 1oz and measured 19 inches.

2002



Maria Teresa Pasqua

Jacki (James) Pasqua and husband Rob welcomed a baby girl on February 6, 2008. Maria Teresa weighed in at 6.7 lbs and 19 inches. She was born in St. Clare's Hospital, Denville, N.J. and the family resides in Rockaway, N.J.

2004



Braden Eric Johansen

Teresa and Alex Johansen had a baby boy, Braden Eric, on February 27, 2008.

2005



Emily Ashley Conway

Meredith (Feezer) Conway and her husband Robert welcomed their daughter Emily Ashley on December 8, 2007. She weighed 8 lbs, 2 oz and was a very healthy and happy baby. Meredith writes, "Everyone is home and doing beautifully, we cannot imagine life without her now that she has arrived."

M U L E S



Meghan Breinig '04 and Keith MacConnell



Jeff '04 and Kristan (Moose) Slotterback '04

September 22, 2007 in a ceremony at St. Cosmas Church with a reception at Normandy Farms. Many alumni from the class of 2004 were in attendance.

■ **Kristan (Moose) Slotterback** graduated with highest honors from

the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine on May 19, 2008.

2005

Christopher Bax and Jennifer Uricchio became engaged on December 24, 2007 – a very special Christmas Eve! The couple is planning a September 2009 wedding in Philadelphia.

■ **Ryan Bonda, Jen Gross, Sheri Kurland '03, Kyle Speck, Rachel Oster, Frank Pepe, Chris Radomski '04, Ian Rose '04, Keith Van Fleet '04 and Jessica (Gotfried) Wolff '04** all attended a Deloitte training seminar in New Jersey. Kyle writes, "Years after we graduated, we're still a close group of friends/colleagues." ■ **Melissa D. Haupt** of Lebanon, Pa., received the master of divinity, The David Hugh Jones Award in Music and The Seward Hiltner Award in theology and personality from Princeton Theological Seminary at the school's 196th commencement exercises on Saturday, May 17, 2008.

■ **Sun Lee** has accepted an associate position at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. after spending three years at Merrill Lynch. Sun held numerous positions at Merrill



Christopher Bax '05 and Jennifer Uricchio '05



Alumni at the Deloitte training conference



Dana Kellogg '05 and Ryan Repash '05

Lynch, including institutional sales management reporting, prime brokerage finance, internal control group and credit risk management. In her new position at Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., she will be supporting treasury and markets and investment banking management. ■ **Dorie (Gillette) Morgan** has accepted a position in the quality assurance department of Lyophilization Technology Inc. as document control specialist. In her new position, Dorie will be responsible for coordinating the site training program as well as administering quality systems. ■ **Ryan Repash** and **Dana Kellogg** were married October 20, 2007, in Lansdale, Pa. Ryan performed a song he wrote for Dana at the reception, and they honeymooned in St. Lucia. They are currently living in Doylestown, Pa.

■ **Daniel Walker** is now director of logistics for Eastern Bag and Paper, the largest paper, janitorial and chemical distributor in Connecticut. In February 2008, he traveled to Tanzania with his father, where they climbed to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro.

2006



Daniel Walker '05 atop Mount Kilimanjaro

Janna Burke has earned a master of music, vocal performance degree from Duquesne University. She trained with the Ezio Pinza Council for American Singers of Opera this summer in Oderzo, Italy, and plans to pursue



Janna Burke '06

a career in operatic performance. She performed at five universities throughout China while on Duquesne's 2007 Opera Department tour.

2007

Halley N. Cianfarini is pleased to announce that she appeared in the December 2007 production of the Berkshire Theater Festival's "A Christmas Carole" as Belle (Scrooge's fiancée.) She also has been cast as Nancy in BTF's Fall 2008 production of "Oliver." Meanwhile, she supports herself by juggling four (!) part-time jobs in Berkshire County, Mass., while she continues to audition in and around the area's professional theaters. Ahh, an actor's life! ■

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Money alone will not save your soul or build a decent family or help you sleep at night. We are the richest nation on earth with one of the highest incarceration, drug addiction and child poverty rates in the world. Don't ever confuse wealth or fame with character. And don't condone or tolerate moral corruption, whether it's found in high or low places, whatever its color or class. It's not okay to push or use drugs even if everybody you know is doing it.

It's not okay to lie or cheat. Be honest. And demand that those who represent you are honest. Don't confuse morality with legality. Dr. King once said that everything Hitler did in Nazi Germany was legal, but it was not right.

Lesson five – don't be afraid of taking risks or of being criticized. If you don't want to be criticized, don't say anything, don't do anything and don't be anything.

Sixth lesson, take parenting and family life very seriously. I hope your generation will raise your sons to be fair to other people's daughters, and to share, and not just help, with parenting responsibilities. And I hope you will stress family rituals and be moral examples for your children. If you cut corners they will too; if you lie, they will too; if you spend all of your money on yourself and little on your colleges, churches, synagogues and civic causes, they won't either. And if you tell, snicker, at racial and gender and gay and lesbian jokes, another generation will pass on the poison that my generation still has not had the courage to snuff out. Stare them down. Make anything that is an attempt to demean another human being unacceptable in your sight.

Last lesson...last lesson. Listen for the genuine within yourself. Einstein said that there's a number of those who see with their own eyes and feel with their own hearts. I hope you will try to be with them, because only those who can find the genuine within themselves, can hear it with others.

And never, as you leave

Muhlenberg, think that life is not worth living. Don't you ever give up. Never cease trying to make a difference. I don't care how hard it gets. You are going to fall down a whole lot of times. It doesn't matter. Keep getting up. There is an old proverb that says when you get to your wit's end, that's where God lives. So you hang in with life. Don't think you have to win immediately, or even at all, to make a difference.

So as you go out, I hope you'll remember two things — my role model Sojourner Truth, who was a fierce feminist or a fierce anti-inequality for women person back in slavery, when it seemed hopeless. And she was also against slavery, when it seemed hopeless, and of my favorites stories came one day, when she was speaking out against slavery and she got heckled by an old white man in the audience who said to her: "Old slave woman I don't care any more about your anti-slavery talk. It's getting to be like an old flea bite." She replied, "that's alright, the Lord willing, I'm going to keep you scratching." So often we think we have to be a big dog, and we do need big changes. But, you know, enough strategic small fleas can make the biggest dog uncomfortable.

We need to have a new movement that resets the moral compass for America. But, it's going to take a network of strategic, persistent fleas who don't give up. So I hope you will be just a flea for justice for children.

Shel Silverstein gets the last word: He said listen to the message child. Listen to the don'ts, listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles and the won'ts, listen to the never haves and then listen close to me.

Anything can happen child, anything can be. If you dream it, if you believe in it, if you struggle for it, you can never give up.

So, Godspeed as you leave Muhlenberg to go out and change the world.

Thank you. ■

- 1930 **Martin H. Ritter** died on May 13, 2008. He is survived by three nephews and predeceased by his wife, Mary, and his daughter, Suzanne Ciotti.
- 1931 **Leroy K. Lauck** died on March 1, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Alice; and daughters, Julie Reber and Diane Lord. He is predeceased by his first wife, Mary.
- 1935 **Martin T. Gearhart** died on February 17, 2008. He is survived by daughters Joanne C. Gearhart and Nadine L. Gearhart. He was predeceased by his wife, Olga.
- 1937 **Peter Evancho** died on March 24, 2008. He is survived by his son, George; and daughters, Marianne Golden, Nancy Mazzola, Helen Ambrose and Carol McDonald. He was predeceased by his wife, Helen.
- 1939 **Gerald A. Guth** died on March 1, 2008. He is survived by his daughter, Asha Loraine Scatchard; and brothers, Theodore and Woodrow '41. He is predeceased by his wife, Lillian, and son, Gerald.
- 1940 **Rev. Eilus F. Haldeman** died on March 12, 2008. He is survived by his daughters, Kay L. Reiss, Diane M. McMichael, Christine R. Heck and Judith A. McMichael. He was predeceased by his wife, Jean; son, Mark; and daughter, Pamela Weaver.
- 1942 **Dr. Alfred E. Pierce** died on February 10, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Betty; sons, Alfred and John; daughter, Christy Ann and a brother, Henry.
- 1944 **Rev. Theodore R. Casper** died on February 21, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Betty; four children and nine grandchildren.
- 1943 **Robert P. Burkart** died on April 21, 2008. He is survived by his daughter, Marie Burkart; and sons, Michael and Eugene. He was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth.
- Dr. Albert C. Grunow** died on February 7, 2008. He is survived by his son, Stony.
- Dr. Joseph Jobst** died on May 20, 2008. He is survived by his daughter, Anne Jobst; sons, Frederick, William, Joseph and Edgar. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne Rachel.
- 1944 **Dr. David O. Williams** died on April 8, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Sonia; son, David O. Williams II; and daughter, Carol Ann Lyons. He was predeceased by his brother, Dr. Richard D. Williams '39.
- 1945 **Rev. John C. Pretz, Jr.** died on February 16, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Joyce; sons, Rev. Jeffrey '70 and Joel '71; and daughter, Joanna E. Pretz-Anderson.
- 1946 **George Bannon** died on February 11, 2008. He was chair of the College's business and

economics department from 1988 – 1993. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary; son, Terrence and daughters Patricia Coyle and Christina Wargo.

1947 **James W. Gross** died on February 10, 2008. He is survived by his sons, J. William and David; daughters, Pamela Gaughan, Jane Ferguson, Jennifer Weida and Kathryn Gross. He was predeceased by his wife, Patricia.

E. Eugene Rupert died on April 30, 2008. He is survived by daughters Gena Morris and Jody Cooper. His wife, Lois Estelle Rupert, died three days later, on May 3, 2008.

1948 **Howard R. "Jack" Haring** died on June 2, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Rosalind; sons Christopher '72, P'08 and P'10, Jeffery and Douglas; and daughter, Andrea Lynn Haring P'09. Also among his survivors are grandsons: Tynan Hooker-Haring '08, Zachary Kushner '09, Colin Hooker-Haring '10; and daughter-in-law, Janet Hooker-Haring '75, P'08 and '10. He was predeceased by his son, Eric.

John A. More died on April 12, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Mildren Kress More; and his step-children, Martha Lampman, Scott Kress, Wendy Merz and Ted Kress.

1949 **Benjamin T. Marchant** died on November 28, 2007.

1950 **Richard C. Gougler** died on February 29, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Audrey; daughter, Dr. Judy Gougler Schmalstig; and son, Richard Jr.

Ray R. Graver died on March 22, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Roselle; daughters, Donna Egloff, Ann Chelbus and Jeanne Stites; and son, Rusty.

Rev. Arthur Kleintop died on April 11, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Wilma; son, William A.; and daughter, Cathy Konrad.

Frederick Marles died on June 3, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; sons, Blake '74, Blaine and Mark; and daughter-in-law, Marilyn '75. Among his grandchildren are Adam '02 and Kira '05.

Robert C. Nagel died on June 1, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Mary; and son, Lewis '75.

Steve J. Stoll died on March 12, 2008. He is survived by his son, Dr. Stef Stahl.

He was predeceased by his wife, Thelma.

Walter G. Waddell died on March 30, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Wilma; daughter, Andrea Hazelwood; and step-children Rick and Lori. He was predeceased by his first wife, Shirley, and son, Alan.

1951 **William R. Eccles** died on February 28, 2008. He is survived by his long time friend and companion, Mary Sockfield and their blended family: Timothy Eccles, Shirley Moore and Nancy Sockfield.

Dr. Charles G. Steck died on April 5, 2008. He is survived by his daughter, Catherine Steck Worley; and sons, Charles Steck and Dr. John Steck.

1955 **Glenn R. Kramer** died on February 9, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Sarah; daughters, Lynn A, McMenaman and Lori A, Myers; and sons, Craig and Kevin.

Frederick "Fred" R. Weiss died on June 1, 2008. He is survived by his daughters, Dawn Weiss Armstrong and Nancy Weiss Mulvihill; and son, Frederick. He was predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth.

1956 **Vincent S. Osadchy** died on February 26, 2008. He is survived by his sons, Vincent and Mark; and daughter, Mary Yenchko. He was predeceased by his wife, Eleanor.

1957 **Catello V. Gemma** died on May 21, 2008. He is survived by his sons, James and Thomas; and daughter, Allison Lohr. He was predeceased by his wife, Eleanor.

1959 **Cecelia S. Confair** died on May 9, 2008. She is survived by her husband, Ron; daughters, Renee and Cynthia; and son, Austin.

1960 **James R. Orr** died on March 27, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Dianne; and daughters, Tina Sabatini and Jennifer Orr.

1961 **Elizabeth A. Fowler** died on April 20, 2008. She is survived by her husband, William H. Fowler, Jr.; son, William H. III; and daughter, Lizabeth Wolchko.

1962 **Robert C. Seer** died on February 22, 2008. He is survived by his former wife, Frances Seer; daughter, Jane Seer Billig; stepdaughter, Barbara Scheirer; and step-son Timothy Scheirer.

Joleita Wagner Yurchak died on May 25, 2008. She is survived by her hus-

band, W. Russell; and son, Kirk. She was predeceased by her son, Kraig.

1963 **Diane E. Donaldson** died on February 22, 2008. She is survived by her brother, Curtis.

Albert F. Joseph died on February 13, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Pamela, and sons, James and Michael.

1964 **George J. Sheese** died on April 17, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Margarette; and son, Paul D. Snyder.

1987 **Donna Bain** died on April 18, 2008. She is survived by her husband, Stuart Antell and daughter, Zoe.

1991 **Paul B. Ferrigno** died on March 10, 2008. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; and sons, Paul and Alexander.

1992 **Debra A. Heil** died on February 16, 2008. She is survived by her mother, Marjorie Henriques and sons, Robert and Thomas.

Special Notes

Alfred Colarusso died on April 1, 2008. He was the chair of the art department from 1961-1971. He is survived by his sister, Viola May, and was predeceased by his wife, Kristen Cutshall Colarusso '69.

Regina Conlin died on March 19, 2008. She had been a secretary in the registrar's office and in the dean's office. She retired from Muhlenberg College in 1993 after 31 years of service. She is survived by her son, Francis; and daughters, Eileen Endres and Janice Hilliard.

Alma Deutsch died on April 12, 2008. She was employed by the College for 29 years, serving as secretary to three presidents and then as a personnel director. She is survived by daughters Judith E. Bowen and Jane L. Musser.

Dr. Kenneth W. Webb died on March 18, 2008. He was an emeritus professor of modern languages, who retired in 1984 after 38 years of service. He also served as men's tennis coach for 19 years and as director of publicity for seven years. He was awarded the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for distinguished teaching. He is survived by his wife, Ruth and son, Kenneth E. Webb.

CORRECTION

The College regrets that there was an error in the listing for Rev. John Siedem '52. Joan Siedem was incorrectly listed as his first wife, when in fact, she was his brother Sam's wife. John's one and only loving wife, Marianne, survives him.

The Last WORD



By Alex Corgan '08

The following is taken from Corgan's address at the 2008 Commencement Ceremony

So here we are, after four years of hard work, fun, and independence (for both the graduates and their parents). We have found favorite professors, life-long friends, mentors and countless others who have inspired and impacted our lives. We have made Muhlenberg a home...and now four years later we move on...and I don't know about you, but I can't believe it.

I want to begin by sharing an old Cherokee story as retold by Jim Wallis in his book, *The Great Awakening*.

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two 'wolves' inside us all. One wolf is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority and ego. The other wolf is Good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith." The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: "Which wolf wins?" The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

I present this story, neither as a lecture nor as a comment on how it appears we have led our lives. Rather, I present it as a challenge to each of us, and to our generation. A challenge to question which wolf we will feed and a challenge to question which wolf we want to be remembered for feeding as we take this next step into our lives. In Jim Wallis's commentary on the story, he

says, "Our culture is in the business of feeding the wolves – unfortunately, mostly the bad ones." Right now, we face a choice. We can choose to lead a life of selfishness, feeding the bad wolf, or we can choose to lead a life of selflessness, feeding the good wolf. The choice is not easy. It is hard to remove ourselves from the grasp and the temptation of the figurative bad wolf. But we are a class that has proven ourselves capable of escaping that grasp and should continue to do so. Give back. That doesn't mean you have to join the Peace Corps – I mean if you want to, great. But whether you go on to grad school, to find a career, or to take a year off, whatever you decide to do... make it count.

I should say, continue to make it count. Because as we reflect on the past four years of our lives here at Muhlenberg as well as in the world around us...when it comes to choosing to make a difference, I am preaching to the choir. We have so many things to be proud of as a class. Many of our classmates have traveled the world through study abroad and alternative spring break programs to extend their learning and challenge their worldview. We have sports teams whose members demonstrate leadership and teamwork every day. We have students participating in innovative and ground-breaking research in the sciences. Muhlenberg as a community has taken steps to learn about, and to embrace diversity while making it a key part of the College's goals. In our time here, our peers have been the founders of organizations and efforts that address real-world concerns such as The Environmental Action Team, SHARE, Cystic Fibrosis on Campus and The Green Team. We have also, among countless other achievements, led efforts to have recycling bins placed all over campus. So be proud...proud of student-led programs like Casa Guadalupe, Sixth Street Shelter, Habitat for Humanity and others that help to combat poverty and address the achievement gap right here in Allentown. And be proud of our theatre program for productions that call out serious social issues of prejudice and insist that they be addressed. Look at the changes we've made here at Muhlenberg. No one can say that we are not a class of progress, a class of change.

As freshmen we were, for the first time, registered voters at a time when the presidential election in front of us seemed monumental. Four years later, we leave having participated in, and still preparing ourselves

for an election unlike any other in the history of the United States. We have seen our age group rally behind the not-so-traditional presidential candidates and take an active interest in the race at a time when change is on everyone's mind. We have had the opportunity to have Bill Clinton and Barack Obama speak right here on our campus. Time and again we have stepped up to the plate to make a difference and to have our voices heard. All of our lives we have been told, "It's your world, you are the future." Now, as we step out into that future, we have some powerful things going for us. We are young, we have the numbers, and we can vote. If we continue to care enough to make our voices heard, and to use the momentum we've gained here, people will listen, people must listen. We are calling for change...but more importantly we can be that change.

So here we are, dealing with feelings of nervousness, excitement and nostalgia. But what does this transition really mean? Well it definitely means we won't be walking down Academic Row seeing familiar face after familiar face every day...we probably won't be going to bed at 4 and waking up at 2...and we probably won't be getting in the car to drive to the Jersey shore at one a.m. the night before finals just because we feel like it. Those are all things of our past now.

So please, take a moment to look around you. Look at your professors, the staff, the administration and all of your fellow graduates who have made your experience what it has been. Look to your family and friends sitting here today who made it all possible. These surroundings sum up the physical part of our Muhlenberg experience. So, recapture the physical image of Muhlenberg, and as you do, remember all the fun times, all of the classes, all of the chance encounters. Remember every experience. Because while you can't take the buildings, the people, or Victor's Lament with you, the lessons we've learned, the abilities we've gained and the memories are ours. After all of the effort that we have put into this experience, we owe it to ourselves, to each other, to our families and to Muhlenberg, to make it count.

In his commencement address at Harvard in 2007, Bill Gates said, "I hope you will judge yourselves not on your professional accomplishments alone, but also on how well you have addressed the world's deepest inequities, on how well you treated people a world away who have nothing in common

with you but their humanity."

As we all go our separate ways and continue to make decisions that shape our lives, keep this in mind. Feed the good wolf inside of you. Use the courage and teamwork you have learned through sports, use the charisma and self-confidence you have learned from theatre, use the creativity and beauty you've learned from your music, use the hard work and commitment you have learned from your academic achievements, use the passion and selflessness learned from your service to others and use all the well-roundedness you have gained through the liberal arts education you have received. Be the first to leave a job that doesn't satisfy you and be the last to accept a job that compromises your character. Be the first to have someone tell you that you have too much ambition and be the last to stop laughing at the thought of it. Be the first to stand up for what is right and be the last to back down. And when you do, I know our paths will cross. Because when I open the newspaper and read about you running for office, or when I turn on my television and see you being interviewed about the book you just published, when I find out that you just took over as CEO of a multinational corporation, when I read an article about your groundbreaking research, when I get word of a rally, led by you, to affect change in the way our society works, when I walk down the streets of New York and see a picture of you on a billboard as the star in a Broadway production, I won't be surprised.

I won't be surprised because that is what this class is all about. We have the dreams and the ambition, the ability and the courage, the charisma and the respect for others to make our lives anything that we want them to be. So go out there and prove me right. Feed the good wolf... and insist that our culture and our world do the same. Then you will realize that you have led a life of change, a life of progress, a life dedicated to feeding the good wolf inside of you. And you will be remembered. I will never forget this class; I will never forget the experiences we have all had here. I will never forget the role that the Muhlenberg community, and the Class of 2008, have played in shaping who I am... Congratulations to each of you. Thank you for the impact you have had on me and best of luck in the future. ■



Wisconsin Football Preview. Includes a list of 'PRESEASON TOP 25' teams and a preview of the Wisconsin team's season.

Meet the PRESS

all animals. The Cat Crisis. Whatever they fly—above cities, through suburban backyards... Long cautions about using the 1 billion figure for fear of being ridiculed or worse.



Campaign targets Catholics. Aides to both campaigns agree that Clinton has a clear edge over Obama among the voting... Shakespearean Brushes Up His Playwriting. There are classes on Shakespeare at Harvard University that attract...

The New York Times. Shakespearean Brushes Up His Playwriting. The country idly romanticizes itself, does little to understand it.

In celebration of Young Alumni Month in October, The Muhlenberg Fund celebrates outstanding young alumni who are leaders in annual giving.



In honor of his 10th Reunion, we recognize:

“I give back to Muhlenberg for two main reasons. First, I received financial aid while at Muhlenberg and strongly believe in the concept of paying it forward. I hope to be a best supporting actor for a current student who demonstrates financial need. Second, I believe my gift, and any gift for that matter, strengthens the College’s operations and reputation.

“I am a volunteer leader because, simply put, I love Muhlenberg College and always will. It’s been 10 years since I graduated, and most of my closest friends remain my classmates from Muhlenberg. In addition, I often tell alumni Muhlenberg grows with you as you mature professionally and personally. From move-in day greeter and career seminar facilitator to community builder for the Regional Alumni Support Team and member of the Alumni Board, the College has offered countless opportunities for leadership and service for which I am grateful.”

Brian J. Fishbone '98

- Henry Melchior Muhlenberg Society member
- *Circle of 1848* member
- Community builder for Muhlenberg’s Alumni Association
- Career network volunteer
- Life member of the Alumni Trust Fund
- Reunion Committee
- Global talent management program specialist, Mercer
- Adjunct professor of human resources & management for Keller Graduate School of Management
- Business administration and Spanish major
- Student Activities: Muhlenberg Activities Council, Hillel Student Leader, Writing Center volunteer, Campus Delegates Coordinator, Admission Tour Guide

Please make your check payable to Muhlenberg College and mail it to 2400 West Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104, or make your gift online at www.myMuhlenberg.com/muhlfund.



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