

Alma Matters



The Class of 1999 Newsletter

March 2006

Class News

Late last year, Columbia University Press published the *Columbia History of Twentieth-century French Thought*. It is edited by Prof. Lawrence Kritzman (French), who just won the SA teaching award and was beloved by many a '99. Several Dartmouth professors and alumni contributed articles, including **Brian J. Reilly**, who admits that he may be a bit biased in thinking this book important, having written the entries for Jacques Derrida, Rene Thom and Pierre Teilhard de Chardin.

Lauren Allen-Vail is currently in her second year of a Master's/Ph.D. program in Slavic Languages and Literatures at Stanford University. After deciding that she didn't want to be a lawyer, she dropped out of law school in the middle of her third semester (Fall 2003) to make time for the GRE and grad school applications before starting at Stanford in September 2004. Lauren writes that she has enjoyed the return to her primary academic interest (she was a Russian major at Dartmouth) and hopes to spend next year in St. Petersburg on an intensive language program before returning Stanford for a few more years of work to complete her dissertation. "After that, who knows!" writes, Lauren. "Maybe I'll go back and finish law school!"

After a year and a half living in Taipei, where he was doing research on modern Chinese literature as a Fulbright Scholar, **Christopher Rea** and his wife Julie are back in New York. This past fall Christopher hit a career milestone - ten years after going on the Beijing FSP, he taught his first college course in Chinese - an undergraduate survey course on comic literature in early 20th century China, which was offered in the Chinese Department at Taiwan's Tsinghua University.

2005 was full of changes for **Diana Wheeler**, who purchased and remodeled a townhome in Kingsville,



Dhruv Prasad and **Healy Jones** both attend Wharton Business School in Philadelphia where they are pursuing MBAs. This photo was taken at a school holiday event - notice that Healy is wearing a Dartmouth bow tie. *Photo courtesy Healy Jones.*

Texas. Diana reports she also "changed careers ... again," and is now working as a trainer for a local CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) program. Diana's role is to recruit and train volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children placed in the child protective system. (Diana says she finds it much easier to teach adults than high school students.) In addition, she has added to her family of felines with a black and white bi-color Persian called Nito. He joins Sassy, who is 11 years old, and Hans, who is five years old.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in June 2005, **Dave Wilan-**

sky took (and managed to pass) the Texas bar. He has been practicing real estate and general corporate law with Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP in Houston. Outside of work, he has done a ton of skiing this winter in Utah and Colorado and a lot of weekend traveling, visiting his girlfriend, Rebekah Parker, in Los Angeles.

Paul Costello left Digitas about a year ago to head up the account management department of an emerging marketing firm, now based in Boston's financial district. While Paul says it has been plenty of work, it's also been an exciting opportunity. He was in New York for New Year's for **Andy Cohen's** always-impressive party, staying with **Erich Shigley** and spending some time with **Brian Fleming** and **Carlos Gonzalez**. Paul also reports seeing **Scott Milne** a few times recently in Boston.

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**Class of 1999
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**College News
Round-Up**

Constitutional Amendment Passes at Special Meeting

Members of the Association of Alumni voted to pass an amendment to its constitution at a special meeting in Hanover on February 19. The alumni voted 198-32 in favor of the proposal to allow future constitutional amendments to be approved by all-media voting and lower the threshold for new amendment approvals from three-quarters to two-thirds of all association members casting votes. To view the entire text of the newly adopted amendment visit <http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/leadership/association/special.html>.

Association of Latino Alumni Officially Recognized by College

The Dartmouth Association of Latino Alumni (DALA) has received formal recognition as an affiliated group by the Office of Alumni Relations. The recommendation was made by the office's Committee on Alumni Diversity. DALA is currently planning regional events in New York City, San Antonio, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, as well as several on-campus events and support for the upcoming New England Latino Leadership Conference, which will be held at Dartmouth in April. For more information about DALA visit www.dartmouth.org/affiliated/DALA.

Office of Public Affairs Offers Podcasts

A newly developed series of audio programs called *Views from the Green* offers alumni around the globe a chance to hear Dartmouth voices on a variety of topics. Currently available are selections on affirmative action programs in the construction industry (David Blanchflower), the workings of an 18-year old brain (Abigail Baird), open-source organizing (Quintus Jett), the WiFi generation (Edmond Cooley), the case for atheism (Walter Sinnott-Armstrong), blending medicine with engineering (Michael Mayor), language instruction (John Rassias), finding fraud in digital images (Hany Farid), a new president for Bolivia (John Carey), and social security reform (Andrew Samwick). More information about how to listen can be found at www.dartmouth.edu/-news/features/podcasts/.

College Number One in Peace Corps Participation

Dartmouth has earned the top rank in the number of Peace Corps volunteers in the small school category (less than 5,000 undergraduates) with 37 alumni currently serving. For the 20th year in a row, the University of Wisconsin at Madison takes the overall number one spot in the large school category (more than 15,000 undergraduates) with 104 volunteers currently serving in the field. Among medium-sized schools (5,001 to 15,000 undergraduates), the University of Virginia claimed first with 80 volunteers.

Compiled from a number of Dartmouth news releases. To see other Dartmouth news releases, visit the Dartmouth News webpage at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/-news/releases/>.

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After a year of unemployment, odd jobs, and an internship, **Krispin Leydon** has found work as a user interface designer for a company involved in the development of alternative energy vehicles in the Bay area.

If you are headed through central Europe after April, you can look up **Jorge Valcarcel** for a pot of fondue. Jorge is relocating to Zurich, Switzerland in April to work for Credit Suisse's hedge fund group.

The Class of 1999 is having a regular baby boom. **Chris Ross** and **Heather (Harnett) Ross** added to their family with a baby boy, Benjamin Parker, born on December 22, 2005. Benjamin weighed in at 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Ben joins big sister Isabella, who is now 20 months old. Says Chris, "having two kids 18 months apart is definitely crazy but a lot of fun."

Noreen (Nilan) Pfadenhauer and her husband, James Pfadenhauer '00, welcomed their new baby, Caroline Grace Pfadenhauer, into the world on September 22, 2005. All are doing well and currently live in Newton, MA.

Corey (Meneley) Cover and her husband, Brian Cover, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Arabella Ruth, on July 14, 2005. The family resides in Campbell, CA.

Christian Bennett and Genevieve Bennett '97 continue to call San Francisco home but now work in investment banking and non-profit education in Palo Alto and Berkeley, respectively. After receiving his MBA from the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley in May 2004, Christian convinced his wife to take a leave of absence and join him for a several-month trip through Spain, France, Switzerland, Austria, and the Czech Republic. Back in the Bay Area

and settled in their careers, Christian and Genevieve welcomed Ronan Jack Bennett on March 27, 2005. Ronan has been blessed to be visited by many wonderful Dartmouth friends of his parents, including Nicole Cohen

'96, Kristine Hong '95, Ashton Kawanishi '97, **John Will, Robert Lendvai**, and **Lauren Baptist**.

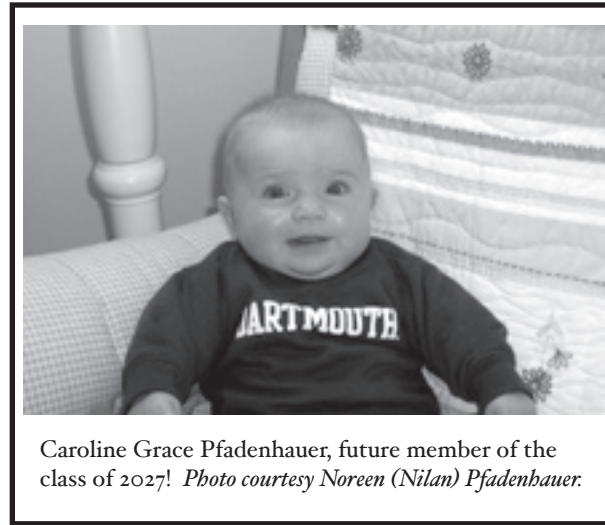
Amy Gately says she loves being a full-time mom. She and her family have moved to the San Francisco Bay area, where her husband, Tom, is now a computer animator with Pixar. Their son, Gregory, turned three in March.

Sue Baldwin is currently working full-time as a camp director for an all-girls sports summer camp in New Hampshire. The camp has over 500 residential campers over the summer and is currently in serious planning mode for program and staff hiring. Sue and her husband moved to Michigan in September where he is coaching baseball at Michigan State University, and she serves as the assistant coach for the

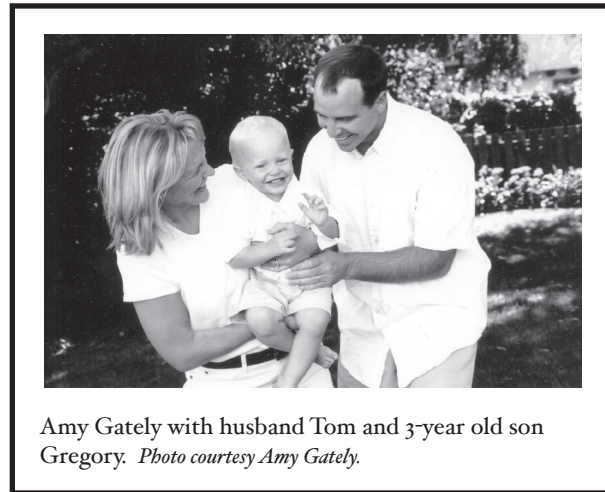
MSU women's soccer team. The couple is expecting their first baby in April and is excited about the new adventure ahead! The baby will accompany Sue to New Hampshire for the summer months at camp before they return to Michigan at the end of August.

In 2004, **Dave Altman** married Hallee Pitterman (now Altman) in New York City. Hallee earned her bachelors degree from Emory in 1999 and her masters from NYU in 2002. Currently, the couple lives in the Upper West Side of Manhattan. Last summer, they opened The Center Studio - an authentic, certified Pilates studio located at 76th and Amsterdam. Hallee teaches and manages the studio of nine instructors full-time while Dave pitches in after hours and continues to work in wealth management for Sanford C. Bernstein. You can learn more about the studio at www.centerstudionyc.com.

In mid-February, **Stephen Lee** went cross-country skiing with his fiancée, Christina Weiland '02 and buddy Mike Hamilton '03. He heads to Hawaii for a spring break trip with Christina in April. The couple plans to spend some quality time hiking and surfing.



Caroline Grace Pfadenhauer, future member of the class of 2027! Photo courtesy Noreen (Nilan) Pfadenhauer.



Amy Gately with husband Tom and 3-year old son Gregory. Photo courtesy Amy Gately.

Philanthropy 101: A Quick and Dirty Guide for the Class of '99

Class Project Inaugurated

“Your education is not about self-indulgence. It is about assuming the responsibility that comes with our good fortune,” Dartmouth College President James Wright said at the Tsunami Benefits Gala. To this end, the Class Executive Committee has selected a Tucker Fellowship as the first of the class’ projects to benefit the College.

As alumni, members of the Class of 1999 have a proud tradition of service to uphold. Many of us benefitted from the generosity of alumni to various fellowship funds while we were students at the College. Tucker Fellowships are one of the most direct ways to influence the personal growth and social conscience of Dartmouth undergraduates. Fellows are selected through a competitive review process encouraging students to pursue opportunities in challenging environments. The primary goals of Tucker Fellowships are service learning, direct community service and personal growth.

To fund a Tucker Fellow, the class needs to raise \$3,500. We are already over 50% of the way to our goal, with over \$2,000 raised through the end of January 2006. Individual contributions can be as little as \$15. To donate to the project, visit the class website at http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99/projects_tucker.shtml, or make a donation at the same time as you pay your class dues.

Stay tuned for more information about our progress toward funding our first Tucker Fellow. If you have questions about the class project, please contact project chair, Dave Dookeeram.

Have I Contributed in 2006?

Don’t remember if you paid your dues this year or already donated to the class project? The following list of individuals have paid dues via mail through February 1 or online through February 19. Those names that are asterisked have contributed to the class project as well. For the most up-to-date listing of contributors, visit the class website at <http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99/>. We’ll publish an updated list in the summer issue.

Peter W. Agnes III* Courtney E. Beckerleg*
 Jason R. P. Alderman Juanshaderick D. Bell*
 Amy Stone Altizer Kate E. Berkeley
 Eric J. Anderson* Ann L. Bilderback
 Jennifer R. Anderson Jean C. Blackerby*
 Lauren M. Baptist Sara E. Braca*
 Allison B. Bawden* Lee A. Bronsnick*
 Benjamin G. Bawden* Justin C. Bunker

Confused about the Dartmouth College Fund, class dues and class project contributions? Every year the College and the Class send out e-mails, letters and postcards to promote alumni involvement. We receive scenic wall calendars, CDs, Valentine’s cards and other mailings in addition to our regular *Alma Matters* ’99 class newsletter and the *Dartmouth Alumni Magazine*.

We have prepared the following guide to better inform you about the differences between these funds. Our main goal at this point is to increase our participation. We are two short years away from our next reunion – make it your resolution to help the great Class of ’99 reach our participation goals. No donation is too small. And don’t forget to mark your calendar for 6/13/2008 to 6/15/2008 either.

| Name | Purpose | Current '99 Participation | Participation Goal | Number to Goal |
|---|--|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Dartmouth College Fund http://www.dartmouth.edu/-alfund/ | Contributions to the Dartmouth College Fund come from alumni, families and friends, making up 10 percent of Dartmouth’s operating budget each year. | 14.5% | 35% | 216 |
| '99 Class Dues http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99/dues.shtml | Your class executive committee uses class dues to fund your subscription to the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine, the class newsletter <i>Alma Matters</i> , for mini-reunions, and for other class activities. | 17% | 35% | 187 |
| '99 Tucker Fellowship http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99/projects_tucker.shtml | The Class of 1999 Tucker Foundation Fellowship will fund a current Dartmouth student who is engaged in a full time community service project while on a leave term. | 10% | 20% | 102 |

Ryan M. J. Burkart*
 Francis P. Cappello III*
 Elizabeth A. Castellani*
 Kathleen G. Catapano*
 Millicent K. Cho*
 Matthew M. Clendenny
 Andrew J. Cohen*
 Michael J. Conway*
 Lauren J. Cornella*
 John M. Cruz*
 Victoria M. Dahir*
 Elizabeth S. Davis
 Margaret D. Davis*

Eboni D. Dawkins*
 Jennifer Blankenship Demoff
 Gregory C. Dietrick*
 Dave K. Dookeeram*
 Folarin S. Dosunmu*
 Jennifer L. Eaton
 Andrea M. Eckberg*
 Lt. Eric E. Eckberg*
 Christopher E. Emond*
 Cenk Ergan
 Justin C. R. Evans*
 Nathaniel C. Fick*
 Kevin C. Findlan*

Jeffrey B. Fine*
 Amy M. Foust
 Elizabeth A. French*
 James D. Gallo*
 Katherine S. Garrett*
 Amy B. Gately*
 Charles D. Gibson*
 Brenda Y. Godoy
 Eugene Gorbach
 Navrose S. Grewal
 Graham R. Gunst*
 Zachary R. Hafer
 Taylor Hamra*

Laura M. Heinichen
 Bunker L. Highmark
 Kimberly M. Hill
 George B. Hinton*
 Antony G. Hudek*
 Jonathan M. Hummel*
 Karen Hung*
 Danny Indelicato
 Robert A. H. Isaacs
 Sarah Iversen Ito
 C. Healy Jones*
 Elizabeth R. Jones*
 James D. Karczewski

Caroline R. Kaufmann*
 Jessica L. Kelley*
 Seth M. Kelly
 Sarah Kelmenson-Chau*
 Brett L. Kiefer*
 John J. Kim*
 John R. Kline*
 Kendra L. Kosko
 Marc S. Kowalsky
 Kenneth R. Kriwanek*
 Suzanne K. Lang
 Sylvia T. Langford*
 Elizabeth T. Laughlin

Thaddeus C. Law
 Stephen P. Lee
 David S. Lipman
 Danica C. Lo*
 Leonora S. L. Lok*
 Margaret Cashion Lysy*
 Melissa A. Maggio
 David M. Maher*
 Heather McNulty Maher
 Madhavi Mahizhnan*
 Karen A. Mangold*
 Abigail A. Marsh
 Bryan G. Martin-Keating
 William Martinez
 M. Catherine Maxson*
 Maureen McAleer
 Elizabeth McConnaughey*
 Meghan C. McMenamy*
 Erin K. Moodie*
 Augustus S. Moore*
 David J. Moore*
 Jennifer L. Moore
 Katherine Kirwan Moore*
 Rexford L. Morey*
 Tait W. Morrison
 Douglas C. Morton*
 Lindsay M. Morton*
 Holly Smith Munsie*
 Flynn C. Murphy
 Melissa A. Nagare
 Brian R. Neff
 Craig B. Nerenberg*
 Andra Winokur Newman
 Matthew J. Nyman*
 Josh Oberman
 Jill Anne Perring Papsdorf
 Wilhelm E. Paukert*
 Christopher J. Pedrick
 Tara L. Pennington*
 Courtney V. Peschel
 Noreen Nilan Pfadenhauer*
 Sarah A. Piecuch
 Sarah C. Pike
 Jose A. Pluto*
 Laura J. Poplawski
 Rebecca J. Powell*
 Dhruv A. Prasad*
 Brian J. Reilly*
 Damali M. C. Rhett*
 Melissa L. Rikard

Jacqueline M. Rioux*
 Jonathan Rivinus*
 Gemma Ros
 Chloe E. Rowe
 Brian Orlando Salazar*
 Emily Loudon Sands*
 Nicole D. Sanger*
 Emily L. Schopick*
 Julia E. Sharma
 Christopher M. Showalter*
 Mark D. Shuster
 Adam D. Silberfein
 Susannah G. Slattey*
 Jessica A. A. Smith
 Leonora R. Snyder*
 Samantha L. Sommers*
 Audra Jean Spanish*
 Todd D. Spanish*
 Hilary A. Stanton
 Joel R. Stanton
 Heather Lindsay Stewart
 Jeanne Tania Sucharitaves*
 Monica C. Sunwoo*
 David D. Sussman
 Michelle L. Sweetser*
 Lauren H. Sykes*
 Robert M. Tichio*
 Megan Hjermstad Tompkins
 Matthew A. Traupman*
 Meri O. Triades*
 Sarah Valkenburgh Tsiaras
 William G. Tsiaras
 Anna Tsouhlarakis
 Nicholas S. Van Amburg*
 Marsette A. Vona III
 Carolyn F. Wachsman
 Adrienne P. W. Wagner
 David Wagner
 Geoffrey A. Walford
 Evan J. Walsh
 Kevin M. Whitcher
 Nathan H. White*
 Alik S. Widge
 Monica D. Wilkins*
 Katherine A. Willets*
 Lara X. Williams*
 Willy Wong
 Erica J. Wygonik*
 Amy N. Yamner*
 Risana T. Zitha*

China New Home for Foreign Service Officer Law

As a Foreign Service Officer, Thaddeus Law is just about half way through his three-year posting in Beijing, after which he will likely take a posting in another country in Asia. Thanks to modern technology, Alma Matters was able to chat with Thaddeus, who serves as president of the growing Dartmouth Club of China, with little challenge other than the 14 hour time difference.

I understand that assignments in the Foreign Service are done by a ranking system. How'd you end up in China? Was that one of your top-ranked locations?

Well, you don't get too much of a choice, but you do get to state your preference, which the State Department does take into account. They need to fill jobs everywhere, and they will fill them. China was my first choice, and I got a bit lucky. I did the Dartmouth FSP in 1997, and I think they probably looked at my application and thought I had a leg up on the people who had no Chinese language experience. I'm flexible though and going anywhere would have been cool with me. I think you have to have an attitude that you'll like where you end up being assigned, but I can understand how it would be hard for people with families, and having to move every couple of years is an unusual life style.

What does a typical day look like for you?

I'm working in the consular section, which is different from other kinds of embassy work in that we are in a separate part of the embassy and we interact all day long with Chinese visa applicants. I spend a half-day shift interviewing the applicants. Each interview takes approximately 2 minutes, so I complete approximately 80 interviews per day. That's a lot. The other half of my day is spent doing a variety of tasks. I have business issues to attend to such as making sure that our internal post office, which mails out 1000 or so passports every day, runs properly. I also participate in outreach efforts to students in local colleges and talk about U.S. visa policy and how it applies to students. We encourage them to attend college in the United States and explain that the visa policy is not as restrictive as they think it is. I may also spend extra time processing the visa applications that I couldn't decide whether to grant or deny during the actual interview; I'll sometimes do extra research and call companies that applicants say they work for, to try to find out whether they're committing fraud. There is a lot of fraud in China and you are lied to every day. And really, there is always paperwork to be done - this is the government after all.



Thaddeus Law takes a break from hiking the Great Wall outside Beijing at Mutianyu for a photo op. *Photo courtesy Thaddeus Law.*

With all of this fraud going on and only a two-minute interview on average, how do you ensure that appropriate individuals get visas and that others do not?

Well, you definitely look at what they give you. They have to bring a lot of documents to the interview - invitation letters for work or study, proof of their finances, proof of family ties, and the like. They bring the documents and you see so many of the same kinds of documents that you generally can tell when they're fakes. For example, they bring an invitation letter and say that it's from the U.S., but it has spelling errors and poor grammar, which makes you wonder if it really came from the U.S. There are definitely people over here who sell fake documents, not that many of them, but you see the same signatures, pen, papers come in again and again and they're materials that aren't really common in America. Those are signs that can really help you. And you ask questions that they should be able to answer in simple ways and watch their body language for signs as well.

I've seen some pretty ridiculous stuff - people who claim to be engaged to Americans and then they show you a picture of the two of them laying in bed, and you know that no couple would really do that. Or they'll superimpose children in family photos and you can tell that the pictures just off.

What do you enjoy the most about your work?

The most interesting part for me is the interviewing itself - it takes place almost entirely in Chinese. If they speak English, we try to conduct the interview in English because they can prove that way that they can viably conduct business in the U.S. But most people don't speak English and you have people from all over the north of

China - including people from close to Tibet, who came over 1,000 miles just for this interview. They have wildly different accents, and it's great for speaking practice and listening comprehension.

Which career track do you plan to go into within the foreign service and what will that work involve?

I'm a political officer, and this summer I'll move to the political section at the embassy. I don't know yet exactly what account I will have. Officers all have accounts - some particular issues - and you meet with the counterpart in China on those issues, get to know them and make sure they know you. You act as a go-between if there are messages between China and the U.S. government, and, in the case of high-level meetings on your issues, you might cover or take minutes, or make arrangements for a high-level visit from someone like the Secretary of State or the President.

What do you think most Chinese think of Americans?

I think they have a pretty favorable impression of America in general - they like America, but not quite as much as they like Canada. We're a little contentious, especially due to our support of Taiwan and our involvement in the war in Iraq. But they like the success we have had in general and they like American culture, technology, and movies. I think they have the impression that by and large, Americans are rich, and those who come to China generally are comparatively rich. Most middle and low-income Americans wouldn't make it all the way out here, and businessmen and students who do come have more money than the average Chinese person does. Actually, even though I speak with a lot of Chinese via my work in the visa line, I don't actually get out that much among the locals. In the embassy world, it's just so much easier and familiar to socialize with the western crowd, speaking English. It's a pretty closed group in a way. So I may not have the best idea of what the average Chinese thinks of Americans.

Where do you see U.S. policy with China going in the next 5-10 years?

I think we're enjoying a good relationship with China in certain respects. We're working with China on fulfilling their WTO commitments and they're joining the international community more and more. They're behind the curve on some things, like intellectual property rights. Here you can walk on the street and buy pirated CDs, DVDs, and software for like \$1. While they have laws similar to ours about intellectual property on the books, they have little enforcement or will to enforce.

Also, the whole Taiwan issue is huge from the

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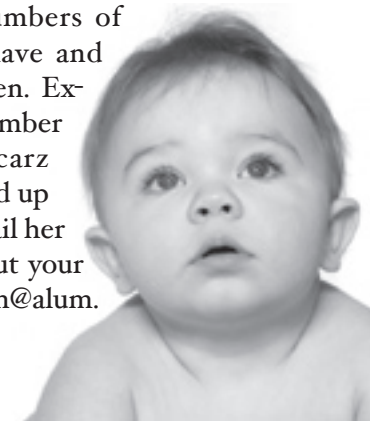
Stephen is still living in Cambridge, MA.

Nicci (Rinaldi) Hafer married Keith Hafer (Penn State) on November 13, 2004 in Manhattan. **Erin Rewalt**, **Rosanna Taormina**, Courtney Banghart '00 and Liz Martin '00 were all bridesmaids; **Kathleen de Guzman** also attended. Nicci and Keith currently live in Hoboken and both work in Manhattan. They try to get together as often as possible with Erin and Kathleen, who are, Nicci writes, "thankfully both back to living in the city after living in Connecticut and somewhere far out in New Jersey respectively." In their free time, Erin, Rosanna, Kathleen and Nicci are currently going head to head in the Bachelor Rose Ceremony Game on ABC.com and look forward to seeing whether Travis the doctor chooses "the good girl from Tennessee or the evil weirdo from LA."

Have news to report from your corner of the world? Drop an e-mail to the class account at: Class.of.99@alum.dartmouth.org, and we'll include your news in an upcoming issue of Alma Matters.

A growing number of '99s are becoming parents.

The class executive committee realizes that becoming a parent poses new opportunities and challenges. We'd like to offer programming that reflects these changes as our families grow, but we need your help in better understanding the numbers of children classmates have and the ages of the children. Executive committee member Ann Sharfstein Mielcarz has volunteered to head up our efforts; please e-mail her with information about your family at ann.sharfstein@alum.dartmouth.org.



Chinese perspective. I don't think most Americans know very much about it or care much. People in the U.S. who are concerned about bilateral relations with China want to keep Taiwan from becoming a huge issue - that's the flashpoint.

Classmates interested in contacting Thaddeus can do so via his alumni account. Do you know of another profile-worthy classmate? Or perhaps you want to nominate yourself? Don't be shy! Drop an e-mail to the class account at: Class.of.99@alum.dartmouth.org, and we'll consider your suggestion for an upcoming issue of Alma Matters.



1996

Opening ceremonies for the 1996 Winter Carnival in front of snow sculpture. The theme for 1996 was 'Round the Girdled Earth They Roamed - A Prehistoric Carnival'. *Photo: Dartmouth College Library.*



2006

Victoria Solbert '07 puts the finishing touches on this year's Winter Carnival snow sculpture. The theme for 2006 Carnival was 'Stupendous Games: Mischief in the Snow.' *Photo: Dartmouth College online photo gallery.*